

THE PRESIDENT'S FY 2013 BUDGET AND CHILDREN

This document represents a summary of some of the key parts of President Obama's FY 2013 budget request and its impact on children's programs. The federal fiscal year 2013 starts on October 1, 2012. A chart that accompanies this document can be found at: http://www.cwla.org/membersonly/govaffairs.asp.

The total proposed budget for 2013 is expected to reach \$3.8 trillion and includes a \$1.26 trillion deficit compared to the current year deficits projected to be at \$1.55 trillion. Of the \$3.8 trillion budget \$1.3 trillion is discretionary funding (annually appropriated) with the remainder being mandatory and entitlement funding. The three largest entitlement programs are Social Security (\$730 billion), Medicare (\$492 billion) and Medicaid (\$283 billion). The President proposes a freeze on approximate \$530 billion in discretionary spending outside of the Defense Department budget and those programs considered a part of Homeland Security. This freeze is expected to result in \$250 billion in savings over three years. The freeze does not mean that all domestic programs are frozen. Some will be cut or eliminated and others will be increased. The Defense Department receives \$741 billion, an increase of three percent. This figure includes funding of \$159 billion for the wars in Afghanistan and Iraq.

In human services the most significant budget news is that child care would be increased by \$1.6 billion with half (\$800 million) being provided with a requirement that states must match federal dollars with their own state dollars, and an additional \$800 million in discretionary funds that would be allocated to all states regardless of a match. The budget proposes a one-year extension of TANF with a new \$2.5 billion in emergency funds and a new Fatherhood, Marriage and Family Innovation program that replaces the current \$150 million program to promote marriage among poor families. While there is an overall freeze on discretionary spending outside of Defense and Homeland Security, HHS does receive an increase of \$1.7 billion to a total of \$81.3 billion. The overall budget for the Administration on Children and Families (ACF) receives a \$144 million increase. The Social Services Block Grant (SSBG) is left at the same mandatory level of \$1.7 billion and most child welfare programs are at the same level as this year with the exceptions of Adoption Assistance, Foster Care and Kinship Care which are adjusted up or down depending on state claims since all three are entitlement programs.

CHILD WELFARE IMPLICATIONS

Medicaid

The Administration opposes efforts to turn Medicaid into a block grant, with limited funding. Instead, the budget seeks to streamline the financing and reimbursement policies by proposing a single blended matching rate for Medicaid and CHIP spending to replace the current patchwork of formulas starting in 2017.

Teen Pregnancy Prevention

The FY 2013 Budget proposes to fund pregnancy prevention efforts targeted to foster care youth. The new program would provide competitive funds to local or state child welfare agencies with the strongest and boldest plans to reduce pregnancy for youth in foster care. Funding would derive from title V, Abstinence Education funds that are not drawn down by states. Grantees will be expected to fund the most effective approaches to pregnancy prevention in the foster care population and will not be limited to the title V definition of Abstinence Education. The program will build the evidence base for pregnancy prevention for foster care youth and adapt evidence-based models to fit the needs of this population. In addition, the program will focus on systemic changes to the foster care system and coordination among multiple agencies to impact teen pregnancy rates among youth in foster care.

Vulnerable Youth

The FY 2013 Budget proposal includes an additional \$10 million for two new initiatives designed to protect adolescents as they make the transition to adulthood. Five million is included in Social Services Research and Demonstration as part of a cross—agency effort to identify and test new ways to strengthen services for disconnected youth—14- to 24-year-olds who are neither working nor in school. This \$5 million will be utilized in close cooperation with an additional \$5 million requested by the Department of Education and \$10 million from the Department of Labor. Agencies will work together in 2012 to determine how to prepare disconnected youth for college and or career success. Approved FY 2013 pilots could streamline the intake process, better coordinate services for youth in multiple systems, or pilot new service models for specific high-risk youth groups like youth aging out of foster care. The request also includes a \$5 million competitive child welfare services grant program to combat youth domestic sex trafficking. Funds will be used to improve coordination among those systems most likely to come into contact with such youth (e.g., child welfare, law enforcement, courts, runaway and homeless youth grantees) and to train staff in such systems to better identify and serve this often misidentified population.

