

The Agency

Department of Human Services

Agency Operations

The Department of Human Services (DHS) operates various programs in support of the agency goal of assisting those persons in Rhode Island in need. These programs and services extend well beyond the vital financial support services historically provided to poor and low income individuals and families, and include redesigned and innovative programs which provide quality and accessible health care, child care, supportive services and options to working parents, individuals and families. These programs are all designed: to help families become strong, productive, healthy and independent; to help adults achieve their maximum potential; to ensure that children are safe, healthy, ready to learn, and able to reach their maximum potential; to honor and care for our State's veterans; and, to assist elderly and persons with disabilities in order to enhance their quality of life and sustain their independence. The department operates on a population-based structure for its program policy and service delivery, reflecting the department's focus on clients' needs.

Major state and federal reforms in the mid-1990s provided unprecedented flexibility in how the State could utilize funds to accomplish its goals. Rhode Island's Family Independence Act (FIA) represented the State's first welfare reform program. FIA was crafted in response to federal welfare reform legislation which is called Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF). TANF replaced the former Aid to Families with Dependent Children (AFDC) and represented a major departure from entitlement programs and lifetime benefits for families. In lieu of entitlements, TANF provided states with a block grant program with capped funding; the significance of this was that the State was able to pass its own welfare reform legislation and to design a broad variety of policies and services to assist those families transitioning from cash assistance to employment.

The department continues to be one of the largest purchasers of health care benefits in the State, providing health coverage, including managed care, fee-for-service care, long-term care, and community-based care services to approximately 186,000 Rhode Islanders.

An additional priority of DHS is to provide assistance to persons with disabilities seeking to achieve economic independence and integration with society, through its Office of Rehabilitation Services.

Agency Objectives

To provide a full continuum of high quality and accessible programs and services to those Rhode Island families, children, adults, individuals with disabilities, veterans, and the elderly in need of assistance.

Statutory History

Title 40 Chapter 1 and Title 42 Chapter 12 of the Rhode Island General Laws established DHS.

The Budget

Department of Human Services

	FY 2008 Actual	FY 2009 Actual	FY 2010 Enacted	FY 2010 Revised	FY 2011 Recommended
Expenditures by Program					
Central Management	15,175,635	9,788,788	15,014,441	15,151,278	14,830,236
Child Support Enforcement	10,295,890	7,698,692	10,598,598	10,305,063	9,248,362
Individual and Family Support	73,464,086	70,236,835	87,038,042	87,487,486	107,947,530
Veterans' Affairs	24,541,819	25,298,996	26,059,621	26,119,234	27,640,305
Health Care Quality, Financing & Purch.	58,959,232	54,001,915	66,702,753	65,449,256	66,955,281
Medical Benefits	1,418,677,854	1,381,463,049	1,472,884,630	1,498,581,052	1,506,579,058
Supplemental Security Income	28,021,329	25,138,428	20,706,354	21,892,320	22,597,404
Family Independence Program	112,672,421	103,391,116	96,372,800	91,402,574	90,309,451
State Funded Programs	105,825,723	149,219,179	168,132,900	228,638,397	280,072,437
Total Expenditures	\$1,847,633,989	\$1,826,236,998	\$1,963,510,139	\$2,045,026,660	\$2,126,180,064
Expenditures By Object					
Personnel	126,206,119	114,309,203	136,387,929	129,728,900	137,927,598
Operating Supplies and Expenses	15,872,515	14,660,008	21,676,306	20,433,748	19,465,790
Aid To Local Units Of Government	-	-	-	-	-
Assistance, Grants and Benefits	1,704,179,380	1,694,475,434	1,797,737,417	1,887,513,337	1,961,324,989
Subtotal: Operating Expenditures	\$1,846,258,014	\$1,823,444,645	\$1,955,801,652	\$2,037,675,985	\$2,118,718,377
Capital Purchases and Equipment	1,375,975	2,792,353	2,113,750	1,970,938	2,056,950
Debt Service	-	-	-	-	-
Operating Transfers	-	-	5,594,737	5,379,737	5,404,737
Total Expenditures	\$1,847,633,989	\$1,826,236,998	\$1,963,510,139	\$2,045,026,660	\$2,126,180,064
Expenditures By Funds					
General Revenue	815,777,935	658,673,264	662,081,602	665,362,509	673,746,309
Federal Funds	1,024,128,776	1,161,607,333	1,288,587,124	1,366,734,550	1,439,002,554
Restricted Receipts	7,027,278	5,923,901	8,316,413	8,519,601	9,146,201
Other Funds	700,000	32,500	4,525,000	4,410,000	4,285,000
Total Expenditures	\$1,847,633,989	\$1,826,236,998	\$1,963,510,139	\$2,045,026,660	\$2,126,180,064
FTE Authorization	1,067.6	884.6	954.6	954.6	967.6
Agency Measures					
Minorities as a Percentage of Workforce	14.0%	14.0%	14.0%	14.0%	16.2%
Females as a Percentage of Workforce	76.0%	78.0%	78.0%	78.0%	80.0%
Persons with Disabilities as a Percentage of the Workforce	3.0%	3.0%	3.0%	3.0%	2.3%

