

Governor's FY 2019 Budget: Articles

Staff Presentation to the House Finance
Committee
March 27, 2018

Introduction

Article 15 Children & Families

- Voluntary Extension of Care
- Child Care Licensing
- Child Care Violations/Penalties
- Lead Inspection
 - Including foster homes
- Child Care Pilot Program
- Child Care Rates

Voluntary Extension of Care

- Allows youth in DCYF care or congregate care at age 18 to choose to continue services until 21st birthday
- If aged out can return before 21st birthday
- Current program general revenue funded
 - Foster Forward operates YESS services
- Sections 1 & 2 allow the state to leverage federal funds and expand services

Voluntary Extension of Care

Section	Voluntary Extension of Care
1	Definitions and retention of jurisdiction by the state. Allows youth to enter into a voluntary placement agreement.
2	Youth can request and be provided with court-appointed counsel. Expense paid for by the state.
3	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Once have agreement – initial permanency plan to document efforts to finalize a plan• Within 180 days of signing the agreement, DCYF must petition the court to determine if remaining in state care is in the person's best interest• Within 1 year there will be a permanency hearing
4	Adds DCYF to GWB Advisory Committee
GBA	Allows for employment plan and supports and services

Voluntary Extension of Care

- Fostering Connections to Success
 - Matching federal Title IV-E
 - Eligibility uses youth's income – Family of 1
 - RI must also file change with federal government allowing this
 - Federal match rate of at least 50%
 - Assume 90% of youth qualifying
 - Income threshold is \$347/month
 - About 35% of poverty level

Voluntary Extension of Care

Issues	YESS Aftercare Services	VEC
Provider	Foster Forward	DCYF
Youth	Formerly in foster care on or after 18 th birthday	Foster care and extends to adopted on or after age 16
Funding	\$1.7 million general revenues	\$2.3 million/all funds
	Case managers	Includes 7 new positions
	\$600 max payment housing	Housing support
Age	18 -21	18 -21
Family Court	No involvement	Enter into agreement for court oversight
Services	Housing Assistance	Housing Assistance
	Financial Literacy Classes	Education/Job Training

YESS = Youth Establishing Self-Sufficiency

Voluntary Extension of Care

Permanency Plan

- Documents reasonable efforts between DCYF & the youth to finalize plan that addresses the goal of preparing for independence & successful adulthood

Voluntary Extension of Care

Permanency Plan/Services:

- Housing assistance
 - Supervised independent or shared living arrangements/extended foster or kinship care
 - Can include single or shared apartments
 - Dormitories, continued foster care
- Education, vocational assessment, job training & employment plan

Voluntary Extension of Care

- Assistance with accessing available services & applying for public benefits
 - Acquiring documents such as birth certificate/medical records/health insurance information
- Maintaining relationships w/ individuals important to the young adult & acquiring information about siblings & other maternal and paternal relatives

Voluntary Extension of Care

- Employment & training (amendment)
 - DCYF/DLT & GWB will provide a vocational assessment if requested by participant
 - Develop an individualized employment plan that is suitable to talents and abilities
 - Determine which specialized workforce and supportive services may be necessary to accomplish goals
 - Agencies will track progress into workforce and publish an annual report

Voluntary Extension of Care

Permanency Hearing

- Conducted 1 year after executed a voluntary placement agreement
- DCYF will present written case plan for court approval that details necessary services, care & placement for a transition to independence and successful adulthood

Voluntary Extension of Care Projected Enrollment/Expenses

Fiscal Year	# of Youth	Gen. Rev.	All Funds
2019*	186	\$1.7	\$3.0
2020**	177	\$2.6	\$4.6
2021	155	\$3.0	\$5.4
2022 - 2024	155	\$3.0	\$5.4

\$ in millions

**Budget only includes about half of \$1.3 million in federal funds expected*

*** Out year forecast does not show growth*

Child Care Providers: Violations & Penalties

- Adds penalty for failure to comply with any laws or administrative oversight under the DCYF director's authority
 - Not to exceed \$500
 - Includes rules & regulations, orders, permits, license or approvals
 - Example: issues with staffing ratios, door locks or fire safety
- Includes right to hearing & judicial review

Child Care Providers: Violations & Penalties

- Applies to licensed child care centers, family child care homes and group family child care homes
- As of January 1, 2018, 110 child care providers would be subject to this fine
 - 12% of the total 910 providers
 - DCYF's current recourse is suspending license
- Governor's budget assume revenue of \$5,500 from the new penalties

Lead Inspections

- Amends scope of requirement for child care facilities that provide services to children under age 6 to demonstrate that they are lead free or lead safe for license
 - Modifies definitions to comply with current license categories
 - Eliminates schoolyards, public playgrounds, shelters
 - Alters foster home compliance standard
 - Removes requirement to use state inspectors

Lead Inspections

- Keeps current law requirement that covered facilities must receive comprehensive environmental lead inspections at specific intervals
 - Demonstrate that are either lead free or lead safe
- Similar provisions were included as part of more comprehensive budget proposal last year