CHILD WELFARE

Title IV-E Foster Care

The Administration's budget projects that Title IV-E Foster Care spending will be \$4.143 billion, a slight decrease from this year's \$4.288 billion. It is likely these numbers will change over the next several months, either up or down, because IV-E is an entitlement and funding automatically increases as costs for eligible children increase.

Title IV-E Foster Care funds are used for maintenance payments and administrative costs. For FY 2013, the Administration projects approximately 165,000 children will be eligible for Title IV-E in an average month. Part of this decrease is a result of reductions in the number of children in care. The number also represents decreasing coverage of federal funding due to the requirements that foster care and kinship care eligibility remain linked to AFDC eligibility. In addition to maintenance and administrative costs, states use these funds for training and for the operation and development of the Statewide Automated Child Welfare Information Systems (SACWIS), a computer-based data and information collection system.

Title IV-E Adoption Assistance

Federal Title IV-E Adoption Assistance spending is projected to increase to \$2.537 billion. Similar to foster care, these figures represent a projection. Title IV-E Adoption Assistance funds are used to provide maintenance payments to adoptive families, administrative payments for the costs associated with placing a child in an adoptive home, and training professionals and adoptive parents. This estimated level of funding will support approximately 459,000 children covered each month. As previously stated, Title IV-E is an entitlement program and funding automatically increases as costs for eligible children go up.

The Adoption Assistance cost projection is related to enactment of the Fostering Connections to Success Act of 2008 (P.L. 110-351) for several reasons. Pursuant to the Fostering Connections Act, as of October 1, 2009, all families with special needs adoptive children 16 or older will be covered by Title IV-E funds. To this point, all special needs adoptions as well as all foster care placements have tied income eligibility to the AFDC program as it existed on July 16, 1996. Additionally, under the new law, a child who has been in foster care for five consecutive years and is placed in a family as a special needs adoption will be eligible for federal funding regardless of the child's age. Finally, for siblings adopted as special needs children, if one of the siblings is eligible for Title IV-E funds, the entire sibling group will be eligible for the expanded coverage.

From October 1, 2009 forward, the "de-linking" of adoption assistance eligibility to AFDC will be extended downward by two years so that on October 1, 2010, all special needs children 14 and older became eligible for federal funds. On October 1, 2011, all special needs adoptions 12 and older are covered and so on, until all children are covered after ten years.

Kinship Care

This budget also projects a cost of \$90 million for the kinship-guardianship option enacted as part of the Fostering Connections to Success Act. 14,000 children per month are expected to be covered under the program. Under the Fostering Connections Act, states have an option to create a Title IV-E kinship guardianship program funded with Title IV-E funds. It should be noted, however, that the link to the AFDC July 16, 1996 income eligibility continues for both the foster care program and the new kinship guardianship programs, despite the phase-out as it applies to Adoption Assistance.

Social Services Block Grant (Title XX)

The President proposes level funding for the Social Services Block Grant (SSBG) at \$1.7 billion. SSBG is a flexible source of funds that allows states to provide an array of services to children, youth, and families. Since 2000, funding for SSBG has been maintained at \$1.7 billion. It is a mandatory program with funding set in law and is an entitlement to the states. SSBG represents 12% of all federal funding states receive from the federal government to provide child abuse prevention, adoption, foster care, child protection, independent and transitional living, and residential services for children and youth.