The Program

Department of Human Services Central Management

Program Operations

Central Management supervises, coordinates, and monitors all departmental functions: to assure efficient and effective use of state and federal resources for the purpose of providing services to poor, disabled, or aged individuals and families; to assist them in reaching their highest potential for self-sufficiency; and, to support the achievement of the department's mission. Central Management, organized through the office of the director, provides leadership, management, strategic planning, direction, and control of departmental activities. A principal function is intergovernmental liaison with the Governor's staff, other department directors and agency heads, federal government representatives, state and federal legislators, local welfare directors, and national and local human service professionals and organizations. The establishment and maintenance of community relations with consumers and service providers, and the provision of information to the general public, are core responsibilities of this program area. Additionally, all field operation activities are direct functions of Central Management, although the associated costs are budgeted in two programs, Individual and Family Support, and Health Care Quality, Financing and Purchasing. Central Management is responsible for the Electronic Benefits Transfer System, which electronically distributes cash assistance and food stamp benefits to clients.

Within Central Management, the Office of Policy Analysis, and Research and Development provides planning support for the department in the development and implementation of revised programs and initiatives. The Office of Legal Services represents the department in litigation, and provides counsel to the director and staff on legal issues relating to departmental operations. The Operations Management Unit develops and maintains departmental information systems, performs quality control for various programs, and operates the central mail room. Other centralized functions include support for financial management, information systems, collections and fraud investigations, and contract management.

Program Objective

To provide leadership, management, strategic planning, and central support for the department.

Statutory History

Title 40 Chapter 1 of the Rhode Island General Laws establishes that all functions, services, and duties of the Department of Human Services will be organized by the Director of the department.

The Budget

Department of Human Services Central Management

	FY 2008 Actual	FY 2009 Actual	FY 2010 Enacted	FY 2010 Revised	FY 2011 Recommended
Expenditures By Object					
Personnel	2,611,087	1,826,028	2,056,027	1,338,410	1,426,061
Operating Supplies and Expenses	71,812	56,637	73,508	101,884	76,771
Aid To Local Units Of Government	-	-	-	-	-
Assistance, Grants and Benefits	12,487,997	7,901,384	12,880,106	13,706,184	13,322,604
Subtotal: Operating Expenditures	\$15,170,896	\$9,784,049	\$15,009,641	\$15,146,478	\$14,825,436
Capital Purchases and Equipment	4,739	4,739	4,800	4,800	4,800
Debt Service	-	-	-	-	-
Operating Transfers	-	-	-	-	-
Total Expenditures	\$15,175,635	\$9,788,788	\$15,014,441	\$15,151,278	\$14,830,236
Expenditures By Funds					
General Revenue	9,433,704	4,716,238	5,980,973	5,066,848	5,153,490
Federal Funds	3,738,840	4,122,550	8,431,753	9,284,429	8,876,745
Restricted Receipts	2,003,091	950,000	601,715	800,001	800,001
Total Expenditures	\$15,175,635	\$9,788,788	\$15,014,441	\$15,151,278	\$14,830,236
Program Measures	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS

The Program

Department of Human Services Child Support Enforcement

Program Operations

Child Support Enforcement was transferred from the Department of Administration to the Department of Human Services, effective July 1, 2005. This program is established to strengthen families through financial support and to reduce welfare dependence by ensuring that parents honor obligations to support their children. The concern for the well being of children who live with only one parent, and the desire to promote self-sufficiency for these single parent families, prompted both the state and federal governments to establish Child Support Enforcement Programs nationwide.

Program Objectives

Child Support Enforcement was established to strengthen families through financial support and to reduce welfare dependency by ensuring that parents are responsible for supporting their children.

Statutory History

R.I.G.L. 15-11.1 outlines the duties and responsibilities of the Child Support Enforcement Program. R.I.G.L. 42-12-28 effectuates the transfer of the program from the Department of Administration.

