



DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

FISCAL YEAR
2026

ADMINISTRATION FOR
CHILDREN, FAMILIES, AND
COMMUNITIES

*JUSTIFICATION OF ESTIMATES FOR
APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEES*



MESSAGE FROM THE ACTING ASSISTANT SECRETARY

I am pleased to present the FY 2026 Congressional Justification (CJ) for the Administration for Children, Families, and Communities (ACFC). ACFC programs will be dedicated to promoting the economic and social well-being of children, individuals, families, and communities, ensuring that every American has the opportunity to thrive.

The FY 2026 ACFC CJ reflects a bold and forward-thinking planned integration of the Administration for Community Living (ACL) within ACFC, which will create a streamlined agency that is better equipped to efficiently and effectively serve the needs of the American people. This planned consolidation underscores our commitment to deliver outcomes and maximize the impact of taxpayer dollars.

In line with the President's Budget, this CJ is guided by two fundamental principles: the best economic program is a job, and the best social program is a family. These values will drive our mission to empower families on their journey to self-sufficiency while safeguarding the well-being of vulnerable children and communities. The Budget prioritizes early childhood outcomes by maintaining Head Start funding while strengthening the program to increase parental choice; improve health, education, nutrition, and employment outcomes; increase efficiency; and strengthen parental engagement. It preserves funding for services that protect the most vulnerable among us, including victims of child abuse and neglect, runaway and homeless youth, and victims of family violence.

The aging and disability programs reflect our belief in the dignity and value of every individual. These programs ensure that older adults and people with disabilities can live independently and fully participate in their communities, alongside people of all ages, with equal opportunities to contribute, earn a living, and make decisions about their lives. As the health care system continues to shift to one that pays for outcomes-based and cost-effective care, community living – supported by these programs – will play an increasingly vital role in delivering high-quality services while reducing costs.

This CJ also reflects the Administration's unwavering commitment to fiscal responsibility, reducing government waste, and ensuring that every dollar spent serves the best interests of the American people. To that end, the Budget proposes to eliminate funding for discretionary programs that have not demonstrated strong performance outcomes in addressing poverty. Additionally, it reflects the importance of preserving public benefits for American citizens by not including new funding for refugee arrivals.

As a technical supplement to the Budget, the CJ reflects and reinforces our shared values: promoting self-reliance, strengthening families, protecting the vulnerable, and ensuring that government works efficiently and effectively for the American people. Together, we are building a brighter future for our nation.

Andrew Gradison
Acting Assistant Secretary for Children,
Families, and Communities

This page intentionally left blank

JUSTIFICATION OF ESTIMATES FOR APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEES
ADMINISTRATION FOR CHILDREN, FAMILIES, AND COMMUNITIES

TABLE OF CONTENTS

MESSAGE FROM THE OFFICE OF THE ACTING ASSISTANT SECRETARY

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Overview of the FY 2026 Congressional Budget Justification.....	1
All Purpose Table.....	3
Full-Time Equivalent by Source Table.....	10
Refugee and Entrant Assistance.....	12
Child Care and Development Fund.....	31
Children and Families Services Programs.....	41
Payments to States for Child Support Enforcement and Family Support Programs.....	95
Social Services Block Grant.....	106
Promoting Safe and Stable Families.....	114
Payments for Foster Care and Permanency.....	130
Children's Research and Technical Assistance.....	143
Temporary Assistance for Needy Families.....	149
Drug Control Policy.....	160
Supplemental Material.....	163
Aging and Disability Services Programs.....	191

OVERVIEW OF THE FY 2026 CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET JUSTIFICATION

INTRODUCTION AND MISSION

The mission of the Administration for Children, Families, and Communities (ACFC) within the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) will be to foster health and well-being by providing federal leadership, partnership, and resources for the compassionate and effective delivery of human services. ACFC will administer programs carried out by state, territorial, county, city, and tribal governments, as well as by private, non-profit, and community- and faith-based organizations designed to meet the needs of a diverse cross-section of society.

OVERVIEW OF THE REQUEST

The FY 2026 Budget for ACFC assumes \$68.8 billion in budget authority, including both the discretionary request and current law mandatory funding, a decrease of \$6.4 billion from the FY 2025 enacted level. ACFC's budget focuses on maintaining critical investments in early childhood and child welfare programs, while ensuring that government funds are used in alignment with Administration priorities and are in the best interest of the American people. It reflects the planned integration of the Administration for Community Living (ACL) within ACFC, and funding levels are shown comparably in all years. The following are highlights of this Congressional Justification.

The Budget provides base funding of \$4.2 billion for the Unaccompanied Alien Children (UAC) program, refocusing the program on its core mission of sheltering UAC and protecting them from child trafficking. It also proposes a discretionary uncapped UAC contingency fund that would provide additional resources if the number of children referred to the program exceeds 10,000 per month.

The Budget maintains funding for Head Start at \$12.3 billion and includes a set of reform principles that will refocus the program on its promise to help American families out of poverty by increasing parental choice; improving, health, education and employment outcomes; increasing efficiency; and promoting parental engagement.

The request funds services and supports for aging and disability programs provided primarily by networks of community-based organizations and invests in research, education, and innovation.

The Budget eliminates funding for ineffective and/or duplicative programs, including the Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program and the Community Services Block Grant. It also prioritizes public benefits for American citizens and eliminates cash and medical assistance and social services for refugees, asylees, and other arrivals eligible for refugee benefits.

It continues current law funding for mandatory appropriations including the Foster Care, Child Support Enforcement, and Temporary Assistance for Needy Families programs.

OVERVIEW OF PERFORMANCE

ACFC's mission demands that it continually innovate, improve, and learn. Through evaluation and the use of data and evidence, ACFC and its partners learn systematically so that federally funded human services can be provided as effectively as possible. ACFC's evaluation policy affirms its commitment to promoting rigor, relevance, transparency, independence, and ethics in evaluations and to using evidence from evaluations to inform policy and practice. Foundational fact finding, performance measurement,

and policy analysis represent other forms of evidence that complement evaluations to form a representative picture.

ACFC develops performance measures that can be used by program managers, leadership, outside stakeholders, and ultimately Congress to assess and communicate the progress that ACFC accomplishes from year to year in achieving its strategic goals and objectives.

ADMINISTRATION FOR CHILDREN, FAMILIES, AND COMMUNITIES

All Purpose Table

FY 2026 (in thousands)

Program	FY 2024 Final	FY 2025 Enacted	FY 2026	Change from FY 2025 Enacted
---------	---------------	-----------------	---------	-----------------------------

DISCRETIONARY PROGRAMS:

LOW INCOME HOME ENERGY ASSISTANCE PROGRAM:

LIHEAP Block Grants Budget Authority	\$4,025,000	\$4,025,000	\$0	-\$4,025,000
<i>Infrastructure and Investment Jobs Act (non-add)</i>	<i>\$100,000</i>	<i>\$100,000</i>	<i>\$0</i>	<i>-\$100,000</i>
Total, Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program	\$4,025,000	\$4,025,000	\$0	-\$4,025,000

REFUGEE AND ENTRANT ASSISTANCE:

Transitional and Medical Services	\$1,095,293	*	\$0	*
Refugee Support Services	\$994,124	*	\$0	*
Anti-Trafficking in Persons Programs	\$30,755	*	\$30,755	*
Unaccompanied Alien Children	\$4,188,042	*	\$4,243,000	*
Survivors of Torture	\$19,000	*	\$19,000	*
UAC Contingency Fund, Enacted	\$65,000	\$65,000	\$0	-\$65,000
UAC Contingency Fund, Proposed	\$0	\$0	\$129,000	\$129,000
Total, Refugee and Entrant Assistance	\$6,392,214	\$6,392,214	\$4,421,755	-\$1,970,459

CHILD CARE AND DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT	\$8,746,387	\$8,746,387	\$8,746,387	\$0
--	-------------	-------------	-------------	-----

Program	FY 2024 Final	FY 2025 Enacted	FY 2026	Change from FY 2025 Enacted
CHILDREN & FAMILIES SERVICES PROGRAMS:				
Head Start	\$12,271,820	\$12,271,820	\$12,271,820	\$0
Preschool Development Grants	\$315,000	\$315,000	\$0	-\$315,000
Runaway and Homeless Youth Programs	\$146,283	*	\$146,283	*
CAPTA State Grants	\$105,091	*	\$105,091	*
Child Abuse Discretionary Activities	\$36,000	*	\$36,000	*
Community-Based Child Abuse Prevention	\$70,660	*	\$60,660	*
Child Welfare Services	\$268,735	*	\$268,735	*
Child Welfare Research, Training and Demonstration	\$21,984	*	\$21,984	*
Adoption Opportunities	\$53,000	*	\$53,000	*
Adoption and Legal Guardianship Incentive Payments	\$75,000	\$75,000	\$75,000	\$0
Social Services Research and Demonstration	\$75,023	*	\$27,510	*
Native American Programs	\$60,500	*	\$60,500	*
Community Services Block Grant	\$770,000	\$770,000	\$0	-\$770,000
Community Economic Development	\$22,383	\$22,383	\$0	-\$22,383
Rural Community Development	\$12,000	\$12,000	\$0	-\$12,000
National Domestic Violence Hotline	\$20,500	*	\$20,500	*
Family Violence Prevention and Services	\$240,000	\$240,000	\$240,000	\$0
Chafee Education and Training Vouchers	\$44,257	*	\$44,257	*
Disaster Human Services Case Management	\$1,864	\$1,864	\$1,864	\$0
Federal Administration	\$219,000	*	\$224,489	*
Total, Children & Families Services Programs	\$14,829,100	\$14,789,089	\$13,657,693	-\$1,131,396
PROMOTING SAFE & STABLE FAMILIES	\$72,515	\$72,515	\$62,515	-\$10,000
TOTAL, DISCRETIONARY PROGRAMS, B.A.	\$34,065,216	\$34,025,205	\$26,888,350	-\$7,136,855
Additions to Program Level	\$100,000	\$100,000	\$0	-\$100,000
Total Discretionary Program Level	\$34,165,216	\$34,125,205	\$26,888,350	-\$7,236,855

Program	FY 2024 Final	FY 2025 Enacted	FY 2026	Change from FY 2025 Enacted
---------	---------------	-----------------	---------	-----------------------------

MANDATORY PROGRAMS:

(Amounts in this table are pre-sequestration.)

PAYMENTS TO STATES FOR CHILD SUPPORT & FAMILY
SUPPORT PROGRAMS:

Payments to States for CSE & FS Programs, B.A.	\$4,889,194	\$5,444,000	\$5,747,000	\$303,000
Total, Payments to States for CSE & FS Programs, Obligations	\$5,126,664	\$5,695,413	\$5,945,883	\$250,471

SOCIAL SERVICES BLOCK GRANT	\$1,700,000	\$1,700,000	\$1,700,000	\$0
-----------------------------	-------------	-------------	-------------	-----

PROMOTING SAFE AND STABLE FAMILIES:

Promoting Safe and Stable Families	\$345,000	\$345,000	\$420,000	\$75,000
Personal Responsibility Education Program	\$75,000	\$75,000	\$75,000	\$0
Sexual Risk Avoidance Education	\$75,000	\$75,000	\$75,000	\$0
Total, Promoting Safe and Stable Families, B.A, Mandatory	\$495,000	\$495,000	\$570,000	\$75,000
Total, PSSF Appropriation (including mandatory and discretionary)	\$567,515	\$567,515	\$632,515	\$65,000

