Budget Summary: Department of Children and Families and Department of Health Services 6-5-19

Department of Children and Families

Children and Family Aids Allocation Increase: The JCF provided $5,000,000 GPR in FY20 and $18,500,000 GPR and $7,000,000 FED matching funds under Title IV-E of the Social Security Act in FY21 to increase funding in the children and family aids (CFA) program. This equates to an annual increase of $25.5 million.

The JCF also modified Milwaukee County’s contribution for child welfare services provided by the Division of Milwaukee Child Protective Services.
- Current law: $58,893,500 per fiscal year from state aid and shared revenue payments.
- JCF: The greater of $58,893,500 or the amount in the schedule for the child welfare services aids appropriation for providing services to children and families having a population of 750,000 or more.

Children First: The JCF increased from $400 to $800 the maximum annual per capita reimbursement rate. The JCF also deleted the Governor’s proposed funding increase of $1,140,000 FED annually.

Child Abuse Prevention Services (Family Foundations Home Visiting): The JCF allocated an additional $500,000 FED in FY20 and $1,500,000 FED in FY21 from TANF block grant funds to increase child abuse prevention services.

Child Welfare Safety Services: Current law provides $3,282,400 for in-home safety services in counties other than Milwaukee. The Governor’s recommended increase in program funding is intended to support the continued expansion of services statewide. The JCF allocated an additional $1 million FED in FY20 and $2 million FED in FY21 from federal TANF block grant funds to increase child welfare safety services. This represents a $1.8 million cut from the Governor’s recommended funding level.

Qualified Residential Family-Based Treatment Facilities and Placements in Other States: The JCF adopted the Governor’s recommendation with minor modifications.

Foster Care and Kinship Care Rate and Foster Youth Driver’s Licensing Program: The JCF provided $301,500 GPR and $4,027,200 FED in FY20 and $493,100 GPR and $5,674,900 FED in FY21 to modify the Governor’s recommendation to: (a) reestimate the cost to continue the kinship care program based upon more recent caseload data; and (b) increase foster care and kinship care rates by 4% in 2020.

Child Support: The JCF provided an all-funds increase of $750,000 in FY20 and $1,500,000 in FY21 to increase incentive payments to counties for child support enforcement activities.
The JCF also approved the Governor’s recommendation to increase the annual fee charged to custodial parent by $10, from $25 to $35, as required by federal law starting October 1, 2019, or if the effective date of the bill is after October 1, 2019, then on the later of January 1, 2020 or the effective date of the bill.

**Department of Health Services**

**Crisis Intervention Services:**
- The JCF approved the Governor’s recommendation to have the state pay a portion of the state share of crisis intervention services and increased base funding by $3,043,000 in FY20 and $10,353,600 in FY21.
  - Created a county MOE requirement equal to 75% of each county’s annual average of county expenditures in 2016, 2017, and 2018
  - Modified the statutory definition of crisis intervention services to match the definition used in current administrative rules
- The JCF deleted the Governor’s recommendation to provide $2,500,000 GPR in FY21 for a new grant program for regional crisis stabilization facilities.

**Nursing Home Reimbursement:** The JCF increased base funding by $36,909,400 in FY20 and by $37,082,800 in FY21 to increase the average MA daily reimbursement rate for nursing homes on July 1, 2019.

**Children’s Long-Term Care Services:** The JCF approved the Governor’s recommendation to fund intake, application, and screening costs for children’s long-term care services and provided $1,604,200 ($444,700 GPR and $1,159,500 FED) in FY20 and $1,523,000 ($416,500 GPR and $1,106,500 FED) in FY21.

In addition, the JCF transferred the GPR funding from the MA benefits appropriation to the JCF’s program supplements appropriation, and enabled DHS to submit a request under s. 13.10 of the statutes to seek release of this funding and transfer the FED funding provided to the MA contracts appropriation.

The funding for the children’s services navigators, children’s resource specialists, and children’s ombudsman positions was not approved.

The language with regard to waiting lists/eligibility was not included in the budget; however, increased funding for the program was included in the MA cost-to-continue line item.

**Birth to Three Program Expansion:** The JCF deleted the Governor’s recommendation to expand Birth to Three eligibility and its associated funding. The JCF required DHS to transfer $2,250,000 on a one-time basis from CCOP in FY20 to Birth to Three. The JCF subsequently required that DHS transfer carry over funding from COP to maintain funding for CCOP in each year of the 2019-21 biennium at its current budgeted level ($11.2 million annually).
**Dementia Care Specialists:** The JCF provided $846,000 annually to fund eight dementia care specialists and one tribal dementia care specialist.

**Nitrate Testing for Private Wells:** The JCF created a nitrate testing for private wells program.
- $3,000,000 GPR in FY20
- Grants of up to $2,500 to eligible private well owners
- $500,000 available to counties that apply to participate in the pilot testing program to provide reimbursement for the actual costs of administering the testing and reporting requirements

**County Income Maintenance Funding:** The JCF provided $1,777,400 (GPR and FED) in FY20 and $2,601,200 (GPR and FED) in FY21 to county income maintenance consortia to implement: (a) FSET drug testing; (b) FSET for able-bodied adults; (c) childless adult waiver provisions under MA; (d) health savings accounts for childless adults under MA.

**Income Maintenance Fraud Prevention:** The JCF provided $500,000 annually (GPR and FED) to increase funding available for income maintenance fraud prevention efforts.

**Healthy Aging Grants:** The JCF deleted the governor’s recommendation to provide $250,000 annually to an entity that conducts programs in healthy aging.

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