

Social Services

The Department of Social Services provides both financial and social work services which are administered according to state and federal regulations. The mission of the Department is to promote self-reliance, strong families, and provide protection to children and vulnerable adults through community based services.

Major Issues

Short Term Issues

- Lack of Providers for Companion Services to adults is a barrier to making the services available.
- Continued growth in Benefit Programs.
- Implementation of State required improvements in Child Welfare Services.

Long Term Issues

- Special needs of children continue to challenge staff, fiscal, space resources as well as other community service resources
- Current leases on office buildings terminate July 1, 2005. Long term planning for suitable office space must move forward.
- General Relief Funds for indigent burials have been insufficient this year.

Goals and Objectives

- Work with CSA Agencies and other resources to serve children in their own homes, and to return children to families when appropriate. Achieve other permanency goals for children in foster care as appropriate.
- Seek maximum funds from Virginia DSS for chore and companion services.
- Continue to work with the Commonwealth Attorney's office to pursue fraud prosecution.
- Continue to seek ways to identify and obtain funds to meet staffing and office space needs.

Appropriations

<u>Description</u>	<u>Actual FY 2005</u>	<u>Budget FY 2006</u>	<u>Proposed FY 2007</u>	<u>Change 2006 to 2007</u>
Personnel	\$ 1,748,042	\$ 1,863,835	\$ 2,089,839	12%
Operating	2,032,240	2,032,442	2,347,416	15%
Capital	27,684	8,000	9,911	24%
Transfers				
Total	\$ 3,807,966	\$ 3,904,277	\$ 4,447,166	14%

Funding/Service Level Changes

Costs of programs continue to increase as well as the number of clients served.