Program	FY 2024 Final	FY 2025 Enacted	FY 2026	Change from FY 2025 Enacted
PAYMENTS FOR FOSTER CARE, PREVENTION, & PERMANENCY:				
Foster Care	\$6,382,315	\$5,199,000	\$5,314,000	\$115,000
Adoption Assistance	\$4,706,000	\$4,142,000	\$4,397,000	\$255,000
Guardianship Assistance	\$336,569	\$382,000	\$386,000	\$4,000
Chafee Foster Care Program for Successful Transition to Adulthood	\$143,000	\$143,000	\$143,000	\$0
Prevention Services	\$259,583	\$184,000	\$203,000	\$19,000
Tribal IV-E Technical Assistance (Pre-Appropriated)	\$3,000	\$3,000	\$3,000	\$0
Prevention (Pre-Appropriated)	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$0
Total, Foster Care and Permanency, B.A.	\$11,831,467	\$10,054,000	\$10,447,000	\$393,000
CHILDREN'S RESEARCH & TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE:				
Training & Technical Assistance (Pre-Appropriated)	\$12,318	\$12,318	\$12,318	\$0
Federal Parent Locator Service (Pre-Appropriated)	\$24,635	\$24,635	\$24,635	\$0
Total, Children's Research & Technical Assistance, B.A.	\$36,953	\$36,953	\$36,953	\$0
TEMPORARY ASSISTANCE FOR NEEDY FAMILIES:				
State Family Assistance Grants	\$16,434,255	\$16,434,255	\$16,434,255	\$0
Healthy Marriage Promotion and Responsible Fatherhood Grants ..	\$150,000	\$150,000	\$150,000	\$0
Contingency Fund	\$608,000	\$608,000	\$608,000	\$0
Territories -- Family Assistance Grants	\$77,618	\$77,618	\$77,618	\$0
Matching Grants to Territories	\$15,000	\$15,000	\$15,000	\$0
Tribal Work Programs	\$7,633	\$7,633	\$7,633	\$0
Welfare Research	\$44,670	\$44,670	\$44,670	\$0
Census Bureau	\$10,000	\$10,000	\$10,000	\$0
Total, TANF, B.A.	\$17,347,175	\$17,347,175	\$17,347,175	\$0
CHILD CARE ENTITLEMENT (Pre-Appropriated)	\$3,550,000	\$3,550,000	\$3,550,000	\$0

Program	FY 2024 Final	FY 2025 Enacted	FY 2026	Change from FY 2025 Enacted
TOTAL, MANDATORY PROGRAMS, B.A.	\$39,849,789	\$38,627,128	\$39,398,128	\$771,000
TOTAL, DISCRETIONARY PROGRAMS, B.A.	\$34,065,216	\$34,025,205	\$26,888,350	-\$7,136,855
TOTAL, B.A.	\$73,915,005	\$72,652,333	\$66,286,478	-\$6,365,855

Notes:

1. FY 2026 funding levels for mandatory programs represent the current law baseline and do not constitute Administration policy.
2. FY 2024 Refugee and Entrant Assistance funding excludes supplemental funding of \$481 million provided in the Ukraine Security Supplemental Appropriations Act, 2024 (P.L. 118-50).
3. FY 2024 Transitional Assistance and Medical Services and Refugee Support Services funding includes \$1.2 billion reprogrammed from the Unaccompanied Alien Children Program.
4. FY 2025 CCDBG funding excludes \$250 million of supplemental funding and \$250 million of disaster funding provided in the American Relief Act (P.L. 118-158).
5. Consistent with the FY 2025 operating plan, funding levels are displayed for statutory Program, Project, or Activity (PPA) budget lines. Activities with an asterisk in FY 2025 are not intended to be separate PPAs for 2025 and are rolled up within the respective account.
6. The FY 2026 Budget reflects the planned reorganization of ACL's Program Administration to ACFC's Federal Administration and includes \$37.5 million for this.

AGING AND DISABILITY SERVICES PROGRAMS
FY 2026 (in thousands)

Program	FY 2024 Final	FY 2025 Enacted	FY 2026	Change from FY 2025 Enacted
<u>DISCRETIONARY FUNDING:</u>				
Home and Community-Based Supportive Services	\$410,000	*	\$410,000	*
Preventive Health Services	\$26,339	*	\$26,339	*
Protection of Vulnerable Older Americans	\$56,658	*	\$56,885	*
Family Caregiver Support	\$207,000	*	\$207,000	*
Native American Caregivers Support	\$12,000	*	\$12,000	*
Nutrition Services	\$1,057,434	*	\$1,058,684	*
Grants for Native Americans	\$39,514	*	\$38,264	*
Aging Network Support Activities	\$30,461	*	\$30,461	*
Alzheimer's Disease Demonstrations	\$16,800	*	\$16,800	*
Lifespan Respite Care	\$10,000	*	\$10,000	*
Falls Prevention	\$2,500	*	\$2,500	*
Elder Rights Support Activities	\$3,874	*	\$4,005	*
Aging and Disability Resources	\$8,619	*	\$8,619	*
State Health Insurance Program	\$55,242	\$55,242	\$55,242	\$0
Paralysis Resource Center	\$10,700	*	\$0	*
Limb Loss Resource Center	\$4,200	*	\$0	*
Traumatic Brain Injury	\$13,118	*	\$13,118	*
Developmental Disabilities Programs	\$191,369	*	\$125,000	*

Program	FY 2024 Final	FY 2025 Enacted	FY 2026	Change from FY 2025 Enacted
Independent Living	\$128,183	*	\$228,183	*
Natl. Institute on Disability, Ind. Living, and Rehab Research	\$119,000	*	\$100,000	*
Assistive Technology	\$40,000	*	\$40,000	*
Congressionally Directed Spending/Community Project Funding ..	\$29,268	*	\$0	*
Program Administration	\$48,063	*	\$0	*
TOTAL, AGING AND DISABILITY SERVICES PROGRAMS, Discretionary B.A.	\$2,520,342	\$2,491,074	\$2,443,100	-\$47,974
<u>MANDATORY FUNDING AND OTHER SOURCES</u>				
(Amounts in this table are pre-sequestration.)				
Senior Medicare Patrol Program HCFAC	\$35,000	\$35,000	\$35,000	\$0
Prevention & Public Health Fund	\$27,700	\$27,700	\$0	-\$27,700
Medicare Improvements for Patients and Providers Act	\$62,500	*	\$50,000	*
Total, AGING AND DISABILITY SERVICES PROGRAMS, Mandatory and Other Sources, B.A.	\$125,200	*	\$85,000	*
TOTAL, AGING AND DISABILITY SERVICES PROGRAMS B.A.	\$2,645,542	\$2,603,774	\$2,528,100	-\$75,674
TOTAL, ACFC, B.A.	\$76,560,547	\$75,256,107	\$68,814,578	-\$6,441,529

Notes:

1. FY 2024 Grants for Native Americans funding includes \$1.25 million reprogrammed from the Nutrition Services Incentive Program.
2. Asterisks in the FY 2025 column indicate that allocations have not yet been determined.
3. The FY 2026 Budget reorganizes ACL's Program Administration from ACL to ACF's Federal Administration. The FY 2026 Budget does not include \$37.5 million in FY 2026 for this program.
4. The Mandatory Funding and Other Sources section does not reflect Health Care Fraud and Abuse Control Wedge funding.

ADMINISTRATION FOR CHILDREN, FAMILIES, AND COMMUNITIES
Full-Time Equivalent by Source Table
FY 2026

Program	FY 2024 Final	FY 2025 Enacted	FY 2026	Change from FY 2025 Enacted
Discretionary Programs				
LIHEAP	12	15	0	-15
Transitional and Medical Services	90	126	0	-126
Unaccompanied Children	633	602	594	-8
Victims of Trafficking	6	5	5	0
Victims of Torture	2	3	3	0
Child Care and Development Block Grant	119	107	78	-29
Head Start	99	108	96	-12
Preschool Development Grant	11	8	0	-8
Runaway and Homeless Youth Programs	8	7	3	-4
Service Connection for Youth on the Streets	1	1	1	0
Family Violence Prevention and Services	29	30	30	0
Domestic Violence Hotline	3	3	3	0
Community Services Block Grant	13	11	0	-11
Chafee Education & Training Vouchers	3	2	1	-1
Disaster Human Services Case Management	1	2	2	0
Aging and Disability Services Programs	*	*	13	
Federal Administration	883	834	683	-151
Total, Discretionary Programs	1,913	1,864	1,512	-352
MANDATORY PROGRAMS:				
Promoting Safe and Stable Families	3	2	2	0
Personal Responsibility Education Program	9	8	8	0
Sexual Risk Avoidance Education	9	9	6	-3
Foster Care Prevention & Permanency	8	7	5	-2
Children's Research & Technical Assistance	61	51	42	-9
Welfare Research	25	25	21	-4
Temporary Assistance for Needy Families	15	15	13	-2
Aging and Disability Services Programs	*	*	0	
Total, Mandatory Programs	130	117	97	-20
Total, Direct Ceiling FTE	2,043	1,981	1,609	-385
Reimbursable Program, Project or Activity:				
Home Visiting	13	14	13	-1
Aging and Disability Services Programs	*	*	14	
Total, Reimbursable Ceiling FTE	13	14	27	-1
Total, Ceiling FTE	2,056	1,995	1,636	-359
Total, Civilian FTE	2,025	1,964	1,605	-359
Total, Commissioned Corps FTE	31	31	31	0

- Notes:
- The FY 2026 Budget reorganizes programs associated with ACL into ACFC. In FY 2024, ACL had a total of 205 FTE, and in FY 2025, ACL had a total of 206 FTE, which includes FTE in both ACL Program Administration and program-funded accounts.
 - In FY 2026, Program Administration FTE formerly associated with ACL will be shifted to ACF Federal Administration.
 - FY 2026 FTE levels reflect estimates for October 1, 2025, and may not represent expected FTE levels across FY 2026. These estimates are subject to change.

This page intentionally left blank.

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES
ADMINISTRATION FOR CHILDREN, FAMILIES, AND COMMUNITIES
REFUGEE AND ENTRANT ASSISTANCE

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Summary of Changes	14
Appropriations History Table	15
Justification	17
General Statement	17
Anti-Trafficking in Persons Programs	18
Unaccompanied Children	22
Survivors of Torture	28

This page intentionally left blank.

ADMINISTRATION FOR CHILDREN, FAMILIES, AND COMMUNITIES
Refugee and Entrant Assistance

Summary of Changes

FY 2025 Enacted	
Total estimated budget authority	\$6,392,214,000
(Obligations)	\$6,112,663,277
FY 2026	
Total estimated budget authority	\$4,421,755,000
(Obligations)	\$5,065,706,585
Net change	-\$1,970,459,000

<u>Description of Changes</u>	<u>FY 2025 Enacted</u>	<u>Change from</u> <u>Base</u>
Total, Decreases		-\$2,099,459,000
Net Change		-\$1,970,459,000

ADMINISTRATION FOR CHILDREN, FAMILIES, AND COMMUNITIES
Refugee and Entrant Assistance

Appropriations History Table

Year	Budget Estimate to Congress	House Allowance	Senate Allowance	Appropriation
2017				
Appropriation	2,184,860,000	1,674,691,000	1,674,691,000	1,674,691,000
Transfer				466,590,000
Total				2,141,281,000
2018				
Appropriation	1,456,755,000	1,022,811,000	1,506,691,000	1,864,936,000
Transfer				186,493,600
Total				2,051,429,600
2019				
Appropriation	1,792,311,000	1,864,936,000	1,905,201,000	1,905,201,000
Supplemental				2,876,552,000
Transfer				285,780,150
Total				5,067,533,150
2020				
Appropriation	1,804,066,000	2,511,701,000	1,870,201,000	1,908,201,000
Mandatory				
Contingency Fund	738,000,000			
Total	2,542,066,000			1,908,201,000
2021				
Appropriation	2,456,380,000	1,911,201,000	1,832,760,000	1,910,201,000
Transfer				2,346,780,150
Supplemental				1,913,483,405
Mandatory	200,000,000			
Total	2,656,380,000			6,170,464,555
2022				
Appropriation	4,404,947,000	4,504,947,000		4,825,214,000
Supplemental				4,100,000,000
Total				8,925,214,000
2023				
Appropriation	6,327,843,000	7,979,346,000		6,427,214,000
Mandatory	1,813,734,750			
CR Supplemental				1,775,000,000

Year	Budget Estimate to Congress	House Allowance	Senate Allowance	Appropriation
Division M				
Supplemental				2,400,000,000
Contingency Fund	326,000,000			5,940,000
Total	8,467,577,750			10,608,154,000
2024				
Appropriation	7,258,755,000	2,756,956,000	6,427,214,000	6,327,214,000
Contingency Fund	2,776,000,000			65,000,000
Total	10,034,755,000			6,392,214,000
2025				
Appropriation	6,327,214,000	2,691,955,000	6,355,214,000	6,327,214,000
UAC Contingency Fund, Enacted	65,000,000			65,000,000
UAC Contingency Fund, Proposed			73,000,000	
Total	6,392,214,000			6,392,214,000
2026				
Appropriation	4,292,755,000			
UAC Contingency Fund, Proposed	129,000,000			
Total	4,421,755,000			

ADMINISTRATION FOR CHILDREN, FAMILIES, AND COMMUNITIES
Refugee and Entrant Assistance

Justification

Funding Level	FY 2024 Final	FY 2025 Enacted	FY 2026	Change from FY 2025 Enacted
Total, Budget Authority	\$6,392,214,000	\$6,392,214,000	\$4,421,755,000	-\$1,970,459,000

General Statement

The Refugee and Entrant Assistance account supports services for refugees, Amerasians, asylees, Cuban and Haitian entrants, victims of torture, Iraqi and Afghan Special Immigrants, trafficking victims, and humanitarian parolees from Afghanistan and from Ukraine by helping them to become employed and self-sufficient as quickly as possible. It also supports care and services for unaccompanied minors who are members of those groups or are Special Immigrant Juveniles or U-visa holders. As a result of the Homeland Security Act of 2002, the account also is responsible for coordinating and implementing the care and placement of unaccompanied alien children (UAC) who are apprehended by immigration authorities. The FY 2026 request for Refugee and Entrant Assistance is \$4.3 billion in base funding, with an estimated \$129 million available through an emergency contingency fund for the UAC program, bringing total funding to \$4.4 billion, a decrease of \$2.0 billion from the FY 2025 level.

