



2015-17 Legislatively Adopted Budget Department of Human Services

The mission of the Department of Human Services (DHS) is to help Oregonians in their own communities achieve safety, well-being and independence through services that protect, empower, respect choice and preserve dignity. DHS is responsible for the care of some of Oregon's most vulnerable citizens – children, families, people with intellectual and developmental disabilities, and seniors. DHS is also responsible for serving Oregonians at times when they are most in need – when they have experienced abuse, when they are hungry, when they are homeless.

The 2015-17 Legislatively Adopted Budget (LAB) continues many of the efforts that began in the 2013-15 biennium, supporting DHS to achieve the following outcomes:

- Safety for children;
- Safety for vulnerable adults;
- Independence for older adults and people with disabilities;
- Family stability and employment;
- Community employment for people with disabilities;
- School readiness for young children;
- Job retention for low-income working families; and
- Program performance and integrity.

The following is a summary by program area of the 2015-17 the Legislatively Adopted Budget (LAB):

Aging and People with Disabilities: The Aging and People with Disabilities (APD) program area provides services and supports to Oregonians over the age of 65 and to adults with physical disabilities. In partnership with Area Agencies on Aging, the APD program area also provides Older Americans Act and Oregon Project Independence services to over 360,000 individuals and eligibility services to over 163,000 seniors and people with disabilities each year.

The 2015-17 LAB for APD includes the following:

- Funds forecasted caseload levels and projected cost per case increases
- Continues provider reimbursement rates in effect for 2013-15 (eliminates inflation)
- Invests \$18 million GF combined into APD/DD/MH toward Department of Labor requirements for in-home services (\$14.4 million of that investment will benefit APD consumers)
- Funds nursing facilities at statutory rate
- Funds planning for non-MAGI eligibility automation project (in Program Design Services)
- Invests \$5.6 million TF for new adult protective services data system
- Funds state staff at 90.2% of workload model (93 new positions)
- AAAs continue at 95% equity
- Transitional one time funds (\$350,000) for Home Care Commission's private pay registry
- Requires Home Care Commission to adopt statewide plan to expand home care worker workforce

Aging and People with Disabilities Special Purpose Authorization Continues:

- Oregon Project Independence expansion for seniors at \$10.3 million
- Reporting for Community-Based Care and nursing facility utilization
- Personal Incidental Fund increase for nursing facility residents continues
- Funding for Evidence-Based Health Promotion Programs
- Continues OPI Expansion project to younger people with disabilities
- Caregiver training continued at \$3.3 million
- Adds a COLA for HCBS for Residential, Assisted Living and In-Home Agency providers at 2.5% per year starting 7/1/15 and 7/1/16.
- Adds funding for a Deaf and Hard of Hearing needs assessment
- Retains Aging and Disabilities Resource Connection (ADRC) Options counseling
- Funds one-time Senior Taxpayer Hardship relief fund for about 200 households not served in 2013-15

Eliminates or Reduces:

- Reduces Older Americans Act sequestration backfill
- Gatekeeper program
- Innovation fund except for one project related to Our House (\$350,000)

Developmental Disability Programs: The Developmental Disabilities program area serves over 23,500 children and adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities (I/DD) throughout their life span, and the number of eligible individuals requesting services is increasing. Counties, Brokerages, Providers, Families and Self-Advocates are all critical parts of Oregon's Developmental Disabilities service system that focuses on individuals with I/DD living in the community and having the best quality of life at any age.

The 2015-17 for DD program area includes the following:

- Funds forecasted caseload levels and projected cost per case increases
- Funds capacity for improving employment outcomes for people with I/DD
- Invests \$18 million GF combined into APD/DD/MH toward Department of Labor requirements for in-home services (\$3.6 million of that investment will benefit I/DD consumers)
- Builds community provider capacity for I/DD clients with significant long-term needs
- Provides 4% provider rate increase (\$26.07 million Total Funds) starting 1/1/16 for non-bargained provider types residential and non-residential agency providers, except transportation.
- Continues Fairview Trust at approximately \$6 million and adds funding due to the eastern Oregon Training Center property transfer
- Funds CDDP and Brokerage workload models at 95% equity
- Adds funding (\$40,000) to Family-to-Family Network program
- Invests in the Employment First Initiative, building Vocational Rehabilitation and benefits counselor capacity, and enhancing supports for capacity building (\$10.8 million Total Funds, same as in Vocational Rehabilitation below)
- Invests \$5.7 million GF and 127 positions in staffing and enhanced program design in the Stabilization and Crisis Unit (SACU)
- House Bill 2618 classifies employees of the Department of Human Services (DHS) working in certain residential facilities whose duties include caring for residents with intellectual and developmental disabilities as Police and Fire service under the Public Employees Retirement System (PERS)

Child Welfare Programs: Child Welfare Programs serve children and families when children are subject to abuse and neglect in their home environment. Child protection workers respond to all reports of familial child abuse/neglect and, if a child cannot be safe at home, place children in foster care. In a single year, Child Welfare programs respond to over 64,000 reports of child abuse and neglect and on any given day in Oregon, about 7,800 children are served in the foster care system.

