
**STATE OF MICHIGAN
Fiscal Year 2013
TITLE XX SOCIAL SERVICES BLOCK GRANT PLAN**

REVISED PLAN

**Michigan, Department of Human Services,
Financial Services Administration**

FOREWORD

The Omnibus Reconciliation Act of 1981 amended Title XX of the Social Security Act to establish the Social Services Block Grant program October 1, 1981. Under this program, grants are made to the 50 states, the District of Columbia, and other eligible jurisdictions for use in funding a variety of social services directed toward the needs of individuals and families.

Social services are directed at five goals in the Social Services Block Grant statute to: prevent, reduce or eliminate dependency; achieve or maintain self-sufficiency; prevent neglect, abuse or exploitation of children and adults; prevent or reduce inappropriate care; and secure admission or referral for institutional care when other forms of care are not appropriate. Within the specific limitations of the law each state has the flexibility to determine what services will be provided, who is eligible to receive services, and how funds are distributed among the various services within the state. State or local Social Services Block Grant agencies may provide these services directly or purchase them from other public or private agencies and/or individuals.

The governor of Michigan has designated the Michigan Department of Human Services as the state agency to receive and administer the Title XX Social Services Block Grant. The department has produced this plan to meet the requirements for receiving Title XX Social Services Block Grant funds and to facilitate public comment on the services to be supported by Title XX funds.

The draft plan was published and made electronically available in the month of July 2012 and announced to the Michigan Department of Human Services local offices, the Legislature, and other interested groups and individuals for comment. The public comment period was the month of July 2012. A designated electronic mailbox (DHS-SSBGMail@michigan.gov) was been created to receive comments from interested groups and individuals on the draft plan.

A copy of this plan is available upon request by contacting:

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INTRODUCTION

MICHIGAN DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES

Mission

The Michigan Department of Human Services (DHS) mission is to improve the quality of life in Michigan by providing services to vulnerable children and adults that will strengthen the community and enable families and individuals to move toward independence. Along with our network of partners, DHS serves as a safety net for children and families, whether they are facing a one-time crisis or are in need of more long-term assistance.

Vision

Compassion. Protection. Independence.

Philosophy

Public Act 280 of 1939 as amended, and Public Act 238 of 1975 as amended, define our responsibility to help individuals and families that are unable to provide for, or to protect, themselves. Our employees are dedicated to serving the people of Michigan through effective services and supports. We are committed to professional standards, growth and development.

DHS provides programs and services to strengthen Michigan's families, encourage employment, provide financial and emotional support of children, increase personal responsibility, and involve communities in a team approach to strengthen families. Intervention in people's lives occurs in the least intrusive manner for the shortest possible time, maintaining respect for each person's dignity, ethnic background, distinct culture, and unique characteristics.

Operating Principles

Simplification.
Elimination of redundancy and distractions.
Effective management of department strategic goals.
Effective use of resources.
Assurance of program integrity.

Protection of At-Risk Adults and Children

All children and vulnerable adults deserve a safe, stable and secure home. Family life can best be strengthened and stabilized by preventing social problems. We provide resources and support services to help strengthen families and keep them intact. When children and vulnerable adults need protection from harm, we seek court intervention. When safely possible, we reunite children removed from their parents because of abuse or neglect. When reunification is not in the child's best interests, we petition for termination of parental rights and find an appropriate relative or adoptive placement.

The elderly and disabled are protected in their own homes. If they are unable to remain in their homes, we assist them in finding an alternative placement in the least restrictive setting to protect them from harm and to provide the appropriate level of care.

Adult victims of domestic and sexual violence have a right to safety, privacy, autonomy, and dignity.

Specialized services and institutional response and change work are critical to the treatment and prevention of domestic and sexual violence and are key components of our work.

Public Trust and Accountability

Public trust and accountability to the people of Michigan require efficient, responsible, and accurate management of programs and resources. We assure that people receive the benefits and services to which they are entitled from both this department and other agencies. At the same time, we pursue all possible avenues to ensure integrity of all programs. Issues of fraud are vigorously pursued and funds are recovered by the state.

Technology

We constantly upgrade the use of technology and automated systems to maximize our human resources, to enhance the skills of our workforce, and to upgrade the delivery of service.