The following programs in the Refugee and Entrant Assistance account are proposed for elimination:

- Transitional and Medical Services
- Refugee Support Services

Anti-Trafficking in Persons Programs

Funding Level	FY 2024 Final	FY 2025 Enacted	FY 2026	Change from FY 2025 Enacted
Total, Budget Authority	\$30,755,000	*	\$30,755,000	*

Allocation Method.....Competitive Grants and Contracts

Program Description and Accomplishments

The Trafficking Victims Protection Act of 2000 (TVPA) (P.L. 106-386), and subsequent amendments and reauthorizations, allow ACFC to assist foreign national and domestic (United States citizen and lawful permanent resident) victims of severe forms of human trafficking and improve the national response to human trafficking through a number of efforts, including:

- screening and identifying victims,
- providing victims with access to benefits and services,
- developing and delivering training and technical assistance,
- conducting research, program evaluations, and data collection, and
- raising awareness and funding education and prevention efforts.

The TVPA defines severe forms of trafficking in persons as “sex trafficking in which a commercial sex act is induced by force, fraud, or coercion, or in which the person induced to perform such act has not attained 18 years of age or the recruitment, harboring, transportation, provision, or obtaining of a person for labor or services, through the use of force, fraud, or coercion for the purpose of subjection to involuntary servitude, peonage, debt bondage, or slavery.”

The TVPA authorizes ACFC to provide Certification and Eligibility Letters to foreign national victims of a severe form of trafficking in persons (human trafficking), making them eligible to apply for services and benefits to the same extent as refugees. ACFC, in coordination with the Department of Homeland Security (DHS), issues Certification Letters to foreign national victims of trafficking meeting eligibility requirements based on DHS issuing Continued Presence, a T-visa, or statement of a bona fide T-visa application. ACFC also issues Eligibility Letters in response to Requests for Assistance from individuals on behalf of foreign national minor victims of trafficking. In situations of potential trafficking, ACFC issues Interim Assistance Letters to minors and then makes a final determination following consultation with the U.S. Department of Justice, DHS, and non-governmental organizations with expertise on identifying and serving victims of trafficking. The TVPA also authorizes the provision of comprehensive case management services to qualified foreign national victims of trafficking, potential victims seeking and who have received HHS certification and eligibility determinations, and certain family members.

The William Wilberforce Trafficking Victims Protection Reauthorization Act of 2008 (P.L. 110-457) authorizes grants to assist domestic victims of human trafficking through the provision of services and other assistance such as case management, emergency housing, referrals to community-based public services, and outreach and victim identification. Grant-funded programs coordinate services for victims

across multiple systems of care, including child welfare, runaway and homeless youth, domestic violence, and Native American programs.

The Justice for Victims of Trafficking Act of 2015 (P.L. 114-22) authorizes the enhancement of efforts to combat human trafficking and assist trafficking victims, including contributions to the Domestic Trafficking Victims Fund, operation of a national anti-trafficking hotline, and strengthening training for health care providers. The TVPA requires the federal posting of the National Human Trafficking Hotline (the Hotline) information in all federal buildings and major transit points (e.g., airports, bus and train stations, ports). Some states also have posting requirements of the Hotline information. The Hotline has cross-referral protocols with other federal hotlines (e.g., Office of Refugee Resettlement National Call Center, National Domestic Violence Hotline, Runaway and Homeless Youth Safeline) and state hotlines.

In FY 2024, ACFC strengthened the Hotline operations to reduce call wait times, improve service coordination, and strengthen security measures. Since FY 2016, the Hotline has consistently reported more than 2,000 cases a year of human trafficking to law enforcement, including all cases referencing minors, in compliance with mandatory reporting requirements. In FY 2025, the Hotline continued to review and update its protocols for providing referrals for services and tips to law enforcement. ACFC increased funding for the Hotline to enhance the provision of quality services to victims of trafficking and the public, including stronger federal, state, local coordination to combat child trafficking.

The Frederick Douglass Trafficking Victims Prevention and Protection Reauthorization Act of 2018 (P.L. 115-425) authorizes ACFC to award grants to local educational agencies, in partnership with a nonprofit, nongovernmental agency, in order to establish, expand, and support programs to educate school staff to recognize and respond to signs of labor trafficking and sex trafficking and to provide age-appropriate information to students on how to avoid becoming victims of labor and sex trafficking.

The National Defense Authorization Act (the NDAA) of 2013 (P.L. 112-239) prohibits all government contractors, subcontractors, grantees, and subgrantees from engaging in or using “labor recruiters, brokers, or other agents who engage in” severe forms of trafficking in persons. The NDAA and subsequent laws expanded HHS responsibilities to prevent forced labor and human trafficking in grants and contracts. ACFC serves as the subject matter lead on these requirements, coordinating with other HHS, federal, and non-federal partners. In FY 2024, ACFC established and co-chaired a public-private collaboration, the Joint Forced Labor Working Group, which brings together federal agencies, health care institutions, suppliers, and subject matter experts to prevent forced labor in health and public health supply chains. The working group released an online training module and other resources to build the capacity of the sector to implement NDAA requirements.

Starting in FY 2022, and every year since, Congress has included a General Provision to expand funding flexibility for research projects in ACFC. All research funding provided for in the Appropriations Act can remain available for five years following appropriation. This has allowed for additional time for research and evaluation projects within the anti-trafficking in persons program.

The Anti-Trafficking in Persons programs include grant programs, contracts, inter- and intra-agency agreements, and partnerships with government and non-government organizations. Each authorizing statute identifies eligible entities for competitive grant funding, but, in general, state, local, and tribal governments and non-profit organizations are eligible for federal assistance under the authorized programs. Each newly awarded grant program includes mechanisms to assess program performance and, to the extent funding is available, independent evaluation to provide evidence on what works in combating human trafficking and assisting survivors.

Funding for the program - net of any authorized changes such as transfers or reprogramming - for five years is as follows:

2022	\$29,755,000
2023	\$30,755,000
2024	\$30,755,000
2025	*
2026	\$30,755,000

In FY 2024, ACFC awarded 20 direct service grants. For FY 2025, ACFC estimates awarding 17 direct service grants.

Budget Request

The FY 2026 request is \$30.8 million. ACFC will continue to implement statutory requirements to provide services to victims of human trafficking through local service providers and the National Human Trafficking Hotline; increase public awareness, including among potential victims of human trafficking; train government officials and health and human service professionals to screen for, identify, and respond to human trafficking; conduct research and data analyses to monitor trafficking trends and identify promising practices; and prevent human trafficking in procurement practices.

Performance Analysis

Measure	Year and Most Recent Result/ Target for Most Recent Result/ Summary of Result	FY 2025 Target	FY 2026 Target	FY 2026 Target +/- FY 2025 Target
<u>17B</u> : Increase the number of foreign victims served by whole network of providers. (<i>Outcome and Output</i>)	FY 2024: 1,500 Target: 1,977 (Target Not Met)	*	Average prev 4 actuals	*
<u>17C</u> : Increase the number of domestic trafficking victims served. (<i>Outcome</i>)	FY 2024: 782 Target: 933 (Target Not Met)	*	Average prev 4 actuals -10%	*
<u>17D</u> : Increase the number of potential trafficking victims identified by the Hotline. (<i>Outcome</i>)	FY 2024: 12,129 Target: 15,713 (Target Not Met)	*	Measure retired for FY 2026	*
<u>17E</u> : Increase the number of incoming communications received from victims and survivors of human trafficking by the hotline. (<i>Outcome</i>)	FY 2024: 7,693 Target: 11,321 (Target Not Met)	*	Average prev 4 actuals	*

Measure	Year and Most Recent Result/ Target for Most Recent Result/ Summary of Result	FY 2025 Target	FY 2026 Target	FY 2026 Target +/- FY 2025 Target
<u>17F</u> : Increase the percentage of individuals trained who have “high” or “very high” confidence in their ability identify and respond to human trafficking after receiving SOAR to Health and Wellness training. (<i>Outcome</i>)	FY 2024: 92% Target: 91% (Target Met)	*	Average prev 4 actuals	*
<u>17G</u> : Increase the number of health and human service professionals trained by grant recipients to identify and respond to human trafficking. (<i>Developmental Outcome</i>)	FY 2024: 34,600 (Historical Actual)	N/A	N/A	N/A
<u>17H</u> : Increase the number of human trafficking victims identified by health and human service professionals receiving SOAR training (<i>Developmental Outcome</i>)	FY 2024: 77 (Historical Actual)	N/A	N/A	N/A
<u>17I</u> : Increase the number of school staff trained to recognize and respond to human trafficking (<i>Developmental Outcome</i>)	FY 2024: 11,219 (Historical Actual)	N/A	N/A	N/A
<u>17J</u> : Increase the number of students receiving human trafficking prevention education. (<i>Developmental Outcome</i>)	FY 2024: 41,065 (Historical Actual)	N/A	N/A	N/A
<u>17K</u> : Number of potential human trafficking situations identified by the Hotline. (<i>Outcome</i>)	FY 2024: 12,130 (Historical Actual)	*	Average of previous 4 years	*
<u>17i</u> : Number of total incoming communications received by the hotline. (<i>Output</i>)	FY 2024: 155,819 (Historical Actual)	N/A	N/A	N/A
<u>17ii</u> : Number of individuals trained by the National Human Trafficking Training and Technical Assistance Center. (<i>Output</i>)	FY 2024: 83,427 (Historical Actual)	N/A	N/A	N/A
<u>17iii</u> : Number of victims of trafficking certified per year. (<i>Output</i>)	FY 2024: 3,178 (Historical Actual)	N/A	N/A	N/A

Unaccompanied Alien Children

Funding Level	FY 2024 Final	FY 2025 Enacted	FY 2026	Change from FY 2025 Enacted
Unaccompanied Alien Children	\$4,188,041,785	*	\$4,243,000,000	*
Unaccompanied Alien Children Contingency Fund, Enacted	\$65,000,000	\$65,000,000	\$0	-\$65,000,000
Unaccompanied Alien Children Contingency Fund, Proposed	\$0	\$0	\$129,000,000	\$129,000,000
Total, Budget Authority	\$4,253,041,785	*	\$4,372,000,000	*

Allocation Method.....Competitive Grants and Contract

Program Description and Accomplishments

The Unaccompanied Alien Children (UAC) program provides for the shelter, care, and placement of unaccompanied alien children who are referred to ACFC's Office of Refugee Resettlement (ORR) by another federal agency or department. Typically, unaccompanied alien children are referred after being apprehended at a border, port of entry, or in the interior of the United States by Department of Homeland Security (DHS) officials, including Customs and Border Protection officers or Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) agents. The program was transferred to ORR in the Homeland Security Act of 2002 (P.L. 107-296), with further requirements laid out in the Prison Rape Elimination Act of 2003 (P.L. 108-79), the William Wilberforce Trafficking Victims Protection Reauthorization Act of 2008 (P.L. 110-457) (TVPRA), and the Violence Against Women Reauthorization Act of 2013 (P.L. 113-4). ORR is also bound by the terms of the Flores Settlement Agreement (FSA), which outlines the minimum standards for care and services that children in ORR custody must receive.