States can use SSBG to fund 29 different services to prevent or remedy neglect or abuse of children or adults, achieve or maintain economic self-support, reduce unnecessary

institutionalization, achieve or maintain independence, and secure referral and screening for appropriate services. In FY 2006 states used over \$902 million of their total SSBG allocation to provide the following services to protect and care for abused, neglected, and otherwise vulnerable children and youth:

- 42 states used over \$312 million in SSBG dollars to protect children from abuse and neglect in FY 2006. In 2006, child protective service agencies received an estimated 3.3 million reports of child abuse and neglect.
- 25 states used \$34 million in SSBG funds to assist in the adoption of children in FY 2006. Of the over 510,885 children in foster care in 2006, 129,311 had a goal of adoption and 50,703 children were adopted from foster care.
- In FY 2006, 37 states used almost \$413 million SSBG dollars for foster care services for more than 542,038 children. In 2006, over 510,885 children were in out-of-home care, family foster care, kinship care or residential care. Many states use SSBG to pay foster care costs for the board and care of children not eligible for federal Title IV-E foster care assistance
- 18 states used \$9 million SSBG funds in FY 2006 to provide independent and transitional living services to over 8,600 youth and over 34,000 adults.
- 23 states used over \$118 million SSBG funds in FY 2006 supported residential treatment to over 24,000 youth and 18,000 adults.
- 16 states used \$16 million SSBG funds for juveniles involved in the justice system in FY 2006.

In addition to child welfare services, SSBG funds are used to provide child care, home delivered and congregate meals for senior citizens, family planning services, services to the disabled and domestic violence outside of child protective services, residential treatment services, substance abuse treatment, education and training, transportation services; information and referral and a range of home-based services.

Adoption Opportunities Program

The President's budget provides \$39 million for the Adoption Opportunities program. The Adoption Opportunities Program provides several resources and supports to help with the adoption of children, including the Collaboration to AdoptUsKids, which recruits families for children waiting to be adopted through its National Recruitment Campaign. Other elements of the AdoptUsKids Cooperative agreement include an annual summit, a national adoption workgroup, research on adoption, support for adoptive parent groups, the AdoptUsKids photolisting site, and training and technical help for states as needed.

Other examples of how the Adoption Opportunities Program funding has helped include:

• the National Resource Center on Special Needs Adoption, which provides technical assistance and training to state, tribal, and other child welfare organizations on current

issues in special-needs adoption, such as compliance with federal laws and regulations, permanency planning, and cultural competence;

- the Information Gateway, managed by Caliber, Inc., and the National Adoption Information Clearinghouse, which are comprehensive information centers on adoption;
- the National Adoption and Foster Care Recruitment Campaign and the You Gotta Believe program, which seek permanent placements for older children; and
- a focus on rural adoption, including 10 discretionary grants across the nation to explore and develop rural adoption, along with a focus on older youth permanency through nine discretionary grants to agencies involved in placement of older teens into permanent homes.

The Adoption Opportunities Act is due to be reauthorized this year as part of the Child Abuse Prevention Treatment Act (CAPTA) reauthorization. CWLA has proposed strengthening its emphasis on addressing post adoption services, recruitment of minority parents and adoption of older children.

Adoption Incentive Payments

The budget proposes funding the Adoption Incentives program at \$39 million. The appropriated levels are not necessarily spent. The incentive payments are based on a formula originally created under the Adoption and Safe Families Act of 1997 (ASFA). States were awarded an incentive or bonus if they increased the number of adoptions from the foster care system over that state's base year. All fifty states have received incentive funds over the past decade. As part of the Fostering Connections to Success Act (P.L. 110-351), the adoption incentive was changed in three ways: it allows states to receive an additional payment of \$1000 per adoption if the state's adoption rate exceeds its highest recorded foster child adoption rate since 2002; it awards \$8000 per older child (nine and older) adoption and \$4000 per special needs adoption above the baseline; and it updates to FY 2007 the adoption baseline above which incentive payments are made. States are also allowed to spend the funds over twenty-four months instead of twelve.