The 2015-17 LAB for Child Welfare includes the following:

- Funds forecasted caseload levels and projected cost per case increases
- Continues investment in Differential Response and Strengthening, Preserving and Reunifying Families programs
- Rates for Behavioral Rehabilitative Support providers continue to be funded at settlement agreement level
- Adds one Child Welfare Quality Control reviewer position (In Program Design Services)
- Funds workload model at 85.6% (114 new positions)
- Adds \$1.6 million to support Runaway and Homeless Youth programs
- Adds \$250,000 GF for a youth shelter and assessment project in Lane County
- Invests \$800,000 GF into two pilot projects in the Child Welfare program focusing on enhanced supports for foster parents
- Invests \$104,000 GF in a Family Sentencing Alternative Pilot Program

Self Sufficiency Programs: Self Sufficiency programs are designed to help families achieve economic security with temporary supports for their most basic needs, such as food, health insurance coverage and child care, while working to meet their employment goals. In a single year, Self Sufficiency program serves more than 1 million Oregonians.

The 2015-17 LAB for SSP includes the following elements:

- Funds forecasted caseloads levels and projected cost per case increases
- Continues contracted providers at current rate levels (eliminates inflation)
- Reinvests \$30 million GF caseload savings in TANF redesign, including 17 new case manager positions. That investment supports
 - Provides training required to implement changes (October 2015)
 - Expands contracts for pre and post TANF services (January 2016)
 - Raising the income level for clients exiting TANF from \$616 to \$1012 (April 2016)
 - Reduces ERDC co-pay for three months while exiting TANF (April 2016)
 - Creates three months of limited transition payments to families exiting TANF (April 2016)
 - Eliminates "deprivation" as an eligibility requirement (April 2016)
 - Expands caretaker relative definition (April 2016)
 - Increases flexibility in issuing support services to prevent TANF entry (July 2016)
 - Supports evaluation strategies and data analytics (funded in shared services budget)
 - Improves EBT card security by adding names to reissued cards (HB2392)
 - Accesses lottery prize information for overpayment recovery (HB2393)
- Invests in Employment Related Daycare (ERDC) program (\$45 million)
 - Protects eligibility for children for 12 months (October 2015)
 - Allows working student parents to access ERDC (October 2015)
 - Allows self-employed parents to access ERDC (October 2015)
 - Changes ERDC exit eligibility from 185% to 250% Federal Poverty Level (October 2015)

- Increases provider rates to 75th percentile (October 2015)
- Increases average caseload by about 700 to 800 families (October 2015)
- Lowers co-pay for using higher quality providers (January 2016)
- Gives incentives to high quality providers caring for subsidy children (January 2016)
- Invests in program infrastructure and system costs
- Transfers food assistance programs from Housing and Community Services to DHS, restores permanent funding for food programs of \$450,000 and adds one-time funding of \$400,000 (total of an additional \$850,000) (Oregon Food Bank)
- Funds workload model at 75.8%
- Provides funding to help 211 maintain a statewide presence
- Funding for a one-time pilot project in Jackson and Josephine counties for eligible clients to enrolled training programs that match up with in-demand, high wage job openings, such as in the healthcare or information technology. Clients will receive a scholarship/stipend to help augment Pell grants, with average awards expected to be about \$2,000 per client; about 150 clients are estimated to participate in the program over the biennium. The pilot project is a joint effort between the Rogue Workforce Partnership, the Oregon Employment Department, and the Department of Human Services
- Funds Hunger Task Force

Vocational Rehabilitation: The Vocational Rehabilitation program (VR) assesses, develops service plans and provides vocational rehabilitation services to youth and adults whose disabilities present impediments to employment. Every year, VR provides basic services to over 12,000 Oregonians with disabilities, Youth Transition Services to approximately 3,500 young people, and Supported Employment to over 250 individuals. Independent Living programs, also funded in this budget, serve almost 19,000 Oregonians each year.

The 2015-17 LAB for VR includes the following:

- Invests in the Employment First Initiative, building Vocational Rehabilitation and benefits counselor capacity, and enhancing supports for capacity building (\$10.8 million Total Funds, same as in I/DD above)

Agency Administration: Central DHS and Shared Services for DHS/OHA provide oversight and direction for programs and services to ensure the agency's mission is achieved.

The 2015-17 LAB for Central and Shared Services includes the following:

- Invests in REAL-D IT project to enhance collection of Race, Ethnicity, Language and Disability information across DHS and Oregon Health Authority Programs
- Invests \$950,000 General Fund in Oregon Enterprise Data Analytics project to build statewide capacity for better cross-systems data analysis and forecasting. LAB calls out analysis of TANF redesign as a priority
- Funds costs associated with recovering public assistance cover overpayments for lottery winnings (HB 2393)
- Funds bargaining pot for workers who are not state employees (\$10.7 million GF is Special Purpose Appropriation in Emergency Board)
- Assumes 3% vacancy factor for positions in all DHS programs, reducing overall workload capacity
- Eliminates inflation for most programs and services

Conclusion

DHS is committed to innovation, transparency, and prioritizing improvements that will use resources efficiently and effectively. Our success in that effort depends upon nearly 8,000 employees across the state, as well as upon thousands of community and service delivery partners, all of whom are dedicated to supporting and improving the lives of Oregonians.

Every year, more than one-million people rely on DHS services, and important services provided by other agencies and organizations, to meet their most basic needs, to be safe, to live as independently as possible, and to support their efforts to achieve economic independence. We are thankful for the legislative support to meet the needs of vulnerable Oregonians.

If you have questions about the Legislatively Adopted Budget for DHS, please send them to communications.dhs@state.or.us and we will get you the information you need.

~Erinn Kelley-Siel, DHS Director