Interdepartmental and Intergovernmental Cooperation

Social issues involve many agencies: public and private; local, state and federal. We work diligently to coordinate and cooperate with other agencies for the best use of all available resources. We encourage innovation and efficiency, targeting programs to the needs of the people being served and the creation of effective services for families.

A partnership with our federal colleagues exhibits an atmosphere of cooperation to resolve mutual problems, to allow the maximum level of federal reimbursement, and to minimize federal intrusion.

As the largest employer of human service employees in Michigan, we are strengthening ties with Michigan's colleges and universities to assure that the social work curriculum addresses essential skills.

Purpose of Report

The purpose of this report is to provide notice to the public regarding the intended use of fiscal year 2013 federal Social Services Block Grant funds by the state of Michigan under the provisions of Title XX of the Social Security Act. This notice is provided to the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, the Michigan Legislature and congressional delegation, public and private agencies, and interested groups and individuals.

This report contains the information required by Section 2004 of Title XX of the Social Security Act. These requirements are:

- The state shall report on the intended use of the payments the state is to receive under Title XX, including information on the types of activities to be supported and the categories or characteristics of individuals to be served (Section 2004).

Format and contents of this report are intended to meet the requirements. This report gives an overview of the services Michigan anticipates providing with Social Services Block Grant funds. Detailed information on programs, services, and client eligibility may be obtained from DHS.

**STATE OF MICHIGAN
DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES (DHS)**

THE INTENDED USE OF THE FISCAL YEAR (FY)2013 SOCIAL SERVICES BLOCK GRANT

DHS Funding and Use of the Social Services Block Grant

DHS Funding

Social Services Block Grant (SSBG) funds constitute approximately 0.8% of total funding and about 1.0% of all federal funding for DHS. SSBG funds are used to help support services, many of which also receive funding from sources other than Title XX. The distribution of SSBG funds is influenced by many factors, including:

- The availability of other federal, state and local funds;
- The availability of services from other federal or state agencies, private non-profit agencies, local agencies or family members; and
- The extent to which each service contributes to achieving DHS goals and objectives.

Uses of SSBG

The intended use of SSBG funds in FY2013 continues to be the support of service programs and activities aimed at achieving department goals and the federal purposes specified in Title XX of the Social Security Act. Social services are directed at five goals in the SSBG statute:

- Prevent, reduce or eliminate dependency;
- Achieve or maintain self-sufficiency;
- Prevent neglect, abuse, or exploitation of children and adults;
- Prevent or reduce inappropriate care; and
- Secure admission or referral for institutional care when other forms of care are not appropriate.

The services outlined in this report are activities intended to be carried out in FY2013.

Transfer of Temporary Assistance to Needy Families (TANF) Block Grant Funds to SSBG

Current TANF regulations authorize the use of up to 10% of a state's TANF grant to carry out programs pursuant to Title XX of the Social Security Act.

DHS intends to take advantage of this transfer authority in FY2013. TANF transferred Title XX funds will support activities as described in this report, subject to the federal requirement that the TANF funds transferred to Title XX shall be used only for programs and services to children and their families whose income is less than 200% of the income official poverty line applicable to a family of the size involved.

DESCRIPTION OF MICHIGAN SSBG SERVICES

Service Activities

Section 2006 of Title XX of the Social Security Act directs the Secretary to establish uniform definitions of services for use by the states in preparing the information to be submitted in the annual SSBG report. These services are defined in title 45, part 96, appendix A of the code of federal regulations and are reflected in the state of Michigan's Title XX SSBG Report. The services include:

<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Adoption Services 2. Case Management Services 3. Congregate Meals 4. Counseling Services 5. Day Care Services – Adults 6. Day Care Services – Children 7. Education & Training Services 8. Employment Services 9. Family Planning Services 10. Foster Care Services for Adults 11. Foster Care Services for Children 12. Health Related and Home Health Services 13. Home Based Services 14. Home Delivered Meals 15. Housing Services 16. Independent & Transitional Living Services 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 17. Information & Referral Services 18. Legal Services 19. Pregnancy & Parenting Services for Young Parents 20. Prevention & Intervention Services 21. Protective Services for Adults 22. Protective Services for Children 23. Recreational Services 24. Residential Treatment Services 25. Special Services for Persons with Developmental or Physical Disabilities, or Persons with Visual or Auditory Impairments 26. Special Services for Youth Involved or At Risk of Involvement in Criminal Activity 27. Substance Abuse Services 28. Transportation Services 29. Other Services
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These uniform services definitions are not meant to direct how states define or deliver services, but rather represent the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services' effort to produce a framework, for reporting purposes only, that would encompass most of the activities currently described and funded by states under the SSBG. Therefore, not all of the above services apply to services funded by the SSBG in the state of Michigan. In addition, some of the above services are funded by DHS with sources of funding other than SSBG.