Independent Living

The budget contains \$140 million for the Chafee Independent Living Program. This \$140 million in mandatory funding is used by states for a variety of services to ease the transition from foster care for youth who will likely remain in foster care until they turn 18 and former foster children between the ages of 18 and 21. Approximately 28,000 young people leave foster care as a result of age each year. As a result of the Fostering Connections Act (P.L. 110-351), since October 1, 2010 (FY 2011) states have the option to extend the age of foster care to 19, 20 or 21.

Independent Living Education and Training Vouchers

The Education and Training Voucher (ETV) program is funded at \$45 million. This is part of the Chafee Independent Living Program and was authorized in 2001 (P.L. 106-169). These funds, unlike the \$140 million, require an annual appropriation. The program was funded for the first time in FY 2003 at \$42 million. The voucher program helps older youth leaving foster care obtain the higher education, vocational training, and other education supports needed to become self-sufficient.

Up to \$5,000 per year is available to a young person for the cost of education or training. This program expands on states' efforts to provide these services. ETV funds are distributed to the states using the same formula as the Chafee Independent Living Program. If a state does not apply for funds for the ETV program, the funds will be reallocated to one or more states on the basis of their relative need for funds.

Promoting Safe and Stable Families Program (Title IV-B, Subpart 2)

The President's budget proposes funding the Promoting Safe and Stable Families (PSSF, Title IV-B, Subpart 2) program at \$408 million. This total represents \$345 million in mandatory funds and \$63 million in discretionary funds. The core PSSF funds are used for four services: family preservation, community-based family support services, time-limited reunification services and adoption promotion and support services. PSSF also includes requirements on state planning for the delivery of child and family services and child safety assurance. In addition, it encompasses funding and statute requirements for the Court Improvement Program (CIP) and research, evaluation and technical assistance. Through a mix of mandatory and discretionary set asides both programs will receive the same FY 2013 funding as in FY2012, CIP is funded at \$32 million while research, evaluation, and technical assistance is funded at \$8 million.

In FY 2011 mandatory PSSF funding was increased by \$20 million to \$365 in order to increase money for the CIP program. Because the Congressional Budget Office determined that this was not a permanent change, the PSSF baseline remains \$345 million. However, the \$20 million reservation for CIP continues, so it is shifted from the PSSF core funding.

Funding for substance abuse grants and grants for monthly caseworker visits are reserved from mandatory PSSF funds at \$20 million each. Substance abuse grants can be used for family-based comprehensive long-term substance abuse treatment, early intervention and prevention efforts, child and family counseling, mental health services, parenting skills, and the replication of other successful long-term comprehensive substance abuse treatment initiatives. Grants for monthly caseworker visits are distributed to states by formula to carry out and address strategies to improve the child welfare workforce.

PSSF was reauthorized in September of 2012. The Child and Family Services Improvement and Innovation Act (P.L. 112-34) extends both PSSF and Child Welfare Services (CWS, Title IV-B, Subpart 1) through FY 2016. This legislation kept funding from expiring, but did not add any new money. It did make a handful of reforms to both Titles IV-B and IV-E of the Social Security Act, renewed IV-E waiver authority, and added a new Subpart 3 in IV-B on data standardization. In PSSF, reforms include amending the PSSF annual report requirements and substance abuse, caseworker and CIP grant programs and ending the Mentoring Children of Prisoners Program.

Child Welfare Services (Title IV-B, Subpart 1)

Under the President's budget, Child Welfare Services (CWS) are funded at \$281 million. This is the same as FY 2012. States use these funds to address problems that may result in neglect, abuse, exploitation, or delinquency of children; prevent the unnecessary separation of children from their families and restore children to their families, when possible or place children in adoptive families when appropriate; and assure adequate foster care when children cannot return home or be placed for adoption. CWS also includes child welfare service plan requirements

encompassing case reviews, permanency planning, program development, agency administration, and systems collaboration activities. Along with PSSF, there are no federal income eligibility requirements for children and families who receive CWS services. September, 2012 reauthorization made reform changes to CWS in health care oversight and caseworker visit requirements.