UAC are placed into ORR custody and provided care until they are appropriately and safely released to a vetted sponsor that is, in most cases, their parent or legal guardian, close relative, or another adult recommended by their parents. In some cases, when no appropriate sponsor is available, the program provides care to a child until immigration proceedings conclude, the child is granted lawful immigration status, or the child turns 18 years of age, whichever occurs first. The UAC program funds private non-profit and for-profit organizations to provide legally mandated care and services such as shelter, counseling, health care, access to legal services and child advocates, case management, education, and other support services to children in ORR custody. Standard facilities receive grants or contracts to provide shelter, including therapeutic care, foster care, shelter with increased staff supervision, and secure care. Standard facilities include those that are licensed by their state to provide residential care for children or that meets the requirements of state licensing that would otherwise be applicable if it is in a state that does not allow state licensing of programs providing care and services to unaccompanied alien children, including Texas, Florida, and South Carolina. Approximately 60 percent of budget costs go directly to care for children in ORR shelters, including in Emergency or Influx Facilities (EIF). Other services for children such as health care and sponsor unification services, including background checks, make up approximately 30 percent of the budget. Administrative expenses to carry out the mission total approximately 10 percent of the budget, of which 3 percent is dedicated to technology and data platforms for managing a child's case from referral to discharge, including case management and monitoring of

UAC, sponsor vetting and information collection, and tools to support the administration of the shelter network.

While the Administration has successfully created a whole-of-government disincentive to illegal immigration, migration numbers vary considerably from one year to the next, even from month to month, and are largely unpredictable. Referral numbers reached approximately 49,000 children in FY 2018 and over 69,400 children in FY 2019. There was a noticeable drop in referrals in FY 2020 to 15,381 due to the coronavirus pandemic and subsequent public health emergency order issued by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention on March 20, 2020, (which initially applied to unaccompanied alien children) as well as the implementation of policies restricting entry to the United States by unauthorized individuals and families. From FY 2021 through FY 2023, there was an average of 123,512 referrals per year for a total of 370,536 children. In FY 2024, ORR received a total of 98,356 referrals, with a 24 percent referral rate of children aged 12 or younger, a five percent increase from the previous year. Over 60 percent of children referred to ORR in FY 2024 were from Honduras, Guatemala, and El Salvador. Forty-seven percent of children who arrived in FY 2024 have been placed with a parent or legal guardian, and an additional 41 percent were placed with a close relative such as a grandparent, aunt, or uncle.

ORR is not an immigration or law enforcement agency and does not apprehend children at the border, which is a function of DHS. ORR relies on DHS referrals, referral projections, and estimates to inform planned uses of program resources, such as bed capacity needs. ORR has sought to obtain sufficient bed capacity, using both traditional standard beds and EIF beds in facilities that adhere to FSA standards, to ensure children do not experience prolonged detention in DHS facilities, which are not designed for children, and that they are expeditiously placed in an ORR-care provider facility. The Administration's goal is to prioritize child safety and combat human trafficking while ensuring children are placed with properly vetted family members or sponsors, which is consistent with child welfare best practices and ORR's legal obligations. ORR policies for placing children and youth into care provider facilities are based on legal requirements and child welfare best practices to provide a safe environment in the least restrictive setting appropriate for the child's needs. To determine the placement setting that is in the best interests of the child, ORR considers many factors, including age, sex, safety concerns, special needs, location of potential sponsors, and siblings or other related children in ORR custody. All services, including those for children ages 12 or younger, are trauma-informed, culturally and linguistically appropriate, and age and developmentally appropriate.

As of April 2025, ORR is funding a total of 10,500 standard capacity beds reflecting all levels of care for UAC in its custody. When the census of children in care is high in the standard network and additional capacity is necessary, ORR works to facilitate this goal through EIFs. These facilities are required to meet all the FSA minimum services, such as routine medical and mental health services, educational services, case management services, access to legal services before children are placed there, and all other services that are offered in ORR's standard network of care. ORR does not consider EIFs to be a long-term placement option for children or a long-term solution to addressing the program's capacity needs. ORR has actively worked to build its network to ensure that ORR has sufficient standard shelter capacity that can adapt to the changing needs of the program and that EIFs are used only when needed to ensure ORR can quickly accept all referrals from DHS in a timely manner. ORR increased the standard network capacity from just over 6,000 beds to more than 10,000 since 2021, and no EIF capacity has been activated in FY 2025 and it is not expected to be. This additional capacity has decreased the dependency on EIFs, and ORR continues to work closely with DHS partners to track migration trends and patterns and plan ORR capacity needs as far in advance as possible.

ORR is legally mandated to provide case management services to UAC, including sponsor unification services. Under the terms of the FSA, the government is mandated to have a policy favoring release if the child does not present a danger to self or others. As part of the sponsor vetting process, the TVPRA requires that ORR must confirm the sponsor's identity and relationship, if any, to the child and determine the sponsor's suitability to provide appropriate care for a child. DNA confirmation of biological relationship is the primary method used to confirm relationships where a sponsor purports to be related to the child. None of the genetic material, data, or information is used by HHS or any other federal agency for any purpose other than family unification. All data, samples, and results from the genetic material are certified as destroyed by the laboratory and cannot be used for any other purpose, and HHS has not shared and will not share anything associated with genetic material with any other federal agency. Further, a birth certificate, which may be validated as authentic by consular authorities of the issuing foreign government, or original versions or legible full color copies of other legal documents (e.g., marriage certificates, death certificates, court records, official government or court ordered guardianship records, or a written affirmation of relationship from a Consulate), are the primary method used to confirm a prospective unrelated sponsor's relationship with a child.

In addition, ORR conducts a sponsor assessment and vetting to determine whether a proposed sponsor can provide for a child's physical and emotional well-being. ORR verifies the relationship between the child and the sponsor, if any. In FY 2024, almost 90 percent of children released to a sponsor were placed with a parent, legal guardian, or close family member. ORR also arranges for an independent finding, in the form of background checks, that the proposed sponsor has not engaged in any activity that would indicate a potential risk to the child. ORR requires fingerprint-based FBI background checks, public records checks, and sex offender registry checks for all sponsors. Depending on the factors of the case, ORR may also require Child Abuse and Neglect registry checks. In specific cases, and in accordance with the TVPRA and ORR policy, ORR conducts a home study (discussed further below) prior to releasing a child, as required by law or at ORR's discretion.

ORR ensures that unaccompanied alien children maintain family contact through telephone calls and mail. ORR care providers must provide children with either daily calls that last a minimum of ten minutes or calls allocated throughout the five weekdays that last a minimum of 50 minutes, as determined by the child and the care provider based on the child's unique situation or the child and family's preference. Care providers must provide children with opportunities for daily minimum 45-minute calls during weekends, holidays, and the child's birthday. ORR encourages care providers to go above the minimum whenever possible. Children are allowed to call both family members and sponsors living in the United States and abroad. Care providers must exhaust all efforts to use video calls over audio-only calls, where the family, sponsor, or other approved contacts have access to video calling technology. ORR care providers also ensure that children and youth have access to postage to send letters and, if possible, access to email to send letters to contact family members, sponsors, legal representatives, and others. ORR maintains the child's right to privacy during these conversations.

A home study is an in-depth investigation of a potential sponsor's ability to ensure the safety and well-being of UAC, initiated by ORR before a child is released from its custody. A home study includes an investigation of the living conditions in which the UAC would be placed if released to the potential sponsor, the standard of care the child would receive, and interviews with the potential sponsor and others in the sponsor's household. The TVPRA requires home studies of potential sponsors when the child is a victim of trafficking, has a disability and requires particular services or treatment, has been a victim of physical or sexual abuse, or if the sponsor clearly presents a risk of abuse, maltreatment, exploitation, or trafficking. ORR additionally mandates home studies if 1) a potential sponsor is seeking to concurrently sponsor two or more children and at least one of the children is unrelated to the potential sponsor; 2) a

potential sponsor has previously been the sponsor of two or more children and is now seeking to sponsor one or more additional children; or 3) a potential sponsor is seeking to sponsor an unrelated child who is 12 years or under. ORR is considering expanding home studies to include additional categories: 4) the sponsor claims a biological relationship to the child but refuses to submit a DNA test in accordance with applicable ORR guidance; 5) the potential relative sponsor is not biologically related to the child; or 6) a distant relative or unrelated sponsor is seeking to sponsor a child. In FY 2025, providers have the capacity to conduct over 21,000 home study cases.

ORR also provides access to legal services and information and Post-Release Services (PRS). ORR provides support to children in the UAC program, including "Know Your Rights" information, legal screenings, child advocate referrals and appointments, and PRS. The FSA requires that all children in ORR custody be provided a notice of rights, including information on the right to apply for asylum, that ORR delivers through "Know Your Rights" presentations and information regarding pro bono legal assistance. ORR is providing comprehensive information related to child labor exploitation as part of its notices to children so that they understand their rights, as well as resources available to them.

ORR may appoint independent, third-party child advocates for children who are victims of human trafficking or otherwise especially vulnerable. Child advocates make best-interest determinations, among other duties. For example, a medically fragile child may be appointed a child advocate who works with them frequently to assess their needs and provide best interests recommendations to assist with their placement and release. The TVPRA requires this service and further requires the vendor to provide a 25 percent match for the services, either directly or in-kind, although this match requirement was waived through appropriations language, by the Further Consolidated Appropriations Act of FY 2024 (P.L. 118-47).

Under the TVPRA, ORR is mandated to provide PRS if a child's potential sponsor was subject to a mandatory home study as part of the sponsorship process. ORR is required to provide and make available PRS for these cases during the pendency of the child's immigration removal proceedings (i.e., when a child's immigration case is adjudicated through voluntary departure or an order of removal or the child is granted a lawful immigration status) or until the child turns 18. In addition to cases where PRS is required due to home studies or other ORR policy, ORR may approve PRS for cases where a child has mental health needs or would otherwise benefit from the ongoing assistance of a social welfare agency. Currently, PRS are performed by 24 grant recipients across the country.

Once a UAC is released to a sponsor, the child is no longer in the custody of ORR. For cases where PRS services are provided, their sponsors may choose whether they would like to participate in these services. If a child's sponsor chooses to disengage from PRS and the child wishes to continue receiving PRS, ORR may continue to make PRS available to the child through coordination between the PRS provider and the ORR Project Officer. Since the program's inception, PRS grant recipients have not offered direct services themselves, other than case management, but rather identified and referred discharged children and their sponsors to appropriate service providers within their community upon request, based on the needs of the child and sponsor family.

Approximately 32 percent of children referred to ORR in FY 2024 were 17 years old. For children who are approaching their 18th birthday or for whom there is no appropriate potential sponsor, case managers in shelters prioritize these children for post-18 placement while continuously searching for appropriate sponsors. Post-18 planning requires care providers to provide a written plan, at least two weeks in advance of a youth's 18th birthday. Each post-18 plan should, at a minimum, identify an appropriate non-secure placement for the child and identify any necessary social support services for the child. Under no

circumstances may an 18-year-old remain in ORR custody. ORR has no legal jurisdiction over 18-year-olds and ensures that the local ICE Field Office Juvenile Coordinator is aware of children who are approaching their 18th birthday.

In FY 2024, Congress appropriated \$5.4 billion for UAC in the Further Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2024 (P.L. 118-47), which included a contingency fund to address uncertainty inherent in the UAC program by providing additional funding in any month in FY 2024 when referrals exceeded a certain threshold. Specifically, the fund paid \$15 million for each increment of 500 referrals above a threshold of 16,000 referrals of children to the UAC program in a month. Referrals did not exceed the threshold in FY 2024; therefore, the UAC program received \$65 million, the minimum provided by appropriations language, which remains available until September 30, 2026.

The UAC program receives funding from Congress that is available to obligate over a three-year period, allowing unused funds in one year to be carried over and obligated in the next two years. \$1.6 billion was carried over from FY 2023 to FY 2024, and \$2 billion from FY 2024 to FY 2025.

Appropriations for the program (excluding contingency funds) – net of any authorized changes such as transfers or reprogramming – for five years is as follows:

2022	\$3,906,258,000
2022 Supplemental	\$4,100,000,000
2023	\$5,506,258,000
2023 Supplemental	\$1,400,000,000
2024	\$4,188,041,785
2025	*
2026	\$4,243,000,000

For FY 2024, ACFC awarded 177 grant awards with an average of \$16.44 million and a range of \$11 million to \$161.44 million. In FY 2025, ACFC expects to award 168 grant awards with an average of \$12 million and a range of \$1 million to \$94 million.

Funding for this program is also used to pay salaries and benefits for federal employees, information technology support, grants paneling, and other related administrative costs.