This section of Michigan's FY2013 SSBG report provides a description of the activities carried out under the SSBG for each of the service categories.

The following services are available in Michigan under SSBG:

Adoption Services

DHS provides permanent homes for Michigan Children's Institute wards (permanent state wards) and permanent court wards under the supervision of the department. In certain situations, DHS may also provide a subsidy to assist in supporting the day-to-day care of the child, treatment of medical conditions, or both.

Services are provided to all children legally free for adoption under the care and supervision of DHS. The Department's direct adoption services concentrate on special needs children; including children who are members of sibling groups, children with physical and emotional handicaps, and older children.

Case Management

DHS administers and provide oversight of case management services throughout the state.

A. Adult and Child Welfare Case Management

DHS provides the daily administrative rate paid to child placing agencies that delivery foster care case management services on behalf of DHS. DHS supports the delivery of case management services and intervention by front-line staff, supervisors and program managers in Adult Services; Prevention; Adult and Children's Protective Services (Maltreatment in Care, Centralized Intake); Foster Care (Health Unit/Liaison Officers, Michigan Youth Opportunities Initiative, Educational Planners, Child Welfare Financial Specialists, Permanency Resource Managers and Assistants, Peer Coaches, Family Aides); Foster Home Licensing; and Adoption. These case management services often include referrals to specific providers or direct intervention by the front-line staff in areas of health, education, independent living, housing, employment, parenting, transportation and counseling.

DHS also supports the organization and management of substantial reform efforts to improve child welfare case management and service delivery by developing an enhanced case practice model (MiTEAM); establishing and implementing a statewide child welfare continuous quality improvement system (with qualitative service review component); and improving the collection and evaluation of child welfare data. Due to a class action lawsuit in Michigan, *Dwayne B. v. Snyder*, additional monitoring activities occur by and through a federal court ordered contract with Public Catalyst to ensure the rights of child welfare clients under the care and supervision of DHS protected pursuant to the *Dwayne B. Modified Settlement Agreement*.

B. Migrant Program

DHS has been designated as the lead state agency responsible for the assessment, development and coordination of services for Michigan's 90,700 migrant and seasonal farm workers, their family members and dependents, which includes an estimated 41,038 children and youth under the age of 20. DHS responsibilities for migrant and seasonal farm workers are accomplished through the Office of Migrant Affairs, the Interagency Migrant Services Committee, and nine regional Migrant Resource Counties. Of that group, approximately 12,092 migrant and seasonal farm workers and their family members received DHS services. Case management workers can assist clients with getting help for child day care; food assistance; Medicaid; emergency services; locating employment; and providing referrals to job skills retraining programs, healthcare providers, free legal services migrant education, and GED programs.

Counseling Services

The Michigan Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault Prevention and Treatment Board (MDVSPTB), administratively housed in DHS, is legislatively mandated to coordinate all statewide functions related to the prevention and treatment of domestic and sexual violence and is the entity responsible for enacting the congressional Violence Against Women Act in Michigan. MDVSPTB sub-contracts to local domestic and sexual violence agencies for the provision of supportive counseling services for families that are victims of domestic and/or sexual violence. This supportive counseling must be voluntary, one-on-one or in a group setting, empowerment-based and related to domestic violence and/or sexual violence issues.

Day Care - Children

Under a memorandum of understanding (MOU), DHS provides licensing activities related to the Child Day Care (CDC) program administered by the Michigan Department of Education (MDE). The goal of the CDC program is to help preserve the family unit and to promote the family's economic independence and self-sufficiency by promoting safe, affordable, accessible, and quality child care for qualified Michigan residents. DHS local offices are responsible for CDC program eligibility determination.

