



# DHS BIENNIAL REPORT FY 2005-06

STATE OF MICHIGAN  
**Department  
of Human  
Services**

## MISSION

The Michigan Department of Human Services assists children, families and vulnerable adults to be safe, stable and self-supporting.

## VISION

We will:

- Reduce poverty.
- Help all children have a great start in life.
- Help our clients achieve their full potential.

## EMPLOYEES

In FY 2006, DHS had 10,045 employees. Nearly 90 percent of staff are located in local offices as family independence specialists, eligibility specialists, child and adult service workers, disability examiners, clerical and investigative staff. The remaining employees provide management and support for field staff; provide support services such as data processing, policy development, personnel, financial management; and operate centrally administered programs or work in residential care facilities.

## LOCATIONS

The central administrative offices are located in Lansing. Services to clients are available through a county office network. Some of the more heavily populated areas have several district offices. For instance, Wayne County has 21 district offices and Oakland County has five. Some staff serve clients through Family Resource Centers located in 49 community schools.

## INFORMATION

About DHS programs and services is available by via Internet at [www.michigan.gov/dhs](http://www.michigan.gov/dhs). Information published in this fact sheet is accurate through September 30, 2006.

## BUDGET

The FY 2006 appropriation total is \$4.4 billion. Child day care is one of DHS's largest programs, with an appropriation of \$465 million. The Family Independence Program (FIP) has appropriated funds of \$392 million. The federal government shares in the cost of FIP and State Emergency Relief and pays virtually all Food Assistance and Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program costs. The State Disability Assistance program is state funded.

## FINANCIAL PROGRAMS

For FY 2006 information on financial assistance programs, see one of these online reports located at [www.michigan.gov/dhs](http://www.michigan.gov/dhs) under "News, Publications & Information":

- Under "Statistics" see "Program Statistics FY 2006 (Pub 170).
- Under "Publications" see "Information Packet Pub 790 (June 2007).
- Under "Reports, Evaluations and Studies" see "Program Descriptions for FY 2008".

### Bureau of Community Action and Economic Opportunity

Provides technical assistance and oversight to 30 community action agencies and two limited purpose agencies administering the federally-funded Community Services Block Grant, Weatherization Assistance Program, Temporary Assistance to Needy Families, Low-income Home Energy Assistance Program and other funding sources that flow to the local agencies through DHS.

### Child Development and Care/ Child Day Care Services (CDC)

Pays all or a portion of child day care expenses for low-income families when the parent, legal guardian, or other caretaker is unavailable to provide child care due to employment, education, and/or a health/social condition for which treatment is being received. In FY 2006, a monthly average of 118,851 children received day care support.

### Office of Child Support

In partnership with local friends of the court and prosecuting attorneys, establishes paternity, establishes support orders, and collects and distributes child support payments through the statewide Michigan Child Support Enforcement System.

### Family Independence Program (FIP)

Provides cash assistance to eligible families with children. A typical FIP case is composed of one parent and two children. A family with income may be eligible if the income is less than the family's needs by FIP standards. DHS also provides in-home, family-based services that connect the family to community resources to prevent child abuse/neglect and enhance family interactions. Many FIP adults participate in Work First or in the Jobs, Employment and Training program. For more information see [www.michigan.gov/jet](http://www.michigan.gov/jet).

### Food Assistance Program (FAP)

Increases the food purchasing power of low-income households. In FY 2006, a household of four with a monthly gross income of \$3,226 or less, and net income (gross income minus allowable expenses) of less than \$1,613, qualified for benefits. Food Assistance benefits decrease as income increases.

### Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP)

Helps meet home heating costs. Some households may have received more than one LIHEAP Service. LIHEAP funds for heating assistance are also available through the Home Heating Credit (Department of Treasury).

### Medicaid (Medical Assistance Program)

Provides necessary health care services for FIP and SSI recipients and other low-income people who are under age 21, caring for children, pregnant, disabled, blind, or age 65 and older. Medicaid funds are administered by the Michigan Department of Community Health. Eligibility is determined by DHS staff.

