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Subject: Budget

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The breakdown of the Care for Children in Foster and Group Homes is as follows:

Foster Home Rate Increase \$339,005  
Provide Kinship Care \$3,081,949 (based on approximately \$1,247 children, rates same as Foster Home)  
Group Home Increase - \$528,815

Foster Home Rate Comparison to southeast average:

The increases would position South Carolina favorably in comparison with the averages, for each age group, of the southeastern states (Arkansas, Louisiana, Florida, Alabama, South Carolina, Georgia, Virginia, North Carolina, Tennessee and Kentucky). In comparison, at the proposed rates (based on adjusted USDA calculations) below there would be 3 of 10 states lower than SC in the 0-5 age group, 5 of 10 would be lower in the 6-12 year old age group and 5 of 10 states would be lower in the 13 up age group.

	Southeastern Averages	SCDSS current rates including clothing allowance	SCDSS proposed rates including clothing allowance
Ages 0-5	\$481	\$416	\$437 (\$404 board rate + \$33 clothing allowance)
Ages 6-12	\$520	\$491	\$502 (\$469 board rate + \$33 clothing allowance)
Ages 13 up	\$578	\$551	\$568 (\$535 board rate + \$33 clothing allowance)

Talked to Susan:

Lowest Priorities in Budget:

ES – Can phase in Benefit Integrity over 2-3 years if needed \$1,197,157  
Senior Farmers Market \$177,692  
AG Office – Snap Fraud Efforts \$199,160  
Internal Audit \$90,158  
IT – Recurring - \$210,946  
IT- Non-recurring - \$392,1185

Understands moving \$7.2M in Child Support System Development to Non-recurring. Will get you the info on that tomorrow morning.

Barbara

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