The Child Care Licensing Division at DHS is responsible for the licensing of child care facilities and the protection of children through regulation of family child care homes, child care centers and group child care homes. Regulatory activities include issuance of original licenses, license renewal, renewal inspections, complaint investigations, verification of corrective actions, and taking disciplinary action as needed to protect the children served. Funding supports communication expenses to engage the public and regulated community; state wide office space leases; office expenses; printing and mailing of licensing related forms and documents; transportation and travel expenses related to field work; mandated environmental health inspections of facilities; expenses related to adverse licensing actions such as, witness fees and legal transcription fees; and technology expenses associated with the maintenance of the licensing database and technical support.

Services are provided to qualified families when the parent(s) or substitute parent(s) is unavailable to provide care because of high school completion, employment, participation in an approved treatment program for a physical, mental or emotional condition (family preservation), or approved employment related activities. Families must submit application and required verification and use an eligible child care provider.

Education and Training Services

A. Child Welfare Staff

DHS provides training and education support to child welfare staff to ensure all child welfare professionals serving child welfare populations in the state have necessary and applicable initial and ongoing training in areas of child welfare service delivery and case management.

B. Native American Affairs

The Office of Native American Affairs (NAA), established in 1978, serves as DHS' avenue to comply with federal and state requirements for consultation with American Indian tribes regarding all state plans, programs, legislative changes, and policy changes that impact Native American Indian children and families.

NAA delivers a broad range of education and training services to Michigan's approximate 130,000 American Indian population and department field staff including, but not limited to: child welfare /direct assistance policy and program development, client resource coordination,

advocacy, training and technical assistance, cultural and educational linkages (resource guides, back to school backpacks, conferences, and foster care youth/recruitment incentives), coordination of efforts to ensure implementation of applicable state and federal laws including the federal Indian Child Welfare Act (ICWA) and Michigan Indian Family Preservation Act (MIFPA) pertaining to Native Americans, and tribal consultation annually (per tribal request respectively).

C. Migrant Farm Workers

DHS provides specialized training on migrant assistance payments case management, DHS migrant policy, GED programs, English as a Second Language classes, health education opportunities and outreach to migrant and seasonal farm workers and their family members receiving DHS services.

D. Homemaking Services

In select counties throughout the state, DHS may provide unique homemaking services to a localized client population. The activity includes direct assistance to teach necessary skills to individuals and families with household management problems and to maintain, strengthen and safeguard their functioning. Special services can include child care and modeling of parenting skills, meal planning and preparation, household cleaning and maintenance, consumer education, budgeting and teaching household management skills.

E. Back to School Back-Pack Program

DHS supports the Back to School Back-Pack program that is administered by DHS Community Resource Coordinators (CRCs) in local offices through the Community Resource Program (CRP). Free school back packs filled with age-appropriate and grade-appropriate basic school supplies are provided to low-income school aged children at the beginning of the school year who would otherwise not have these necessities (usually per local school district policies) for their education. This enhances not only their educational opportunities and ability to learn but also their self-esteem and self-worth as they can come to school equipped and ready to learn like their classmates.

F. Carpentry Skills for Inmates Training Partnership

Through a partnership with the Michigan Department of Corrections (DOC), DHS supplies lumber and other necessary materials to DOC that is used by inmates to construct beds. The inmates are taught carpentry skills that will prepare them for successful reintegration into their communities in order to reduce re-victimization and recidivism, and to promote self-sufficiency. The bed frames and mattresses are given to families that have been referred by their DHS caseworker as having a need for beds.

G. Training and Presentation Materials

DHS purchases supplies for use in training or educating DHS clients, staff or community partners about DHS programs, policies, procedures and initiatives. Items may include, but is not limited to: color printers with cartridges, display boards, cameras, projectors, and portable screens

Employment Services

DHS Migrant Program staff conducts outreach to agricultural employers with the Workforce Development Agency. DHS is part of a MOU with Telamon National Farmworker Jobs Program, DHS's nonprofit partner in job skills and retraining for farmworkers. Under this MOU, Migrant Program staff conducts joint outreach to migrant labor camps with Telamon. Counties have cooperative arrangements with Telamon for DHS workers to be housed in their offices and for Telamon workers to be housed in DHS offices.