### State Disability Assistance (SDA)

Provides cash assistance to disabled adults who do not have dependent children. To qualify, a person must be unable to work for at least 90 days due to physical or mental impairment. A person with income can be eligible for SDA if his/her income is less than his/her needs by SDA standards.

# FINANCIAL PROGRAMS (Cont'd)

## State Emergency Relief (SER)

Provides limited assistance to individuals and families facing emergencies that threaten their health or safety. Covered services include: rent payments to avoid homelessness; house payments and property tax payments when foreclosure or tax sales are imminent; home repairs; assistance with home heating, electric, and water bills; and burial assistance. DHS contracts with the Salvation Army to provide emergency shelter statewide. Anyone in need may apply for SER. Eligibility is not limited to recipients of other DHS assistance.

## Supplemental Security Income (SSI)

The Social Security Administration manages this program for people who are blind, disabled, or elderly. DHS pays a supplement to all SSI recipients. Recipients of SSI are also automatically eligible for Medicaid.

## Vendor Judgement Data FY 2006

State law requires the department to report this information:

Total cases: 361

Total payments: 3,921

Total amount paid: \$88,228.70

Total processing fee: \$3,921

Total grant deductions: \$92,149.70

## Youth Programs

**Youth in Transition (YIT)** is a funding source available to eligible youths in or exiting the foster care system. These funds can pay for educational needs, job training, independent living skills training, self-esteem counseling, and other supports designed to equip teens with the skills necessary to function as successful adults.

**Michigan Manpower Information and Services to Transitioning Youth (MISTY)** program is a statewide, comprehensive employment, vocational and job training program that is funded and managed by Michigan Department of Human Services. The program provides funding for transitional/reintegration services for state wards (P.A. 150).

**Educational Training Vouchers (ETVs)** are scholarships awarded to YIT eligible youths and youths that were adopted from the child abuse/neglect system after their 16th birthday. These awards provide up to \$5,000/year for costs related to attendance at accredited post-secondary educational programs or training.

# OFFICE OF CHILDREN AND ADULT LICENSING

The Office of Children and Adult Licensing is authorized to provide protection to vulnerable adults and children through the regulation and consultation with licensed agencies, facilities, and homes. It is comprised of three divisions listed right.

For information on licensing laws, publications, and information see these reports online at [www.michigan.gov/dhs](http://www.michigan.gov/dhs) under "News, Publications & Information" under "Publications":

- Licensing - Adult Foster Care & Homes for the Aged.
- Licensing - Child Care.
- Licensing - Child Welfare.

For other information go to [www.michigan.gov/dhs](http://www.michigan.gov/dhs) and click the "Licensing" Quick Link.

## Adult Foster Care and Homes for the Aged

Provides for the prevention of harm and the protection of vulnerable adults by licensing and regulating adult foster care homes, homes for the aged, and specialized programs for developmentally disabled and mentally ill individuals who reside in adult foster care.

## Child Day Care Licensing Division

Provides for the safety and protection of children in child care through licensing and regulating facilities. The division is committed to promoting the improvement of the health, safety, and development of children in child care through technical assistance, consultation, and education to providers and the public. Child care facilities include both homes and centers as well as family and group day care homes.

## Child Welfare Licensing

Provides for the safety and protection of children in out-of-home care through licensing and regulation of facilities. Licensed organizations include child-placing agencies, child caring institutions, court operated facilities, children's foster home and child and adult foster care camps.

# SERVICE PROGRAMS

For FY 2006 information on financial assistance programs, see one of these online reports located at [www.michigan.gov/dhs](http://www.michigan.gov/dhs) under "News, Publications & Information":

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## Adoption Services

Plans and supervises adoptive placement of permanent state or DHS-supervised court wards. The Michigan Children's Institute superintendent acts as legal guardian for permanent state wards. Payment and medical assistance to parents adopting special needs children may also be provided.

