



LIVINGSTON COUNTY, MICHIGAN
LIVINGSTON COUNTY TRIAL COURTS
JUVENILE & PROBATE DIVISIONS

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Memorandum

To: Livingston County Board of Commissioners
From: Deborah Shaw, Juvenile & Probate Court Administrator
Jennifer Tate, Director, Livingston County Dept. of Health and Human Services
Date: July 26, 2021
Re: Resolution Authorizing the Submission of the FY 2022 Child Care Fund Annual Budget

The attached resolution authorizes submission of the FY 2022 Child Care Fund (CCF) Budget to the State of Michigan.

The proposed CCF budget requests a combined gross expenditure of \$3,100,589 which is comprised of the following components:

	MDHHS	Court	Combined
Out of Home Care	\$900,000	\$526,990	\$1,426,990
In-Home Care	\$240,000	\$1,433,599	\$1,673,599
Subtotal	\$1,140,000	\$1,960,589	\$3,100,589
Revenue	0	(\$145,000)	(\$145,000)
Net Expenditure	\$1,140,000	\$1,815,589	\$2,955,589

State Ward Board & Care
Child Care Fund

Out-Of-Home Care covers the shared cost of foster care, detention and residential placement for both Juvenile Justice and Child Welfare families. With the implementation of “State Pays First” in FY 2019, costs incurred for out of home care for a child who is under the care and control of the State are first paid by the State. When a child is supervised by the Court, the County/Court “pays first” for both in and out of home costs incurred. Financial reports are exchanged each month for reimbursement and are reconciled at the end of the fiscal year.

It should be noted that the Child Care Fund Annual Budget forms no longer includes a place to record the estimated amount of the County's obligation (\$900,000) for DHHS supervised Out-Of-Home placements.

In-Home Care includes intensive interventions and services designed to prevent removal from home, to effectuate an early return home from placement and to achieve permanency for children in a safe and timely manner. Costs for in-home services are shared by the Court and DHHS as follows:

Court In-Home Care - Service Components:

1. The **Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASA)** program, provided in partnership with LACASA Center, recruits, trains and supports volunteers who are appointed by the Court to advocate for the best interests of abused and neglected children in child protective proceedings. As an independent voice for children, CASAs investigate, facilitate, and advocate on behalf of the children until they are in a safe, permanent home.
2. The **Intensive Treatment Services** component provides intensive community-based assessment, treatment, and supervision to ameliorate criminogenic risk factors, enhance protective factors and hold juveniles accountable for harm done. Individualized case plans protect community safety by providing services to support the success of youth and their families in avoiding future system involvement.
3. **Multi-Systemic Treatment (MST)** is provided in partnership with Highfields, Inc. Through intensive intervention, MST works to eliminate or significantly reduce the frequency and severity of the youth's problematic behavior(s), empower parents with the skills and resources needed to independently address the inevitable difficulties that arise in raising children and adolescents and empower youth to cope with stressors such as family, peers, school and neighborhood problems.
4. **Wraparound – Court Component** services are provided by the Livingston County Community Mental Health Authority, supported through blended funding and a community that embraces collaboration and shared responsibility. Wraparound is a family-centered, strength based, holistic and team-oriented process used to work with high risk, multi-system children and families to address children's complex needs, reduce Out-of-Home placement (including psychiatric hospitalization) and support their community success.

MDHHS In-Home Care –Service Components:

1. **Family Supportive Services** are targeted at specific but various family issues and provides goods and services that are not available or eligible from other family assistance programs. Examples of services are: life-skills education, financial counseling, mentoring, tutoring, summer camp tuition, court-ordered transportation, drug/urine screening, program attendance incentives, child-parent assessments, counseling, and various expenditures that are Court ordered.

2. Supervised Visitation Coaches develops a plan with the family for visitation sessions. The Parent Coach will work with the family to advocate and encourage routine and structure, provide support and understanding regarding separation and reunion within the family, cultivate a nurturing environment to encourage the family plan, provide instruction and information that involves behavior modeling, and offer demonstrations and supervision of areas such as: child care, non-abusive child management skills, and child care techniques.
3. Wraparound – MDHHS Component – see description above.

CCF Budget Changes for FY 2022:

The Court’s In-Home Care budget has remained stable over the past five years, with the exception of an increase in FY 2019, as some general fund salary and program costs were moved from the General Fund into the Child Care Fund to maximize reimbursement from the State. In FY 2022:

- One 0.50 FTE Juvenile Probation Officer position is shifted from the Child Care Fund to the Juvenile Court General Fund to manage the increased non-intensive caseload anticipated with the new Raise the Age legislation.
- The Family Supportive Services In-Home Care component is increased by \$35,000 to align the budget with expenditures for drug testing by parents in Child Welfare cases.

These changes are offset with the shifting of some salary and fringe benefits into Raise the Age 100% Child Care Fund reimbursement and the Raise the Age Grant.

Out-Of-Home costs are highly unpredictable and volatile and are dependent on the number of youth, type of offenses and needs of both the Juvenile Justice and Child Welfare population. With the anticipated increase in caseload with Raise the Age, and a corresponding potential increase in Juvenile Justice Out-Of-Home placements costs (which will be reimbursed at 100% for 17 year olds), the Court Out-of-Home Care costs are increased by 12%. MDHHS Out-of-Home Care expenditures (State Ward Board & Care) are projected to remain the same.

Thank you for your consideration and continued support of the Livingston County Courts.