Foster Care Services – Adults

A. Adult Community Placement (ACP)

ACP Program provides services that assist in achieving the least restrictive community-based care settings for adults who require care in licensed community placement: Adult Foster Care (AFC) facilities or Homes for the Aged (HA). ACP works to maximize independence and self-determination for program recipients by assisting in maintaining connections with family, other community members, and community activities. ACP provides pre-placement services and assistance with placement for adults who need care in licensed community placement settings (AFC facilities and HA). Post-placement/follow-up services are also provided, as are transitional services for individuals relocated when nursing homes close.

Specific ACP services can include: case management, counseling, education and training, health-related services, information and referral, money management, pre-placement services, post-placement services, and protection. DHS AS workers authorize personal care supplement payment each month to the AFC/HA provider for Medicaid clients residing in the AFH/HA.

DHS Adult Services workers provide program services to adults 18 or older who are elderly, frail, physically handicapped, emotionally impaired, or mentally ill. Most clients are Medicaid-eligible and receive Supplemental Security Income (SSI).

B. Adult Foster Care Home Licensing

The Bureau of Children and Adult Licensing (BCAL) is responsible for issuing adult foster care home licenses and conducting ongoing monitoring of all child foster care licenses. BCAL only provides regulatory services not case management services. These regulatory services can include pre-licensing orientations provided to potential applicants; receiving and processing applications for adult foster care licenses; criminal backgrounds; consultation to the applicant on their efforts to comply with the administrative rules and licensing statutes; onsite inspections to verify compliance with all administrative rules; license renewal inspections; consultation to assist with compliance as needed throughout the duration of the license; special investigations when allegations of noncompliance are received; receiving and processing of complaints; and processing adverse actions to revoke, suspend, denial issuance or refuse to renew.

Foster Care Services - Children

A. Children's Foster Care Program

DHS provides foster care placement activities for children who have been abused and/or neglected and who cannot remain in their family homes because they would be at risk of further harm. The Foster Care Program provides temporary supervision of abused or neglected children when deemed necessary by the family court. The program conducts the following services:

- Maintains the child in the family home when possible and assists the family in resolving the situation.
- Provides access to therapeutic services designed to remediate familial problems and permit safe reunification with families.
- Supervises children placed out of their homes and works with the families to return the children to their families, if possible.
- Petitions the court for legal termination of parental rights, if necessary.
- Seeks permanent homes for children when neither return to their homes nor adoption is possible.
- Assures payments for necessary social services for children in foster care.

The Children's Foster Care Program provides placement and supervision of all children who are court or state wards. The Children's Foster Care Program is closely tied to the Children's Protective Services Program. The Children's Protective Services Program identifies those children who cannot be protected from abuse or neglect in their own homes. The program and county juvenile courts must authorize the removal of the child from his/her home. The Federal Compliance Division provides oversight for foster care payments from a variety of funding sources and assures that social services are provided for children from the correct funding source.

C. Child Foster Care Home Licensing

BCAL is responsible for issuing child placing licenses and children's foster home licenses in the state and conducting ongoing monitoring of all child foster care licenses. Foster home licensing consultants are assigned to child placing agencies to assist with the licensing and monitoring of children's foster care licenses. Services provided can include pre-licensing orientations that are provided to potential child placing agency (CPA) applicants; criminal backgrounds are processed by analysts; consultation to the applicant on how to comply with the administrative rules and licensing statutes; training to child placing agency certification staff related to the licensing of children's foster homes; training to child placing agency and child caring institution staff related to maintaining compliance with administrative rule and statute as well as good practice; onsite inspections to verify compliance with all administrative rules; license renewal inspections to verify the facility remains in compliance; safety checks in foster homes to ensure the safety of foster children and the provision of services by the CPA; safety checks are with children in independent living arrangements; consultation to assist with compliance as needed throughout the duration of the license; special investigations when allegations of noncompliance are received; receive and process complaints; conduct special investigations and/or renewal inspections; process adverse actions to revoke, suspend, denial issuance or refuse to renew; maintain the licensing database.

Health Related and Home Health Services

DHS ensures child welfare clients have access to health care services; such as medical, dental, and mental health. DHS provides medical, psychological and psychiatric services to clients of Child Protective Services, Foster Care and Adoption programs in the state. DHS contracts with a Medical Consultant who: develops a system response to psychotropic oversight for foster children; develops formularies, policy and processes for psychotropic oversight; trains and communicates with DHS health liaison officers; provides input and direction on CSA Health Plans and health policy; provides case consultation or residential cases; develops and trains staff on health related topics; consults on tool development for health and behavioral health matters; administers the Health Advisory Resource Team; meets with Medicaid Health Plans and Michigan Department of Community Health regarding the provision of physical, dental and behavioral health services for foster children; develops pilot programs to utilize community linkages to improve health outcomes.