## Central Adoption Registry

DHS maintains a file of statements by former parents and former adult siblings consenting to or denying release of identifying information to an adult adoptee. The registry is accessed by the court or adoption agency only, upon request by the adult adoptee.

## Adult Community Placement

Provides community placement coordination for licensed, residential care for aged, physically handicapped or developmentally disabled adults who are unable to live alone.

## Adult Independent Living Services

Offers a range of Medicaid and non-Medicaid services to individuals of any age who require consultation or assistance to maintain and maximize functional capacity within their own homes or other independent living arrangements.

# SERVICE PROGRAMS (Cont'd)

## **Bureau of Juvenile Justice (BJJ)**

Provides care and supervision for adjudicated juveniles in public residential treatment centers, quality assurance for juvenile justice programs in Michigan, training for all juvenile justice professionals in the state of Michigan, grant management for federal grants, and the administration and monitoring of the Child Care Fund. Services encompass a range of prevention, rehabilitation and residential programs to juvenile offenders ages 12 through 20. Placement options range from community-based programs to secure facilities with specialized treatment. BJJ programs are comprehensive and individualized, providing appropriate educational services, mental health services, family involvement and reintegration services.

## **Children's Foster Care**

Foster care provides placement, care and supervision for children who are temporary or permanent court or state wards. This includes children who cannot remain at home because the parent(s) are unable to provide minimal care and supervision. Department delivered services are focused on resolving the problems which necessitated the child's removal and providing stability and permanency for the child.

About 6,500 foster children reside in licensed foster care. Almost 7,000 children are placed with relative caregivers. About 2,000 children have been returned home under continued DHS supervision and about 1,300 are in institutional settings such as residential and shelter facilities. Placement decisions are made considering factors that keep children close to their communities, schools, friends and loved ones.

## **Children's Trust Fund (CTF)**

A statewide, non-profit organization dedicated to the prevention of child abuse and neglect. CTF focuses on public awareness and education, training and technical assistance, information dissemination, and funding a statewide network of community-based prevention programs. CTF does not receive a state appropriation and its work is funded through children's license plate sales, direct donations, trust income, grants, and other fundraising activities.

## **Community Service Commission (CSC)**

Provides vision and resources to strengthen communities through volunteer 2007. CSC provides more than \$6.2 million in federal funds to communities programs and activities. CSC funds 21 AmeriCorps programs and 33 Learn programs. In FY 2006, these programs engaged more than 76,500 individuals in volunteer service. Other key CSC programs include the Governor's Service Mentor Michigan.

## **Community Support Division (CSD)**

CSD is responsible for family preservation and community support services. It operates as a resource to local offices and provides programs and funding for services that are targeted at keeping families together. Family First of Michigan, an intensive crisis intervention program, provide families with the support they need at a time when out-of-home placement of a child is imminent. The Family Reunification Program provides services to families to facilitate an early reunification from placement. Family Group Decision Making is a process where families develop their own plans for safety and sometimes placement via guardianship and receive ongoing support to implement the plan. CSD provides technical assistance and support as it relates to Child Protection and Permanency and Strong Families/Safe Children funds. Other local office contacts that CSD provides support for includes Families Together Building Solutions and Wraparound.

## **Disability Determination Service (DDS)**

Determines the disability eligibility of adults and children who apply for benefits under the Social Security and Supplemental Security Income disability programs. Clients may also be referred by DDS to other agencies for job training and health services. DDS also makes disability decisions for disability related programs such as State Disability Assistance and Medicaid. Disability decisions are also made for the state retirement system.

## **Domestic and Sexual Violence Services**

Provides grants to 44 nonprofit community-based agencies that assist victims of domestic violence and their children. These agencies cover Michigan's 83 counties and provide 24-hour crisis line, emergency shelter, individual and group counseling, information about legal options, and supportive services for children. Many of the agencies also provide community education and prevention programs and information on batterers intervention programs available in the local community. Fulfills policy defined by Michigan Domestic Violence and Treatment Board.