Lead Inspections – Foster Homes

- Currently have visual inspection for foster home with children under age 6
 - Foster homes that pass can be licensed as lead safe and certified
 - Foster homes that fail cannot be licensed as lead safe but still certified as a foster home
 - Children will still be placed in the home
 - State cannot get federal funding because not “licensed” by state standard

Foster Care Licensing/Lead Inspections

- Article allows new DOH to set rules & regulations to assess the potential of lead in a foster home
 - Must still include visual inspection
 - Department of Health will review results & ensure the owners receive information to remediate the hazards
- Foster homes that fail can be licensed as having been inspected for lead
 - Key issue with kinship care placements

Foster Care Licensing/Lead Inspections

- Once foster home has been visually inspected it can be licensed
 - Allows the state to leverage federal funds to offset the cost for foster care
 - Otherwise 100% state cost

Kinship Care	Months License Pending		
	6 +	9+	12 +
Homes	116	70	43
Children under 6	113	66	35
Children over 6	53	35	30

Cash Assistance

Program	Funding
Rhode Island Works	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Temporary Assistance to Needy Families funds (TANF)
Child Care Assistance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Child Care Development Block Grant • TANF • Social Services Block Grant • General Revenues
Supplemental Security Income (SSI)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • General Revenues
SSI Transition/Bridge	

Child Care Expenditures

	Enacted	FY 2018 Gov. Rev.	Chg.	FY 2019 Gov. Rec*	Chg. to Rev
Subsidies	9,422	9,612	190	10,327	715
Annual cost per subsidy	\$7,323	\$7,220	(\$103)	\$7,220	\$0
Total Cost	\$69.0	\$69.4	(\$0.4)	\$74.6	\$5.2
Gen. Rev	\$10.6	\$10.6	-	\$17.8	\$7.2

*Total includes \$1.7 million for Article 15 proposals

Child Care Development Block Grant

- Recent increase to federal Child Care Development Block Grant passed as part of two-year budget
 - Block grant had not increased to offset impact of increased requirements reflected in caseload estimates
 - Impact to RI could be \$6.6 million available in each year
 - According to Center for Law and Social Policy (CLASP) Fact Sheet February 2018

Subsidized Child Care

- Provides child care to Rhode Island Works recipients & low income families at or below 180 % of poverty
- Income can increase to 225% before ineligible for the program
 - Families in approved training or employment programs who need child care to participate
 - Current program does not allow child care if parent(s) are enrolled in college

Subsidized Child Care

Pilot Program:

- Allow families enrolled at RI public higher education institutions to receive subsidized child care
 - Still meet 180% income threshold
 - FY 2019 budget includes \$200,000 gen rev
 - Starts July 1, 2018
 - RI is 1 of 9 states that does not pay for child care for those enrolled in college

Subsidized Child Care

- Governor's recommendation adds \$1.5 million to increase rates paid
 - Includes funding for DCYF
- Current rates based on average of 2002 & 2004 market rate survey
- Section increases base rates to the 2015 market rate survey - \$10.0 million
 - Not accounted for in the budget
 - Updated by future market surveys when done

Subsidized Child Care

- Rates will also be based on state's quality rating system
- Provider achieving five stars will be paid no less than the 75th percentile
- Governor requested an amendment to clarify intent of the \$1.5 million add
 - Amendment removes tie to survey but lets DHS set rates
 - Increase rates paid for infant/toddler

Current Child Care Rates -

Age	Center Based Providers	Family Child Care Providers
Infant (birth to 3)	\$193.64	\$169.95
Pre-School	\$161.71	\$154.50
School-Age	\$146.26	\$146.26

- Based on 75th percentile of 2002 & 2004 market rate survey adjusted for 3% rate increase to 2015 market rate survey

Child Care Rates – Hours

Rates	Hours	Example: Infant in Licensed Center
¼ time	Up to 9 hours	\$48.41
½ time	10 to 19 hours	\$96.82
¾ time	20 through 29	\$145.23
Full-time	30 and over	\$193.64

Child Care Rates

Infant/Toddler	Center Based Child Care Providers	Family Based Child Care Providers
Current Rate	\$193.64	\$169.95
1 Star	\$198.23	\$173.34
2 Star	\$202.81	\$177.86
3 Star	\$215.42	\$189.16
4 Star	\$221.16	\$193.68
5 Star	\$239.50	\$209.50

- Based on 75th percentile of 2015 market rate

Quality Rating & Improvement System

Domain	Standard
1 - Health, Safety & Nutrition	Learning Environment
2 - Enrollment & Staffing	Staff Ratio/Group Size
3 - Staffing Qualifications & Ongoing Professional Development	Teacher Qualification & Leadership

Quality Rating & Improvement System

Domain	Standard
4 – Administration	Continuous Quality Improvement
5 – Early Learning & Development	Curriculum/ Child Assessment/Inclusive Classroom Practices
6 – Family Engagement	Family Communication and Involvement

Subsidized Child Care

Type	# of Providers	# of Children Enrolled
Center Based	370	7,600
Family Based	439	2,136
Total	809	9,736

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