Home Based Services

DHS local offices provide food cards, gas cards, emergency food pantry of non-perishable goods, and basic hygiene supplies such as laundry detergent, spray cleaners, powdered cleansers, Pine-sol, soap, shampoo, toothpaste, deodorant to low-income clients unable to afford them or in emergency situations.

Housing Services

A. Homeless and Runaway Youth

DHS contracts, through a continuum of services, with homeless youth and runaway service providers that includes street outreach, prevention, crisis intervention, and basic care centers

which offer temporary shelter and transitional living programs for youth needing long-term support. The service array that is offered includes, but is not limited to, assessment, independent living skills, referrals for educational and health care needs, housing referrals, financial training and counseling. Specialized services that address the needs of specific groups of youth, such as foster care alumni; dissolved adoptions or guardianships; Lesbian Gay Bi-sexual Transgendered and Queer/Questioning youth; and pregnant and parenting youth are also available.

B. Missing Child Locator

DHS collaborates with the Michigan State Police on efforts to locate children under court jurisdiction due to abuse and neglect, when missing from an approved placement. The Missing Child Locator Analyst ensures appropriate documentation is obtain to place eligible youth on the DHS Public Website, and collaborates with the State Court Administrative Office to ensure both agencies have updated and accurate information regarding missing youth and provides technical assistance to child welfare workers in efforts to locate and document efforts to locate youth.

C. Domestic Violence Shelters

MDSVPTB sub-contracts with local domestic violence shelter agencies for the provision of safe, decent shelter housing coupled with voluntary supportive services as needed to assist domestic violence survivors and their dependent children. Shelter includes onsite shelter managed by the domestic violence program and program-sponsored hotel rooms. Supportive services include 24-hour hotline, individual and group supportive counseling, child care during counseling sessions, children's services, transportation, and advocacy services in obtaining health care, criminal justice assistance, financial/specific assistance, employment assistance and housing assistance.

Independent/Transitional Living Services

MDSVPTB sub-contracts with local domestic violence agencies for the provision of safe, decent single family occupancy units coupled with voluntary supportive services, to assist domestic violence survivors and their dependent children. Housing shall be available 7 days a week, 24 hours a day, 365 days a year for up to 24 months.

Information and Referral Services

A. Benefit Services

DHS may develop and distribute brochures or handouts and newspaper ads to inform low-income persons about DHS's benefit programs.

B. Migrant Farm Workers

The Migrant Program provides client referrals on employment opportunities, suitable housing, job skills & retraining programs, healthcare providers, migrant education, GED programs, legal services, housing services, English as a Second Language classes, and other services as appropriate.

C. Native American Affairs

DHS supports coordinated statewide efforts and collaborations with other state entities to ensure the safety, permanency, and well-being of Indian children and families in Michigan, including:

- Tribal State Partnership– A collaborative body of Tribal Social Service Directors, urban Indian organizations, state/private agencies; and DHS staff focusing on Indian child welfare and the implementation of the Indian Child Welfare Act (ICWA) of 1978.
- Urban Indian State Partnership– A collaborative body of urban Indian organizations, tribal

representatives, state/private agencies; and DHS staff focusing on the unique challenges facing tribal at-large membership and point-of-entry for DHS services.

- Michigan Tribal Child Care Task Force– A collaborative body of Tribal Child Care and Tribal Education Directors, Michigan Department of Education, and DHS staff working to ensure Zero to Three, Great Start, and Pathways to Success participation for young children and adults.
- Regional Indian Outreach Worker Meetings– Indian Outreach Worker forum to provide cohort policy updates and professional development.
- Child Welfare Training Institute– Assists training department with ICWA training for new child welfare caseworker and supervisory staff; and foster parents.
- State Court Administrator’s Office, Court Improvement Program, Statewide Task Force and Tribal Court Relations Subcommittee Member– Advocating on behalf of tribal families for judicial reform.
- Tribal and Urban Indian Organization Site Visits – Tribal consultation and technical assistance.

