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Subject: DSS

FY 2012-13 and 2013-14 agency budget requests only addresses development and operation of the Child Support Enforcement System (CSES).

- FY 2012-13 - \$ 7 million nonrecurring for CSES (Received \$2.5 million nonrecurring)
- FY 2013-14 - \$7.2 million to operate CSES, \$4.5 million for CSES development (Received \$4.5 million nonrecurring)

For the FY 2014-15 Budget, the agency requested funding to increase payments of foster care providers (\$1.6 million) and \$7.2 million to operate CSES. The agency received funding for foster care payments, but no additional support for CSES.

The FY 2015-16 and FY 2016-17 agency requests and Executive Budgets contained significant resources to address Social Service reform and quality improvement.

The Governor's FY 2015-16 Executive Budget:

- ✱ Implementing Governor Haley's child protective services reform plan, with:
 - \$3,967,161 to recruit 202 child protective services caseworkers to decrease caseloads and improve service quality statewide.
 - \$1,399,371 to hire 65 caseworker assistants, allowing certified human service professionals to focus on risk management and direct care services.
 - \$1,839,472 to increase base human service salaries, making the Department more competitive with other human service employers.
 - \$150,885 to staff child fatality review programs, enhance disaster response services, and augment statewide citizen and constituent services and \$290,875 from the Capital Reserve Fund to establish a comprehensive child endangerment risk management system.
 - \$264,954 to provide mandated employee benefits to certain part-time human service employees.
- ✱ Augmenting the agency's information security, technology, and programmatic software infrastructure, including:
 - \$7,200,000 in recurring support for the comprehensive development and implementation of the Child Support Enforcement System.
 - \$1,064,975 to improve information technology infrastructure and \$972,029 from the Capital Reserve fund to address IT infrastructure needs.
- ✱ Continued enhancements to the state's vulnerable adult protection programs with \$405,104 for 35 Adult Protective Services (APS) caseworkers.
- ✱ Consolidating Medicaid state match into the Department of Health and Human Services with a transfer of \$6,644,907.

The General Assembly ultimately funded \$8.4 million for statewide retention and recruitment, \$1.3 million for IT security, and \$150,995 for child fatality reviews and ombudsmen.

The Governor's FY 2016-17 Executive Budget:

- ✿ To continue implementing child protective services reform plan, and expand retention and recruitment efforts, \$5,627,617 in recurring funds:
 - for a student loan repayment and tuition incentive program.
 - to provide in-band and equity increases.
 - to recruit 52 Human Services employees to fully implement the regional intake hubs in all five regions of the state, improving the quality of the intake process.
 - to recruit 19 additional employees for the Regional Foster Home Licensing and Resource Family Home staff to increase the number of foster homes.
 - to recruit 35 front line Human Services caseworkers to decrease caseloads and improve service quality statewide.
 - to provide advanced training and development.
 - to recruit 51 additional caseworkers to expand the second and third shift pilot program in three additional large sized counties, and the second shift pilot program in three additional medium sized counties, decreasing night and weekend work and improving services.
- ✿ To better manage oversight of the Agency and to increase the safety and security of agency personnel and assets statewide, \$270,259 in recurring support for the Office of the Inspector General, Office of Safety and Risk Management, and to monitor and coordinate the Children's Rights/Applesseed Justice Center class action lawsuit settlement.
- ✿ To bolster support for the Agency's foster care programs, \$3,420,953 in recurring funding to increase the monthly foster care rates based on current data for the southeast region and provide assistance to kinship caretakers.
- ✿ \$7,200,000 in recurring support for the comprehensive development and implementation of the Child Support Enforcement System.
- ✿ \$59,332 in recurring support for the general counsel's office to reduce case-loads, expedite case processing, and improve case quality.

The General Assembly fully funded CSES, recruitment and retention, foster care payments, and support services as recommended.