Child Welfare Research, Training and Demonstrations

As compared to last year's budget the total for this line of funding is increased from \$26 million to \$31 million. As in FY 2012 \$20 million continues to be designated for the "Innovative Approaches to Foster Care" fund. This funding, first awarded in FY 2010 is a 5 year grant program intended to support demonstration grants to state, local tribal, and public or private non-profit initiatives that can show innovation and progress in reducing the length of stay/long term placements in foster care. In addition, those demonstrations that can show results could be eligible for additional bonus funding. As is the case in several parts of the budget, the Administration highlights the need to use evidence-based and evidence-informed practices in order to qualify for funding. There is also a proposal for a small increase of \$5 million to award additional competitive grants that focus on preventing and addressing the commercial sexual exploitation of children. The Administration continues the remaining funding of \$6 million for training funds for projects and research related to child welfare. These funds have historically been used for funding projects to advance the child welfare workforce. In particular funds assist in university and other institutions of higher learning in advancing the child welfare workforce in partnership with child welfare agencies.

Family Connection Grants

First authorized in the 2008 Fostering Connections to Success and Increasing Adoptions Act, the Family Connection Grants fund demonstration programs for helping children who are in or at risk of entering foster care connect with family members. Funding is limited to the following activities: kinship navigator programs, family group decision making, intensive family finding, and residential family-based substance abuse treatment programs. Funding for this program is mandatory and set at \$15 million annually. In FY 2011, grants were made to American Humane Association (CO), Homes for Black Children (MI), Kids Central, Inc. (FL), The Children's Home Society of New Jersey, The Village Family Service Center (ND), Ute Indian Tribe (UT), and YMCA of San Diego County (CA).

CAPTA Grants

Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act (CAPTA) state grant funding is maintained at its FY 2012 level of funding of \$26 million. CAPTA provides funding to address preventing, assessing, identifying and treating child abuse, with CAPTA state grants provided to each state by formula and used to fund and improve a state's Child Protective Services (CPS) system. The funding has been so limited over the years that states must supplement these dollars with other federal, state and local funds. Nonetheless, CAPTA does create a number of mandates on states tied to the funding, the most prominent of which are requirements around mandatory reporting of child abuse and data collection. CAPTA was most recently reauthorized at the end of December 2010, with changes targeting data collection, training and support for maltreatment responders, and cross-systems coordination. CAPTA discretionary grants are also flat funded at \$26 million.

These funds support state efforts to improve prevention and treatment of child maltreatment practice through development, research, training, technical assistance, and the collection and dissemination of data.

The FY 2013 Community Based Grants for Prevention of Child Abuse and Neglect would be maintained at the FY 2012 level of \$42 million. These grants develop community-based and prevention-focused programs and activities designed to strengthen and support families and to prevent child abuse and neglect. Funds are used at the local level for organizations such as family resource programs, family support programs, voluntary home visiting program, respite care programs, parenting education, mutual support programs, and other community programs or networks of such programs that provide activities designed to prevent or respond to child abuse and neglect.

EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION INITATIVES

Child Care

Child care and early childhood education represents one of the biggest commitments and increases in the human service budget. Consistent with the President's pledges to invest more in early childhood education, the Administration's budget continues to call for significant improvements. The Administration proposes that child care will receive an overall increase of \$825 million with the funding split in two ways. \$325 million would be provided as a discretionary funding increase while an additional \$500 million would be provided as mandatory funding. The mandatory increase would require legislation separate from the appropriations process. In addition, the administration proposes using \$300 million of the discretionary increase for quality improvement to the states, partly through formula funding and partly through competitive grants. In total the Administration projects that 70,000 more children would be covered by child care subsidies to a total of 1.5 million nationally. However, this is still down from 1.7 million children in FY2010 when American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) stimulation fund increases were still in effect.