Legal Services

DHS provides legal services to vulnerable adults/clients of the state’s Adult Services Program. Legal services are also provided through a contract with Michigan’s Attorney General, in order to provide representation for DHS in child welfare matters in Wayne County. Services include the issuance of child welfare protection orders, adult services guardianship contract that pays a guardian a monthly fee to be the guardian for a DHS adult services client; legal representation for contested guardianship or conservatorship hearings. DHS contracts with the Attorney General Office to obtain legal counsel through contracts with Special Assistant Attorney General’s Office.

Prevention and Intervention Services

DHS Migrant Program staff conducts outreach to migrant labor camps and refer potential situations of abuse, neglect, and family violence to appropriate areas of DHS and to other service providers.

Protective Services for Adults

Adult Protective Services (APS) provide protection to vulnerable adults who are at risk of harm due to the presence or threat of abuse, neglect, or exploitation. DHS provide immediate intervention to APS clients to when necessary, which may include cost for placement in a safe environment; personal care aide; housecleaning; fumigation; or other needs that would assist the person to remain safely and independent.

Services in this program:

- Provide immediate (within 24 hours) investigation and assessment of situations referred to the department where an adult is suspected of being or believed to be abused, neglected, or exploited. This includes the operation of a 24-hour centralized intake center, where callers are able to call one number statewide to report suspected abuse, neglect, or exploitation.
- For those found to be in need of protection, assure that the adult is living in a safe and stable situation, including legal intervention, where required, in the least intrusive or restrictive manner.

Program services are available to any adult who is reported as at risk of harm from abuse, neglect, or exploitation, and there is a reasonable belief that the person is a vulnerable adult in need of protective services.

Protective Services for Children

The purpose of Children's Protective Services is to assure that children are protected from further harm from non-accidental physical or mental injury, sexual abuse, exploitation, or neglect by a person responsible for a child's health or welfare. DHS staff accomplishes this through:

- Investigating and substantiating reported abuse and neglect.
- Assisting the family in diagnosing and resolving the problem.
- Referring families to community resources, including family preservation services when appropriate.
- Petitioning the court for removal of the child, if necessary.
- Providing public information about child abuse and neglect.
- Coordinating community service programs.
- Operating a 24-hour centralized intake center, where callers statewide can call one number statewide to report suspected abuse, neglect, or exploitation.

DHS Children's Protective Services are provided to all children (under 18 years of age) and families when any of the following conditions exist:

- A child is reported, known, or suspected to be in danger of abuse, neglect or exploitation by a person responsible for the child's health or welfare.
- A child is without proper custody or guardianship.
- A child is adjudicated neglected and the court requests supervision by DHS in the child's home.
- A child or family is referred for investigation.

DHS Migrant Program provides interpretation services in child protective services cases.

Residential Treatment Services

DHS provides care and supervision of abused, neglected and delinquent youths the court places with the department. Counseling and other treatment/ therapeutic services provided to youths in child placement residential facilities (child caring institutions).

Special Services for Youth Involved In or At Risk of Involvement with Criminal Activity

DHS may work with high quality mentoring programs in the Governor's four core cities (Flint, Detroit, Pontiac, and Saginaw) to expand the number of disconnected youth, such as youth in foster care, children of prisoners, and youth in gangs or at risk of gang involvement served by mentors. Youth must be matched with a mentor in a formal mentoring program as defined by Mentor Michigan. Mentoring programs serving these youth must meet and exceed the Mentor Michigan Quality Program Standards for Youth Mentoring.

Youth in foster care are defined as youth who have an active foster care case and are placed in the care and supervision of the Michigan Department of Human Services. This includes older youth ages 18-21 that may be enrolled in Young Adult Voluntary Foster Care with Michigan Department of Human Services. Foster youth do not have to be under the jurisdiction of the court or be placed in a licensed foster home in order to be defined as a foster youth.

Children of Prisoners are defined as children with one or both parents incarcerated in a Federal or State correctional facility or in a local correctional facility if remanded there by a Federal or State court. The term is deemed to include children who are in an ongoing mentoring relationship in this program at the

time of their parents' release from prison, for purposes of continued participation in the program. The match process must be initiated while one or both of the incarcerated parent(s) is serving a sentence in a Federal or State correctional facility or in a local correctional facility if remanded there by a Federal or State court.

Youth in gangs or at risk of gang involvement is defined as youth at risk of gang activity, delinquency, and youth violence.