Budget Request

The FY 2026 request is \$4.24 billion. This funding will support a standard bed capacity of roughly 10,500 beds and improvements in sponsor vetting and child safety, while providing critical child welfare services.

Beyond the base funding request, the President’s Budget proposes to modify the contingency fund enacted in FY 2024 and continued in FY 2025. This fund automatically provides additional resources in response to increases in referrals. This contingency fund is needed to address various areas of uncertainty in this program, including the need to activate influx beds in response to surges and the possibility that ORR may be unable to meet its standard bed target due to factors such as labor market challenges, restrictions related to pandemics or other infectious diseases, and state policy changes. The existing contingency fund provides additional resources if the number of referrals exceeds 16,000 per month. The proposed contingency fund would be more responsive to on-the-ground conditions, providing additional resources if the number of referrals exceeds 10,000 a month. The fund would pay out \$15 million for

each increment of 500 referrals above a threshold of 10,000 UAC referrals in a month. The probabilistic score for the fund is \$129 million in FY 2026 based on forecast modeling.

Performance Analysis

Measure	Year and Most Recent Result / Target for Recent Result / (Summary of Result)	FY 2025 Target	FY 2026 Target	FY 2026 Target +/- FY 2025 Target
<u>19A</u> : Increase the percentage of placement designation of referrals of unaccompanied child (UC) from Department of Homeland Security within 24 hours of referral. (<i>Outcome</i>)	FY 2023: 99% Target: 99% (Target Met)	*	Maintenance rate of 99%	*
<u>19C</u> : Maintain the percentage of children who have run away from Unaccompanied Children Program shelters to no higher than 1 percent. (<i>Outcome</i>)	FY 2023: 0.1% FY 2023 Target: 1.0% (Target Exceeded)	*	0.5%	*
<u>19E</u> : Increase the percentage of secure placements reviewed every 30 days. (<i>Outcome</i>)	FY 2023: 100% FY 2023 Target: 99% (Target Exceeded)	*	Maintenance rate of 99%	*
<u>19F</u> : Increase the percentage of children in care that receive legal rights presentations within 10 business days of admission. (<i>Outcome</i>)	FY 2023: 96% FY 2023 Target: 99% (Target Not Met, but Improved)	*	95%	*
<u>19G</u> : Increase the percentage of children that are referred to and offered specific follow up services. (<i>Outcome</i>)	FY 2023: 59% FY 2023 Target: 50% (Target Exceeded)	*	100%	*
<u>19i</u> : Number of children who have run away from UC Program shelters. (<i>Output</i>)	FY 2023: 120 (Historical Actual)	N/A	N/A	N/A

Survivors of Torture

Funding Level	FY 2024 Final	FY 2025 Enacted	FY 2026	Change from FY 2025 Enacted
Total, Budget Authority	\$19,000,000	*	\$19,000,000	*

Allocation Method.....Competitive Grant

Program Description and Accomplishments

The Survivors of Torture program funds services and rehabilitation for survivors of torture through grants primarily to non-profit organizations that provide treatment, social services, and legal services to survivors of torture. The program also provides technical assistance through research and training for providers about the physical and psychological effects of torture. The Torture Victims Relief Act of 1998 (P.L. 105-320) authorizes the provision of assistance for the rehabilitation of the victims of torture and was last updated by the Torture Victims Relief Reauthorization Act of 2005 (P.L. 109-165).

Through grant recipients, ACFC provides assistance that includes rehabilitative, social, and legal services to qualifying individuals who have experienced torture that occurred outside the U.S. committed by a person acting under the color of law and specifically intended to inflict severe physical or mental pain or suffering upon another person within their custody or physical control.

It is estimated that 44 percent of refugees and asylees living in the U.S. have experienced torture, totaling about 1.3 million survivors. For newly enrolled survivors, needs continue to be related to physical and mental health, as well as legal and social services, all of which require intensive case management and psychosocial support. During FY 2024, the program served approximately 8,367 survivors of torture, helping them to regain their health, lead productive lives, and contribute to their communities.

Funding for the program – net of any authorized changes such as transfers or reprogramming – for five years is as follows:

2022	\$18,000,000
2023	\$19,000,000
2024	\$19,000,000
2025	*
2026	\$19,000,000

In FY 2024, ACFC awarded 35 direct service grants with an average of \$476,224 and a range of \$312,341 to \$629,841. A technical assistance provider also received a grant for \$1,148,241. In FY 2025, ACFC estimates awarding 35 direct service grants with an average of \$476,224 and a range of \$312,341 to \$629,841. ACFC estimates an award of \$978,241 for a technical assistance provider.

Funding for this program is also used to pay salaries and benefits for federal employees, information technology support, grants paneling, and other related administrative costs.

Budget Request

The FY 2026 request is \$19.0 million. This will continue to support the survivors of torture living in the United States. At this funding level, ACFC will be able to fund continuation awards for 35 direct service

grantees and one technical assistance provider. These grants will have an average annual award of \$475,000 and reach about 8,000 individuals, comprising torture survivors and their families.

Performance Analysis

Measure	Year and Most Recent Result/ Target for Most Recent Result/ Summary of Result	FY 2025 Target	FY 2026 Target	FY 2026 Target +/- FY 2025 Target
<u>18D</u> : Increase the percentage of survivors whose level of need changed from “vulnerable” or “in crisis” at intake to “stable” or “safe” after receiving services across the following domains: 1) Legal (Immigration); 2) Housing; 3) Physical Health; 4) Mental Health; 5) Access to Community Resources; 6) Support Systems in the U.S.; and 7) Employment (<i>new domain added in 2023</i>).	FY 2023: 1) 46% 2) 43% 3) 49% 4) 50% 5) 58% 6) 50% 7) 27% (Historical Actuals)	N/A	1) 45% 2) 45% 3) 54% 4) 55% 5) 60% 6) 52% 7) TBD	TBD
<u>18iv</u> : Number of torture survivors and family members served. (<i>Output</i>)	FY 2023: 7,503 (Historical Actual)	N/A	N/A	N/A

This page intentionally left blank.

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES
ADMINISTRATION FOR CHILDREN, FAMILIES, AND COMMUNITIES
CHILD CARE AND DEVELOPMENT FUND

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Summary of Changes	33
Appropriations History Table	34
Justification	36
General Statement	36
Program Descriptions and Accomplishments	36
Budget Request	39
Performance Analysis	40

This page intentionally left blank.

ADMINISTRATION FOR CHILDREN, FAMILIES, AND COMMUNITIES
Child Care and Development Fund

Summary of Changes

FY 2025 Enacted	
Total estimated budget authority	\$12,296,387,000
FY 2026	
Total estimated budget authority	\$12,296,387,000
Net change	\$0

ADMINISTRATION FOR CHILDREN, FAMILIES, AND COMMUNITIES
Child Care and Development Fund

Appropriations History Table

Year	Budget Estimate to Congress	House Allowance	Senate Allowance	Appropriation
2017				
Discretionary	2,961,672,000	2,801,000,000	2,786,000,000	2,856,000,000
Mandatory	6,581,862,000			2,917,000,000
Total	9,543,534,000			5,773,000,000
2018				
Discretionary	2,761,000,000	2,860,000,000	2,856,000,000	5,226,000,000
Mandatory	2,917,000,000			2,917,000,000
Transfer				-12,921,601
Total	5,678,000,000			8,130,078,399
2019				
Discretionary	3,006,000,000	5,226,000,000	5,226,000,000	5,276,000,000
Mandatory	3,216,000,000			2,917,000,000
Supplemental				30,000,000
Transfer				-18,149,440
Total	6,222,000,000			8,204,850,560
2020				
Discretionary	5,276,000,000	7,676,000,000	5,301,000,000	5,826,000,000
Mandatory	4,212,000,000			2,917,000,000
Supplemental				3,500,000,000
Total	9,488,000,000			12,243,000,000
2021				
Discretionary	5,826,000,000	5,926,000,000	5,876,000,000	5,911,000,000
Mandatory	4,212,000,000			3,550,000,000
Supplemental				49,000,000,000
Transfer				-32,816,457
Total	10,038,000,000			58,428,183,543
2022				
Discretionary	5,911,000,000	7,377,000,000		6,165,330,000
Mandatory	3,550,000,000			3,550,000,000
Total	9,461,000,000			9,715,330,000
2023				
Discretionary	7,562,000,000	7,165,330,000		8,021,387,000

Year	Budget Estimate to Congress	House Allowance	Senate Allowance	Appropriation
Mandatory	3,550,000,000			3,550,000,000
Supplemental				100,000,000
Total	11,112,000,000			11,671,387,000
2024				
Discretionary	8,021,387,000	8,021,387,000	8,721,387,000	8,021,387,000
Mandatory	3,550,000,000			3,550,000,000
Total	11,571,387,000			11,571,387,000
2025				
Discretionary	8,521,387,000	8,771,387,000	10,346,387,000	8,746,387,000
Mandatory	3,550,000,000			3,550,000,000
Supplemental				500,000,000
Total	12,071,387,000			12,796,387,000
2026				
Discretionary	8,746,387,000			
Mandatory	3,550,000,000			
Total	12,296,387,000			

ADMINISTRATION FOR CHILDREN, FAMILIES, AND COMMUNITIES
Child Care and Development Fund

Justification

Funding Level	FY 2024 Final	FY 2025 Enacted	FY 2026	Change from FY 2025 Enacted
Total, Budget Authority	\$12,296,387,000	\$12,296,387,000	\$12,296,387,000	\$0

Allocation Method.....Formula Grants and Contracts

General Statement

The Child Care and Development Fund (CCDF) program provides funds to help working families with low incomes afford child care and improves the quality of child care for all children. States, territories, and tribes use the funding to provide child care subsidies primarily through vouchers and activities to improve child care quality and support the child care workforce.

CCDF consists of two funding streams: the mandatory Child Care Entitlement (CCE) and the discretionary Child Care and Development Block Grant (CCDBG). CCDBG was created by the Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act of 1990 (P.L. 101-508) and is subject to annual appropriations. The Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act (PRWORA) of 1996 (P.L. 104-193) consolidated funding for child care under the Social Security Act, where CCE is authorized, and made such funding generally subject to the requirements of the CCDBG Act. The Child Care and Development Block Grant Act of 2014 (P.L. 113-186) reauthorized the discretionary portion of CCDF through FY 2020 and made significant changes to improve the health, safety, and quality of child care and to provide more continuous child care assistance to children and families with low incomes. The American Rescue Plan (ARP) Act of 2021 (P.L. 117-2) permanently authorized CCE and increased its annual funding from \$2.9 billion to \$3.6 billion.

The combination of the discretionary and mandatory funds provided about \$12.3 billion in federal funding in FY 2025 for child care.

Program Descriptions and Accomplishments

CCDF is the primary federal funding source devoted to supporting families with low incomes to afford child care and to increasing the quality of child care for all children. CCDF plays a vital role in supporting child development and family well-being; facilitating parents' employment, training, and education; and improving the economic well-being of participating families.

Reliable access to child care supports parents' labor force participation, full-time employment, and educational attainment. According to reporting from the states, 89 percent of families receiving child care vouchers cited employment or education and training as the reason for receiving child care. CCDF programs must also spend at least 12 percent of their CCDF funding each year on activities to improve child care quality for all children in care. High-quality child care environments can also be important for children's cognitive, behavioral, and socio-emotional development, helping chart a pathway to succeed in school and beyond.

State CCDF allocations are determined by a statutory formula that consists of three factors – the population of children under age five, the number of children who receive free or reduced-price school

meals under the National School Lunch Act, and state per capita income. Tribal grantees' allocations are based on the number of children under age 13 living in their defined service area, in addition to a base amount set by the Secretary. Territorial grantees receive funds based on the number of children under age five living in territories and per capita income in the territories.

Mandatory CCE funds are allocated to state grantees (including Washington, D.C.) based on historic levels of child care expenditures. Mandatory tribal funds are allocated based on the number of children under the age of 13 in each tribe's service area. The ARP Act authorized mandatory funds to be awarded to territories (including Puerto Rico) for the first time in FY 2021. Mandatory territory funds are allocated based on the number of children under age five living in each territory and per capita income in each territory.