The Budget

Department of Human Services Child Support Enforcement

	FY 2008 Actual	FY 2009 Actual	FY 2010 Enacted	FY 2010 Revised	FY 2011 Recommended
Expenditures By Object					
Personnel	8,710,067	6,342,922	6,961,640	6,175,421	6,634,837
Operating Supplies and Expenses	1,573,993	1,349,953	3,626,286	3,936,871	2,440,987
Aid To Local Units Of Government	-	-	-	-	-
Assistance, Grants and Benefits	671	671	672	182,771	162,538
Subtotal: Operating Expenditures	\$10,284,731	\$7,693,546	\$10,588,598	\$10,295,063	\$9,238,362
Capital Purchases and Equipment	11,159	5,146	10,000	10,000	10,000
Debt Service	-	-	-	-	-
Operating Transfers	-	-	-	-	-
Total Expenditures	\$10,295,890	\$7,698,692	\$10,598,598	\$10,305,063	\$9,248,362
Expenditures By Funds					
General Revenue	3,101,029	2,273,789	2,373,898	2,215,930	2,362,606
Federal Funds	7,194,861	5,424,903	8,224,700	8,089,133	6,885,756
Restricted Receipts	-	-	-	-	-
Total Expenditures	\$10,295,890	\$7,698,692	\$10,598,598	\$10,305,063	\$9,248,362
Program Measures					
Current Child Support Collected as a Percentage of Support Owed	58.9%	60.1%	59.4%	59.4%	59.3%

The Program

Department of Human Services Individual and Family Support

Program Operations

The Individual and Family Support Program (IFS) has the primary responsibility within the department to implement state and federal welfare reform changes and the State's early care and education programs. The Individual and Family Support Program provides policy and program development and management, including monitoring and evaluation, systems development, and the processing and payment functions related to social services for populations served by the department. The Individual and Family Support Program is responsible for ensuring that the services affecting all populations are provided in accordance with state and federal mandates.

The Individual and Family Support Program has the responsibility for the operational planning, direction, coordination and implementation of programs such as the Family Independence Program (FIP), Child Care Development Fund, and the Head Start Collaboration Grant. Funding for the Title XX Block Grant, the Community Services Block Grant, the Refugee Assistance Program, and special funding for victims of domestic violence, the homeless, and the elderly are also within the IFS program. Funding for the administration of the General Public Assistance Program, Food Stamp Program, and Supplemental Security Income is recorded in the IFS Program.

The Individual and Family Support Program also contains comprehensive case management programs for teen mothers and their children and provides child care services for both FIP clients and low income families. Serving Rhode Island's disabled population is the Office of Rehabilitation Services (ORS) and Services for the Blind and Visually Impaired (SBVI). ORS continues to implement new technologies in its service delivery systems, which works in partnership with consumers to achieve meaningful employment outcomes.

Program Objective

To provide assistance and supports to clients so that they may transition to self-sufficiency.

Statutory History

Title 40 Chapter 5.1 of the Rhode Island General Laws establishes the Family Independence Program. The Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act of 1996 (PRWORA) replaces Title IV-A of the Federal Social Security Act. Title 42 Chapter 12 of the Rhode Island General Laws establishes the Vocational Rehabilitation Program; Title 40 establishes the Services to the Blind and Visually Impaired Program and the Adolescent Pregnancy and Parenting Program and the Child Care Services Program. Article 11 of the FY 1999 Appropriations Act establishes the Starting Right Initiative in Title 40, Chapters 5.1 and 6.2, Title 42, Chapters 12 and 72.1.

The Budget

Department of Human Services Individual and Family Support

	FY 2008 Actual	FY 2009 Actual	FY 2010 Enacted	FY 2010 Revised	FY 2011 Recommended
Expenditures By Object					
Personnel	46,896,074	40,838,212	49,143,501	44,898,696	49,327,422
Operating Supplies and Expenses	8,402,407	7,743,266	10,948,499	9,979,896	10,623,824
Aid To Local Units Of Government	-	-	-	-	-
Assistance, Grants and Benefits	18,012,719	21,567,559	20,914,855	26,980,257	42,286,397
Subtotal: Operating Expenditures	\$73,311,200	\$70,149,037	\$81,006,855	\$81,858,849	\$102,237,643
Capital Purchases and Equipment	152,886	87,798	436,450	248,900	305,150
Debt Service	-	-	-	-	-
Operating Transfers	-	-	5,594,737	5,379,737	5,404,737
Total Expenditures	\$73,464,086	\$70,236,835	\$87,038,042	\$87,487,486	\$107,947,530
Expenditures By Funds					
General Revenue	22,622,951	20,058,413	22,152,850	20,546,759	22,180,916
Federal Funds	50,006,985	49,965,922	60,226,042	62,350,727	81,301,614
Restricted Receipts	134,150	180,000	134,150	180,000	180,000
Other Funds	700,000	32,500	4,525,000	4,410,000	4,285,000
Total Expenditures	\$73,464,086	\$70,236,835	\$87,038,042	\$87,487,486	\$107,947,530
Program Measures					
Persons with Individualized Plan for Employment Achieving an Employment Outcome	62.8%	62.6%	60.0%	60.0%	60.0%
Accuracy of Disability Determination Adjudications - Rehabilitation Services	95.8%	91.9%	92.0%	92.0%	92.0%