Transportation Services

DHS provides transportation services in many services programs; these activities are not identified and tracked separately. DHS Volunteers Services Program purchases oil changes and gas cards to enable DHS registered volunteer drivers to continue transporting DHS clients to medical providers and other service providers when there are no other available options.

Other Services

- A. Michigan Coalition for Race Equity in Child Welfare and Juvenile Justice
DHS participates in a project in Michigan to reduce the racial disproportionality in the child welfare and juvenile justice system. The Michigan Coalition for Race Equity in Child Welfare and Juvenile Justice is charged with implementing the following action steps: 1. Establish and convene a state-wide coordinating body to oversee efforts to reduce racial disparities in Michigan's child welfare and juvenile justice systems; 2. Participate in race equity training; 3. Review previously issued Michigan specific reports on child welfare race equity; 4. Identify key decision points in the child welfare system that contribute to disparities and learn about the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention's contact points for juvenile justice; 5. Create systems to collect state and local data at every decision point of contact that youth may have with the child welfare system to identify where disparities exist and the causes of those disparities. Create a better data collection method for dual wards that have contact with both child welfare and juvenile justice systems. Review juvenile justice data currently being collected by the Michigan Committee on Juvenile Justice; 6. Based on the previously issued Michigan reports, develop and implement plans to address racial disparities that include measurable objectives for policy or practice change; 7. Review the evaluation results to determine the impact of implemented actions to reduce disparities in the child welfare system; 8. Monitor and annually report findings and progress on efforts to reduce disparities; and 9. Identify possible private and public funding sources to create sustainable efforts.

- B. Holiday Giving Program
DHS Volunteer Services Program provides Christmas gifts and Thanksgiving baskets to low-income families and/or foster children who would not otherwise have the means for these things. These programs are usually operated in partnership with community based organizations or local chapters of national organizations like Toys for Tots.

**PROTECTION OF RIGHTS OF PERSONS
APPLYING FOR OR RECEIVING SERVICES
FUNDED BY THE SOCIAL SERVICES BLOCK GRANT**

Confidentiality

Michigan Act 280 of Public Acts of 1939 contains provisions that govern the use and disclosure of information in social services records. These are found in Section 35 and 64 of Act 280, being Sections 400.35 and 400.64, Michigan Compiled Laws. In addition to the state law, the Department has promulgated Administrative Rule 400.6. Other state laws and administrative rules that apply to specific programs include:

- Section 748, Act 258, 1974, being MCLA 330.1748 (Mental Health Code).
- Section 11, Act 220, 1935, being MCLA 400.211 (MCI Act).
- Section 8, Act 150, 1974, being MCLA 803.308 (Youth Rehabilitation Act).
- Section 5 and 7, Act 238, 1975 as amended by Act 372, 1988, being MCLA 722.627 and 722.627 (Child Protection Act)
- Section 67 and 68, Act 296, 1974, as amended by Act 116, 1980 and Act 505, 1988, being MCLA 710.67-68 (Adoption Code).
- Section 13, Act 442, 1977, being MCLA 15.243 (Freedom of information Act).
- Section 28, Act 288, 1939, as amended by Act 330, 1982; Act 420, 1984; Act 170, 1986; Act 18 and 91, 1988; and Act 73, 1989 being MCLA 712A.28 (Juvenile Code).
- Section 10, Act 116, 1973, being MCLA 772.120 (Child Care Organization Act).
- Section 12, Act 218, 1979, being MCLA 400.712 (Adult Foster Facility Licensing Act).
- The law and the administrative rules provide protection of confidentiality for clients in services programs supported by Social Services Block Grant funds.

Hearings and Appeals

Act 280 of Public Acts of 1939, Section 65, as amended by Act 401, 1965, being Section 400.65 of Michigan Compiled Laws, specifies that the department shall prescribe rules and regulations for the conduct of hearings, appeals and complaints. Administrative Rule 400.901-922 provides the same hearing procedure for all department clients.

Standards of Promptness

Administrative Rule 400.2 states that applications shall be processed within the standard of promptness established in federal regulations. With the elimination of any federal regulations governing the standard of promptness for Title XX Social Services, programming receiving Social Services Block Grant funds will be governed by department policy. Department policy will continue with standards of promptness for Social Services Block Grant funded services that require processing applications within 45 days.