Provides grants to 29 community-based programs that provide rape prevention and services. These agencies provide 24-hour crisis line and crisis intervention services, individual and group counseling, and information on legal options.

## **Early Childhood Investment Corporation (ECIC)**

Coordinates implementation of the state's comprehensive early childhood development system. A public non-profit corporation, ECIC works to assure the most efficient and effective use of federal, state, local public and private funds for early childhood programs; focuses on increasing public awareness and community education to rank Michigan's young children among our highest investment priorities; and builds local early childhood systems through 21 local Great Start Collaboratives.

## **Office of the Family Advocate (OFA)**

Serves as DHS' liaison to the Office of Children's Ombudsman. OFA is responsible for providing an objective review and assessment of department practice, policy and law to identify areas that need to be enhanced, or where additional training might help DHS workers do a better job of protecting children.

## **HIV/AIDS Services**

Provides advocacy services for people who test positive for HIV or AIDS including information, referrals and coordination of DHS services with community resources, case management and other government benefits. The Insurance Assistance Program or the Insurance Assistance Program Plus pays the private medical insurance premiums for those with HIV or AIDS who qualify.

## **Migrant Affairs**

Coordinates services to more than 90,000 migrant agricultural workers and family members every year through 11 regional Migrant Resource Councils and the Michigan Interagency Migrant Services Committee.

## **Native American Affairs – Indian Outreach**

Coordinates implementation of federal and state laws including the Indian Child Welfare Act. Develops programs and policy and coordinates resources, advocacy, training, and technical assistance. Provides information and referral to health, education, employment, training, and housing opportunities.

# SERVICE PROGRAMS (Cont'd)

## Protective Services

Protects children by investigating reports of alleged abuse, neglect, or exploitation of children or vulnerable adults. Provides services to families to allow them to function responsibly and independently in providing care for the children for whom they are responsible.

## Refugee Services

Coordinates a variety of services to eligible refugees. Services include reception and placement, short-term cash and medical assistance, comprehensive employment services, foster care for unaccompanied minors, and initial health screenings.

## Runaway and Homeless Youth Services Program

Provides services to runaway and homeless youths and, when appropriate, their families. Services are provided through contracts with private agencies.

## Safe Delivery

Michigan's Safe Delivery of Newborns law encourages troubled parents to place their newborn children in a safe environment. This law allows an anonymous surrender of an infant, from birth to 72 hours of age, to an emergency service provider - a uniformed or otherwise identified employee of a fire department, hospital or police station that is inside the building and on duty or a paramedic or emergency medical technician responding to a 911 call. The parent has the choice to leave the infant without giving any identifying information. Following an examination at a hospital, temporary protective custody will be given to a private adoption agency for placement with an approved adoptive family, if the child is unharmed. If the examination reveals signs of abuse and/or neglect, hospital personnel will initiate a referral to Children's Protective Services for an investigation. A toll-free, 24-hour telephone line has been established to provide information on services available to a prospective parent. The toll-free number is: 1-866-733-7733.

## Teen Parent Program

Provides comprehensive coordinated services to teen parents in 18 counties to assist in meeting the health and developmental needs of their children. Education, training and employment services are provided to enhance teen parents' capacity to independently provide for themselves and their children.

## Volunteer Services

Based on the needs of the department, volunteers are recruited, trained and placed for direct services to DHS clients, as indirect client service providers or as administrative support for the department.

Community Resource Coordinators mobilize and develop community resources and develop opportunities for community service for DHS employees.

Department of Human Services (DHS) will not discriminate against any individual or group because of race, sex, religion, age, national origin, color, height, weight, marital status, sexual orientation, political beliefs or disability. If you need help with reading, writing, hearing, etc., under the Americans with Disabilities Act, you are invited to make your needs known to a DHS office in your area.