The Program

Department of Human Services Veterans' Affairs

Program Operations

The Veterans' Affairs Program serves eligible Rhode Island Veterans, their surviving spouses, and dependents. Benefits include a comprehensive program of social, medical and rehabilitative services. The Veterans' Affairs Program is comprised of the Rhode Island Veterans' Home, the Rhode Island Veterans' Affairs Office, and the Rhode Island Veterans' Memorial Cemetery.

Veterans' Affairs is confronting a growing challenge as a result of a rapidly aging veteran's population. Rhode Island has a population of approximately 93,000 veterans. Although the total number of war service veterans is declining, the growth in the proportion of aging (World War II and Korean) veterans is escalating.

The purpose of the Veterans' Home is to provide quality nursing and domiciliary care to the veteran. Social, medical, nursing, and rehabilitative services for eligible Rhode Island veterans, their survivors, and/or dependents, are available to improve their physical, emotional, and economic well-being. The Rhode Island Veterans' Home has an operational bed capacity of 339 beds (260 nursing and 79 domiciliary/sheltered care beds). Within the 339 bed complement is a 36-bed unit for veterans who suffer from dementia type illnesses. The Veterans' Home admits war service veterans who have been honorably discharged and have resided in the State at least two years prior to admission and/or were inducted into the military service from the State. Residential care is available to eligible veterans who require a sheltered care environment. The Veterans' Transitional Supportive Program (VTSP) is a program operated in concert with the federal Veterans Administration. VTSP offers a multitude of psychological/social counseling, substance abuse treatment, and contract work therapy opportunities provided on a short-term basis to assist veterans with reintegration to their communities.

Program Objective

To continue to improve the physical, emotional, and economic well-being of Rhode Island veterans.

Statutory History

Title 30 Chapters 17, 24, 25, and 29 and Title 30 Chapter 25 of the Rhode Island General Laws established the Division of Veterans Affairs.

The Budget

Department of Human Services Veterans' Affairs

	FY 2008 Actual	FY 2009 Actual	FY 2010 Enacted	FY 2010 Revised	FY 2011 Recommended
Expenditures By Object					
Personnel	20,549,394	20,558,528	21,217,154	21,333,219	22,652,921
Operating Supplies and Expenses	2,781,167	2,662,288	3,184,867	3,116,677	3,258,284
Aid To Local Units Of Government	-	-	-	-	-
Assistance, Grants and Benefits	13,247	7,247	5,100	5,100	5,100
Subtotal: Operating Expenditures	\$23,343,808	\$23,228,063	\$24,407,121	\$24,454,996	\$25,916,305
Capital Purchases and Equipment	1,198,011	2,070,933	1,652,500	1,664,238	1,724,000
Debt Service	-	-	-	-	-
Operating Transfers	-	-	-	-	-
Total Expenditures	\$24,541,819	\$25,298,996	\$26,059,621	\$26,119,234	\$27,640,305
Expenditures By Funds					
General Revenue	17,387,208	17,359,179	17,852,470	17,751,839	19,466,321
Federal Funds	6,596,367	7,565,215	5,933,514	6,702,795	6,682,784
Restricted Receipts	558,244	374,602	2,273,637	1,664,600	1,491,200
Total Expenditures	\$24,541,819	\$25,298,996	\$26,059,621	\$26,119,234	\$27,640,305
Program Measures					
Persons Completing the Veteran Transitional Supportive Program & Securing Housing Within Six Months	70.0%	85.0%	85.0%	85.0%	85.0%

The Program

Department of Human Services Health Care Quality, Financing and Purchasing

Program Operations

The objectives of the Health Care Quality, Financing and Purchasing (HCQFP) Program are: to assure the availability of high quality health care services to consumers; to assure the efficiency and economy of services delivered to program recipients by monitoring providers of services; to coordinate service-delivery efforts with other state departments and agencies; to purchase medically necessary services covered by the Medicaid State Plan; and, to administer programs in a manner consistent with federal and state laws and regulations. These services are provided to three population groups: families and children, individuals with disabilities, and the elderly.