For FY 2013 discretionary funding would increase from the current \$2.278 billion to \$2.603 billion. These annually appropriated dollars are allocated to all fifty states with no required match but states are required to set a certain percentage aside for child care quality improvements. In addition the mandatory child care funding, now at \$2.917 billion will increase to \$3.417 billion dollars with the additional \$500 million requiring states to match these new federal dollars. If some states choose not to match the funding those remaining dollars are made available to other states that are willing to provide the match. Previous to the ARRA stimulus, mandatory funding was last increased in 2006 by \$200 million. Discretionary funding had been frozen and absorbed across-the-board cuts for most of the last decade.

Head Start

The President's budget proposes an additional increase of \$85 million with Head Start going from \$7.968 billon in FY 2012 to \$8.054 billion in FY 2013. The increased funding is projected to maintain current coverage at 962,000 children. The Administration also expects the additional funding to support re-competition requirements for grantees and cost-of-living increases.

Zero to Five

As part of its overall zero to five efforts the Administration continues to support the continuation of the Early Learning Challenge Fund (ELCF). The ELCF was carved out of the Race to the Top (RTT) program in the FY2011 appropriations process. It made available \$500 million in competitive funds for state grantees to raise the quality of their early childhood systems and align it with their K-12 and higher education systems. In December 2011 it was announced that nine of the thirty-seven state applications had been selected, including those submitted by California, Delaware, Maryland, Massachusetts, Minnesota, North Carolina, Ohio, Rhode Island, and Washington. The administration's budget proposes another \$850 million for RTT, some portion of which would go to the ELCF.

ANTI-POVERTY

Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF)

The President's FY 2013 budget includes \$16.5 billion in TANF funds to all 50 states, the same level as previous years with this mandatory block grant. TANF needs to be reauthorized and the Administration wants to work with lawmakers to strengthen the program's effectiveness in accomplishing its goals. This would include using performance indicators to drive program improvement and ensuring that states have the flexibility to engage recipients—including families with serious barriers to employment—in the most effective activities to promote success in the workforce. The Administration also wants to work with Congress to revise the Contingency Fund to make it more effective during economic downturns. These proposals could include efforts to promote child well-being and to address the increase in child-only families now on TANF. Since the child care mandatory funds are part of this law it is anticipated that that change might also be a part of this legislative action.

Promise Neighborhoods

The Administration continues the "Promise Neighborhoods" initiative by increasing funding \$40 million to \$100 million in FY 2013. The initiative, which President Obama raised during the campaign, is based on the Harlem Children's Zone program. The program attacks poverty through a comprehensive school-based model that provides wrap around services for the entire family in a comprehensive fashion. It places a special emphasis on early-learning through K-12 and guides children through the entire period of learning. The goal is to spread this model to several communities across the country.

In FY 2011, \$10 million in initial planning grants were awarded to 21 non-profits and institutions of higher learning for one year. Then these organizations re-competed for implementation grants in FY 2011. Five grantees were notified of being awarded implementation grants in December of 2011, including Westminster Foundation (NY) Northside Achievement Zone (Minn.), Berea College (KY), United Way of San Antonio & Bexar County, Inc. (TX), and California State University – East Bay. A second round of planning grants were also awarded in FY2011, which was awarded to 15 grantees again including non-profits and institutes of higher education in addition to an Indian tribe. An omnibus spending bill for FY 2012 includes another \$60 million for another round of funding this year.

YOUTH DEVELOPMENT

The President's budget includes level funding of \$1.15 billion for the 21st Century Community Learning Centers program. As was the case in the budget request last year, the Administration proposes to allow 21st CCLC grants for additional purposes including adding time to the traditional school day or year, summer school, and for teacher planning and professional development. This program provides opportunities for students and their families to continue learning new skills and discover new abilities after the school day has ended. The funds support grants and other activities to assist states, local educational agencies, and partnerships between the local agencies and non-profit organizations or local government entities and attempts to fill some of the shortfalls in afterschool and child care services.

