

DISCLAIMER

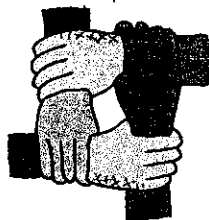
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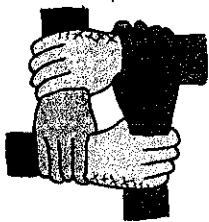
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DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN RESOURCES
DIVISION OF CHILD AND FAMILY SERVICES
FY2003/2005 BUDGET OVERVIEW



Presented To:
The Legislative Commission
Budget Subcommittee
January 28, 2003



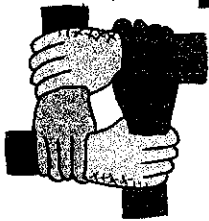
BUDGET OVERVIEW

- PURPOSE/MISSION
- HISTORY/OVERVIEW
- IMPACTS ON OUR SERVICE PROVISION
- PROPOSALS TO ADDRESS CHILDREN'S ISSUES
- BUDGET SUMMARY



PURPOSE/MISSION

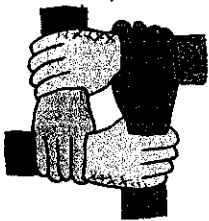
- Protection and Permanency for Children
 - Provide prevention and remediation services for children maltreatment, mental health and delinquency
 - Support permanency with biological families when possible.
 - When necessary, provide alternative permanent placements
- Unifying of Communities
 - Form collaborative service systems by partnering with public, private and voluntary resources.
 - Design services with community input.
 - Design services that are easily understood and accessed.
- Preservation of Families
 - View the family as the best means of caring for a child.
 - Design services that build on family strength.
 - Honor a family's culture, values and privacy.
- Correctional Services for Youth
 - Promote research-based policies, practices, and programs for prevention and treatment.
 - Provide services that balance public protection and rehabilitation, while holding juvenile offenders accountable.
 - Design and support programs to protect the rights of the victims.



HISTORY/OVERVIEW

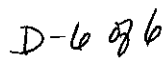
- DCFS has undergone significant changes over the past two years
 - Implementation of AB1
 - Focus on moving children from high cost residential to community based placements
 - Improving juvenile correction facilities
 - Expanded ability to meet mental health needs of youth

All producing positive outcomes for children.
- DCFS has also faced many challenges over the past two years
 - Rising caseloads
 - Backlogs in juvenile detention facilities
 - Over utilization of higher levels of care due to lack of resources
 - Insufficient staff to provide mental health assessments and services in a timely manner



IMPACTS ON OUR SERVICE PROVISION

- Civil Rights of Institutionalized Persons Investigation
- Child and Family Services Review
- Assembly Bill One, 17th Special Session
- Assembly Bill 94, 2001 Legislative Session



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- The service needs of children in care, including a focus on assuring they are in the least restrictive placement option when they must be removed from their parents
- The 25 children who are placed out-of-state in high cost residential placements
- Assurances that youth placed in juvenile correctional facilities receive the best possible care and are afforded their civil rights
- Assurances that children with mental health issues receive prompt assessments, followed by rapid access to appropriate services
- Elimination of backlogs in juvenile detention centers
- Initiation of all child abuse/neglect investigations in a timely manner so that immediate safety concerns are identified and addressed
- Ensure that providers of day care services are not persons with serious criminal backgrounds, so that parents can feel that their children in day care settings are safe
- Provide citizens who are “substantiated” as perpetrators of child abuse/neglect the opportunity for a timely hearing by an objective hearing officer
- Provide an ombudsman office for the public to get their questions/concerns reviewed, researched and responded to in a timely manner
- Create a centralized intake model for child abuse/neglect calls for the rural region so that calls can be made to one central number
- Ensure sufficient staff to implement “best practices” standards throughout the Division