DHS supervises disbursements to a number of state agencies, as well as local school districts, for administrative and program activities in support of the Medicaid program. The HCQFP Program operates a claims processing system, secures financial recoveries from third parties for claims liability, and conducts utilization review of inpatient and outpatient hospital services. To encourage the utilization of community-based services rather than institutional programs, HCQFP administers home and community-based waivers – both directly and through interagency agreements with the Departments of Elderly Affairs and Mental Health, Retardation and Hospitals. HCQFP also administers a demonstration waiver to provide health services to families through a managed care delivery system, Rlte Care, and is responsible for administration of a Section 1115 SCHIP waiver amendment to the current managed care program in order to implement the provisions of Health Reform RI 2000. This assures that the program serves either persons without access to affordable employer-sponsored insurance, or maintains persons in employer-based insurance, if more cost-effective. HCQFP administers the Early Intervention Program for at risk children up to age three.

Program Objective

To purchase health care services for consumers at a reasonable cost, while assuring quality and access, and to administer the Medical Assistance Benefits Program activities in a manner consistent with federal and state laws and regulations.

Statutory History

Title XIX of the Federal Social Security Act was enacted by Congress under the provisions of Public Law 89-97. Title 40 Chapter 8 of the Rhode Island General Laws establishes the Rhode Island Medical Assistance Program. Title 40 Chapter 16 of the Rhode Island General Laws authorizes the Health Centers and Visiting Nurse Grant Program. Title 42 Chapter 12.3 and Title 40-6.2 of the Rhode Island General Laws authorizes the Department of Human Services to establish and administer both the Rlte Care Program and health care for certain child care providers, and Section 23-13-22 of the Rhode General Laws authorizes the department to administer the Early Intervention Program.

The Budget

Department of Human Services Health Care Quality, Financing and Purchasing

	FY 2008 Actual	FY 2009 Actual	FY 2010 Enacted	FY 2010 Revised	FY 2011 Recommended
Expenditures By Object					
Personnel	47,439,497	44,743,513	57,009,607	55,983,154	57,886,357
Operating Supplies and Expenses	2,975,485	2,728,163	3,843,146	3,272,302	3,065,924
Aid To Local Units Of Government	-	-	-	-	-
Assistance, Grants and Benefits	8,535,070	5,906,502	5,840,000	6,150,800	5,990,000
Subtotal: Operating Expenditures	\$58,950,052	\$53,378,178	\$66,692,753	\$65,406,256	\$66,942,281
Capital Purchases and Equipment	9,180	623,737	10,000	43,000	13,000
Debt Service	-	-	-	-	-
Operating Transfers	-	-	-	-	-
Total Expenditures	\$58,959,232	\$54,001,915	\$66,702,753	\$65,449,256	\$66,955,281
Expenditures By Funds					
General Revenue	20,481,865	18,626,885	21,771,668	19,520,623	21,068,899
Federal Funds	38,445,780	35,375,030	44,871,085	45,868,633	45,826,382
Restricted Receipts	31,587	-	60,000	60,000	60,000
Total Expenditures	\$58,959,232	\$54,001,915	\$66,702,753	\$65,449,256	\$66,955,281
Program Measures					
Length of Stay					
Average Length of Stay for:					
Pneumonia	7.8	6.5	6.8	6.8	6.2
Angina Pectoris	4.2	3.3	3.8	3.8	4.0
Alcohol Dependency	5.7	5.7	5.7	5.7	5.8
Chest Pain	3.7	4.4	4.2	4.2	4.4
Congestive Heart Failure	5.4	5.4	5.5	5.5	5.4
Depressive Disease	9.2	9.1	9.1	9.1	9.2
Chronic Airway Obstructive Disease	6.0	5.1	5.3	5.3	5.2
Abdominal Pain	5.4	5.0	4.9	4.9	4.9
Acute Pancreatitis	5.7	5.7	5.5	5.5	5.2
Recurrent Depression	10.8	8.4	9.2	9.2	9.3

The Program

Department of Human Services Medical Benefits

Program Operations

The Medical Benefits Program assures quality and access to necessary medical services for approximately 183,000 consumers through the purchase of health care at a reasonable cost, primarily financed by Medicaid. These services are provided to three population groups: families and children, individuals with disabilities, and the elderly. Medicaid is a federal and state matching entitlement program administered by states to provide medical benefits. The (unenanced) federal share of reimbursement, which is based on a state's per capita personal income, is 52.63 percent for federal fiscal year 2010 and 52.97 percent for federal fiscal year 2011. These percentages have been temporarily enhanced through the provisions of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA).