Matching CCE funds are those remaining after mandatory funds and the set-aside for tribes and territories, described later in this section, are allocated. Matching funds are available to states (including Washington, D.C.) if three conditions are met by the end of the fiscal year in which the funds are awarded: (1) all mandatory funds are obligated; (2) the state's maintenance-of-effort funds are expended; and (3) the state provides its share of matching funds at the Federal Medical Assistance Percentage rate. A state's allocation of the matching fund is based on the number of children under age 13 in the state compared with the national total of children under age 13. Federal matching funds that are allotted to a state but are not used may be recaptured by ACFC and redistributed to states based on a formula like the one used for the original allotments. Matching funds allotted to a state but not obligated by the end of that fiscal year are redistributed in the following fiscal year to other states that requested redistributed funds. Redistributed matching funds are considered part of the grant for the fiscal year in which the redistribution occurred.

A portion of CCDBG and CCE funds is reserved for Indian tribes. For CCDBG funding, the statute reserves an amount of no less than two percent of the appropriation. An amount greater than two percent of discretionary funds may be reserved if the amount appropriated for a given fiscal year is greater than the amount appropriated for FY 2014 and the amount allotted to the states is not less than the amount allotted to them in FY 2014. In FY 2024, three percent of discretionary funds was allotted for Indian tribes. The FY 2024 CCDBG appropriations language included a set-aside of \$236 million for Indian tribes in addition to the amount determined by ACFC. The ARP Act permanently increased the CCE to include \$100 million to be awarded annually to Indian tribes, a 73 percent increase.

Up to one-half of one percent of the CCDBG funding is reserved for the territories (excluding Puerto Rico, which receives CCDBG funding under the state formula). The ARP Act appropriated for the first time \$75 million of CCE funding to be awarded annually beginning in FY 2021 to the territories (including Puerto Rico).

Up to one-half of one percent of the CCDBG funding is reserved for federal administration expenses. Dedicated federal administrative funds are used for federal staff, program supports, IT and data systems modernization and maintenance, program oversight and accountability, and overhead costs. Federal administrative funds are supporting modernization and improvement of the usability and analytical capabilities of the Child Care Automated Reporting System data system and the Online Data Collection system, both of which support state, territory, and tribal CCDF program implementation, plan submission, and reporting along with federal policy, program administration, and data analysis.

Up to one-half of one percent of CCDF funding is reserved for the provision of training and technical assistance to states, territories, and tribes in designing and implementing child care systems that

efficiently provide safe, healthy, and affordable choices for families with low incomes. ACFC identifies and shares innovations in CCDF administration and disseminates information about evidence-based practices. This includes information briefs, tools, and other supports that are responsive to requests from grant recipients on topics such as business technical assistance, quality improvement systems, parental choice, health and safety in child care settings, cost-estimation tools, and program integrity and accountability. ACFC provides this through targeted and intensive engagement with states, territories, and tribes, such as peer-to-peer learning opportunities.

The statute allows for up to one-half of one percent of CCDF funding for a fiscal year to be reserved to conduct research and demonstration activities and to conduct periodic, external, independent evaluations of the CCDF program. ACFC conducts collection and analysis of data from families and child care providers, along with state and local, territorial, and tribal state entities related to their policies, practices, and implementation of the CCDF program. This research assists federal, state, and local decision-makers in crafting child care policies that support positive outcomes for children and families, including parental employment, economic stability, and improving the quality of care. Some recent policy areas for evaluations and demonstrations include strategies to fill child care staffing gaps in order to operate at the program's full-capacity, private sector child care investments, innovative approaches to improve the qualifications and competencies of the early childhood workforce, and increasing the supply of difficult-to-find child care services (i.e., child care for infants and toddlers or care during non-standard hours of employment).

The Administration is identifying efficiencies and anticipates adjusting the amounts used for technical assistance, research, and federal administration to redirect funding to CCDF grant recipients.

In FY 2022 and subsequent years, Congress has included a General Provision to expand funding flexibility for research projects in ACFC. All research funding provided for in the Appropriations Act can remain available for five years following appropriation. This has allowed for additional time for research and evaluation projects within the child care program.

In FY 2022, the most recent year for which preliminary data are available, over 1.43 million children from about 870,900 families with low incomes received child care assistance in an average month through CCDF. Of the children served, 27 percent were infants and toddlers, 27 percent were 3 or 4 years old, 10 percent were 5 years old, and 35 percent were 6 years or older. Of the families served, 35 percent had incomes below the Federal Poverty Level (FPL) (\$23,030 for a family of three in 2022), while 26 percent had incomes between 100 and 150 percent of FPL, and 25 percent had incomes above 150 percent of FPL (with the remaining cases being child-only protective services or invalid or unreported data).

In FY 2025, Congress provided \$500 million for CCDBG through the American Relief Act, 2025 (P.L. 118-158), of which \$250 million is to remain available until September 30, 2026, for necessary expenses directly related to the consequences of major disasters and emergencies that occurred in 2023 and 2024. The other \$250 million was awarded to grantees to supplement their CCDBG funding.

Funding for the CCDF program – net of any authorized changes such as transfers or reprogramming – for five years is as follows:

2022	\$9,715,330,000
2023	\$11,571,387,000
2023 Supplemental	\$100,000,000
2024	\$12,296,387,000
2025	\$12,296,387,000
2025 Supplemental	\$500,000,000
2026	\$12,296,387,000

For FY 2025 CCDBG, the grant awards made to the 50 states and Washington, D.C., averaged approximately \$157 million with a range of \$9 million to \$986 million. The grant awards made to territories averaged approximately \$20 million with a range of \$7 million to \$59 million. The grant awards made to tribes averaged approximately \$2 million with a range of \$63,000 to \$72 million.

CCDBG funding is also used to pay salaries and benefits for federal employees, information technology support, and other related administrative costs.

For FY 2025 CCE Mandatory, the grant awards made to the 50 states and Washington, D.C., averaged approximately \$23 million with a range of nearly \$2 million to \$102 million. The grant awards made to territories averaged approximately \$15 million with a range of approximately \$2 million to \$63 million. The grant awards made to tribes averaged approximately \$406,000 with a range of approximately \$7,000 to \$15 million.

For FY 2025 CCE Matching, the grant awards made to the 50 states and Washington, D.C., averaged approximately \$42 million with a range of nearly \$3 million to \$249 million.

Budget Request

The FY 2026 request is for \$12.30 billion in budget authority, the same as the FY 2025 Enacted level. The combination of the discretionary and mandatory funds would provide about \$12.33 billion in federal funding in FY 2026 for child care, the same as the FY 2025 Enacted level.

The CCDBG amount includes a planned three-percent allotment for Indian tribes in addition to the \$236 million set-aside included in the proposed appropriation language.

For FY 2026 CCDBG funds, ACFC estimates that the awards made to the 50 states and Washington, D.C., will average approximately \$157 million with a range from \$9 million to \$986 million. The grant awards made to territories will average approximately \$20 million with a range of \$7 million to \$59 million. The grant awards made to tribes will average approximately \$2 million with a range of \$48,000 to \$70 million.

For the FY 2026 CCE current law mandatory level, ACFC estimates that the awards made to the 50 states and Washington, D.C., will average approximately \$23 million with a range from nearly \$2 million to \$102 million. The grant awards made to territories will average approximately \$15 million with a range of approximately \$2 million to \$63 million. The grant awards made to tribes will average approximately \$406,000 with a range of approximately \$7,000 to \$15 million.

For the FY 2026 CCE current law matching level, ACFC estimates that the awards made to the 50 states and Washington, D.C., will average approximately \$42 million with a range from nearly \$3 million to \$249 million.

Performance Analysis

Measure	Year and Most Recent Result / Target for Recent Result / (Summary of Result)	FY 2025 Target	FY 2026 Target	FY 2026 Target +/- FY 2025 Target
2G: Increase the number of states with base provider payment rates for all ages at or above the 7 ⁵ th percentile of market rate based on the most recent child care market rate survey or the number of states that set current CCDF provider rates based on an ACFC-approved alternative methodology that incorporates a cost estimation model. (Outcome)	FY 2024: 30 states (Historical Actual)	32	32	Maintain
2ii. Average monthly percentage of families receiving CCDF subsidies with employment, training/education, or both employment and training/education as the reason for care. (Output)	FY 2022: 89 percent (Historical Actual)	N/A	N/A	N/A
2iv The proportion of children served through Child Care and Development Fund, Temporary Assistance for Needy Families, and Social Services Block Grant child care funding compared to the number of children in families with income equal to or less than 85 percent of State Median Income.(Output)	FY 2022: 16% (Historical Actual)	N/A	N/A	N/A
2v. Average monthly percentage of children receiving a CCDF subsidy served through a certificate or voucher. (Output)	FY 2022: 96% (Historical Actual)	N/A	N/A	N/A

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES
ADMINISTRATION FOR CHILDREN, FAMILIES, AND COMMUNITIES
CHILDREN AND FAMILIES SERVICES PROGRAMS

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Summary of Changes	43
Appropriations History Table	44
Justification	46
General Statement	46
Head Start	47
Runaway and Homeless Youth Program	54
CAPTA State Grants	59
Child Abuse Discretionary Activities	62
Community-Based Child Abuse Prevention	64
Child Welfare Services	66
Child Welfare Research, Training and Demonstration	69
Adoption Opportunities	71
Adoption and Legal Guardianship Incentive Payments	73
Social Services Research and Demonstration	75
Native American Programs	78
National Domestic Violence Hotline	80
Family Violence Prevention and Services	84
Chafee Education and Training Vouchers	88
Disaster Human Services Case Management	90
Federal Administration	93

This page intentionally left blank.

ADMINISTRATION FOR CHILDREN, FAMILIES, AND COMMUNITIES
Children and Families Services Programs

Summary of Changes

FY 2025 Enacted	
Total estimated budget authority	\$14,789,089,000
FY 2026	
Total estimated budget authority	\$13,657,693,000
Net change	-\$1,131,396,000

<u>Description of Changes</u>	<u>FY 2025 Enacted</u>	<u>Change from Base</u>
<u>Decreases:</u>		
<u>A. Program:</u>		
1) Preschool Development Grants: No funding is being requested for this program.	\$315,000,000	-\$315,000,000
2) Community Services Block Grant: No funding is being requested for this program.	\$770,000,000	-\$770,000,000
3) Community Economic Development: No funding is being requested for this program.	\$22,383,000	-\$22,383,000
4) Rural Community Development: No funding is being requested for this program.	\$12,000,000	-\$12,000,000
Subtotal, Program Decreases		-\$1,131,396,000
Total Decreases		-\$1,131,396,000
Net Change		-\$1,131,396,000

ADMINISTRATION FOR CHILDREN, FAMILIES, AND COMMUNITIES
Children and Families Services Programs

Appropriations History Table

Year	Budget Estimate to Congress	House Allowance	Senate Allowance	Appropriation
2017				
Appropriation	11,725,057,000	11,382,896,000	11,214,935,000	11,294,368,000
Transfer				-39,304,108
Total				11,255,063,892
2018				
Appropriation	10,204,294,000	11,181,500,000	11,284,368,000	12,022,225,000
Transfer				-30,130,399
Supplemental				650,000,000
Total				12,642,094,601
2019				
Appropriation	10,323,890,000	12,122,225,000	12,288,225,000	12,239,225,000
Transfer				-48,487,897
Supplemental				90,000,000
Total				12,280,737,103
2020				
Appropriation	11,187,485,000	13,967,468,000	13,052,342,000	12,876,652,000
Supplemental				1,874,000,000
Total				14,750,652,000
2021				
Appropriation	11,856,130,000	12,978,181,000	12,962,269,000	13,040,511,000
Supplemental				3,208,000,000
Total				16,248,511,000
2022				
Appropriation	14,902,760,000	15,232,981,000	14,949,267,000	13,438,343,000
Supplemental				7,773,000
Total				13,446,116,000
2023				
Appropriation	15,311,822,000	15,144,961,000		14,618,437,000
Supplemental				408,000,000
Total				15,026,437,000
2024				
Appropriation	16,139,665,000	13,388,077,000	14,801,100,000	14,829,100,000

Year	Budget Estimate to Congress	House Allowance	Senate Allowance	Appropriation
2025				
Appropriation	15,052,128,000	14,709,694,000	15,544,939,000	14,789,089,000
2026				
Appropriation	13,657,693,000			

ADMINISTRATION FOR CHILDREN, FAMILIES, AND COMMUNITIES
Children and Families Services Programs

Justification

Funding Level	FY 2024 Final	FY 2025 Enacted	FY 2026	Change from FY 2025 Enacted
Total, Budget Authority	14,829,100,000	14,789,089,000	13,657,693,000	-1,131,396,000

General Statement

The Children and Families Services Programs appropriations account incorporates funding for programs serving children, youth, families, Native Americans, victims of child abuse and neglect and domestic violence, and other populations. The FY 2026 request for discretionary Children and Families Services Programs is \$13.7 billion, a decrease of \$1.13 billion from the FY 2025 Enacted level.