JUVENILE JUSTICE

The President's budget calls for increases in two critical juvenile justice programs and level funding for a third. The budget request calls for \$70 million for the Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Act (JJDPA) Title II State Formula Grants Program (an increase of \$30 million over FY12 final); \$40 million for JJDPA Title V Delinquency Prevention Program (an increase of \$20 million over FY12 final) with no earmarks or set asides taken out; and \$30 million for the Juvenile Accountability Block Grant (JABG) Program. These funding levels represent a reversal from recent years that have seen drastic cuts in funding for juvenile justice. The increases if enacted come closer to meeting the needed core support for state efforts to effectively promote public safety, prevent delinquency, reform and improve juvenile justice, and protect children and youth from harm, particularly the dangers when youth are locked-up with adult inmates.

BEHAVIORAL HEALTH

The President is requesting \$3.4 billion in the FY 2013 budget for the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Administration (SAMHSA), to expand community prevention and wellness efforts, the treatment capacity of drug courts, screening and brief intervention, children's mental health services, and support for those suffering from mental illness and facing homelessness. This is a decrease of approximately \$142 million below FY 2012.

Substance Abuse

The FY 2013 budget proposes \$1.8 billion, a decrease of \$69 million, for substance abuse prevention and treatment.

Funding for the Substance Abuse Prevention and Treatment Block Grant for FY 2013 is requested at \$1.449 billion, a decrease of \$352 million from FY 2012. This funding is distributed to 60 States and jurisdictions to plan, implement, and evaluate substance abuse prevention and treatment services, with over 20% of the funding going to prevention counseling and education.

Funding for the Substance Abuse Treatment Programs of Regional and National Significance is decreased to \$364 million for FY 2013. The Substance Abuse Prevention Programs of Regional and National Significance is decreased to \$66 million for FY 2013.

Abandoned Infants Assistance

The President proposes to fund the Abandoned Infants Assistance Program at \$12 million, the same as in FY 2012. This program provides demonstration grants for services to infants and young children, many of whom are HIV-infected or drug-afflicted. These infants and young children are medically cleared for discharge from acute hospital settings, but remain hospitalized due to a lack of appropriate out-of-home placement alternatives.

Mental Health

The President's budget includes \$952 million for mental health prevention and treatment activities. Funding for the Mental Health Services Block Grant for states to provide community-based mental health service delivery for adults and children is requested at \$460 million, roughly the same level as FY 2012.

Funding for the Children's Mental Health Services Program is decreased to \$89 million for FY 2013. Under the President's budget, SAMHSA's Mental Health Programs of Regional and National Significance decreased to \$248 million.

The Projects for Assistance in Transition from Homelessness (PATH), is \$65 million for FY 2013. These funds provide community-based services for individuals suffering from severe mental illness who are facing homelessness.

The National Child Traumatic Stress Network (NCTSN) is a Center for Mental Health Services' Program of Regional and National Significance established in 2000 by the Children's Health Act (P.L. 106-310). NCTSN is a collaboration of service providers, universities, and hospitals working together to improve access to services and quality of care for children and adolescents exposed to traumatic events. Funding for NCTSN was increased by \$5 million to \$45.8 million in FY 2012. The administration proposes to continue this funding in FY 2013.

HEALTH

Medicaid/CHIP

Medicaid provides a vital health care safety net in every state. It is a lifeline to health care for many vulnerable populations, including children and youth in our nation's foster care system, people with disabilities and chronic illness, and certain low-income individuals. To broaden coverage to low-income children, Congress enacted the Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP) in 1997. CHIP seeks to cover children whose families earn too much to qualify for Medicaid, but not enough to afford private insurance. In February 2009, the Children's Health Insurance Program Reauthorization Act (CHIPRA) reauthorized CHIP with an additional \$44 billion over five years. The Affordable Care Act then extended CHIP through 2019, and increased each state's enhanced federal match rate by 23 percentage points (not to exceed a total match rate of 100 percent).