DHS, in accordance with the Global Consumer Choice Compact Waiver and a multitude of state and federal laws, specifies the scope of covered services, establishes fees for services and reimbursement rates for hospital and nursing facility services, adjudicates and pays claims for medical facility services, and adjudicates and pays claims for medical services submitted by providers. The Medical Benefits Program covers a broad scope of medical services provided to eligible individuals by service providers licensed by the Department of Health or other appropriate state or federal accrediting authority, and enrolled as service providers by the Medical Benefits Program.

The Medical Benefits Program provides health insurance to FIP families, children through age 18 with family incomes not in excess of 250 percent of the federal poverty limit and other low income families. Health care is provided to children with special needs under the Supplemental Security Income Program (SSI) or the Early Periodic Screening Diagnosis and Treatment (EPSDT) program. Acute and long-term care services are provided to adults with disabilities and the elderly. There are four home and community-based waiver programs administered directly by DHS or through the Departments of Elderly Affairs (DEA) and Mental Health, Retardation and Hospitals. A Section 1115 SCHIP waiver provides that families without access to employer-based insurance will have health insurance coverage, or be able to maintain their employer-sponsored insurance benefits, if more cost-effective.

Program Objective

To assure the availability of high quality health care services to program recipients.

Statutory History

Title XIX of the Social Security Act was enacted by Congress under the provision of Public Law 89-97 on July 30, 1965. The Rhode Island Medical Assistance Program was implemented under Title 40 Chapter 8 of the Rhode Island General Laws. Title 42 Chapter 12.3 and Title 40-6.2 of the Rhode Island General Laws authorized the Department of Human Services to establish and administer the RIte Care Program.

The Budget

Department of Human Services Medical Benefits

	FY 2008 Actual	FY 2009 Actual	FY 2010 Enacted	FY 2010 Revised	FY 2011 Recommended
Expenditures By Subprogram					
Hospitals	266,415,235	232,390,254	222,288,009	228,234,163	202,988,603
Nursing Facilities	332,839,552	324,518,348	359,323,205	360,380,499	357,284,999
Managed Care	540,966,831	499,745,114	570,647,492	566,851,000	590,755,201
Other Services	179,325,454	149,055,733	91,640,278	111,979,744	111,356,335
Special Education	16,152,256	18,663,008	25,185,646	25,185,646	25,290,061
Pharmacy	82,978,526	56,214,335	55,800,000	57,950,000	57,300,000
Rhody Health	-	100,876,257	148,000,000	148,000,000	161,603,859
Total Expenditures	\$1,418,677,854	\$1,381,463,049	\$1,472,884,630	\$1,498,581,052	\$1,506,579,058
Expenditures By Object					
Personnel	-	-	-	-	-
Operating Supplies and Expenses	39,984	74,393	-	-	-
Aid To Local Units Of Government	-	-	-	-	-
Assistance, Grants and Benefits	1,418,637,870	1,381,388,656	1,472,884,630	1,498,581,052	1,506,579,058
Subtotal: Operating Expenditures	\$1,418,677,854	\$1,381,463,049	\$1,472,884,630	\$1,498,581,052	\$1,506,579,058
Capital Purchases and Equipment	-	-	-	-	-
Debt Service	-	-	-	-	-
Operating Transfers	-	-	-	-	-
Total Expenditures	\$1,418,677,854	\$1,381,463,049	\$1,472,884,630	\$1,498,581,052	\$1,506,579,058
Expenditures By Funds					
General Revenue	679,698,468	557,451,938	562,347,933	570,187,525	570,057,016
Federal Funds	734,679,180	819,591,812	905,289,786	922,578,527	929,907,042
Restricted Receipts	4,300,206	4,419,299	5,246,911	5,815,000	6,615,000
Total Expenditures	\$1,418,677,854	\$1,381,463,049	\$1,472,884,630	\$1,498,581,052	\$1,506,579,058
Program Measures					
Neonatal Intensive Care Unit Admissions Per One Thousand Live Births	90.1	89.0	89.0	89.0	89.0
Number of Physician's Office Visits per Rite Care Enrollee	5.4	5.2	5.2	5.2	5.2
Number of Emergency Room Visits per 1,000 Rite Care Enrollees	608	590	570	570	570
Number of Hospital Days per 1,000 Rite Care Enrollees	670	645	630	630	630