The FY 2026 request for Children and Families Services Programs funds most programs at the FY 2025 Enacted level. The following programs are proposed for elimination:

- Preschool Development Grants (-\$315 million)
- Community Services Block Grants (-\$770 million)
- Community Economic Development (-\$22.4 million)
- Rural Community Developmental (-\$12 million)

ACFC proposes to combine the Service Connection for Youth on the Streets program and the Runaway and Homeless Youth programs into one account. This will lead to an increase in the efficiency of services and a reduced burden for the grantees as many are currently receiving multiple grants from the programs.

Head Start

Funding Level	FY 2024 Final	FY 2025 Enacted	FY 2026	Change from FY 2025 Enacted
Total, Budget Authority	\$12,271,820,000	\$12,271,820,000	\$12,271,820,000	\$0

Allocation Method.....Competitive Grants

Program Description and Accomplishments

The Head Start program was established as part of the Economic Opportunity Act of 1964 (P.L. 88-452) and most recently reauthorized under the Improving Head Start for School Readiness Act of 2007 (P.L. 110-134). The program provides grants directly to local public and private non-profit and for-profit agencies to provide comprehensive early learning and development services to economically disadvantaged children and families, with a special focus on helping preschoolers develop the education and skills required to be successful in school. The Early Head Start program was established as part of the Head Start Amendments Act of 1994 (P.L. 103-252) to serve pregnant women and children from birth to three years of age, in recognition of the mounting evidence that the earliest years are critical to children's growth and development.

In FY 2024, Congress provided \$12.27 billion for the Head Start Preschool and Early Head Start programs (hereafter, collectively referred to as "Head Start," unless otherwise noted), with funding to serve 718,947 children and pregnant women in centers, family homes, and family child care settings in urban, suburban, and rural communities throughout the country. This includes funding provided directly to tribes to operate American Indian and Alaska Native (AIAN) programs in tribal communities. It also includes funding for Migrant and Seasonal Head Start (MSHS) programs to provide Head Start services designed to meet the needs of migrant or seasonal farmworker families.

Head Start programs promote school readiness by enhancing the cognitive, physical, behavioral, and social-emotional development of children through the provision of educational, health, nutritional, social, and other services to enrolled children and families. The Performance Standards outline the requirements and expectations of programs in delivering these services. Head Start programs are expected to collaborate with other early care and education programs in their states and local communities and to work closely with local school systems to build on the gains children achieve in Head Start.

All Head Start grant recipients must, unless a waiver is granted, contribute 20 percent of the total cost of the program from non-federal funds or in-kind contributions, including donated goods or services. No more than 15 percent of total program costs may be used for program administration. With the exception of AIAN and MSHS programs, which have specific eligibility criteria established by law, at least 90 percent of the enrollees in a Head Start program must be children from families with an income at or below the federal poverty level or eligible for public assistance or children who are experiencing homelessness or in foster care. However, if a program can show that it is meeting the needs of all interested and eligible families in its community using the above criteria, that program may propose to fill up to 35 percent of its funded enrollment with children whose family income is between 100 to 130 percent of the poverty line. A Head Start program must ensure that at least 10 percent of its actual enrollment is filled by children with disabilities who are eligible for services under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act, unless it is granted a waiver.

Following the 2007 reauthorization, ACFC took steps to raise the bar on quality in Head Start programs, as directed by the law. ACFC implemented the Designation Renewal System (DRS), which provides a structure for identifying lower performing programs that are required to compete for continued funding resulting in more open competition. Grant recipients that fall short on quality benchmarks, including classroom quality, health and safety, financial accountability, and program management standards, are designated for competition. Since FY 2013, appropriations have provided \$25 million annually to support the implementation of the DRS in order to minimize the disruption of services to children and families during transitions to new providers when incumbent grant recipients are unsuccessful in the competitive grant process. ACFC has awarded these funds for activities such as hiring, training, and conducting criminal background checks on staff; obtaining licenses to operate; beginning recruitment and enrollment of children; and transferring property and inventory from the incumbent grant recipient. ACFC has also awarded these funds to support the operations of an interim provider until the new grant recipient is in place to avoid gaps in service to children and families.

Since FY 2014, the Head Start appropriation has included funding for Early Head Start-Child Care (EHS-CC) Partnerships and Early Head Start Expansion. This funding has allowed grant recipients to expand access to meet the needs for infant and toddler care in their community through traditional Early Head Start programs or through partnerships with center-based and family child care providers who agree to meet the Performance Standards with funding and technical assistance from Early Head Start programs. Since 2014, ACFC has awarded 502 new EHS-CC Partnership and Early Head Start Expansion grants across four rounds of competition. The round of grants awarded in FY 2021 were funded to provide Early Head Start services to 5,100 infants and toddlers and their families. The FY 2023 appropriation provided \$100 million for another round of program expansion for both Head Start Preschool and Early Head Start program expansion. ACFC issued expansion awards in FY 2024 to support an additional 4,447 slots. In FY 2025, ACFC continued to provide \$8 million to maintain nine Tribal Colleges and University Head Start Partnership grants to support activities to improve the skills and qualifications of education personnel, to provide assistance to staff and parents in the program, to develop curricula to promote high-quality services and instruction, and to develop and implement learning opportunities for AIAN Head Start agency staff.

As of August 1, 2021, each Head Start center-based preschool program must, unless a waiver is granted, provide 1,020 annual hours of planned class operations over at least eight months per year for 45 percent of its center-based funded enrollment. The requirement that Early Head Start center-based programs provide 1,380 annual hours of planned class operations remains in effect from August 1, 2018. The requirement for increased program hours – which equates to a full school day – supports the importance of longer preschool duration in achieving meaningful child outcomes and preparing children for success in school, while affording programs flexibility to meet the needs of their communities. Head Start programs have increased their service duration over time. In FY 2024, approximately 87 percent of funded slots in center-based Head Start Preschool programs operated for at least 1,020 hours per year, compared to 75 percent in FY 2021.

Starting in FY 2022, and every year since, Congress has included a General Provision to expand funding flexibility for research projects in ACF. All research funding provided for in the Appropriations Act can remain available for five years following appropriation. This has allowed for additional time for research and evaluation projects within the Head Start program.

Funding for the program - net of any authorized changes, such as transfers or reprogramming, or supplemental appropriations - for five years is as follows:

2022	\$11,036,820,000
2023	\$11,996,820,000
2023 Supplemental	\$345,000,000
2024	\$12,271,820,000
2025	\$12,271,820,000
2026	\$12,271,820,000

In FY 2024, there were 1,562 Head Start grant recipients, with awards averaging \$4 million and ranging from \$322,000 to \$202.6 million. In FY 2025, it is expected that there will be 1,562 Head Start grant recipients with awards averaging \$4 million and a range of \$322,000 to \$202.6 million.

Funding for this program is also used to pay salaries and benefits for federal employees, information technology support, grants paneling, and other related administrative costs.

Budget Request

The FY 2026 request for the Head Start program is \$12.3 billion, the same as the FY 2025 Enacted level. This level will allow ACFC to fund an estimated 675,323 slots for eligible children and pregnant women through an estimated 1,562 Head Start grant recipients, with awards averaging \$4 million and ranging from \$322,000 to \$202.6 million.

The FY 2026 President's Budget proposes a set of reform principles to modernize the Head Start program for the 21st century. These reforms aim to increase parental choice; improve health, education, and employment outcomes; promote parental engagement; and enhance efficiency. The principles guiding these reforms refocus the program on its original goals, established 60 years ago, to help American families out of poverty. The reform principles also prioritize efficiency by reducing prescriptive requirements and streamlining federal oversight to increase state and local flexibility.

This Budget request maintains the total set-aside of \$21 million to supplement federal administrative costs and evaluation. The request also maintains the \$25 million to support DRS transitions, as well as \$8 million to maintain the Tribal Colleges and Universities Head Start Partnership Program.

Performance Analysis

Measure	Year and Most Recent Result / Target for Recent Result / (Summary of Result)	FY 2025 Target	FY 2026 Target	FY 2026 Target +/- FY 2025 Target
<u>3A</u> : Reduce the proportion of Head Start preschool grant recipients receiving a score in the low range on any of the three domains on the basis of the Classroom Assessment Scoring System (CLASS: Pre-K). (<i>Outcome</i>)	FY 2024: 13% Target: 16% (Target Exceeded)	12%	Prior Result – 1PP	TBD
<u>3B</u> : Increase the percentage of Early Head Start children who become up-to-date during the program year on a schedule of age-appropriate preventive and primary health care, according to their state’s EPSDT schedule. (<i>Outcome</i>)	FY 2024: 14.6% Target: 15.5% (Target Not Met, but Improved)	15.6%	Prior Result +1PP	N/A
<u>3E</u> : Decrease under-enrollment in Head Start programs, thereby increasing the number of children served per dollar. (<i>Efficiency</i>)	FY 2024: 15.1% Target: 2.0% (Target Not Met, but Improved)	2%	2%	Maintain
<u>3.7LT</u> : Percentage of parents of children in Head Start Preschool who report reading to their child three or more times per week. (<i>Outcome</i>)	FY 2020: 73% Target: 83% (Target Not Met)	75%	N/A	N/A
<u>3i</u> : Number of Early Head Start children who are up to date on a schedule of age-appropriate preventive and primary health care, according to their state’s EPSDT schedule, at the end of their enrollment year. (<i>Output</i>)	FY 2024: 108,389 (Historical Actual)	N/A	N/A	N/A
<u>3v</u> : Percent of Head Start Preschool and Early Head Start staff who are parents of children currently or formerly enrolled in the program. (<i>Output</i>)	FY 2024: 24% (Historical Actual)	N/A	N/A	N/A
<u>3vi</u> : Percent of children enrolled in Head Start eligible to receive early intervention services under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act. (<i>Output</i>)	FY 2024: 15% (Historical Actual)	N/A	N/A	N/A
<u>3vii</u> : Percent of children served experiencing homelessness during the program year (<i>Output</i>)	FY 2024: 7% (Historical Actual)	N/A	N/A	N/A

<u>3viii</u> Percent of children served who were in foster care during the program year (<i>Output</i>)	FY 2024: 3% (Historical Actual)	N/A	N/A	N/A
<u>3ix</u> Percent of staff that left the program during the program year. (<i>Output</i>)	FY 2024: 15% (Historical Actual)	N/A	N/A	N/A

Measure	Year and Most Recent Result / Target for Recent Result / (Summary of Result)	FY 2025 Target	FY 2026 Target	FY 2026 Target +/- FY 2025 Target
<u>3A</u> : Reduce the proportion of Head Start preschool grant recipients receiving a score in the low range on any of the three domains on the basis of the Classroom Assessment Scoring System (CLASS: Pre-K). (<i>Outcome</i>)	FY 2024: 13% Target: 16% (Target Exceeded)	12%	Prior Result – 1PP	TBD
<u>3B</u> : Increase the percentage of Early Head Start children who become up-to-date during the program year on a schedule of age-appropriate preventive and primary health care, according to their state’s EPSDT schedule. (<i>Outcome</i>)	FY 2024: 14.6% Target: 15.5% (Target Not Met, but Improved)	15.6%	Prior Result +1PP	N/A
<u>3E</u> : Decrease under-enrollment in Head Start programs, thereby increasing the number of children served per dollar. (<i>Efficiency</i>)	FY 2024: 15.1% Target: 2.0% (Target Not Met, but Improved)	2%	2%	Maintain
3.7LT: Percentage of parents of children in Head Start Preschool who report reading to their child three or more times per week. (<i>Outcome</i>)	FY 2020: 73% Target: 83% (Target Not Met)	75%	N/A	N/A
<u>3i</u> : Number of Early Head Start children who are up to date on a schedule of age-appropriate preventive and primary health care, according to their state’s EPSDT schedule, at the end of their enrollment year. (<i>Output</i>)	FY 2024: 108,389 (Historical Actual)	N/A	N/A	N/A
<u>3ii</u> : Number of Head Start Preschool teachers without a bachelor’s degree or higher degree and Early Head Start teachers without a CDA degree who are enrolled in a program to obtain those qualifications. (<i>Output</i>)	FY 2024: 6,632 (Historical Actual)	N/A	N/A	N/A