The FY 2013 budget request projects Medicaid mandatory spending to be \$283 billion, an increase of approximately \$28 billion from FY 2012 spending, mainly due to the increase in people qualifying for Medicaid assistance.

CHIP funding is projected to be \$10.227 billion in FY 2013, an increase of \$324 million from FY 2012

Family Planning

The FY 2013 budget request includes \$297 million for the Title X family planning program, \$3 million above FY 2012. Family Planning clinics provide access to a wide array of reproductive health and preventive services.

Teen Pregnancy Prevention

The FY 2013 budget includes \$105 million for the Office of the Assistant Secretary for Health to support community-based efforts to reduce teen pregnancy. In addition, \$4 million is included for the evaluation of teen pregnancy prevention activities. The budget also includes \$15 million in funding for CDC teen pregnancy prevention activities to reduce the number of unintended pregnancies through science-based prevention approaches. Teen pregnancy prevention funds will be used for replicating programs that have proven effective through rigorous evaluation to reduce teenage pregnancy; for research and demonstration grants to develop, replicate, refine and test additional models and innovative strategies; and for training, technical assistance, and outreach. Collaborative efforts in teen pregnancy prevention will support innovative youth pregnancy prevention strategies which are medically accurate and age appropriate.

The budget also proposes to fund a new pregnancy prevention program targeted to foster care youth. This program would provide competitive funds to local or state child welfare agencies with the strongest and boldest plans to reduce pregnancy for youth in foster care.

Maternal and Child Health

The FY 2013 budget provides \$1.3 billion to improve maternal and child health. Proposed funding for the Title V Maternal and Child Health Services Block Grant receives an increase of \$1 million to \$640 million. Title V is a federal-state partnership that funds a diverse array of programs and services specifically aimed at improving the health of mothers and children, many of whom are vulnerable and in need of prevention or early intervention. These services include public education and outreach, evaluations and quality assurance activities, support for newborn screenings and genetic services, and health care services including nutrition counseling. The budget request also proposes \$104 million for the Healthy Start program. The Healthy Start program provides intensive services tailored to the needs of high risk pregnant women, infants, and mothers in diverse communities with high rates of infant mortality.

HIV/AIDS

The FY 2013 budget includes an increase of \$80 million for the Ryan White program to ensure that HIV-positive Americans get the best care and treatment possible. The budget includes \$70 million for Part D of the Ryan White program to provide health care and social support services

to 90,000 women, men, transgendered persons, infants, children, youth and adults living with HIV and AIDS and their affected families.

Early Intervention for Children with Disabilities

The President's budget proposes funding at \$462.7 million for the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) Early Intervention Services Program (Part C) for FY 2013. Through IDEA, the U.S. Department of Education works with states to ensure that children with disabilities receive an appropriate public education that includes preparing them for employment and independent living, and that all schools are held accountable for the educational results of children needing special education. This specific program provides grants to states to provide coordinated, comprehensive, multi-disciplinary interagency programs for early intervention services to children with disabilities, from birth until age-2 and their families.

Health Research

The President's FY 2013 budget requests \$31 billion for the National Institutes of Health (NIH). NIH is the world's largest and most distinguished organization dedicated to maintaining and improving health through medical research and science. Of the 27 institutes and centers at NIH, those of particular importance to children and their families in the child welfare system include the Eunice K. Shriver National Institute of Child Health and Human Development. Funding for that Institute would receive \$1.321 billion under the President's request. The National Institute of Mental Health would receive \$1.749 billion. The National Institute on Drug Abuse would be funded at \$1.054 billion, a \$ 1.89 million increase from FY 2012 and the National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism would be funded at \$457 million, a \$1.87 million decrease from FY 2012.

Child Welfare League of America Government Affairs Department Tim Briceland-Betts, Sean Hughes, Suzanne Lay, YaMinco Varner March 15, 2012