The Program

Department of Human Services Supplemental Security Income

Program Operations

The Supplemental Security Income (SSI) Program provides a floor of income for aged, blind and disabled persons who have little or no income or other resources. The basic federal SSI Cash Assistance Grant, annually adjusted for inflation, is funded in full by the federal government. Because the federal payment leaves many recipients below the federal poverty level, certain states have chosen to provide a supplement to the federal benefit; financed with state funds. Persons eligible for SSI are also eligible, under specified criteria, for in-state moving expenses, and for needs resulting from an emergency of a catastrophic nature.

Since the inception of SSI in 1974, the program caseload has grown each year. This reflects an increase in the aging population, new and emerging disabilities, less stringent disability requirements, and increases in allowable resource limits.

Program Objective

To provide financial aid to individuals who are aged, blind, or disabled and who do not have sufficient resources to maintain a reasonable standard of health and well-being.

Statutory History

Title XVI of the Federal Social Security Act in 1974 created a federally administered Supplemental Security Income Program. This program replaced the assistance program previously administered by the State, which provided aid to aged, blind, and disabled Rhode Islanders. Title 40 Chapter 6 of the Rhode Island General Laws established the Supplemental Security Income Program.

The Budget

Department of Human Services Supplemental Security Income

	FY 2008 Actual	FY 2009 Actual	FY 2010 Enacted	FY 2010 Revised	FY 2011 Recommended
Expenditures By Object					
Personnel	-	-	-	-	-
Operating Supplies and Expenses	-	-	-	-	-
Aid To Local Units Of Government	-	-	-	-	-
Assistance, Grants and Benefits	28,021,329	25,138,428	20,706,354	21,892,320	22,597,404
Subtotal: Operating Expenditures	\$28,021,329	\$25,138,428	\$20,706,354	\$21,892,320	\$22,597,404
Capital Purchases and Equipment	-	-	-	-	-
Debt Service	-	-	-	-	-
Operating Transfers	-	-	-	-	-
Total Expenditures	\$28,021,329	\$25,138,428	\$20,706,354	\$21,892,320	\$22,597,404
Expenditures By Funds					
General Revenue	28,021,329	25,138,428	20,706,354	21,892,320	22,597,404
Total Expenditures	\$28,021,329	\$25,138,428	\$20,706,354	\$21,892,320	\$22,597,404
Program Measures	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS

The Program

Department of Human Services Family Independence

Program Operations

The Rhode Island Works Program (RIW), formerly the Family Independence Program (FIP), provides support, including child care, health care, and cash payments to needy children and their families, and also represents a strong emphasis on requiring families who receive cash assistance to prepare for, and achieve, employment.

When the federal TANF Program was reauthorized under Deficit Reduction Act in 2005, it brought forth more stringent policies and accountability mandates. Rhode Island therefore needed to revamp its FIA welfare program and in June 2008, the Rhode Island Works Program was enacted.

After thirteen years under FIP, which had a 60 month time limit for parents and maintained ongoing cash assistance for children even after parents time off the program, Rhode Island again tackled the chance to reform its program. Using many of the valuable lessons learned on services to low income children and parents a new cash assistance program was crafted. R.I. Works created shorter time limits on cash assistance (24 in 60 months, capped at 48 months for both parents and children).

The emphasis in RIW is to achieve gainful employment and self-sufficiency, with the ultimate outcome of strong, healthy families. RIW promotes work as the source of family income and has a lifetime limit of 60 months for the receipt of cash assistance. Child care, health care, and other supportive services are an entitlement to those families pursuing economic independence. While on cash assistance, RIW beneficiaries may participate in intensive readiness services if they lack literacy skills, or if they have little or no paid work experience. To further assist RIW parents, opportunities are available to participate in short term vocational training for up to 12 months as long as the program is designed to lead to full time employment. Enhanced financial incentives in the form of income allowances encourage families to increase earned income without immediately closing to cash assistance. Under RIW, child care and health care are considered an essential component of the long-range plan to move clients from dependence to independence.

Program Objectives

To provide assistance to clients to aid the transition to self-sufficiency.

Statutory History

The Aid to Families with Dependent Children (AFDC) Program, which was initiated in the 1930s as Title IV of the Social Security Act, is replaced by the Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) in Title I of PRWORA. Child care funding is provided under Title VI of PRWORA. Title 40 Chapter 5.2 enacted the Rhode Island Works Program.

