

State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations

# Budget



## Fiscal Year 2016

Volume II – Health and Human Services

Gina M. Raimondo, Governor

# Agency

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## Office Of The Child Advocate

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### Agency Mission

To monitor the Department of Children, Youth and Families to ensure that it offers children in its care adequate protection and quality services, while affording these children respect for their individual rights and dignity. These activities include, but are not limited to, public education, legislative advocacy, investigation, and litigation.

To review and make recommendations regarding the Department of Children, Youth and Families procedures; to investigate institutional abuse allegations and child fatalities; to provide information and referral on matters relating to children; participate in voluntary admissions procedures; to monitor child placements; to conduct annual site visits at residential/group care programs; and to review the Department of Children, Youth and Families' compliance with day-care licensing laws.

### Agency Description

The Office of the Child Advocate is charged with fulfilling a statutory mandate to protect the legal, civil and special rights of all children and youth involved in the care of the Department of Children, Youth, and Families (DCYF). In so doing, the Office strives to improve conditions and circumstances through monitoring, compliance, and advocacy.

The office is staffed with 6.0 authorized full-time equivalent (FTE) positions. The office is responsible for oversight of children under DCYF care and yearly monitoring site visits to monitor their care at group homes and residential programs in the state. The office also provides direct legal representation for a portion of children voluntarily placed in state care.

The office reviews and monitors systematic and individual issues related to residents at the Rhode Island Training School. It provides direct oversight and on-site visits on a weekly basis. The Office of the Child Advocate also files Victim Compensation claims for children who have been physically and/or sexually assaulted and are in the care of the State.

### Statutory History

In 1980, the General Assembly created the Office of the Child Advocate. Its powers and duties are codified in R.I.G.L. 42-73. The Office of the Child Advocate possesses a statutory right of access, including subpoena power, to all providers, the Family Court, Department of Children, Youth and Families, and law enforcement records. There is also a right of physical access to all child-care programs and children in care.

In 1992, the Office of the Child Advocate's responsibilities with respect to children in state care were statutorily expanded to include review of child fatality cases and representation of child victims of crime pursuant to the Criminal Injuries Compensation Act.

# Budget

## Office Of The Child Advocate

	FY 2013 Audited	FY 2014 Audited	FY 2015 Enacted	FY 2015 Revised	FY 2016 Recommend
<b>Expenditures By Program</b>					
Central Management	610,133	583,702	661,817	683,154	-
<b>Total Expenditures</b>	<b>\$610,133</b>	<b>\$583,702</b>	<b>\$661,817</b>	<b>\$683,154</b>	-
<b>Expenditures By Object</b>					
Personnel	592,547	566,951	642,386	655,837	-
Operating Supplies and Expenses	15,969	15,872	18,431	26,317	-
<b>Subtotal: Operating Expenditures</b>	<b>608,516</b>	<b>582,823</b>	<b>660,817</b>	<b>682,154</b>	-
Capital Purchases and Equipment	1,617	879	1,000	1,000	-
<b>Total Expenditures</b>	<b>\$610,133</b>	<b>\$583,702</b>	<b>\$661,817</b>	<b>\$683,154</b>	-
<b>Expenditures By Funds</b>					
General Revenue	578,085	544,231	611,817	633,154	-
Federal Funds	32,048	39,471	50,000	50,000	-
<b>Total Expenditures</b>	<b>\$610,133</b>	<b>\$583,702</b>	<b>\$661,817</b>	<b>\$683,154</b>	-
<b>FTE Authorization</b>	<b>5.8</b>	<b>6.0</b>	<b>6.0</b>	<b>6.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>

# Personnel

## Office Of The Child Advocate Agency Summary

	Grade	FY 2015		FY 2016	
		FTE	Cost	FTE	Cost
Unclassified		6.0	416,453	-	-
<b>Subtotal</b>		<b>6.0</b>	<b>\$416,453</b>	-	-
<b>Total Salaries</b>		<b>6.0</b>	<b>\$416,453</b>	-	-
<b>Benefits</b>					
Payroll Accrual			2,384		-
FICA			31,859		-
Retiree Health			28,111		-
Health Benefits			57,300		-
Retirement			101,323		-
<b>Subtotal</b>			<b>\$220,977</b>		-
<b>Total Salaries and Benefits</b>		<b>6.0</b>	<b>\$637,430</b>	-	-
<b>Cost Per FTE Position (Excluding Temporary and Seasonal)</b>			<b>\$106,238</b>		-
<b>Statewide Benefit Assessment</b>			<b>\$17,907</b>		-
<b>Payroll Costs</b>		<b>6.0</b>	<b>\$655,337</b>	-	-
<b>Purchased Services</b>					
Clerical and Temporary Services			500		-
<b>Subtotal</b>			<b>\$500</b>		-
<b>Total Personnel</b>		<b>6.0</b>	<b>\$655,837</b>	-	-
<b>Distribution By Source Of Funds</b>					
General Revenue		5.6	\$605,878	-	-
Federal Funds		0.4	\$49,959	-	-
<b>Total All Funds</b>		<b>6.0</b>	<b>\$655,837</b>	-	-