

## Legislature passes DHS 2013 budget, sends to Gov. Snyder for signature

The Department of Human Services 2013 budget has been passed by both the House of Representatives and Senate and will be presented to Gov. Snyder for signature. Gov. Snyder will have two weeks to sign the bill with or without line-item vetoes. Click [here](#) to view the Budget Omnibus Bill; DHS is Article X, beginning on page 400.

The budget passed by the House and Senate provides funding totaling \$6.6 billion gross, \$1.0 billion general fund, which is \$194.2 million gross and \$36.2 million general fund less than current-year appropriations.

Major funding changes from the current year include:

- Caseload savings in the department's major public assistance and child welfare programs totaling more than \$173 million gross, \$40 million general fund.
- Reductions in the state juvenile justice facilities of \$2 million gross, \$1 million general fund, but all facilities will remain open.
- Full funding for employee salary and wage increases in FY2013.
- A \$3 per day per child increase for foster parents as well as the resulting increase for adoption subsidies and guardianship assistance payments.
- An increase in volunteer services mileage reimbursements from \$0.399 to \$0.555.
- Additional funding for adult services field staff.
- Additional funding for child protective services and direct care workers to comply with the requirements of the modified settlement agreement.
- Funding for private agency foster care agency trial reunification payments, training supplements, and restoration of specialized independent living rate increases to FY11 levels, as well as an increase in payments for child caring institutions.

- New funding for family preservation programs, including supported visitation and parent mentoring services for families working toward reunification.
- Additional Michigan Youth Opportunity Initiative workers to support older youth aging out of foster care.
- Funding to expand mental health services for families in the child welfare system in partnership with the Department of Community Health.
- Reduction in SSI state supplementation payments for couples in independent living and household of another living arrangements to the federally required minimum levels.
- Full funding for the mobile worker initiative, offset by anticipated savings in reduced rent and facilities costs.
- \$1.2 million to launch the first stage of stratified case management to coordinate services across state and local agencies for high-need public assistance clients working toward self-sufficiency.
- Various administrative and programmatic savings totaling more than \$149 million gross, \$26 million general fund, identified based on prior year spending and anticipated surpluses in the current year.

In addition, the final budget included funding for the following:

- \$900,000 gross/general fund for the Chaldean Community Foundation.
- \$450,000 gross/general fund to support food banks.
- \$300,000 gross/general fund to fund a new contract with Michigan prosecutors to reduce elder abuse and exploitation.
- \$2.5 million gross/\$1.5 million general fund to support improvements to information technology supporting the Office of Inspector General (one-time funding).
- \$1 million gross/general fund for before- and after-school programs (one-time funding).
- \$750,000 gross/general fund to expand the Seita Scholars program for foster care youth attending college (one-time funding).
- \$500,000 gross/general fund for a study of mental and behavioral health needs for delinquent youth (one-time funding).

- \$250,000 gross/general fund to support a lean process review of the Medicaid eligibility process in two county offices (one-time funding).

The Budget Division will be working with program areas over the next several weeks to provide full detail on the 2013 budget and to develop spending plans for the next fiscal year. If you have any questions on the 2013 budget, please contact your deputy director or Amanda Bright McClanahan, budget director, at 517-241-9056 or [brighta@michigan.gov](mailto:brighta@michigan.gov).