The Budget

Department of Human Services Family Independence

	FY 2008 Actual	FY 2009 Actual	FY 2010 Enacted	FY 2010 Revised	FY 2011 Recommended
Expenditures by Subprogram					
TANF/RI Works Program	55,608,425	52,517,211	51,020,300	45,665,000	43,167,365
Child Care	57,063,996	50,873,905	45,352,500	45,737,574	47,142,086
Total Expenditures	\$112,672,421	\$103,391,116	\$96,372,800	\$91,402,574	\$90,309,451
Expenditures By Object					
Personnel	-	-	-	-	-
Operating Supplies and Expenses	7,166	9,913	-	26,118	-
Aid To Local Units Of Government	-	-	-	-	-
Assistance, Grants and Benefits	112,665,255	103,381,203	96,372,800	91,376,456	90,309,451
Subtotal: Operating Expenditures	\$112,672,421	\$103,391,116	\$96,372,800	\$91,402,574	\$90,309,451
Capital Purchases and Equipment	-	-	-	-	-
Debt Service	-	-	-	-	-
Operating Transfers	-	-	-	-	-
Total Expenditures	\$112,672,421	\$103,391,116	\$96,372,800	\$91,402,574	\$90,309,451
Expenditures By Funds					
General Revenue	31,808,613	10,681,403	6,500,000	5,708,004	8,282,999
Federal Funds	80,863,808	92,709,713	89,872,800	85,694,570	82,026,452
Total Expenditures	\$112,672,421	\$103,391,116	\$96,372,800	\$91,402,574	\$90,309,451
Program Measures					
Family Independence Program Families with Earned Income	18.0%	15.6%	17.0%	17.0%	18.0%
Job Retention Rate For Family Independence Program Families Not Receiving Cash	63.0%	54.0%	50.0%	50.0%	55.0%

The Program

Department of Human Services State Funded Programs

Program Operations

The program “State Funded Programs” is comprised of assistance programs with discrete appropriation lines described below.

The General Public Assistance (GPA) Program is designed to meet the health care needs of incapacitated and unemployable persons who are suffering from an illness, injury, or medical condition and do not qualify for other public assistance programs. The program provides for limited medical assistance, consisting of physician services and a limited formulary (list) of prescription medications. The program also provides burials for indigent persons. Limited cash assistance is available from two special contingency funds. Under state welfare reform statutes, two parent families who had received services from GPA became eligible under FIP.

Program Objectives

To provide for the medical needs for ill or disabled individuals who do not qualify for other federal programs, limited emergency cash assistance for individuals who experience extreme financial hardship, and, interim cash assistance for totally disabled individuals who are accepted for Title XIX Medical Assistance pending eligibility application for federal Social Security benefits.

Statutory History

Title 40 Chapter 6 of the Rhode Island General Laws (RIGL) established the General Public Assistance Program. R.I.G.L 40-6-8(d) established the State Food Stamp Program.

The Budget

Department of Human Services State Funded Programs

	FY 2008 Actual	FY 2009 Actual	FY 2010 Enacted	FY 2010 Revised	FY 2011 Recommended
Expenditures by Subprogram					
General Public Assistance	3,239,666	2,880,758	3,332,900	3,383,669	3,598,040
Food Stamps - Benefits	102,586,057	146,338,421	164,800,000	225,254,728	276,474,397
Total Expenditures	105,825,723	149,219,179	168,132,900	228,638,397	280,072,437
Expenditures By Object					
Personnel	-	-	-	-	-
Operating Supplies and Expenses	20,501	35,395	-	-	-
Aid To Local Units Of Government	-	-	-	-	-
Assistance, Grants and Benefits	105,805,222	149,183,784	168,132,900	228,638,397	280,072,437
Subtotal: Operating Expenditures	\$105,825,723	\$149,219,179	\$168,132,900	\$228,638,397	\$280,072,437
Capital Purchases and Equipment	-	-	-	-	-
Debt Service	-	-	-	-	-
Operating Transfers	-	-	-	-	-
Total Expenditures	\$105,825,723	\$149,219,179	\$168,132,900	\$228,638,397	\$280,072,437
Expenditures By Funds					
General Revenue	3,222,768	2,366,991	2,395,456	2,472,661	2,576,658
Federal Funds	102,602,955	146,852,188	165,737,444	226,165,736	277,495,779
Total Expenditures	\$105,825,723	\$149,219,179	\$168,132,900	\$228,638,397	\$280,072,437
Program Measures	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS