March 9, 1999

The Honorable Frank Lautenberg, Ranking Member
Senate Budget Committee
Room SD-634
Washington D C 20510

Dear Senator Lautenberg:

As you begin deliberations on the fiscal year 2000 budget, we strongly urge you to fund Title XX, the Social Services Block Grant at its present entitlement level of $2.38 billion.

We are pleased that the Clinton administration has requested restoration of this vital program to the full entitlement level for next fiscal year. We believe that this proposed funding level is a formal recognition by the administration of the vital importance of this block grant and we hope you will endorse this recommendation. We do, however, continue to hold great concerns with regard to the administration's proposal to reduce the states' ability to transfer funds from TANF into Title XX to no more than 4.25 percent. We would like to work closely with you, as well as the administration, to ensure that state flexibility is retained.

As a leader of the Budget Committee, you have difficult choices to make, but we maintain that Title XX deserves to be placed high on the list of priorities. This block grant allows states the flexibility to provide much needed services for vulnerable children and families in near crisis situations and has helped support reforms in state foster care systems.

In addition, Title XX is one of the few programs available to support lower-income working families. This block grant has also been a significant funding source for programs that protect abused and neglected elderly people and for community-based programs, such as Meals on Wheels and adult day care services for the elderly and people with disabilities.

By helping to keep people in the community, the Social Services Block Grant actually saves the federal government and the nation's taxpayers the cost of expensive institutional care. Therefore, we strongly urge you to fund the Social Services Block Grant at its fully authorized level of $2.38 billion.

Thank you in advance for your hard work and attention to this issue. If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Sincerely,

March 9, 1999

The Honorable C. W. Young, Chair
House Appropriations Committee
Room H-218 Capitol
Washington D C 20515

Dear Representative Young:

As you begin deliberations on the fiscal year 2000 budget, we strongly urge you to fund Title XX, the Social Services Block Grant at its present entitlement level of $2.38 billion.

We are pleased that the Clinton administration has requested restoration of this vital program to the full entitlement level for next fiscal year. We believe that this proposed funding level is a formal recognition by the administration of the vital importance of this block grant and we hope you will endorse this recommendation. We do, however, continue to hold great concerns with regard to the administration's proposal to reduce the states' ability to transfer funds from TANF into Title XX to no more than 4.25 percent. We would like to work closely with you, as well as the administration, to ensure that state flexibility is retained.

As a leader of the Appropriations [Budget] Committee, you have difficult choices to make, but we maintain that Title XX deserves to be placed high on the list of priorities. This block grant allows states the flexibility to provide much needed services for vulnerable children and families in near crisis situations and has helped support reforms in state foster care systems.

In addition, Title XX is one of the few programs available to support lower-income working families. This block grant has also been a significant funding source for programs that protect abused and neglected elderly people and for community-based programs, such as Meals on Wheels and adult day care services for the elderly and people with disabilities.

By helping to keep people in the community, the Social Services Block Grant actually saves the federal government and the nation's taxpayers the cost of expensive institutional care. Therefore, we strongly urge you to fund the Social Services Block Grant at its fully authorized level of $2.38 billion.

Thank you in advance for your hard work and attention to this issue. If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Sincerely,

National Organizations:

Alliance for Children and Families
American Association of Community Psychiatrists
American Humane Association
American Jewish Committee
American Psychological Association
American Public Human Service Association
Association of Jewish Family and Children's Agencies
Bread for the World
Camp Fire Boys and Girls
Catholic Charities USA
Center for Community Change
Child Care Consortium
Children's Defense Fund
Child Welfare League of America
Center for Women Policy Studies
Coalition on Human Needs
Communications Workers of America
Council of Jewish Federations- Washington Action Office
Easter Seals
Generations United
Girl Scouts of the U.S.A.
Jewish Council for Public Affairs
Legal Action Center
Lutheran Office for Governmental Affairs, ELCA
Lutheran Services in America
Migrant Legal Action Program
National Adoption Center
National Association for Family-Based Services
National Association of Adult Protective Services Administrators
National Association of Area Agencies on Aging
National Association of Child Advocates
National Association of Counties
National Association of School Psychologists
National Association of Social Workers
National Association of State Units on Aging
National Center for Youth Law
National Child Abuse Coalition
National Child Care Association
National Coalition for the Homeless
National Committee for the Prevention of Elder Abuse
National Committee to Prevent Child Abuse
National Council for Community Behavioral Healthcare
National Council of Jewish Women
National Council on Aging
National Family Planning and Reproductive Health Association
National Head Start Association
National Mental Health Association
National Network for Youth

National Partnership for Women and Families
National Women's Law Center
NETWORK, A National Catholic Social Justice Lobby
NOW Legal Defense and Education Fund
Service Employees International Union
The Arc
The National Respite Coalition
The Title XX Coalition
Union of American Hebrew Congregations
Unitarian Universalist Association of Congregations
United Church of Christ, Office for Church in Society
United Jewish Appeal- Federation of Jewish Philanthropies
United Way of America
Voice for Adoption
Volunteers of America
Women's Committee of One Hundred
YWCA of the U.S.A

Local Organizations by State:
Alabama
Results Management Associates- Tuskegee
United Way of Athens and Limestone County- Athens
United Way of East Central Alabama- Anniston
United Way of the Shoals Area, Inc.- Florence
Volunteers of America of Southeast- Southern Alabama
Wiregrass United Way- Dothan
Alaska
United Way of the Tanana Valley- Fairbanks
Arizona
Arizona Community Action Association- Phoenix
Association of Arizona Food Banks- Phoenix
Black Canyon City Nutrition Project
Camp Verde Senior Center
Catholic Community Services- Yuma
Catholic Social Service of Mohave
Catholic Social Service of Yauapai- Cottonwood
Chino Valley Senior Center
Coconino County Community Services- Flagstaff
Family Counseling Agency, Inc. of Tuscon
Flagstaff Senior Center
Fredonia Senior Center
Golden Age Senior Center
Governors Advisory Council on Aging- Phoenix
Holbrook Senior Center
Jewish Family and Children's Service- Phoenix
Lutheran Advocacy Ministry in Arizona- Phoenix
Mayer Elder Club
Mesa United Way
Northern Arizona Council of Governments Area Agency on Aging- Flagstaff

Page Senior Center
Parents Anonymous- Kingman
Prescott Valley Senior Center
Rim County Senior Center- Overgaard
SEAGO Area Agency on Aging- Bisbee
Sedona Adult Community Center
Show Low Meals on Wheels
Snowflake Senior Center
Springerville Senior Center
St. Johns Nutrition Project
United Methodist Outreach Ministries
United Way of Greater Tuscon
United Way of Pinal County- Casa Grande
Valley of the Sun United Way
Verde Valley Senior Center
Western Arizona Council of Governments
Williams Senior Center
Winslow Senior Center
Yarnell Chat-n-Chew
Yavapai Senior Nutrition Projects- Prescott
Arkansas
United Way of Greater Jonesboro
United Way of Greater Texarkana, Inc.
United Way of Rogers/Lowell
United Way of Washington County
California
Arrowhead United Way- San Bernardino
California Church Impact- Sacramento
California State Association of Counties
County Welfare Directors Association of California
Child Care Food Program Roundtable- San Francisco
Family Service Agency of Santa Barbara
Jewish Family and Children's Services- San Francisco
Jewish Family Service of Los Angeles
Jewish Family Service of Sacramento
Jewish Family Service of San Diego
Lutheran Office of Public Policy California- Sacramento
Morongo Basin United Way- Yucca Valley
Nuevo Amanecer Latino Children's Services- Los Angeles
Promise the Children at Unitarian Universalist Church of Berkeley- Kensington
United Way of the Desert- Pam Springs
United Way of Fresno County
United Way of Nevada County- Grass Valley
United Way of Salinas Valley
United Way of Santa Cruz County
Volunteers of America Bay Area
Colorado
Martin Luther Homes- Denver
Routt County United Way- Steamboat Springs

Connecticut
Catholic Charities/Catholic Family Services Inc- Hartford
Family Services of Central Connecticut, Inc.- New Britain
Jewish Federation of Greater Waterbury and NW CT- Woodbury
Middlesex United Way- Middletown
United Way of the Capital Area- Hartford
United Way of Connecticut- Rocky Hill
United Way of Milf ord, Inc.
United Way of New Canaan
United Way of Norwalk and Wilton
United Way of Northwest Connecticut, Inc.
United Way of Southington
United Way of West Central Connecticut - Bristol
Delaware
Jewish Family Service of Delaware, Wilmington
Lutheran Office on Public Policy/Delaware- Wilmington
Martin Luther Homes- Newark
Florida
Catholic Charities- Pensacola/Tallahassee
Catholic Charities Bureau- Jacksonville
Catholic Charities Diocese of Venice, Inc.
Family Central- N. Lauderdale
Family Source of Florida - Tallahassee
Hillsborough CARES (Community Advocates for Resources for Education and Social Services)- Tampa
Jewish Community Relations Council of Jewish Federation of Broward- Ft. Lauderdale
Jewish Family Service- Orlando
Tampa United Methodist Centers
United Way of Alachua County- Gainsville
United Way of the Big Bend- Tallahassee
United Way of Central Florida- Lakeland
United Way of Collier County- Naples
United Way of Escambia County- Pensacola
United Way of Manatee County- Bradenton
United Way of Northeast Florida- Jacksonville
United Way of Okaloos-Walton Counties- Ft. Walton Beach
United Way of Palm Beach County- Boynton Beach
Georgia
Habersham County United Way- Cornelia
RAPP, Inc.- Alpharetta
United Way of Camden County- Kingsland
United Way of Gordon County- Calhoun
United Way of Loundes County- Valdosta
United Way of Northeast Georgia- Athens
United Way of South Georgia, Inc.- Waycross
United Way of Southeast Georgia- Albany
Volunteers of America of Southeast
Idaho
Idaho Youth Ranch- Boise

Illinois

Academy for Scholastic Achievement- Chicago
Ada McKinley Community Services, Inc.- Chicago
Alcoholic Rehabilitation Community Home- Granite City
Alternative Schools Network- Chicago
Alton Day Care and Learning Center
American Camping Association Illinois Section- Chicago
Antonia Pantoja Alternative High School- Chicago
Boys and Girls Club of Alton, Inc.
Catholic Charities- Diocese of Springfield in Illinois
Collinsville Area Meals on Wheels
CCA Academy- Chicago
Chicago Area Project
Children's Home and Aid Society of Illinois- Chicago
Crisis Food Center Inc.- Alton
DuPage County Human Services- Wheaton
Dr. Pedro Albizu Campos Alternative HS- Chicago
Edwardsville Township Community Improvement Corp.
Garfield Alternative High School- Chicago
Girl Scouts, Land of Lincoln Council- Springfield
Griffith Center- East St. Louis
Guardian Angel Home- Joliet
Healthcare Alternative Systems, Inc.- Chicago
Howard Area Alternative High School- Chicago
Illinois Center for Autism- Fairview Heights
Institute for Latino Progress- Chicago
Jersey County American Red Cross- Jerseyville
Jewish Federation of Metropolitan Chicago
Lake View Academy- Chicago
Latino Youth Alternative High School- Chicago
Lutheran Social Services of Illinois- Des Plaines
Macoupin Center for the Developmentally Disabled- Carlinville
Martin Luther Homes- Peoria
Metropolitan Family Services- Chicago
Prologue Alternative High School- Chicago
Ruiz Belvis Cultural Center- Chicago
Salem Children's Home- Flanagan
Senior Citizens Services, Inc- Edwardsville
Sullivan House Alternative High School- Chicago
The Salvation Army Family Services- Chicago
United Way of Adams County, Inc.- Quincy
United Way of Illinois- Springfield
United Way/ Crusade of Mercy- Chicago
United Way of Kankakee County
United Way of Northwest Illinois, Inc.- Freeport
United Way Partnership- Alton
Volunteers of America of Illinois

Indiana

Child and Family Services New Hope Services, Inc.- Scottsburg
Cornerstone Child Care Center Bridgepointe - Clarksville

Family Service Association- Terre Haute
Family Services Association of Howard County, Inc.- Kokomo
Family Services, Inc.- Lafayette
Kidsville Child and Family Center- Clarksville
Lake Area United Way- Griffith
Martin Luther Homes- Terre Haute
New Hope Services Child and Family Services- Jeffersonville
Scott County Step Ahead- Scottsburg
Step Ahead of Clark County Indiana- Jeffersonville
United Way of Allen County- Fort Wayne
United Way of Cass County- Logansport
Untied Way of LaPorte County
United Way of Porter County- Valparaiso
United Way of Southwestern Indiana- Evansville
YMCA Child Care Services Kids Square- Charlestown
Youth Service Bureau- Portland

Iowa

Catholic Charities- Sioux City
Catholic Charities of the Archdiocese of Dubuque
Family Resources, Inc.- Bettendorf
Martin Luther Homes- Des Moines
United Way of East Central Iowa- Cedar Rapids
United Way of North Central Iowa- Mason City
United Way Services, Inc.- Dubuque

Kansas

Kansas Association of Family and Consumer Sciences- Madison
Salina Area United Way
United Way of McPherson County
United Way of Wyandotte County- Kansas City

Kentucky

Catholic Charities- Owensboro
Catholic Social Services- Lexington
Kentucky Council on Child Abuse, KY Chapter of Prevent Child Abuse America
Metro United Way- Louisville
Prevent Child Abuse Kentucky- Lexington
St. Joseph Children's Home- Louisville
Volunteers of America of Kentucky

Louisiana

The Center for Families, Inc- Shreveport
Family Service of Greater New Orleans
Prevent Child Abuse Louisiana- Baton Rouge
Volunteers of America of Greater New Orleans

Maine

United Way of Mid Coast Maine- Bath
United Way of the Tri-Valley Area- Farmington

Maryland

Jewish Family Services of Central Maryland- Baltimore
Maryland State Association of United Ways
United Way of Calvert County- Prince Fredrick
United Way of Central Maryland

United Way of Charles County- Waldorf
United Way of Fredrick County
Univ. of Md., School of Social Work- Baltimore
Massachusetts
The Family Advocacy Program at Boston Medical Center
If Not Now- Jamaica Plain
North Shore United Way- Beverly
Old Colony United Way- Brockton
United Way of Central MA- Worcester
United Way of Greater Attleboro/Taunton
United Way of Greater Fall River
Michigan
Lakeside, Inc- Kalamazoo
Lenawee United Way and Volunteer Center- Adrian
Michigan Federation of Private Child and Family Agencies- Lansing
Michigan Jewish Conference- Lansing
Otsego County United Way- Gaylord
United Way of Marquette County
United Way of Muskegon County
United Way of Northeast Michigan
Volunteers of America of Greater Lansing
Volunteers of America of Michigan
Minnesota
Catholic Charities of St. Paul/Minneapolis
Family and Children's Service- Minneapolis
Jewish Family Services of St. Paul
Lutheran Social Service Minnesota- St. Paul
United Way of the Greater Winona Area
United Way of Olmsted County- Rochester
United Way of Steele County- Owatonna
Volunteers of America of Minnesota
Mississippi
Volunteers of America of Southeast
United Way of West Central Mississippi- Vicksburg
Missouri
Area Wide Untied Way- Cape Girardeau
Jewish Family and Children's Service- St. Louis
The Kansas City Metropolitan Lutheran Ministry
United Way of Greater St. Louis
Montana
Intermountain Children's Home- Helena
United Way of Gallatin County- Bozeman
Nebraska
Martin Luther Homes- Lincoln
Martin Luther Homes- Omaha
Untied Way of Kearney Area
United Way of Lincoln and Lancaster County
Volunteers of America- Lewellen
Nevada
Family Resource Centers of Northeastern Nevada- Elko

Lutheran Advocacy Ministry in Nevada- Sparks
United Way of the Greater Basin- Elko
United Way of Northern Nevada and the Sierra- Reno
United Way of Southern Nevada- Las Vegas
WE CAN, Inc, Nevada Chapter, National Committee to Prevent Child Abuse- Las Vegas

New Hampshire

United Way of the Greater Seacoast- Portsmouth

New Jersey

Bayonne Jewish Community Center
Catholic Community Services Hudson Division- Jersey City
Catholic Community Services- Newark
Children's Aid and Family Services- Paramus
Children on the Green- Morristown
Dover Child Care Center
El Primer Paso, Ltd.- Dover
Family and Children's Services- Elizabeth
Family Counseling Service- Camden
Hudson Hospice, Inc.- Jersey City
Jewish Family and Children's Service of Greater Monmouth County- Asbury Park
Jewish Family and Children's Service of North Jersey- Wayne
Jewish Family and Counseling Service of Jersey City, Bayonne, and Hoboken
Jewish Family Services of Central New Jersey- Elizabeth
Jewish Family Service of Bergen County- Teaneck
Lutheran Office of Governmental Ministry in New Jersey- Trenton
Morristown Neighborhood Houses Association, Inc.
Mt. Olive Child Care and Learning Center- Flanders
North Hudson Community Action Corporation- West New York
Parsippany Child Day Care Center
Roxbury Day Care Center- Succasunoa
The Salvation Army- Morristown
United Cerebral Palsy of Hudson County- North Bergen
United Way of Atlantic County- Egg Harbor Township
United Way of Bloomfield
United Way of Greater Mercer County- Lawrenceville
United Way of Monmouth County- Wall
United Way of Ocean County- Toms River
United Way of Passaic County- Paterson
United Way of Union County- Elizabeth
Visiting Homemaker Service- Jersey City

New Mexico

Curry County United Way- Clovis
New Mexico Advocates for Children and Families- Albuquerque
United Way of Chaves County- Roswell

New York

Allegany County United Way, Inc.- Wellsville
Child and Family Services- Buffalo
Eastern Niagara United Way- Lockport
Family and Children's Association- Nassau County
Northeast Parent and Child Society- Schenectady
St. Anne Institute- Albany

St. Vincent's Services- Brooklyn
UJA-Federation of New York
United Way of Columbia/Greene Counties- Hudson
United Way of Greater Utica
United Way of Niagara- Niagara Falls
United Way of Seneca County- Seneca Falls
United Way of Ulster County- Kingston
United Way of Westchester and Putnam, Inc.- White Plains
Utica Citizens in Action
Volunteers of America of Western New York

North Carolina

Alzheimer's Association- Asheville
American Grassroots Unlimited, Inc.- Arden
American Red Cross- Waynesville
Arc of Haywood County- Waynesville
Consumer Credit Counseling- Asheville
Daniel Boone Council-BSA- Asheville
Elon Homes for Children, Inc- Charlotte
Exchange/SCAN Child Abuse Prevention Center of Iredell County
Hay Vocational Opportunities- Hazelwood
Haywood Christian Ministry- Waynesville
Haywood County Council on Aging- Waynesville
Haywood County 4-H- Waynesville
Haywood County Literacy Council- Waynesville
Haywood County Meals on Wheels- Waynesville
Haywood County Rescue Squad- Waynesville
High Country United Way- Boone
Hospice- Clyde
Jewish Family Services- Greensboro
KARE- Waynseville
Manna Food Bank- Asheville
Parents Against Teen Suicide- Clyde
Pisgah Girl Scout Council- Asheville
REACH of Haywood County- Waynesville
RSVP Mtn. Projects- Waynesville
Sr. Citizens Center Mtn Project- Canton
The FRIENDS Program- Balsam
The Salvation Army- Waynesville
The United Way of Greater High Point
Triangle United Way- Research Triangle Park
United Way of Alamance County- Burlington
United Way of North Carolina- Raleigh
United Way of Stanly County- Albemarle
United Way of Haywood County- Waynesville
United Way of Iradell County- Statesville
Western Carolina Women's Coalition- Asheville

North Dakota

Charles Hall Youth Services- Bismarck
Grand Forks, East Grant Forks, and Area United Way
United Way of Cass-Clay- Fargo

Ohio
Center for Child Abuse Prevention, Ohio Chapter
Family Counseling Services- Newark
Family Services- Akron
Family Services Council of Ohio- Columbus
Family Services Inc.- Hamilton
Family Service of Northwest Ohio- Toledo
Jewish Family Service- Dayton
Jewish Family Service- Cincinnati
Jewish Family Service Association of Cleveland
Shelby County United Way- Sidney
The Ohio Chapter of the National Committee to Prevent Child Abuse- Columbus
Ohio Jewish Communities- Columbus
United Way of Ashland County
United Way of Central Stark County- Canton
United Way of Defiance County
United Way of Greater Lima
United Way of Greater Lorain County
United Way of Marion County
United Way of Delaware County
United Way of Medina County
United Way of Portage County- Ravenna
United Way of Wooster, Inc.
Volunteers of America of Central Ohio
Volunteers of America Ohio River Valley
Oklahoma
Family and Children's Service, Inc.- Tulsa
United Way of Muskogee, Inc.
United Way of South Central Oklahoma- Ardmore
Oregon
United Way of Benton County- Corvallis
United Way of Clotsap County- Astoria
United Way of Jackson County- Medford
Pennsylvania
Arthritis Foundation- Pittsburgh
Beaver County Labor Council- Monaca
Beaver County Rehabilitation Center, Inc.- New Brighton
Berwich Area United Way
Bethany Children's Home- Wornelsdorf
Big Brother Big Sisters of Beaver County
The Bradley Center- Pittsburgh
Brighter Beginnings- Edinboro
Catholic Social Agency- Allentown
Commission on Economic Opportunity- Wilkes Barre
Community Legal Services, Inc.- Philadelphia
Family Enhancement Center- Plains
Family Service Association of Wyoming Valley- Wilkes Barre
Family Service of Chester County- West Chester
Family Services of Northwestern Pennsylvania- Erie
Family Service of Philadelphia

Homemaker-Home Health Aide Service of Beaver County, Inc.
Jewish Family and Children's Services- Philadelphia
Jewish Family and Children's Services of Greater Philadelphia
Jewish Family Service- Allentown
Just Harvest- Homestead
Lutheran Advocacy Ministry in Pennsylvania
Pennsylvania Alliance for Children and Families- Hummelstown
Penn's Woods Girls Scout Council- Wilkes Barre
Stand for Children, Pittsburgh Chapter Organizing Committee- Murrysville
United Way of Beach County- Monaca
United Way of Bucks County- Fairless Hills
United Way of the Capital Region- Harrisburg
United Way of Greater Johnstown, Inc
United Way of Lackawanna County- Scranton
United Way of Lawrence County- New Castle
United Way of Mon Valley- Monessen
United Way of Miflin-Juniata - Lewistown
United Way of Wyoming Valley- Wilkes Barre
Victims Resource Center- Wilkes Barre
Volunteers of America of Pennsylvania
Westmoreland County Community College Campus Children's Center- Youngwood
Women's Center of Beaver County
Wyoming Valley Children's Association- Wilkes Barre
YMCA of Beaver County- Beaver Falls

Rhode Island

Prevent Child Abuse Rhode Island- Pawtucket
United Way of Southeastern New England- Providence

South Carolina

Jewish Family Service- Columbia
Rock Hill United Way, Inc.
Tara Hall Home for Boys- Georgetown
Thornwell Homes and School for Children- Clinton
United Way of Greenwood
United Way of Sumter, Clarendon and Lee Counties

South Dakota

United Way and Volunteer Services- Yankton
Volunteers of America of Sioux Falls

Tennessee

United Way of Metropolitan Nashville

Texas

Buckner Children and Family Services- Dallas
Child and Family Guidance Centers- Dallas
Jewish Family and Children's Service- El Paso
Matagarda County United Way- Bay City
Martin Luther Homes- Austin
Pampa United Way
Parents Anonymous of the Big Country, Inc.- Abilene
United Way of Galveston, Inc.
United Way of Metro Dallas
United Way of Metro Tarrant County- Fort Worth

United Way of Texas- Austin
United Way of Tyler/Smith County

Utah

United Way of Davis County- Layton
Untied Way of the Great Salt Lake Area
Volunteers of America of Utah

Virginia

Alliance for Families and Children of Central Virginia- Lynchburg
Child Development Resources, Inc.- Norge
Eastern St. Hospital- Williamsburg
Family Service of Roanoke Valley
Hampton Roads Committee to Prevent Child Abuse- Norfolk
The Virginia Interfaith Center for Public Policy- Richmond
United Way of Central Virginia- Lynchburg
United Way of Southwest Virginia- Lebanon
United Way of Washington County- Abingdon

Washington

Jewish Family Service- Seattle
Lutheran Public Policy Office of Washington- Tacoma
United Way of Chelan and Douglas Counties- Wenatchee
Untied Way of Grays Harbor- Aberdeen
United Way of Lewis County- Centralia
United Way of Virginia's Eastern Shore- Melfa
United Way of Walla Walla County
Washington Association of Churches-Seattle

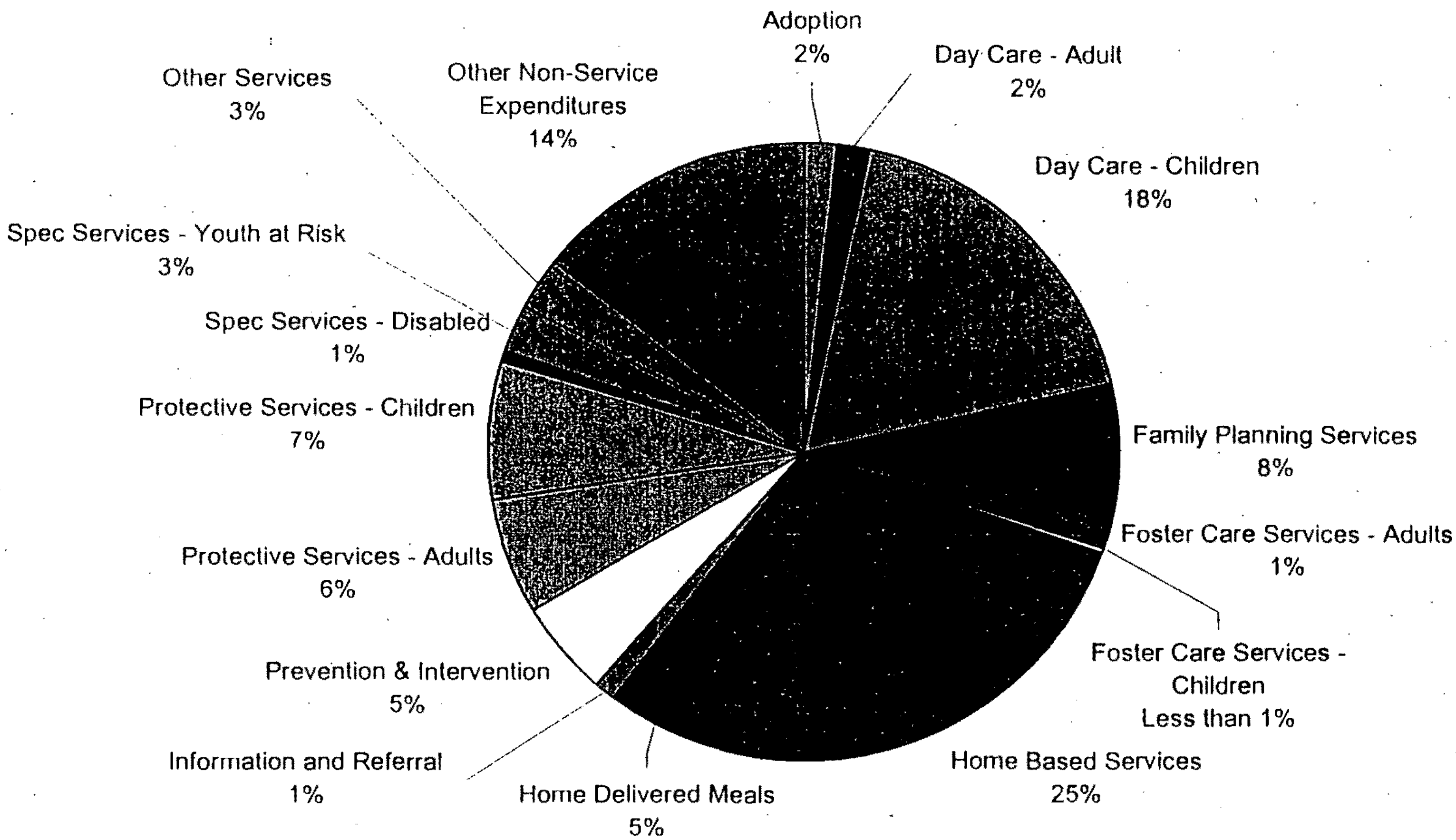
West Virginia

Morgantown Health Right
United Way of Berkeley and Morgan Counties, WV, Inc- Martinsburg

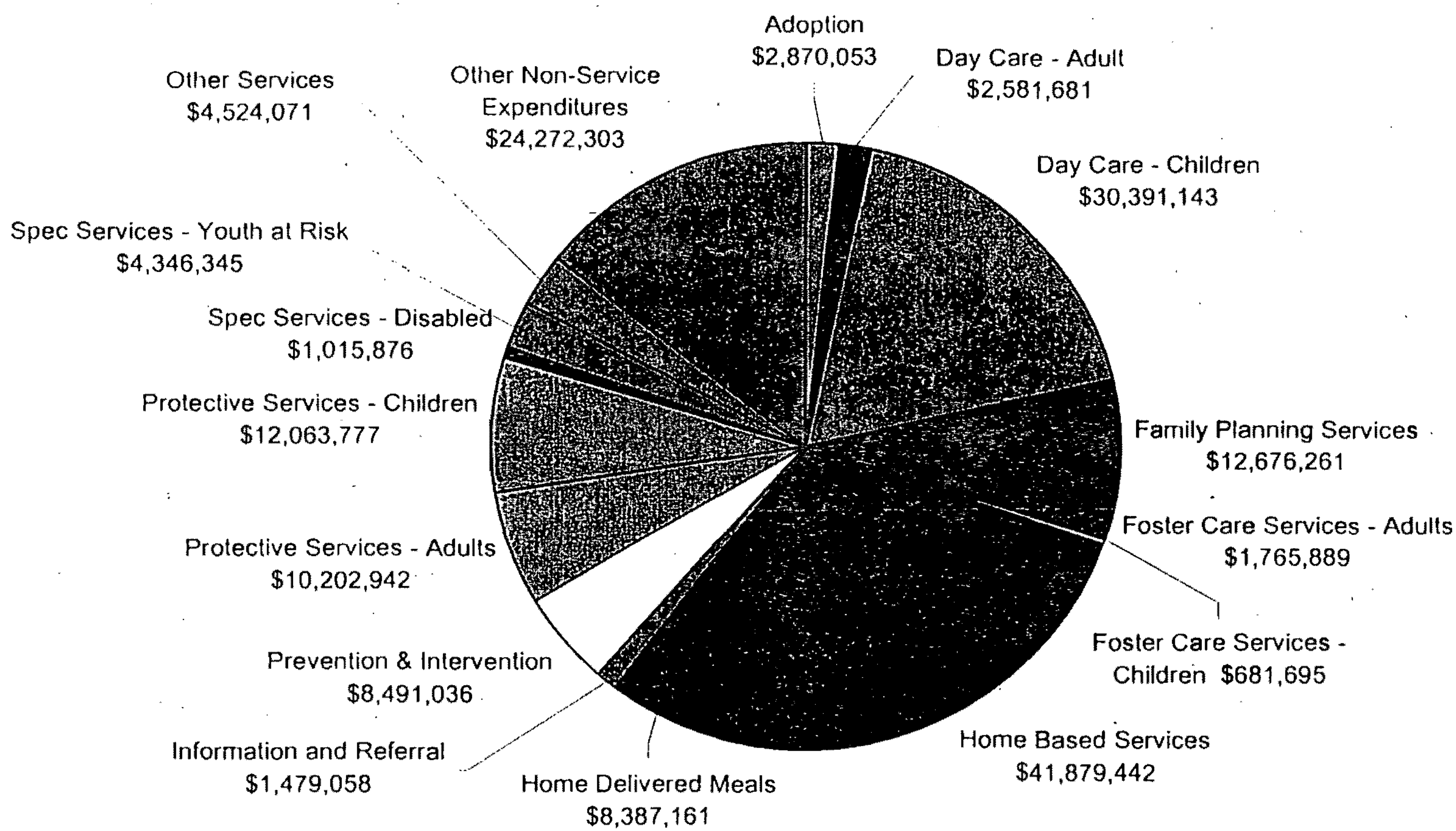
Wisconsin

Catholic Charities of the Diocese of La Crosse
Family Service of Northeast Wisconsin- Green Bay
Family Service of Racine
Lutheran Office for Public Policy in Wisconsin
United Way Fox Cities- Menasha
United Way of the La Crosse Area, Inc.
Wisconsin Council on Children and Families- Madison
Wisconsin Counties Association

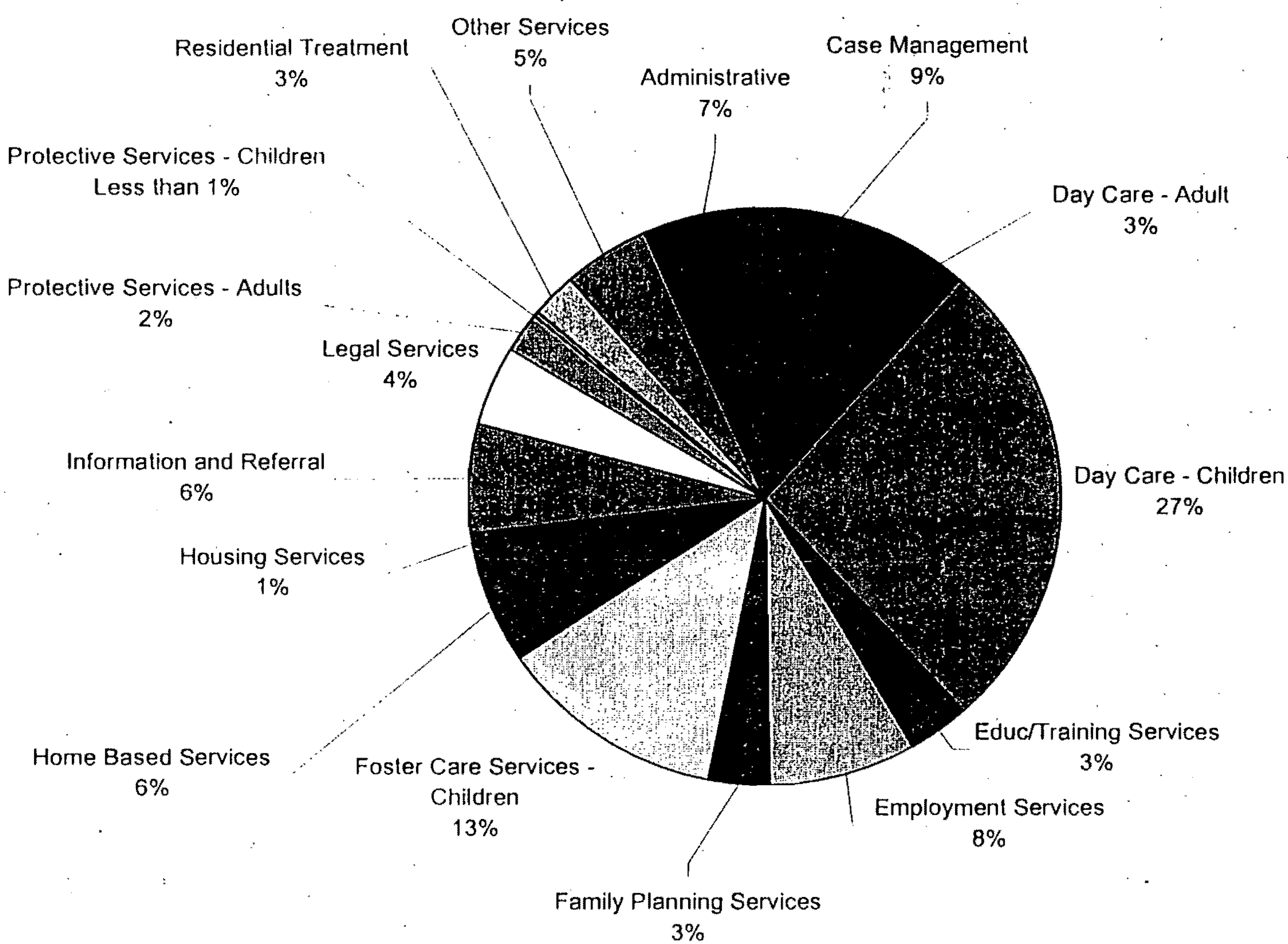
FY1997 SSBG Major Services in Texas



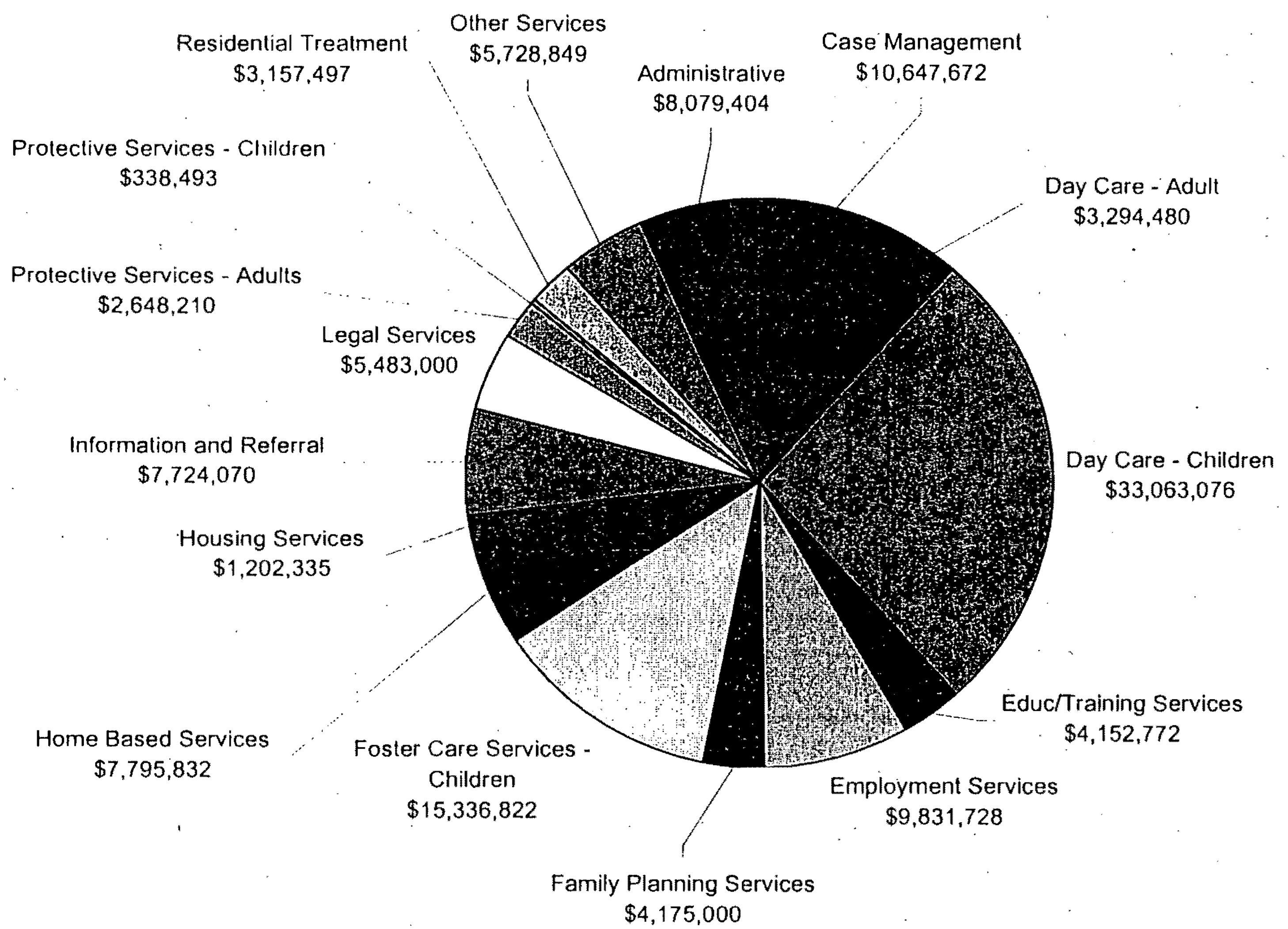
FY1997 SSBG Major Services in Texas



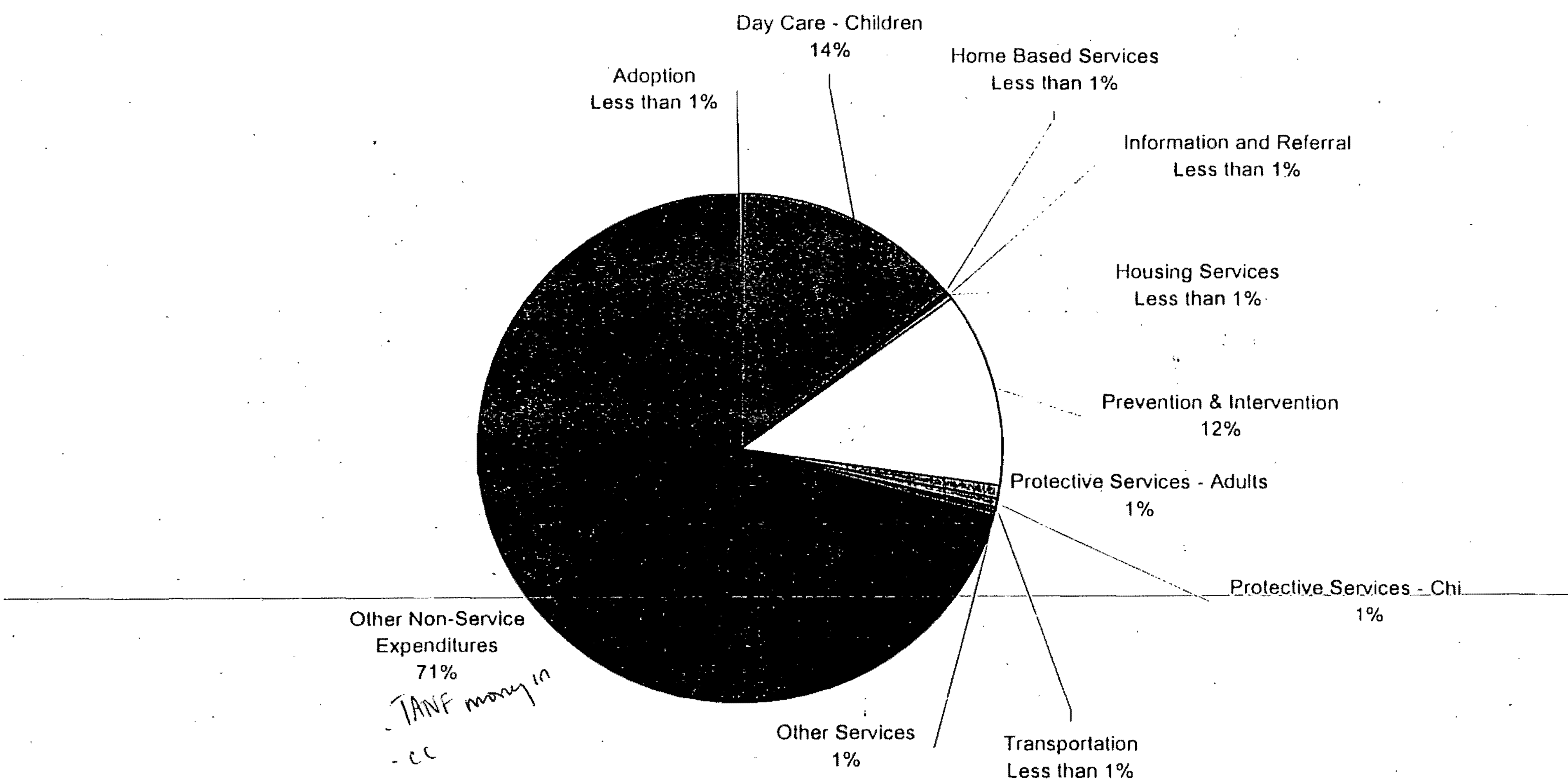
FY1997 SSBG Major Services in Pennsylvania



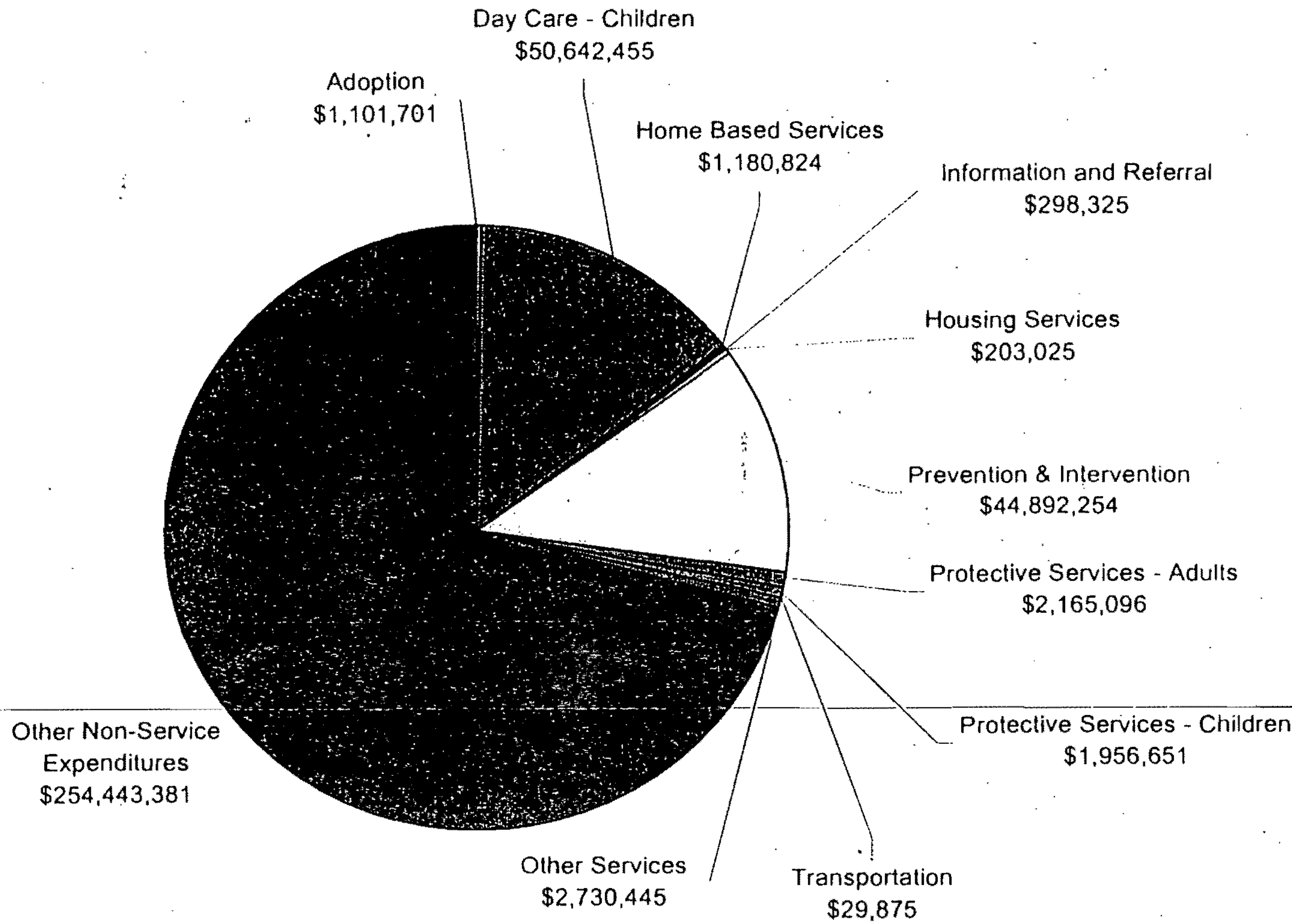
FY1997 SSBG Major Services in Pennsylvania



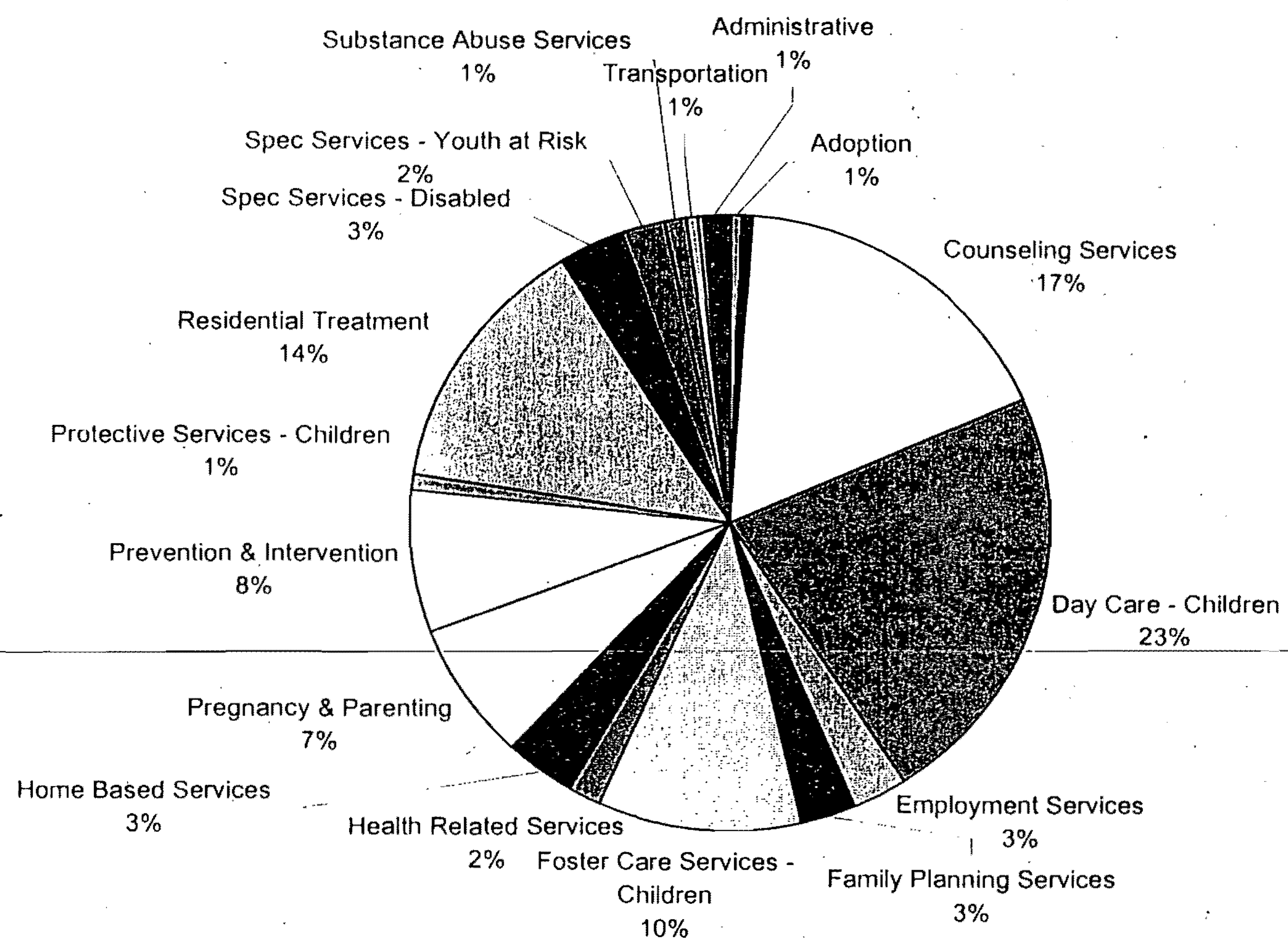
FY1997 SSBG Major Services in New York



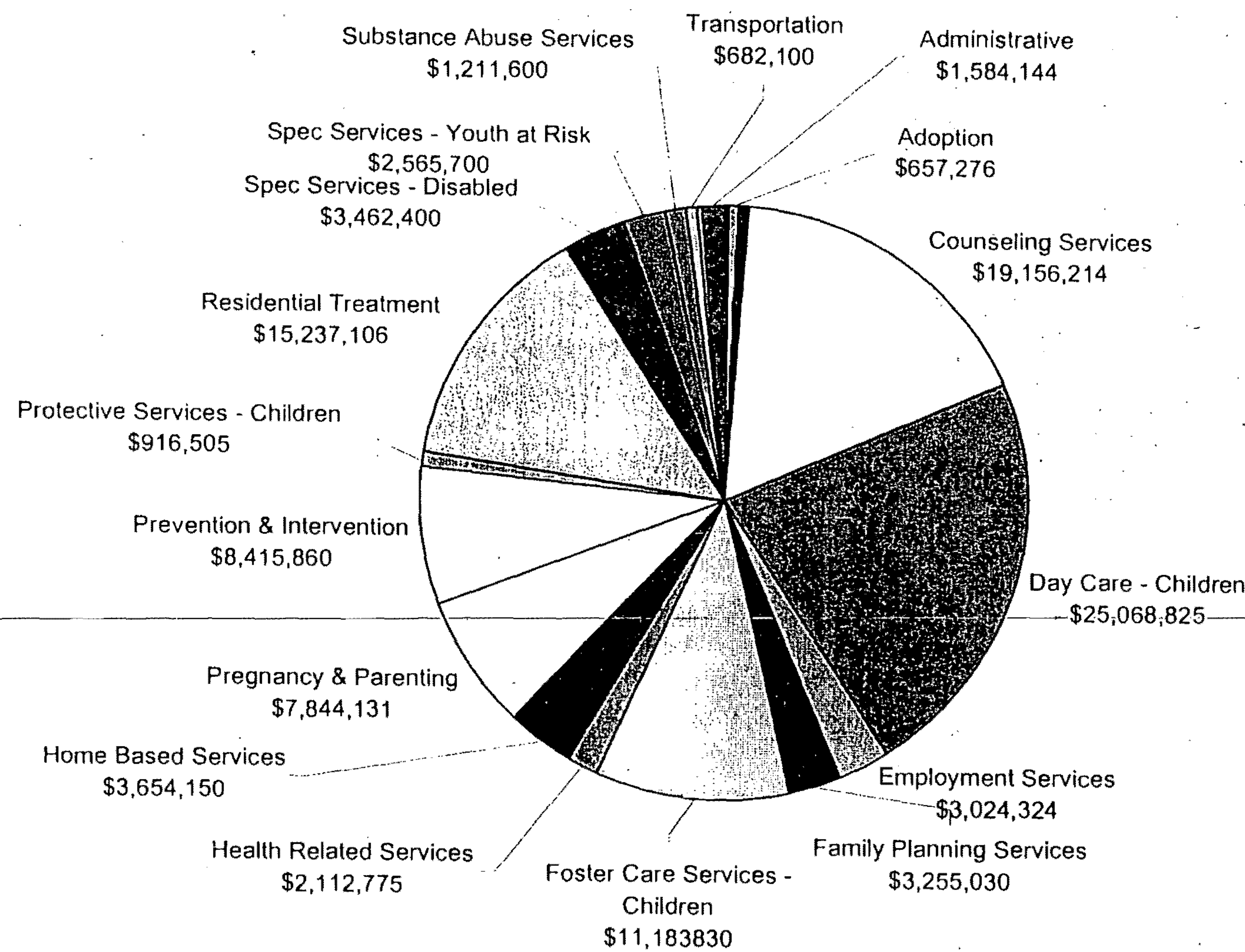
FY1997 Major SSBG Services in New York



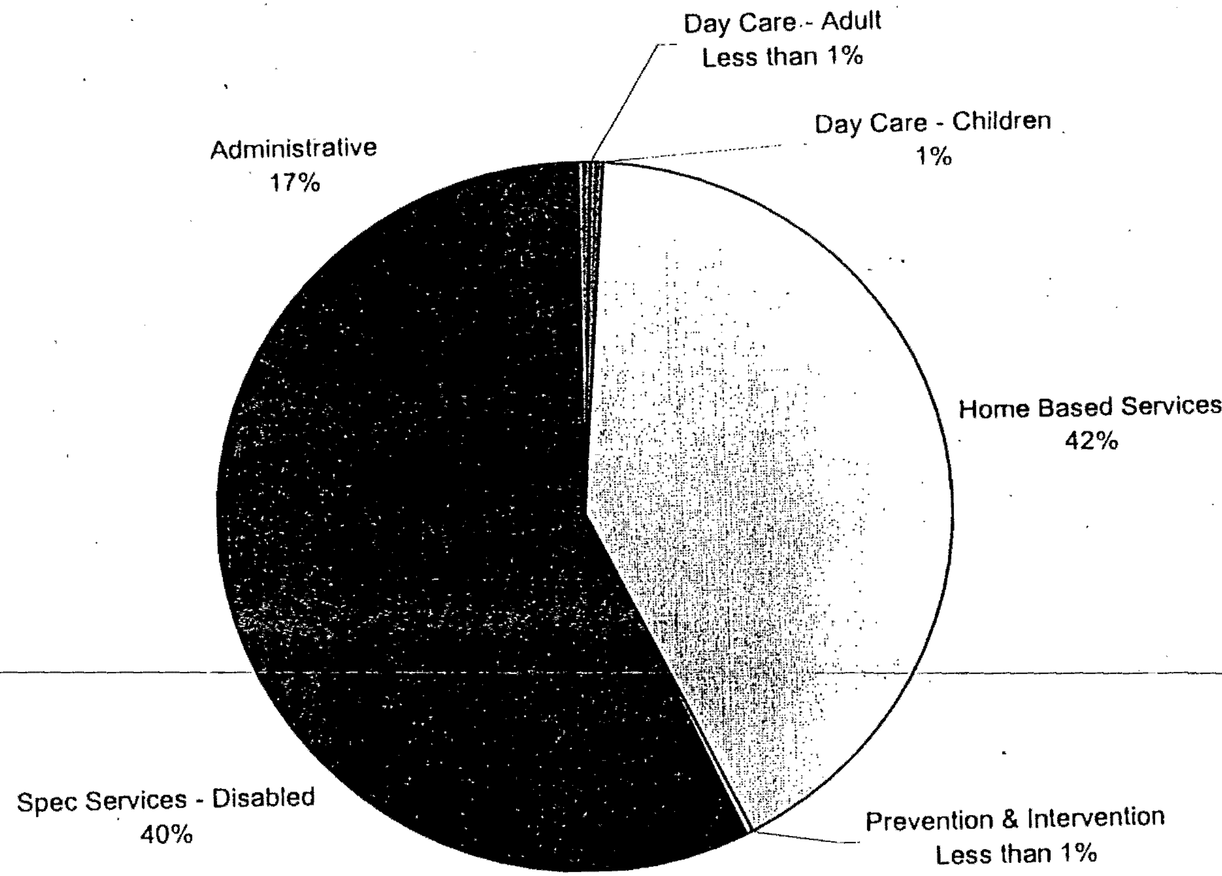
1997 SSBG Major Services in Illinois



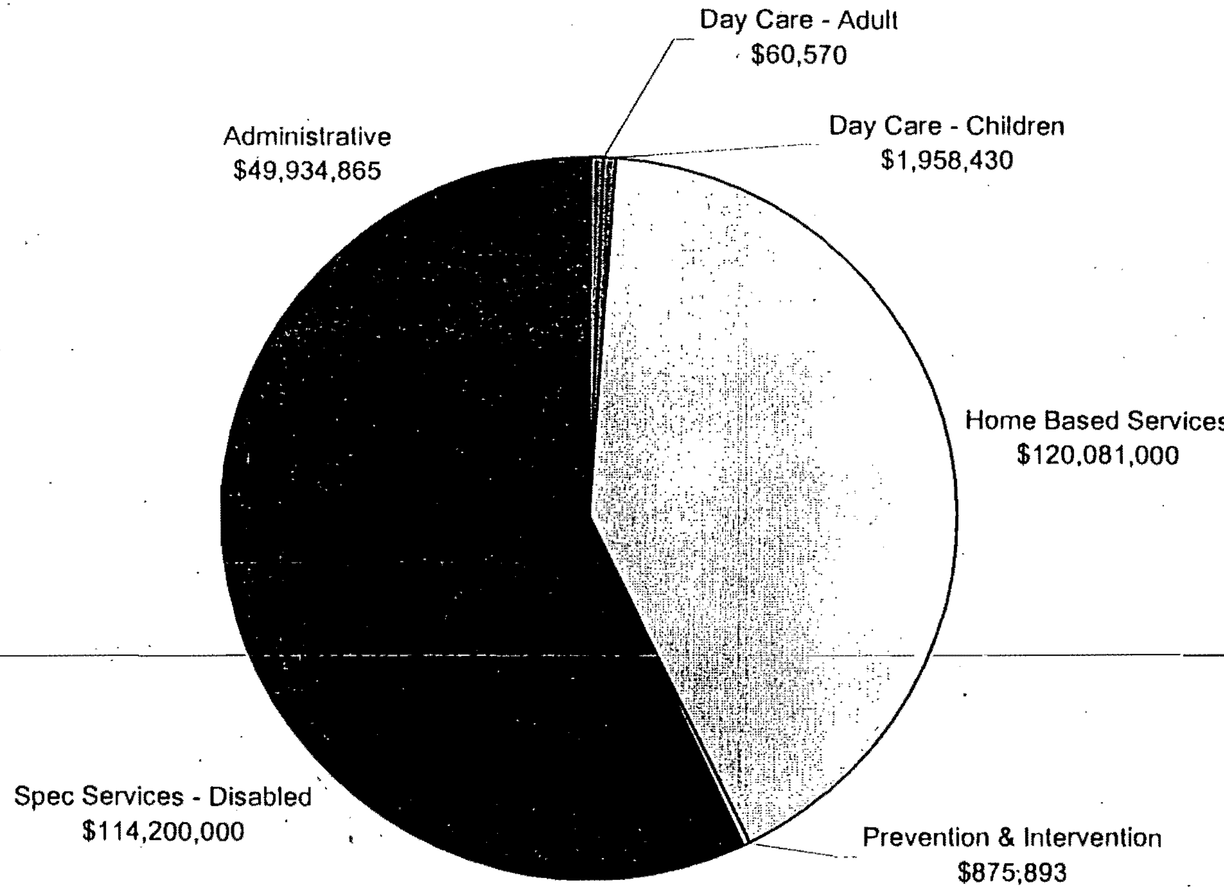
1997 SSBG Major Services in Illinois



FY1997 SSBG Major Services in California



FY1997 SSBG Major Services in California



Questions and Answers about the Social Services Block Grant in California

Q. How much of California's social service funding comes from Title XX?

A. Approximately 26% of California's social service funding comes from Title XX.

Q. What specific social services does California fund with Title XX?

A. Adoption services, day care for children, day care for adults, home-based services, prevention/intervention services, and special services for the disabled are the main services funded by Title XX in California.

Q. How many Californians receive Title XX services?

A. In 1995-96, the following number of people were served:

Service	Children Served	Adults Served
Adoption	26,411	22,460
Child Day Care	876,296	
Adult Day Care		25,460
Home-based Care	2,103	59,997
Prevention/Intervention	58,360	64,803
Special Services for Disabled	73,780	262,294

Q. How much Title XX funding has gone to each of these services?

A.

Service	1995	1997
Adoption	8 million	1.7 million
Child Day Care	2 million	2 million
Adult Day Care	64,000	61,000
Home-based Care	136 million	120 million
Prevention/Intervention	936,000	876,000
Special Services for Disabled	3.2 million	114 million

Q. How much Title XX funding has California lost in recent years?

A. In FY1996, California lost $51.6 million in Title XX funds.
In FY1997, California lost $15.5 million in Title XX funds.
In FY1998, California lost $9.7 million in Title XX funds.
In FY1999, California lost $56.4 million in Title XX funds.

Q. What percentage of TANF funds does California transfer to Title XX?

A. California transferred 5% of its TANF money into Title XX to the amount of $183 million.

Q. How would the proposed reduction in TANF transferability affect California?

A. California would lose the ability to transfer $214,628,604. California currently uses all of the money it transfers from TANF to fund child care services.

BPEXBL01 LAS/PBS SYSTEM
BUDGET PERIOD: 1990-2001
STATE OF FLORIDA

SOCIAL SERVICES BLOCK GRANT
APPROPRIATION CATEGORY SUMMARY
SFY'S 1998/1999 AND 1999/2000

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	COL A87 CURR YR EST EXP 1998 99 POS AMOUNT	COL G64 ACT APPR(3) 1999-2000 POS AMOUNT	CODES
CHILDREN & FAMILIES			60000000
DCF ADMINISTRATION			60400000
HUMAN SVCS PROG DEV			60400400
SALARIES AND BENEFITS			010000
SOCIAL SVCS BLK GRT TF......	27,044	27,044	2639
EXPENSES			040000
SOCIAL SVCS BLK GRT TF......	54,147	54,147	2639
TOTAL: HUMAN SVCS PROG DEV BY FUND			60400400
SOCIAL SVCS BLK GRT TF......	81,191	81,191	2639
STATEWIDE SERVICES			60500000
STATE AND LOCAL PROGRAMS -Abuse Registry			60500100
SALARIES AND BENEFITS			010000
SOCIAL SVCS BLK GRT TF......	3,512,827	1,761,593	2639
OTHER PERSONAL SERVICES			030000
SOCIAL SVCS BLK GRT TF......		210,563	2639
EXPENSES			040000
SOCIAL SVCS BLK GRT TF......	1,487,173	862,504	2639
OPERATING CAPITAL OUTLAY			060000
SOCIAL SVCS BLK GRT TF......		14,632	2639
DATA PROCESSING SERVICES			210000
DCF DATA CENTER			210008
SOCIAL SVCS BLK GRT TF......	474,146	475,216	2639
TOTAL: STATE AND LOCAL PROGRAMS BY FUND			60500100
SOCIAL SVCS BLK GRT TF......	5,474,146	3,324,514	2639
DISTRICT SERVICES			60600000
ADULT SERVICES			60600400
SALARIES AND BENEFITS			010000
SOCIAL SVCS BLK GRT TF......	4,726,751	4,726,751	2639
EXPENSES			040000
SOCIAL SVCS BLK GRT TF......	530,622	530,622	2639
TOTAL: ADULT SERVICES BY FUND			60600400
SOCIAL SVCS BLK GRT TF......	5,257,373	5,257,373	2639
FAMILY SAFETY & PRESERV			60600700
SALARIES AND BENEFITS			010000
SOCIAL SVCS BLK GRT TF......	44,464,485	28,710,744	2639
EXPENSES			040000
SOCIAL SVCS BLK GRT TF......	4,799,163		2639
SPECIAL CATEGORIES			100000
G/A-MED SVCS AB/NEG CHILD			100655
SOCIAL SVCS BLK GRT TF......	7,469,481		2639

	COL A87 CURR YR EST EXP 1998-99 POS AMOUNT	COL G83 ACT APPR(3) 1999-2000 POS AMOUNT	CODES
CHILDREN & FAMILIES			60000000
DISTRICT SERVICES			60600000
FAMILY SAFETY & PRESERV			60600700
SPECIAL CATEGORIES			100000
G/A-CONTRACTED SERVICES			100778
SOCIAL SVCS BLK GRT TF......	28,582,881	20,283,862	2639
HOUSEKEEPER SVCS/CHILDREN			101617
SOCIAL SVCS BLK GRT TF......	296,243		2639
G/A-INTENSIVE CRISIS CSL			101779
SOCIAL SVCS BLK GRT TF......	4,288,559	4,288,559	2639
G/A-LOCAL SERVICES PROGRAM			102010
SOCIAL SVCS BLK GRT TF......	60,706		2639
G/A-CHLD CARE-WKG PR/AT-RS			103079
SOCIAL SVCS BLK GRT TF......	3,703,588		2639
OUT OF HOME CARE			104065
SOCIAL SVCS BLK GRT TF......	10,777,074	48,479,443	2639
TOTAL: FAMILY SAFETY & PRESERV BY FUND			60600700
SOCIAL SVCS BLK GRT TF......	104,441,960	101,762,628	2639
DEVELOPMENTAL SERVICES			60600900
SALARIES AND BENEFITS			010000
SOCIAL SVCS BLK GRT TF......	167,128	167,128	2639
EXPENSES			040000
SOCIAL SVCS BLK GRT TF......	220,467	220,467	2639
SPECIAL CATEGORIES			100000
G/A-INDIVIDUAL & FAMILY			100179
SOCIAL SVCS BLK GRT TF......	12,518,342	12,518,342	2639
TOTAL: DEVELOPMENTAL SERVICES BY FUND			60600900
SOCIAL SVCS BLK GRT TF......	12,905,937	12,905,937	2639

	COL A87 CURR YR EST EXP 1998-99 POS AMOUNT	COL G84 ACT APPR(3) 1999-2000 POS AMOUNT	CODES
HEALTH, DEPT OF			64000000
CHILDREN'S MEDICAL SVCS			64300000
SALARIES AND BENEFITS			010000
SOCIAL SVCS BLK GRT TF......	2,147,162	2,147,162	2639
EXPENSES			040000
SOCIAL SVCS BLK GRT TF......	548,013	548,013	2639
SPECIAL CATEGORIES			100000
G/A-MED SVCS AB/NEG CHILD			100655
SOCIAL SVCS BLK GRT TF......		7,469,481	2639
CONTRACTED SERVICES			100777
SOCIAL SVCS BLK GRT TF......	93,539	93,539	2639
PCS-CLINIC/FIELD SVS			102935
SOCIAL SVCS BLK GRT TF......	1,519,724	1,519,724	2639
TOTAL: CHILDREN'S MEDICAL SVCS			64300000
BY FUND			
SOCIAL SVCS BLK GRT TF......	4,308,438	11,777,919	2639

BPEX9L01 LAS/PBS SYSTEM
BUDGET PERIOD: 1990-2001
STATE OF FLORIDA

SOCIAL SERVICES BLOCK GRANT
APPROPRIATION CATEGORY SUMMARY
SFY'S 1998/1999 AND 1999/2000

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	COL A87 CURR YR EST EXP 1998-99 POS AMOUNT	COL G64 ACT APPR(3) 1999-2000 POS AMOUNT	CODES
JUVENILE JUSTICE, DEPT OF			80000000
DISTRICT OPERATIONS			80300000
SALARIES AND BENEFITS			010000
SOCIAL SVCS BLK GRT TF......	9,865,600	47,339	2639
EXPENSES			040000
SOCIAL SVCS BLK GRT TF......	1,016,035	10,249	2639
SPECIAL CATEGORIES			100000
G/A-CONTRACTED SERVICES			100778
SOCIAL SVCS BLK GRT TF......	38,243,331		2639
G/A-CH/FAM IN NEED OF SVCS			103257
SOCIAL SVCS BLK GRT TF......	383,858	383,858	2639
TOTAL: DISTRICT OPERATIONS			80300000
BY FUND			
SOCIAL SVCS BLK GRT TF......	49,508,824	441,446	2639
JUV JUSTICE/ INSTITUTIONS			80350000
SALARIES AND BENEFITS			010000
SOCIAL SVCS BLK GRT TF......	1,846,843	1,826,516	2639
SPECIAL CATEGORIES			100000
G/A-CONT SVCS/DOZIER			100005
SOCIAL SVCS BLK GRT TF......	105,187	105,187	2639
G/A-CONT SVCS/OKEECHOBEE			100009
SOCIAL SVCS BLK GRT TF......	2,546,273	2,546,273	2639
TOTAL: JUV JUSTICE/ INSTITUTIONS			80350000
BY FUND			
SOCIAL SVCS BLK GRT TF......	4,498,303	4,477,976	2639
JUVENILE OFFENDER PROGRAM			80500000
SALARIES AND BENEFITS			010000
SOCIAL SVCS BLK GRT TF......		9,817,080	2639
EXPENSES			040000
SOCIAL SVCS BLK GRT TF......		1,005,786	2639
SPECIAL CATEGORIES			100000
G/A-CONTRACTED SERVICES			100778
SOCIAL SVCS BLK GRT TF......		38,243,331	2639
TOTAL: JUVENILE OFFENDER PROGRAM			80500000
BY FUND			
SOCIAL SVCS BLK GRT TF......		49,066,197	2639

- $9 million, for a total of $22 million, for the High School Equivalency Program for migrants and the College Assistance Migrant Program;
- $190 million, for a total of $575 million, for Adult Education, including $70 million to expand services and improve English as a second language and civics programs;
- $25 million, for a total of $380 million, for Title I-Migrant Education, which provides additional educational assistance to migrant children;
- $10 million for a Labor Department program to provide training and education assistance to migrant youth, including literacy assistance, worker safety training, English language assistance, and dropout prevention activities;
- $30 million, for a total of $630 million, for the TRIO programs that work with disadvantaged high school and college students to encourage them to complete high school and attend, and graduate from, college;
- $30 million, for a total of $150 million, for Comprehensive School Reform demonstrations in high-poverty schools, providing grants for research-proven reform efforts to schools that have low achievement and high dropout rates; and
- A portion of the Head Start expansion dollars will be used to boost participation by underepresented groups, particularly in areas with recent influxes of immigrants and limited-English proficient children, including seasonal farmworkers.

Postsecondary Education and Training

High school is the first stepping stone to a good job. However, those with more years of schooling consistently earn more over their working careers than those with only a high school degree. Meeting the cost of higher education can be difficult for many families, but Federal support through Pell Grants, work-study, student loans, Hope Scholarship and Lifetime Learning tax credits, other tax benefits, and other programs now make college affordable for every American. The budget proposes even more to help young people go to and stay in college.

College Preparation and Attendance: The budget proposes to double funding for GEAR-UP, the early intervention program based on the President's High Hopes proposal, from $120 million to $240 million in 2000. GEAR-UP provides funds for States and local partnerships to help students in high-poverty schools prepare for and attend college. The budget also provides $15 million for a Nationwide information campaign on the importance of higher education, the steps necessary to enroll in college, and the availability of Federal resources.

Hope Scholarship and Lifetime Learning Tax Credits: The President proposed and obtained major tax relief for the rising costs of higher education. With Hope Scholarships, students in the first two years of college or other eligible postsecondary training can get a tax credit of up to $1,500 for tuition and fees each year. In 1999, an estimated 5.5 million students will receive $4.5 billion in Hope Scholarship tax credits. Under the Lifetime Learning tax credit, students beyond the first two years of college, or those taking classes part-time to improve or upgrade their job skills, will receive a 20-percent tax credit for the first $5,000 of tuition and fees each year through 2002, and a 20-percent credit for the first $10,000 thereafter. In 1999, an estimated 7.2 million students will receive approximately $2.5 billion in Lifetime Learning tax credits.

Pell Grants: The President proposes to raise the maximum Pell Grant award by $125, to $3,250—the highest ever—to reach nearly four million low-income undergraduates.

Work-Study: In 1996, the President committed to expanding the Work-Study program to one million students by the year 2000 to give more students the opportunity to work their way through college. In this budget, the Administration reaches the goal of one million students by providing $934 million, a $64 million increase over the 1999 level.

College Completion Challenge Grants: The budget proposes $35 million for an initiative to help disadvantaged undergraduates succeed in school and complete their studies. Institutions of higher education that show they have already invested their own resources in persistence programs for at-risk students, but still experience a gap between the dropout rates of disadvantaged students and other students, may apply for competitive grants. Grants may be used to strengthen support services, provide larger grant awards, and/or offer an intensive summer program, for students at risk of dropping out of college.

Student Loans: An estimated 6.2 million people will borrow $41 billion through the Federal student loan programs in 2000. In the Higher Education Amendments of 1998, the President's proposal to significantly lower interest rates for borrowers on student loans was adopted, easing the burden of repayment for new borrowers and borrowers who consolidate. The budget also proposes net savings of $4.5 billion over five years from excess profits of banks, guaranty agencies and secondary markets, and through improved debt collection. (See also chapter 22, "Education, Training, Employment, and Social Services," for a discussion of student aid management issues.)

In 1993, the Adminsitration proposed and obtained authority to offer students the opportunity to consolidate multiple student loans into one direct loan with lower payments, much less paperwork, and more efficient servicing. The Administration has continued to improve the quality of servicing for these loans and, in 1998, obtained a still lower interest rate for students who consolidate. The budget proposes to extend this authority for lower rates through 2000.

Learning Anytime, Anywhere Partnerships: The budget includes $30 million ($20 million in the Education Department and $10 million in the Labor Department) for the second year of this program to enhance and promote learning opportunities outside the usual classroom settings, via computers and other technology, for all adult learners.

D.C. Resident Tuition Support: The budget proposes up to $17 million for D.C. Resident Tuition Support, a new initiative that would enable eligible District of Columbia residents to attend public institutions of higher education in Maryland and Virginia at in-State tuition. Under the initiative, the Federal Government would provide funds to reimburse these institutions for the difference between in-State and out-of-State tuition for students who are District residents.

Adult Literacy: The 1990 Census found that over 44 million adults did not have a high school degree or General Educational Development (GED) credential, without which it is increasingly difficult to obtain a good job. Illiteracy is a serious bar to employment and to obtaining citizenship for many legal immigrants. Throughout his tenure, the President has sought to improve the education and skills of the Nation's low-literate population. The budget proposes an increase for Adult Education of $190 million, or nearly 50 percent, for a total of $575 million. The increase will help recent immigrants learn English and give them instruction in civics to help prepare for citizenship, as well as support innovative uses of technology in adult education, and preparation for passing the GED examination. In addition, the budget includes a new tax credit for employers who provide certain workplace literacy programs to eligible adults.

Work Force Development

Many who lose jobs and need new jobs or new skills to get those jobs, adults who are seeking jobs for the first time, or adults who want new skills to advance or change their careers, need a broad array of financial and program supports—especially as workers strive to succeed in the fast-changing new economy.

Reemployment Services for All Who Need Them: In 2000, the President proposes a major step toward the goals of: providing all dislocated workers who want and need assistance the resources to train for or find new jobs; expanding and raising the quality of the employment services now available to all job seekers and enhancing them for individuals receiving Unemployment Insurance; and ensuring that One-Stop Career Centers are available to all, either in person or electronically. The budget includes increases totaling $368 million as a first step towards achieving this goal.

- *Dislocated Worker Training:* The budget proposes $1.6 billion, an increase of $190 million—over three times the amount available when the President took office—to provide readjustment services, job search assistance, training, and related services to help dislocated workers find new jobs as quickly as possible. Among the workers assisted by the program, and the proposed increase, are those displaced by trade and related causes.

- *Reemployment Services:* The budget proposes an increase of $53 million, for a total of $849 million, for grants to the State Employment Service system. The increase is targeted to expanding services to help workers receiving Unemployment Insurance benefits obtain the help they need in finding new jobs. In addition, $10 million is proposed for the new America's Agricultural Labor Network, an information system that helps growers to find workers and workers to find employment opportunities that meet their needs.
- *One-Stop Career Centers:* The budget includes $65 million for new methods of providing employment and related information through America's Labor Market Information System and the One-Stop system recently expanded in the Workforce Investment Act. Activities include a "talking" America's Job Bank for the blind, mobile service centers for sparsely populated areas, and a 1–800 service for easier access to information to upgrade skills. Also included is $50 million to help the disabled return to work (see Work Incentive Assistance Grants discussion later in this chapter).

Welfare-To-Work: To help reach the Temporary Assistance for Needy Families program's employment goal for the severely disadvantaged welfare recipients, the Administration sought, and Congress provided to the Labor Department, a total of $3 billion in 1998 and 1999. The budget provides $1 billion for 2000 to continue the effort and provide non-custodial parents of children on welfare the work and employment services they need to help support their children.

Trade Adjustment Assistance (TAA): The budget proposes consolidating, reforming, and extending the TAA and NAFTA-Transitional Adjustment Assistance (NAFTA-TAA) programs for workers who lose jobs due to trade policies. It would expand eligibility for TAA benefits to cover workers who lose jobs when plants or production shifts abroad; raise the statutory cap on training expenses; and add a contingency provision to ensure that the Federal Government has sufficient funds to finance any unexpected increase in benefit costs for eligible workers. The budget proposes to increase funding for the TAA programs by $151 million in 2000 to a total of $465 million.

Unemployment Insurance (UI): These programs are the major source of temporary income support for laid-off workers. Experienced workers who lose their jobs generally are eligible for up to 26 weeks of unemployment benefits at an average benefit of $210 a week. An estimated 8.3 million people will draw benefits in 2000.

A recent dialogue involving the States, employers, workers, and the Federal Government identified a number of possible system improvements. The budget includes several initial system changes as evidence of the Administration's commitment to program reforms and its desire to work with stakeholders and the Congress to develop a broader legislative proposal for the future. That proposal should be developed within the overarching goal of budget neutrality and should be based on the following principles: 1) expanding coverage and eligibility for benefits, 2) streamlining filing and reducing tax burden where possible, 3) emphasizing reemployment, 4) combating fraud and abuse, and 5) improving administration.

Youth Programs: The budget provides specialized support to help disadvantaged youth prepare for college and careers.

- *Youth Opportunity Grants:* Youth Opportunity Grants address the special problems of out-of-school youth, especially in inner-cities and other areas where jobless rates can top 50 percent. The budget includes $250 million for the second year of competitive grants. Included in the funding is $20 million for Rewarding Achievement in Youth—a new initiative to provide comprehensive employment training, counseling and education services to over 9,000 academically high-achieving, low-income youth. Encouraging school completion, this program will provide students who excel academically extended summer employment opportunities and the opportunity to earn an end of the summer bonus.

- *Job Corps:* The Job Corps provides intensive, vocational skills training, integrated with academic and social education, and support services to severely disadvantaged young people in a structured residential setting. The budget proposes $1.3 billion, an increase of $38 million over the 1999 level.

- *Youth Activity Formula Grants:* Recognizing that the traditional division of youth formula funding between the summer and year-round programs constrained the ability to construct comprehensive youth training programs, the WIA consolidated the funding streams of these two programs into a single formula grant. Funded at $1 billion, this program will continue to provide essential job opportunities to roughly 578,000 urban and rural disadvantaged youth through year-round training and summer jobs.

- *Right-Track Partnerships:* The budget includes $100 million for a new competitive grant in the Department of Labor designed to prevent youth from dropping out of school, and to encourage those who have already dropped out to complete their high school education. Strong partnerships will be formed between the private sector, the schools, and community-based organizations to tailor services to local needs. Special emphasis will be placed on the needs of limited-English proficient youth.

- *School-to-Work:* Funded and administered jointly by the Education and Labor Departments, this initiative has made over $1.7 billion available since 1995 to build comprehensive systems that link Federal, State, and local activities to help young people move from high school to careers or postsecondary training and education. The budget proposes $110 million to complete the scheduled final year of Federal funding.

Encouraging Work for People with Disabilities

To advance the ability of people with disabilities to have full opportunity to participate in, contribute to, and reap the benefits of a growing economy, this budget provides a new package of work incentives, and builds upon current programs for people with disabilities.

The Work Incentives Improvement Act: The budget includes a comprehensive package of work incentives modeled after legislation developed by Senators Jeffords and Kennedy in 1998. The package forms the centerpiece of the President's initiative to provide economic opportunities to people with disabilities.

- *Health Insurance Protections for Working Disabled:* Many people with disabilities want to work, but working can end their access to critical services provided by Medicaid or Medicare. Others incur prohibitive costs associated with work, such as extra personal assistance and assistive technology. The budget improves access to health care for people with disabilities who work by allowing States to expand Medicaid coverage to additional categories of workers with disabilities. States offering new coverage options would receive grants to develop systems that support people with disabilities who return to work, and to build the capacity of States and communities to provide home- and community-based services. The budget also allows Social Security Disability Insurance (DI) recipients who return to work to retain Medicare Part A coverage indefinitely, as long as they remain disabled.

- *Ticket-to-Work:* The budget includes a new program to encourage new partnerships to help DI and Supplemental Security Income (SSI) disabled beneficiaries re-enter the workforce. Currently, most beneficiaries who could benefit from employment-related services are referred to State Vocational Rehabilitation agencies. Under the proposal, beneficiaries can choose from a variety of participating public or private employment-related service providers, which would then be reimbursed with a share of the DI and SSI benefits saved once these individuals leave the rolls.

- *DI Benefit Offset Demonstration:* The budget includes a demonstration project that reduces an individual's DI benefits by $1 for each $2 earned above a specified level. Under current law, a DI beneficiary in the extended period of eligibility who earns more than the "substantial gainful activity" level, currently $500 a month, does not receive a cash benefit.
- *Work Incentive Assistance Grants:* Competitive grants (totaling $50 million a year) would be awarded to partnerships of organizations in every State, including organizations of people with disabilities, to help One-Stop Career Centers and Workforce Investment Boards provide a range of high-quality services to people with disabilities working or returning to work. Such services include benefits planning and assistance and providing information on services and work incentives (e.g., availability of transportation services in the local area) available in the public, private, and nonprofit sectors.

Tax Credit for Workers with Disabilities: The budget proposes a $1,000 tax credit for workers with disabilities or their spouses. Workers with disabilities usually have extra costs associated with working—special transportation or personal assistance to get to and from work, for example. This credit helps compensate for these costs.

In addition, the largest non-benefit proposals for improving the education and employment of people with disabilities are $5.4 billion for Special Education, described earlier in this chapter, and $2.3 billion for Vocational Rehabilitation. Other enhancements include a combined increase of $4.5 million for the President's Committee on the Employment of People with Disabilities, the Task Force on Employment of Adults with Disabilities, the National Council on Disability, the National Technical Institute for the Deaf, and Gallaudet University. The set aside for children with disabilities in Head Start increases from $590 million in 1999 to $667 million. The Department of Justice's Disability Rights Section funding increases by 26 percent, for a total of $14 million.

International and Domestic Child Labor and International Labor Standards Activities

Continuing the Administration's commitment to improving the working conditions of children at home and abroad, the budget proposes $16 million in additional funding to address this issue. In addition, the budget proposes $40 million for a new initiative targeted at raising international labor standards to enhance economic stability abroad.

International Child Labor Activities: The budget continues to provide $30 million for the Labor Department to enable the International Labor Organization's International Programme to Eliminate Child Labor to expand its work into more countries and industries. The five-year initiative, which began in 1999, provides a $150 million investment which will help reduce the incidence of exploitative and abusive child labor. The budget proposes $10 million for a new School Works program for the U.S. Agency for International Development to assist developing countries with high levels of abusive child labor to enroll and retain these children in basic education, as part of comprehensive strategies to eliminate child labor. The budget also proposes $2 million over the 1999 level to enable the Customs Service to enforce the law banning the import of goods made with forced or bonded child labor.

International Labor Standards Activities: The budget proposes $25 million to help the International Labor Organization create a multilateral technical assistance program to help developing countries implement core labor standards and build their own social safety nets, and $10 million for the Labor Department to provide technical assistance on these same issues in support of important U.S. bilateral relationships. In addition, the budget provides $5 million for the Economic Support Fund to establish a grant program to promote innovative approaches to eliminating overseas sweatshops.

Domestic Child Labor Activities: The budget continues $9 million for the Labor Department, including $4 million to help eliminate domestic violations of child labor laws, particularly in the agriculture sector, and $5 million for demonstration programs to provide alternatives to field work for migrant youth.

In addition, the budget proposes $4 million for the Department of Labor to increase its current enforcement and compliance assistance efforts in the agriculture and garment industries which are focused on increasing compliance with labor standards, including child labor.

4. SUPPORTING WORKING FAMILIES

> *More and more parents of young children are in the workplace, either because they're single parent households, or because both parents have to work to make ends meet, or because both parents choose to work and they ought to have that choice.*
>
> *But there is no more important responsibility ... than making sure every American can balance the dual responsibilities succeeding as parents and succeeding at work. There is no more significant challenge.*
>
> President Clinton
> January 1998

In the final year of this century, the fruits of the President's hard work on the economy are evident throughout the Nation, with higher wages, lower interest rates, and unemployment at almost record lows. For much of the country, this wave of prosperity has provided new opportunity. There have been benefits for many, for the college graduate starting a career, as well as the long-term welfare recipient taking a first job. But we still have more work to do to ensure that this economic boom provides equal advantages to all. And for working parents, many of whom have benefitted from the opportunities of this growing economy, there are also strains as they try to balance the twin demands of work and family. The President remains committed to helping working families, as well as those who are low-income and at-risk of falling into dependency, so that they too can enter the next century with justified optimism.

The Administration will continue efforts to address the needs of these Americans—to build a foundation that encourages and supports work and responsibility. The President believes that a central challenge we face at the dawn of the 21st Century is to help the growing number of working parents with young children meet their responsibilities and succeed both at work and at home.

The Administration has already taken significant steps in this direction, with a major expansion of the Earned Income Tax Credit, a new child credit, a boost in the minimum wage, expansions of Head Start, after school programs and child care centers, and significantly increased participation in the Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants and Children (WIC). In 1996, the President signed the historic Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act (PRWORA), reforming the Nation's welfare system into one that requires and rewards work and responsibility, provides increased flexibility to States to administer work-focused welfare programs, expands funds for child care, and strengthens child support enforcement provisions. Meanwhile, the economy has created almost 18 million new jobs in the past six years, increasing the number of working families, and providing new opportunities for those leaving welfare.

By proposing and working to enact the Family and Medical Leave Act, the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act, and the Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP), this Administration has enabled parents to respond to illness in the family without running the risk of job loss, to change jobs without forfeiting their health insurance, and to secure health insurance for their children when they could not otherwise afford it.

But there are still key areas in which working families need more help, especially in finding safe and affordable child care. Last year, the President proposed a major child care initiative, with new grants and tax credits for working families. His agenda was clear: to ensure that low- and middle-income parents could afford to purchase child care, and to ensure that their children entered school ready to learn. Regrettably, despite the need for these measures, Congress only took action on a small part of this proposal. Because the President remains committed to helping parents meet the twin demands of work and family, he will propose a comparable Child Care Initiative for 2000.

In addition, the President will propose measures to help groups of low-income and at-risk individuals—homeless and runaway youth, older foster care children, legal immigrants, families moving from welfare to work, and battered women and their children. The budget will assist over 100,000 runaways and foster care youth in their efforts to become self-sufficient, expand and strengthen the network of battered women's shelters, strengthen early intervention by the educational system for disabled children, provide employment assistance to non-custodial parents of children on welfare, and support an array of critical services to thousands of low-income families through the Social Services Block Grant.

Expanding Child Care

In 1999, the Administration obtained $173 million to help States improve the quality of child care, $10 million for child care research, and an increase of $160 million for the Education Department's after-school/summer school program. The budget proposes a full range of further increases and new policies to increase spending and tax incentives by $3.6 billion over 1999 (see Table 4–1).

The Child Care Initiative

More Affordable Child Care: The President proposes to make child care more affordable by expanding the Child and Dependent Care Tax Credit for middle-income families with child care costs and for parents who stay home with their young children, providing tax credits for businesses to expand their child care resources, assisting parents who want to attend college meet their child care needs, and increasing funds with which the Child Care and Development Fund can help more poor and near-poor children.

Child and Dependent Care Tax Credit (DCTC): The DCTC Credit helps around 5.5 million families cover their child care costs each year. The budget proposes to expand the credit so that it offers more help for families with incomes below $59,000. The budget also proposes further expansion of this tax credit to help parents stay home to raise a young child. These two proposals would provide tax credits worth $6.3 billion over five years.

Tax credits for private employers: To make child care services more widely available, the budget proposes $500 million in tax credits over five years for private employers that expand or operate child care facilities, train child care workers, contract with a child care facility to provide child care services to employees, or provide child care resource and referral services to employees.

Child Care and Development Fund: Federal child care funding has risen by 80 percent under this Administration, providing child care services for 1.25 million children from low-income working families or whose parents are moving from welfare to work. The budget would increase funds for the Child Care and Development Fund by $1.2 billion, to a total of $4.5 billion in 2000, and by $7.5 billion over the next five years, enabling the program to provide child care subsidies for 500,000 more poor and near-poor children in 2000. These new funds, combined with the child care funds provided in welfare reform beginning in 1997, will enable the program to serve 2.4 million children by 2004, an increase of over one million since 1997.

College campus-based child care: To help increase low-income parents' access to higher education, the budget includes $5 million for the new Child Care Access Means Parents in School program to establish and support child care services on college campuses. States may also use a share of the Child Care and Development Fund for this purpose.

Exclusion of employer contributions for child care expenses: Under current law, parents can exclude up to $5,000 of employer-provided child care expenses from their taxable income and Social Security earnings. The exclusion

Table 4–1. THE BUDGET SUPPORTS A $3.6 BILLION INCREASE IN RESOURCES FOR CHILD CARE, 27 PERCENT OVER 1999

(Budget authority, dollar amounts in millions)

	1999 Estimate	2000 Proposed	Dollar Change: 1999 to 2000	Percent Change: 1999 to 2000
Spending:				
Discretionary and Mandatory Budget Authority:				
Child Care, including $183 million increase for quality activities and research[1]	3,167	3,550	+383	+12%
Child Care Supplement	....	1,155	+1,155	NA
Head Start	4,660	5,267	+607	+13%
Early Learning Fund	....	600	+600	NA
21st Century Community Learning Centers	200	600	+400	+200%
Special Education	5,334	5,450	+116	+2%
College Campus-Based Child Care	....	5	+5	NA
Child Care Apprenticeship Program	4	5	+1	+25%
Developmental Disabilities Special Projects, State Support Systems	4	4	....	*
Total Spending	13,369	16,636	+3,267	+24%
New Tax Expenditures:				
Expansion of Child and Dependent Care Tax Credit, Including Assistance to Stay-At-Home Parents[2]	....	338	+338	NA
Tax Credits to Private Employers	....	40	+40	NA
Total Tax Expenditures	....	378	+378	NA
Total	**13,369**	**17,014**	**+3,645**	**+27%**

NA = Not applicable.

* Less than 0.5 percent

[1] Includes discretionary Child Care and Development Block Grant and mandatory Child Care Entitlement to States.

[2] Includes elimination of household maintenance test.

will provide nearly $8 billion in benefits over five years.

Helping meet the cost of raising a child: The Child Credit, which the President proposed and Congress enacted as part of the 1997 Taxpayer Relief Act, helps working parents raise their children by providing $500 per child for all children under age 17. The credit, which will provide nearly $93 billion in tax benefits over the next five years, will help 26 million families with over 40 million children.

New Emphasis on Early Learning: The budget provides new funds to improve the safety and well-being of young children, including the new Early Learning Fund that grew out of the White House Conference on Early Childhood Development and Learning and continued expansion of the highly successful Head Start program.

Early Learning Fund: The Early Learning Fund responds to the scientific research presented at the White House Conference on Early Child Development and Learning in April 1997, indicating that a child's experiences in the first three years of life profoundly affect his or her brain development. The budget proposes $3 billion over five years for the Fund, which would provide grants to communities for activities that improve early childhood education and the quality and safety of child care for children under five years old. For example, the money can fund innovative efforts to meet the developmental needs of children, with a focus on language development, emergent literacy, and other child development activities aimed at improving readiness for school. Resources could also fund parent education in child development, home visits, and efforts to help child care centers become accredited and reduce child-to-staff ratios in child care.

Head Start: Head Start, one of the President's highest priorities, is America's premier early childhood development program. It supports working families by helping parents get involved in their children's educational lives and providing services to the entire family. Since 1993, the President has worked with Congress to increase annual Head Start funding by 68 percent. In 1999, Head Start will serve 835,000 low-income children, including up to 38,000 children under age three in the Early Head Start component that the President launched in 1995. The budget proposes to expand Head Start funding by $607 million in 2000 and add 35,000 Head Start pre-school slots and 7,000 Early Head Start slots. The Administration intends to increase participation by underrepresented groups in specifically targeted areas with recent influxes of immigrants and limited English proficient children, including seasonal farmworkers. The proposed increase invests in program quality improvement measures and makes further progress toward the President's goal of enrolling a million children in Head Start by 2002, including doubling the number of infants and toddlers in Early Head Start.

School-Age Care and Improved Educational Achievement: The President proposed, and Congress agreed in 1999, to expand 21st Century Community Learning Centers to enable 1,700 schools to open their doors before and after the traditional school day and in the summer. Instead of returning to empty houses, or playing on unsafe streets, a quarter of a million children will participate in safe, drug-free programs that combine learning, enrichment, and recreational activities. The budget proposes to triple funding for this program to $600 million, reaching nearly 7,500 schools, as part of a comprehensive approach to help fix failing schools and help end social promotion the way successful schools do it—without harming the children. Under the President's proposal, school districts with comprehensive policies in place to end social promotion will receive priority in the grant-making process. After-school and summer school programs are a critical tool in ending social promotion because they give students who are not on track an opportunity to get extra help so they can meet promotion standards.

Safety and Quality in Child Care: The President and Congress worked together to pass legislation to improve the safety of children by making it easier for States to conduct background checks on child care workers and to provide new funds for child care quality activities in 2000.

National crime prevention and privacy compact: Congress recently passed legislation, based on a proposal from the White House Conference on Child Care, to help build a new electronic information sharing partnership among Federal and State law enforcement. This legislation makes background checks on child care providers (and other non-criminal justice checks) more efficient and accurate by eliminating some of the barriers that have made it difficult for States to share information about the criminal backgrounds of job seekers.

Increasing investments in child care quality: In response to the President's request, Congress provided an increase for 2000 of $173 million for child care quality activities, in addition to the nearly $132 million that will already be available for these activities in 2000. States invest these dollars in improving child care quality through activities such as resource and referral for parents, scholarships and training for child care providers, monitoring and inspection of providers, networks for family day care providers, and linkages with Head Start, to name a few.

Services for Families of Children with Disabilities: Children with disabilities and their families face a broad range of obstacles to achieving educational success. Ensuring that the educational needs of the youngest children with disabilities are fully met is critical to the Administration. (For a discussion of the Administration's work incentives initiative for disabled individuals, see Chapter 3, "Investing in Education and Training.")

Special Education: The budget proposes $5.4 billion for special education, including an increase over last year's budget of $116 million targeted toward improving educational results for children with disabilities through early intervention. These new funds provide a $50 million initiative to help schools implement research-based practices to serve children with disabilities in the primary grades. The budget also provides increases of $28 million for Preschool Grants and $20 million to the Infants and Families program.

Families of Children with Disabilities: The budget continues a $4 million program proposed last year by the President and funded by Congress to help the families of children with disabilities. This program provides grants to States to expand and modify their Statewide support systems to help these families address such problems as inadequate child care options, missed job training and job opportunities, the loss of medical assistance, and teen pregnancy.

Research on Childhood Development and Child Care: Research on child care, and dissemination of its findings, is critical to support State and local policy makers in their decision-making about child care and to help parents learn how to evaluate and where to find quality child care. At the President's request, Congress has already provided $10 million for a new Research and Evaluation Fund in 2000, which will provide consumer education, parent hotlines, and research activities to expand our knowledge of good policies and practices, including the types of child care settings, parent activities, and provider training that most benefit the early development of children.

Promoting Self-Sufficiency

Supporting Children Leaving Foster Care: An estimated 20,000 children leave foster care each year having reached the age of 18 without being adopted or finding another permanent relationship. These youth are troubled. Studies that examined former foster youth two to four years after leaving care found that only half had completed high school, less than half were employed and only about 40 percent had held a job for one year or more. One-fourth had been homeless at least one night, 60 percent of the females had given birth, and fewer than one-in-five were completely self-supporting.

The budget provides a four-part program to support children leaving the foster care system:

- *Independent living.* This program provides services to assist current and former foster children ages 16 to 21 who are making the transition to independence by earning a high school degree or participating in vocational or other training. The budget provides $105 million, a 50-percent increase over the 1999 level, which has been unchanged since 1992.
- *Comprehensive residential transition assistance.* The budget provides a new capped mandatory program of competitive grants for States to support living expenses of youth in these programs who otherwise lose such support at age 18 or under other circumstances. The new program is funded in 2000 at $5 million, increasing to $20 million by 2003.
- *Transitional living grants.* This program provides shelter and services to homeless youth ages 16 to 21. The budget increases funding to $20 million, an increase of $5 million over 1999.
- *Medicaid coverage.* Medicaid coverage for children receiving foster care assistance generally ends at age 18. The lack of health insurance limits their ability to make a successful transition out of foster care. The budget gives States the option of covering these children up to age 21.

Curtailing Violence Against Women: Since 1993, funding for services to victims of domestic and sexual violence has grown by nearly $400 million and the passage of the Violence Against Women Act of 1995 expanded the Government's role in supporting services and providing scientific knowledge to prevent and treat violence against women. The budget proposes an increase of $26 million to further strengthen and increase the availability of battered women's shelters and counseling services, increase culturally appropriate services in under-served populations, and expand resources for research and prevention activities aimed at changing the social norms that allow this violence to occur. These new funds will allow programs addressing violence against women to serve an additional 40,000 women, children, and perpetrators.

Restoring Equity in Benefits for Legal Immigrants

The President believes that legal immigrants should have the same opportunity, and bear the same responsibility, as other members of society. Upon signing the 1996 welfare law, he pledged to work toward reversing the harsh, unnecessary cuts in benefits to legal immigrants that were unrelated to the goal of moving people from welfare to work. As part of the 1997 Balanced Budget Act (BBA), the President worked with Congress to restore Medicaid and Supplemental Security Income (SSI) to hundreds of thousands of disabled and elderly legal immigrants. The next year, the Noncitizens' Benefit Clarification and Other Technical Amendments Act restored eligibility to additional legal immigrants. In response to the Administration's request, last year's Agricultural Research Bill restored food stamp benefits to 225,000 elderly, disabled, and other needy immigrants, including 70,000 children who lawfully resided in the United States as of August 22, 1996.

As a result of the 1996 law, however, many legal immigrants, including disabled individuals and families with children, are not eligible for health and disability benefits. The budget provides $1.1 billion over five years to let States provide health care to legal immigrant children, to restore SSI eligibility to legal immigrants with disabilities, and to restore Food Stamp eligibility to certain aged immigrants. The SSI and related Medicaid benefits in the budget that apply to immigrants who entered the country after August 1996, and became disabled thereafter, would only start after five years of residence.

Health Care: As described in Chapter 5, the budget would let States provide health coverage to legal immigrant children and pregnant women under Medicaid and, in the case of children, CHIP. Currently, States can provide health coverage to legal immigrants who entered the country before the welfare law was enacted. But, immigrants who entered after the law was enacted cannot get benefits for five years. Under these proposals, States could provide health coverage to those children and pregnant women through Medicaid or through CHIP.

Supplemental Security Income (SSI): The budget would provide approximately $925 million over five years to restore SSI and related Medicaid to legal immigrants who entered the country after August 22, 1996, lived in the United States for more than five years and became disabled after entry. Currently, only legal immigrants who entered the country before August 22, 1996 can be found eligible for SSI disability benefits.

Food Stamps: The budget provides $60 million over five years to ensure that legal immigrants in the United States as of August 22, 1996, are eligible for food stamp benefits once they reach age 65.

Continuing Support for Working Families

The Child Care Initiative, the restoration of benefits to legal immigrants, and expanded efforts to assist low-income families, at-risk youth and victims of domestic or sexual violence in attaining self-sufficiency, all build on a strong base of support for at-risk and working families, a priority area in which the President's work with Congress has achieved significant results in the past five years. That support includes a broad array of tax incentives to encourage and support work as well as legislation to, among other things, enable workers to care for a newborn and fulfill other family responsibilities; raise the minimum wage; reduce welfare caseloads by nearly four million, enable workers to retain their health insurance; and provide health insurance to up to five million uninsured children. (For the broader discussion of the health care expansions, see Chapter 5, "Strengthening Health Care.")

Support Through the Tax System: Over the last five years, the Administration has worked with Congress to expand the number and size of tax incentives to encourage work and support working families (see Table 4–2).

Tax incentives for work: The budget proposes to extend, through June 30, 2000, the Welfare-to-Work Tax Credit, which the President and Congress created as part of the Taxpayer Relief Act of 1997. It focuses on those who most need help—long-term welfare recipients—by letting employers claim a tax credit on the first $10,000 a year of wages that they pay, for up to two years, for workers they hire who were long-term welfare recipients. The credit is 35 percent on the first year's wages, rising to 50 percent on the second year's wages. In addition, the budget would extend through June 30, 2000, the Work Opportunity Tax Credit, which provides a credit of 40 percent on the first $6,000 of wages paid to members of eight more target groups.

Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC): The Federal Government is committed to helping those who work to meet the cost of raising their children. The EITC helps to meet this goal by supplementing the earnings of working families. In his 1993 economic program, the President proposed and Congress enacted legislation to substantially expand the credit, helping 15 million low-income working families. The Administration remains committed to ensuring that this program is managed fairly and accurately. The Administration is currently implementing a series of EITC error-reduction initiatives, including the provisions enacted in the Taxpayer Relief Act of 1997. The EITC will provide $167 billion of tax benefits over the next five years to low-income working families.

Helping Families Move from Welfare to Work: The President has led successful efforts to remove obstacles that have hindered families trying to make a successful transition from welfare to self-sufficiency.

Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF): The President signed the Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act (PRWORA) in 1996, and States have refocused their welfare systems to support work. Welfare caseloads have fallen by over four million since President Clinton signed the welfare reform law, and by well over 40 percent since he took office. Recent data from the Census Bureau's Current Population Survey show large increases in the rate of employment both for individuals on welfare and those leaving welfare. The Administration is proposing to replace the current TANF contingency fund with one that could more effectively respond to State needs in the event of an economic downturn.

Table 4–2. THE BUDGET INCLUDES $286 BILLION OVER FIVE YEARS IN SUPPORT FOR FAMILIES WITH CHILDREN THROUGH THE TAX SYSTEM[1]

(In millions of dollars)

	1998 Actual	Estimate						Total 1999–2004
		1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	
Tax Expenditures								
Existing Law:								
Earned Income Tax Credit[2, 3]	28,928	30,734	31,222	32,172	33,258	34,374	35,576	166,602
Child Tax Credit[2]	3,525	19,155	19,253	18,926	18,643	18,198	17,580	92,600
Child and Dependent Care Tax Credit	2,485	2,455	2,425	2,395	2,365	2,340	2,310	11,835
Exclusion of Employer Contributions for Child Care Expenses	1,325	1,385	1,445	1,510	1,575	1,645	1,715	7,890
Proposed Legislation:								
Expand Child and Dependent Care Tax Credit, Including Assistance to Stay-At-Home Parents[4]	....	....	338	1,585	1,425	1,471	1,503	6,322
Tax Credits for Private Employers	....	....	40	84	114	131	140	509
Simplify Foster Care Definition under EITC	....	....	–2	–42	–44	–46	–47	–181
Total	**36,263**	**53,729**	**54,721**	**56,630**	**57,336**	**58,113**	**57,777**	**285,577**

[1] Does not include interaction effects between provisions.
[2] Includes tax expenditures and effect on outlays.
[3] Excludes credit for workers who do not live with children.
[3] Includes elimination of household maintenance test.

Welfare-to-Work (WtW) Grants: Because of the President's leadership, the 1997 Balanced Budget Act included $3 billion requested by the President for a new Welfare-to-Work grants program. WtW provides grants to States and local communities to help long-term, hard-to-employ welfare recipients, and certain non-custodial parents, secure lasting, unsubsidized employment. Funds are used for job creation, job placement, job retention, and other post-employment support services. The budget proposes $1 billion more for this program in 2000.

Welfare-to-Work Transportation: One of the biggest barriers facing people who move from welfare to work—in cities and in rural areas—is finding transportation to get to jobs, training programs and child care centers. The President's leadership on this issue helped secure funding through 2003 to assist States and localities in developing flexible transportation alternatives, such as van services, for welfare recipients and other low income workers. The budget proposes $150 million for this program in 2000.

Welfare-to-Work Housing Vouchers: In his 1999 budget, the President proposed $283 million for 50,000 new housing vouchers for welfare recipients who need housing assistance to get or keep a job, and Congress approved full funding for this new initiative. Families will use these housing vouchers to move closer to a new job, to reduce a long commute, or to secure more stable housing to eliminate emergencies that keep them from getting to work every day on time. The budget proposes $144 million for an additional 25,000 vouchers, bringing the total number of welfare-to-work vouchers to 75,000 in 2000.

Individual Development Accounts: Since 1992, President Clinton has supported the creation of Individual Development Accounts (IDAs) to empower individuals to save for a first home, post-secondary education, or to start a new business. The President signed into law last year legislation providing $10 million to get the program off the ground. The budget provides $20 million for IDAs.

Social Services Block Grant: The President's Budget proposes to fund the Social Services Block Grant (SSBG) at its fully authorized level of $2,380 million, increasing funding levels by $471 million over last year. SSBG provides funding to States to support a wide range of programs including child protection and child welfare, child care, and services focused on the needs of the elderly and the disabled. The inherent flexibility of this grant permits States to target funds to meet the specific needs in their communities. The Administration will work with the States to improve reporting and accountability for services provided with these funds.

Continued Nutrition Assistance for Infants and Children: The Administration has continued to target resources to infants and children. The Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants and Children (WIC), for example, reached nearly 7.4 million persons each month in 1998 and the budget proposes $4.1 billion to serve 7.5 million people through 2000, fulfilling the President's goal of full participation in WIC. (See Chapter 5, Strengthening Health Care, for more information on WIC.)

Increasing Parental Responsibility Through Child Support Enforcement: The President's campaign to ensure that parents support their children is working. In 1997, the number of paternities established rose to nearly 1.3 million, and child support collections have gone up 80 percent since the President took office, to an estimated $14.4 billion in 1998. In 1998, net Federal costs for child support enforcement were $1.2 billion.

The budget will build on this success by helping Federal authorities investigate child support cases and prosecute more parents who fail to meet their responsibilities. The budget provides $34 million over five years to fund an eightfold increase in U.S. Attorney legal support staff dedicated to child support, and additional funds in 2000 to support the Department of Health and Human Services' establishment of regional task forces to investigate and refer cases for prosecution. To improve the child support program's effectiveness and cost efficiency, the budget also conforms the match-rate for paternity testing with the lower administrative match-rate; repeals the guarantee to States of their 1995 level of collections; and starting in 2001, requires States to review support orders for families receiving

TANF every three years. Net Federal savings of these proposals total $409 million over five years.

Shortly after the Administration concludes on-going consultations with stakeholders in April 1999, it will submit a proposal to Congress and work on a bipartisan basis to enact child support financing legislation based on the following five principles: 1) maximize collections and support for all families in the program, including the hardest to serve; 2) maximize paternity establishment, financial and medical support establishment, collections on current support and on arrears, and cost efficiency; 3) give priority to increasing payments to families, while ensuring Federal budget cost neutrality; 4) create incentives for adequate State and local investment of staff and resources needed for improved program performance; and 5) promote national standards and ease of interstate case processing, while maintaining State flexibility.

Better Benefits in the Workplace: The President has led successful efforts to ensure a living wage for all American workers while expanding their ability to care for their families and protect their health care benefits.

Family and Medical Leave (FMLA): In early 1993, the President proposed, and Congress enacted, the Family and Medical Leave Act, which allows workers to take up to 12 weeks of job-protected, unpaid leave to care for a newborn or adopted child, attend to their own serious health needs, or care for a seriously ill parent, child, or spouse—making it less likely that employees will have to choose between work and family. The budget proposes expanding FMLA to reach workers in firms with over 25 employees, expanding coverage to 10 million more workers. In addition, the budget proposes providing resources to the Department of Labor to research: (1) the impact this law has had on the American family; and (2) how to make leave accessible and affordable for more of America's working families.

Ensuring equal pay: The budget proposes a $14 million equal pay initiative to focus additional resources to provide employers with the necessary tools to assess and improve their pay policies and to educate the public on the importance of this issue as well as their rights and responsibilities. (See Chapter 9, "Building One America", for additional information on this initiative.)

Minimum wage: In 1996, the President successfully sought a minimum wage increase that gave a big financial boost to full-time, full-year minimum wage workers, raising the pay of each by approximately $1,800 a year. In February 1998, the President proposed to further raise the minimum wage to $6.15 an hour by the year 2000. Increasing the minimum wage by one dollar in two equal steps simply restores the real value of the minimum wage to what it was in 1981. This increase will help ensure that as costs continue to increase parents who work hard and play by the rules can bring up their children out of poverty. The President remains strongly committed to increasing the minimum wage and will work with Congress to ensure the enactment of this vital increase.

Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act: Working with Congress, the President in 1996 obtained landmark legislation, known as HIPAA, which provides important health insurance protections for an estimated 25 million Americans who move from one job to another each year, as well as those who are self-employed or who have pre-existing medical conditions. HIPAA reformed the private insurance market to ensure that workers have portable health benefits and insurers are less able to deny coverage due to pre-existing conditions. Combined with the Taxpayer Relief Act, HIPAA also made it easier for self-employed persons to get health insurance.

ments, reducing hard copies of materials that now must be printed and mailed by at least a third;

- By July 2000, test a multi-year promissory note for student loans to streamline application procedures, minimize delays in receiving funds, and provide better consumer information for borrowers; and
- By December 1999, establish, with its partners in the financial aid community, mutually agreed upon industry-wide standards for data exchanges needed in administering student aid.

Student Loan Defaults: In recent years, the Education Department has made great progress in reducing defaults and increasing collections from defaulters. The national student loan cohort default rate used for institutional eligibility dropped for the sixth straight year to 9.6 percent for 1996, down from 10.4 percent for 1995 and from 22.4 percent in 1990. This dramatic reduction is due, in large part, to the Education Department's improved institutional oversight that has led to the removal of 1700 schools from all student aid programs and 300 additional schools from only the loan programs. In addition, the department has implemented rigorous recertification standards for institutions to participate in the student aid programs. As a result, it has rejected about a third of initial applications to participate in the student aid programs over the last three years—twice the rate in 1990.

- In 2000, the default rate will remain below 10 percent.

Student Aid Income Verification: In 1999, in accordance with the Higher Education Amendments of 1998, the Secretary of Education and the Secretary of Treasury will begin development of methods by which Education can reduce fraud and improve eligibility determinations through access to IRS data. In addition, the 2000 budget proposes a new debt collection initiative through use of the New Hire Data Base (in HHS) that will increase collections by approximately $1 billion over five years.

Direct Loan Consolidations: By relying more on performance-based contracting, the Education Department is ensuring the availability of this option to borrowers in repayment to consolidate multiple loans into single loans at lower interest rates and with greatly reduced paperwork. The Department is also improving the loan consolidation process by improving the accuracy of its data, strengthening managerial controls through better tracking and reporting, increasing the number and expertise of consolidation contractor staff, and speeding up the loan certification process. As a result of new procedures, the department now averages just under 60 days to complete a loan consolidation application.

- In 2000, the average time to complete a loan consolidation application will continue to be no more than 60 days.
- In 2000, surveys of borrowers will show that the majority of applicants for loan consolidation are highly satisfied with the timeliness and accuracy of the loan consolidation process. In 1998, 60 percent of applicants were highly satisfied.

Adult Education: Federal adult education programs assist adults to become literate and obtain the knowledge and skills necessary to attain employment and self-sufficiency, to be better parents, and to complete their secondary education. The new Adult Education and Family Literacy Act places a strong emphasis on performance and accountability, and States must now establish annual performance targets for the educational achievement of participating adults. States that meet or exceed their targets in adult education and other Federal workforce development programs are eligible to receive special incentive grants. The budget proposes $575 million for adult education, an increase of $190 million over 1999.

- By 2000, 40 percent of the adults in beginning level adult basic education, adult secondary education, and English as a second language (ESL) programs will achieve basic skill proficiency, earn a diploma or General Educational Development (GED) credential, or achieve basic English proficiency. In 1998, 28 percent of the adults in basic education, 38 percent of those in secondary education, and 27 percent of those in ESL programs achieved basic skill proficiency, earned a diploma or GED, or achieved basic English proficiency.

- By 2000, 300,000 participating adults will enroll in further academic education and/or vocational training compared with 175,000 in 1998. Also by 2000, 300,000 participating adults will get a job or retain or advance in their current job, compared with 268,000 in 1998.

Vocational Rehabilitation Services: The Vocational Rehabilitation program provides funds to States to help individuals with disabilities prepare for and obtain gainful employment. In 1997, the program helped to rehabilitate 211,520 individuals with disabilities. The program has not had consistent performance goals and measures of progress. The budget includes $2.7 billion for Vocational Rehabilitation. Starting in 1999, as a result of the program's reauthorization in 1998, all States will develop challenging State-specific goals based on a comprehensive assessment of the vocational rehabilitation needs of individuals with disabilities in the State, describe the strategies it will use to address those needs, and report on progress made towards those goals. State agencies will begin reporting progress toward achieving those goals in 2000.

- In 2000, about 750,000 individuals will be served, approximately the same number as in 1999.

Labor Department

Elementary, secondary, and postsecondary investments enable Americans to acquire the skills to get good jobs in an increasingly competitive global economy. In addition, most workers acquire more skills on the job or through billions of dollars that employers spend each year to enhance worker skills and productivity. However, some workers also need special, targeted assistance. In addition to Pell Grants, student loans, and tax credits, the Federal Government spends nearly $7 billion a year through Department of Labor (DOL) programs that finance job training and related services. Workers who want to learn about job openings can use the State Employment Service and One-Stop Career Center System and DOL's popular America's Job Bank (AJB) website, which lists over 900,000 job vacancies every day and has over six million job searches each month.

The Workforce Investment Act (WIA) of 1998: The WIA takes full effect on July 1, 2000 as the Job Training Partnership Act is repealed and all States will be implementing the requirements of the WIA. The WIA reflects the principles the President sought in his GI Bill for America's Workers proposal including: the streamlining of services; empowering individuals with the information and resources they need to choose the training that is right for them; providing universal access to a core set of employment services such as job search assistance; increasing accountability; ensuring a strong role for the private sector and the local boards who develop and over-see programs; facilitating State and local flexibility; and improving the quality of youth job training services.

DOL has launched several longitudinal evaluations of its job training programs over the past two decades, including major impact evaluations of the Job Corps and Dislocated Worker Assistance programs. Past studies have found mixed, but generally positive results.

While impact evaluations are the best measure of program effectiveness, DOL also sets annual performance goals for its major job training programs. Performance goals for 2000 will continue to emphasize placement in unsubsidized employment, employment retention, and earnings levels.

Reemployment Services: This budget includes funding for new initiatives to ensure that (1) every displaced worker would receive training he or she want and need; (2) every person who lost his or her job due to no fault of his or her own could get the re-employment services; and (3) every American would have access to One-Stop Career Centers.

WIA's Dislocated Worker Employment and Training Activities: This program will provide training and employment services to about 840,000 displaced workers in 2000. The budget proposes $1.6 billion for dislocated workers, an increase of $190 million over 1999.

- In 2000, about 74 percent of those who receive services will be working three months after leaving the program, earning an average hourly wage that represents

93 percent of the wage in their previous job.

Employment Service/One-Stop Career Centers: The Employment Service provides a free labor exchange for all workers and job seekers, and is growing more effective through implementation of One-Stop Career Centers. The budget proposes $1.048 billion for these activities.

- In 2000, continue to expand the One-Stop Career Center System to include 60 percent of all local employment service and WIA offices, compared to 16 percent in 1997, and to increase the number of employers listing jobs with the American Job Bank (AJB) website by 19 percent over the 1998 level while expanding the basic One-Stop concept. The new concept for 2000 will include access through a toll-free number, access to AJB for the blind, mobile One-Stops, and on-line job information made available at Community-Based Organizations.

Work Incentive Assistance Grants: In order to enhance the prospects of employment for individuals with disabilities, the budget includes $50 million for competitive grants to partnerships or consortia in each State to provide new services and information sources for people with disabilities who want to return to work. These partnerships would work with the One-Stop system to augment its capabilities to provide timely and accurate information that people with disabilities need to get jobs and to learn about the benefits available to them when they return to work. In addition, the partnerships would help improve local service delivery by coordinating the various State and local agencies and disability organizations which help ensure persons with disabilities are prepared to enter or reenter the workforce. Performance goals and measures will be developed with the grantees.

WIA's Adult Employment and Training Activities: This program currently helps about 380,000 low-income individuals get training, support services, and job placement assistance. The budget proposes $955 million for adult programs.

- In 2000, about 64.8 percent of those who receive services will be working three months after leaving the program, with weekly earnings averaging $361.

Right Track Partnership: The budget includes $100 million for this new initiative designed to prevent youth from dropping out of school and encourage those who already have to return to school and complete their high school education.

- In 2000, the Right Track Partnership program will provide grants to serve 100,000 economically disadvantaged and Limited English Proficiency youth ages 14–21. From baseline data developed for each grantee, RTP will increase the rate at which these youth reenter, complete, and excel in high school through integrated Federal, State, local, public and private sector efforts.

Youth Opportunity Grants: The Youth Opportunity Grants initiative addresses the special problems of out-of-school youth, especially in inner-cities and other areas where unemployment rates are high. The budget provides $250 million for this program.

- The Department will develop with each successful applicant a goal for a substantial increase in the rate of employment for youth in the program area, as well as improvement in the rate at which participants return to high school, go on to college, receive vocational training that leads to a good job, or go in to the military.

Job Corps: The Corps provides skill training, academic and social education, and support services in a structured, residential setting to approximately 70,000 very disadvantaged youth a year at 121 centers:

- In 2000, about 85 percent of graduates will get jobs or pursue further education. This compares with 75 percent in 1999. In addition, 70 percent of those students will still have a job or will be pursuing education 90 days after their initial placement date.

School-to-Work: All States are implementing school-to-work systems, using the five-year Federal venture capital grants to devise new collaborations between schools and the private sector. By June 1997, over 805,000 students in 2,200 high schools throughout the nation, as well as 200,000 employers, participated in School-to-Work systems.

- In 2000, the final year of school-to-work funding, all States will have completed the portion of their Statewide systems financed with Federal funds. Two million youth will be actively engaged in school-to-work activities, 500,000 more than in 1999, and 40 percent of high schools will offer key school-to-work components, an increase of five percent over 1999.

Workplace Protections: DOL regulates compliance with various laws that give workers certain workplace protections—a minimum wage for virtually all workers, prevailing wages and equal employment opportunity for workers on government contracts, overtime pay, restrictions on child labor, and time off for family illness or childbirth. In these areas, the Federal Government is working to increase industry's compliance with labor protections through voluntary compliance initiatives (coupled with continued strong enforcement), outreach to new and small business, and targeted enforcement in specific industries, with specific measurable goals.

- In 2000, increase compliance by five percent (compared to baseline) among employers who were previously violators and the subject of repeat investigations in targeted health care, garment, and identified agricultural commodities.

International Child Labor: The budget proposes $52 million in additional funding to continue the Administration's commitment increasing opportunity to improving work conditions for children and raising international labor standards.

- Increase the implementation of core labor standards in five countries in 2000.

Welfare-to-Work: Moving people from welfare to work is a primary goal of Federal welfare policy. In addition to the $16.5 billion per year provided through the Temporary Assistance for Needy Children Program, the President obtained $3 billion to help achieve this goal through Welfare-to-Work (WtW) grants in fiscal years 1998 and 1999. These grants provide welfare recipients with the job placement services, transitional employment, and job retention and support services they need to achieve economic self-sufficiency. The budget includes $1 billion to extend WtW in 2000.

- In 2000, an estimated 56 percent of participants will be placed in unsubsidized employment.

Department of Health and Human Services

Head Start: Head Start gives low-income children a comprehensive approach to child development, stressing language and cognitive development, health, nutrition, and social competency. Head Start is administered by the Administration for Children and Families (ACF) in the Department of Health and Human Services. ACF is one of the Vice President's High Impact Agencies (see Section IV). The 2000 budget provides $5.3 billion for Head Start, a $607 million increase over the 1999 level.

- In 2000, Head Start will serve an additional 42,000 children, for a total of 877,000 children. The Head Start program goal established by the President is to serve one million children annually by 2002.
- Within the overall total of children served, in 2000 an additional 7,000 children under age three will participate in the Early Head Start component, for a total of nearly 45,000. The President established the goal of doubling the number of children below age three served in Head Start by 2002, within the goal of one million total children.

National evaluation studies of both the regular Head Start program and the Early Head Start component are under way to increase outcomes for Head Start families, including child growth and development. Preliminary results are expected in late 1999 for the regular Head Start program and in 2001 for the early Head Start component.

Foster Care and Adoption Assistance: The Administration for Children and Families (ACF), a high impact agency (see Section IV), administers a number of programs that focus on preventing maltreatment of children, protecting children from abuse and neglect, and finding permanent placements for children who cannot safely return to their homes. The budget proposes a $265 million initiative to support the transition from foster care to independent living in addition to the new Foster Care Medical benefits described in Chapter 3. As part of the comprehensive effort to develop performance measures for the child welfare system, ACF is developing specific performance goals for the Independent Living Program that will establish goals for increasing the proportion of children that have graduated from high school, or received a GED within one year of aging out of foster care.

- In 2000, the Foster Care, Adoption Assistance and Independent Living Programs will support over 600,000 youth monthly at an annual cost of $5.5 billion.

Aging Services Programs: The Administration on Aging (AoA) administers information and assistance, home and community-based support services for older people and support programs that protect the rights of vulnerable, at-risk older people. In 2000, the budget proposes $1 billion for AoA programs. The budget includes $125 million for a new state grant program that will assist families who are caring for frail elderly relatives. The goal of this National Family Care Giver Support Program is to help sustain the efforts of family care givers by providing information, education and counseling, and respite services. AoA will develop performance measures for activities supported through the program's formula and competitive grants. The budget includes $147 million, an increase of $35 million, 30 percent, for the Home-Delivered Meals Program.

- In 2000, AoA will increase the number of meals served under the Home-Delivered Meals Program to 146 million, compared to 119 million meals in 1996.

National Service

The Corporation for National and Community Service supports programs providing service opportunities Nation-wide for Americans of all ages and backgrounds. Through Corporation-supported projects, over 1.5 million participants work to address the Nation's unmet, critical needs. The Corporation organizes its programs into three streams of service, with various annual performance goals.

AmeriCorps: In 1999, there were 53,000 participants in AmeriCorps.

- In 2000, AmeriCorps will engage 69,000 Americans of all ages and backgrounds in community service, and provide education awards in return for such service with a goal of 100,000 participants in AmeriCorps by 2002.
- In 2000, AmeriCorps participants will recruit and organize 53,000 community volunteers to serve in elementary school reading programs.

Learn and Serve America: This program provides opportunities for students to improve their academic learning while participating in service-learning projects in schools, universities, and communities.

- In 2000, 20,000 high school students who have provided outstanding community service will receive Presidential Service Scholarships—compared with 15,000 students in 1999.

National Senior Service Corps: The Corps, comprising over 500,000 people age 55 and older, encourages seniors to use their experience, skills and talents while serving as Foster Grandparents, Senior Companions, and the Retired and Senior Volunteers.

- In 2000, Foster Grandparents and Senior Companions will serve 160,000 special needs youth and frail elderly, while 9,375 retired senior volunteers and volunteer leaders will work in furtherance of the goals of America's Promise and the America Reads Challenge.

Cultural Agencies

The Smithsonian Institution and other Cultural Agencies: The Smithsonian Institution, the National Gallery of Art, the U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum, and the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts all have advancement of knowledge and sharing that knowledge with the American public as part of their mission. In order to accomplish their missions, each institution must maintain its physical infrastructure and provide access to its unique assets.

- In 2000, each agency will provide new and updated exhibits and performances, including the conservation of the Star Spangled Banner in a special laboratory at the Smithsonian's National Museum of American History; the National Gallery of Art's exhibit entitled "Art Nouveau: Sources and Cities, 1890–1914"; the implementation of a state-of-the-art memorial interpretation program at the John F. Kennedy (JFK) Center; and the "Flight and Rescue" exhibit at the U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum.

- In 2000, each agency will protect its unique assets through implementing its comprehensive plans for repair and renovation, including continuation of capital renovation at the Smithsonian's National Museum of Natural History; analysis and preliminary design work to repair or replace the National Gallery of Art's mechanical, electrical, and plumbing systems; a building-wide sprinkler system and new fire alarm system at the JFK Center; and completion of the security bollards project at the U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum.

The National Endowment for the Arts and the National Endowment for the Humanities: The budget proposes $150 million, each, for the National Endowment for the Arts and the National Endowment for the Humanities to provide support for important cultural, educational and artistic programs for communities across America. The budget also proposes $188.5 million for the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS) to support museums and libraries. In 2000, the Endowments and IMLS will fund education and lifelong learning as well as projects designed to increase public access to performances, exhibitions, and our Nation's cultural treasures held by museums, libraries, archives, and historical organizations. Special attention will be afforded underserved areas and to the use of the arts and humanities to strengthen community and family life.

- In 2000, NEA, through its new Challenge America program, will award more than 1,200 grants through direct grants or in partnerships with the States, to communities across America to address Arts Education, Access to the Arts, Youth-at-Risk, Cultural Heritage and Preservation, and Community Arts Partnerships.

- In 2000, NEH will help improve the quality of humanities education offered to hundreds of thousands of American school children and college students; provide opportunities for citizens from all walks of life to engage in a lifetime of learning about the Nation's history and culture; preserve and democratize access to millions of brittle books and other important cultural and intellectual resources; and dramatically expand access to humanities programming for millions of citizens in rural areas, communities, and cities across America.

- In 2000, IMLS will promote access to learning and information resources held by museums and libraries through electronic linkages, helping all 55 State library agencies expand materials available electronically and increase Internet access. IMLS will help museums develop and support regional electronic networks, providing technical support to thousands of museums in putting collection information online, and supporting after-school programs located in museums.

Tax Incentives

The Federal Government helps individuals, families, and employers (on behalf of their employees) plan for and buy education and training through numerous tax benefits, which will cost an estimated $42 billion in 2000. Along with the Hope Scholarship and Lifetime Learning tax credits for college costs, the tax code provides other ways to pay for education and training. State and local governments, for instance, can issue tax-exempt debt to finance student loans or to build the facilities of non-profit educational institutions. Interest from certain U.S. Savings Bonds is tax-free if the bonds go solely to pay for education. Many employers provide education benefits that do not count as income. Starting in 1998, many taxpayers can deduct the interest on student loans. Finally, the tax code gives employers a Work Opportunity Tax Credit and a Welfare-to-Work Tax Credit, letting them claim a tax credit for part of the wages they pay to certain hard-to-employ people who work for them for a minimum period.

New tax provisions for education in the President's budget include proposals to modify the current exclusion for employer-provided educational assistance by extending it for another year and including graduate as well as undergraduate courses; to eliminate the 60-month limit on the student loan interest deduction to provide longer-term relief to low-and middle-income taxpayers with large educational debt; to eliminate the tax owed when certain student loans are forgiven after 25 years of repayment; and to provide a tax credit for employer-provided workplace literacy and basic education programs. In addition, the budget proposes exclusion from income for repayment or cancellation of a student loan under the AmeriCorps Education Award Program.