Measure	Year and Most Recent Result / Target for Recent Result / (Summary of Result)	FY 2025 Target	FY 2026 Target	FY 2026 Target +/- FY 2025 Target
<u>3iii</u> : Number of Head Start Preschool and Early Head Start teachers with at least an associate's degree. <i>(Output)</i>	FY 2024: 44,984 (Historical Actual)	N/A	N/A	N/A
<u>3iv</u> : Number of Head Start Preschool assistant teachers with at least an associate's degree. <i>(Output)</i>	FY 2024: 10,686 (Historical Actual)	N/A	N/A	N/A
<u>3v</u> : Percent of Head Start Preschool and Early Head Start staff who are parents of children currently or formerly enrolled in the program. <i>(Output)</i>	FY 2024: 24% (Historical Actual)	N/A	N/A	N/A
<u>3vi</u> : Percent of children enrolled in Head Start eligible to receive early intervention services under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act. <i>(Output)</i>	FY 2024: 15% (Historical Actual)	N/A	N/A	N/A
<u>3vii</u> : Percent of children served experiencing homelessness during the program year <i>(Output)</i>	FY 2024: 7% (Historical Actual)	N/A	N/A	N/A
<u>3viii</u> Percent of children served who were in foster care during the program year <i>(Output)</i>	FY 2024: 3% (Historical Actual)	N/A	N/A	N/A
<u>3ix</u> Percent of staff that left the program during the program year. <i>(Output)</i>	FY 2024: 15% (Historical Actual)	N/A	N/A	N/A
<u>3x</u> : Number of Head Start Preschool teachers with at least an associate's degree. <i>(Output)</i>	FY 2024: 32,443 (Historical Actual)	N/A	N/A	N/A

Additional Head Start Program Data[1]

Program Data	FY 2024 Actual	FY 2025 CR	FY 2026 President's Budget
Number of Grant Recipients[2]	1,562	1,562	1,562
Funded Slots for Children in Head Start Programs	718,947	697,112	675,323
Head Start (Preschool)	530,064	501,488	472,800
Early Head Start[3]	159,199	166,840	174,639
EHS-CC Partnerships	29,684	28,784	27,884
Estimated Number of Children in Poverty Below Age 5 in 50 States and DC (2023)[4]	3,107,000	N/A	N/A
Number of Staff	250,454	242,848	235,257
Number of Classrooms	48,861	47,377	45,896
Number of Head Start and Early Head Start Teachers	67,381	65,355	63,292
Number of Teachers with AA Degree or Higher	44,984	43,618	42,254
Percent of Teachers with AA Degree or Higher	67%	66%	65%
Average Head Start and Early Head Start Teacher Salary	\$41,359	\$41,359	\$41,359
Average Teacher Salary with AA Degree or Higher	\$43,844	\$43,844	\$43,844
Head Start Preschool: Number of Teachers	33,734	32,709	31,687
Head Start Preschool: Percent of Teachers with AA Degree or Higher	92%	91%	90%
Head Start Preschool: Average Teacher Salary[5]	\$43,993	\$43,993	\$43,993
Volunteers	607,987	589,522	571,096

[1] Unless otherwise noted as “Head Start preschool,” all data in the table includes Head Start, Early Head Start, and EHS-CC Partnerships. Also, teacher data in the table includes all center-based teachers but excludes assistant teachers.

[2] Data includes only agencies funded to provide direct services to children and families. Some grant recipients have more than one grant.

[3] Early Head Start funded slots include EHS Expansion and exclude EHS-CC Partnership slots, which are shown on the next line.

[4] The territories and Puerto Rico are not included.

[5] Head Start preschool average teacher salary does not include Migrant and Seasonal Head Start teachers.

Runaway and Homeless Youth Program

Funding Level	FY 2024 Final	FY 2025 Enacted	FY 2026	Change from FY 2025 Enacted
Total, Budget Authority	\$146,283,000	*	\$146,283,000	*

Allocation Method.....Formula and Competitive Grants

Program Description and Accomplishments

The Runaway and Homeless Youth (RHY) programs were authorized as part of the Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Act of 1974 (P.L. 93-415) and the Violent Crimes Control and Law Enforcement Act of 1994 (P. L. 103-322). The RHY Act was further amended by the Justice for Victims Trafficking Act of 2015 (P. L. 114-22) to add trafficking victims to the populations served. These programs serve as the national leader for the provision of shelter and supportive services to runaway and homeless youth as well as providing street-based services to runaway, homeless, and street youth who have been subjected to, or are at risk of being subjected to, sexual abuse, prostitution, sexual exploitation, and severe forms of trafficking in persons. The RHY programs administer grants to public and private organizations to establish and operate youth emergency shelters and transitional living programs. This program was reauthorized by the Reconnecting Homeless Youth Act of 2008 (P. L. 110-378) through FY 2013 and more recently reauthorized by the Juvenile Justice Reform Act (P. L. 115-385) through FY 2020.

The Basic Center Program (BCP) provides grants to community-based public and private agencies for the provision of outreach, crisis intervention, emergency shelter, counseling, family reunification and reconnection, and aftercare services to runaway and homeless youth and their families. BCPs can provide up to 21 days of shelter for as many as 20 youth at each facility, with an exception in those jurisdictions that require a higher limit in order to be licensed as a BCP. Funds are allocated among the states using a formula based on the population of youth under age 18 as a proportion of the national population. BCPs provide youth with an opportunity to receive individual and family counseling, education, employment assistance, and behavioral health and physical health services.

In FY 2023, ACFC launched the Runaway and Homeless Youth-Prevention Demonstration Program (RHY-PDP), which provided \$350,000 each to 11 community-based organizations to support the design and delivery of community-based demonstration initiatives to prevent youth and young adults from experiencing homelessness. Through development and coordination of the partnerships with youth and young adult services providers, community organizations, and private and public agencies, the RHY-PDP is identifying young people at risk of experiencing homelessness, designing and developing a comprehensive community prevention plan to prevent youth homelessness, and implementing a robust, holistic services plan to respond to the diverse needs of youth who may be at risk of homelessness and their families. All programs are required to participate in a federal evaluation of prevention services and interventions throughout their three-year period of performance. In FY 2024, funding was made available to continue support of these new programs and fund 10 new demonstration programs.

The Transitional Living Program (TLP), including the Maternity Group Home (MGH) program, provides grants to public and private organizations for community-based, adult-supervised group homes, host homes, and supervised apartments for youth ages 16 to 21 who cannot safely live with their families. For the MGH program, the funding provides shelter and services to meet the needs of pregnant and parenting homeless youth to promote long-term economic independence in order to ensure the well-being of the youth and their young families. Youth entering a TLP or MGH under the age of 18 are eligible for up to

21 months of service or to remain until they reach the age of 18, whichever is longer. All youth between the ages 18 and 21 are eligible for up to 18 months of TLP services, which may be extended to 21 months in extenuating circumstances. TLPs provide a long-term, safe, stable, and nurturing environment for homeless youth. Services include counseling in basic life skills, interpersonal skill building, educational advancement, job attainment skills, and physical and behavioral health care. These services are designed to help youth who are homeless develop the skills necessary to make a successful transition to independence and self-sufficient living.

The Service Connection for Youth on the Streets funds outreach to runaway and homeless youth on the streets or in areas that increase the risk of sexual abuse, sexual exploitation, and other forms of victimization, the goal being to help young people get off the streets and into safe settings. Grantees also provide support services that aim to move youth into shelter or stable housing and to help prepare them for independence.

The RHY programs also fund the National Communications System (NCS) for Runaway and Homeless Youth. The NCS program makes over 125,000 connections a year through its hotline, online, and offline services and resources. Its toll-free services are available 24 hours per day, 365 days per year throughout the United States and U.S. Territories. As part of their services, the NCS program connects youth who run away and those experiencing homelessness with their families, legal guardians, and service providers. The NCS program also provides prevention counseling and identifies resources for youth in crisis or those who are contemplating running away. In addition, The NCS program develops and disseminates prevention resources in an effort to minimize runaway incidents and youth homelessness nationwide. In 2022, 74 percent of the crisis services connections were from youth in crisis; 20 percent came from parents, family members, or other caring adults; and the remaining 6 percent came from a youth's friend or a social service agency. In addition, family dynamics continue to be the most common issue reported by youth, at 77 percent. Emotional abuse was the next highest reported issue at 28 percent, followed by mental health related issues at 25 percent and peer and social issues at 17 percent.

Starting in FY 2022, and every year since, Congress has included a General Provision to expand funding flexibility for research projects in ACF. All research funding provided for in the Appropriations Act can remain available for five years following appropriation. This has allowed for additional time for research and evaluation projects within the Basic Center Program.

Funding for the program - net of any authorized changes such as transfers or reprogramming - for five years is as follows:

2022	\$140,283,000
2023	\$146,283,000
2024	\$146,283,000
2025	*
2026	\$146,283,000

For FY 2024, 641 grants were made with an average award of \$213,621 and a range from \$90,000 to \$350,000.

Funding for this program is also used to pay salaries and benefits for federal employees, information technology support, grants paneling, and other related administrative costs.

Budget Request

The FY 2026 request for the RHY program is \$146.3 million. At this level, ACFC will provide funding to eligible public and private organizations to provide shelter and comprehensive supportive services to address the needs of youth and young adults experiencing homelessness and at risk of sexual abuse or exploitation. Services include the provision of emergency short-term shelter services, street outreach, and longer-term transitional living and maternity group home programs.

For FY 2026, it is estimated that 629 grants will be made, with an average award of \$210,850 and a range of \$90,000 to \$350,000.

The Budget consolidates the Service Connection for Youth on the Street program into the overall RHY account. This will lead to an increase in the efficiency of services and a reduced burden for the grantees as many are currently receiving multiple grants from the programs.

Performance Analysis

Runaway and Homeless Youth

Measure	Year and Most Recent Result/ Target for Most Recent Result/ Summary of Result	FY 2025 Target	FY 2026 Target	FY 2026 Target +/- FY 2025 Target
4A: Maintain the proportion of youth living in safe and appropriate settings after exiting ACFC-funded Transitional Living Program services. (<i>Outcome</i>)	FY 2023: 95.7% Target: 90% (Target Exceeded)	*	91%	*
4B: Maintain the percentage of youth in a TLP that are attending school regularly, have graduated from high school, or obtained a GED at exit. (<i>Outcome</i>)	FY 2023: 69.5% Target: 67% (Target Exceeded)	*	67%	*
4C: Maintain the number of youth leaving a TLP that are employed or looking for work at exit. (<i>Outcome</i>)	FY 2023: 79.0% Target: 71% (Target Exceeded)	*	72%	*
4D: Maintain the proportion of youth living in safe and appropriate settings after exiting ACFC-funded Basic Center Program emergency shelters. (<i>Outcome</i>)	FY 2023: 93.4% Target: 90% (Target Exceeded)	*	90%	*

Measure	Year and Most Recent Result/ Target for Most Recent Result/ Summary of Result	FY 2025 Target	FY 2026 Target	FY 2026 Target +/- FY 2025 Target
4E: Maintain the percentage of youth receiving out-of-shelter prevention services by the BCP who are diverted from entering an emergency shelter and exit to another safe and stable destination. <i>(Outcome)</i>	FY 2023: 94.2% Target: 90% (Target Exceeded)	*	90%	*
4F: Maintain the percentage of youth in BCP shelters that are attending school regularly, have graduated from high school, or obtained a GED at exit. <i>(Outcome)</i>	FY 2023: 85.0% Target: 71% (Target Exceeded)	*	71%	*
4G: Maintain the percentage of youth leaving BCP shelters that are employed or looking for work at exit. <i>(Outcome)</i>	FY 2023: 31.1% Target: 18% (Target Exceeded)	*	19%	*
4i: Number of Basic Center Program grants. <i>(Output)</i>	FY 2024: 286 (Historical Actual)	N/A	N/A	N/A
4ii: Number of youth entered BCP for services in the shelter. <i>(Output)</i>	FY 2023: 12,063 (Historical Actual)	N/A	N/A	N/A
4iii: Number of Transitional Living Program grants. <i>(Output)</i>	FY 2024: 213 (Historical Actual)	N/A	N/A	N/A
4iv: Number of youth entered TLP for services in the residency. <i>(Output)</i>	FY 2023: 3,402 (Historical Actual)	N/A	N/A	N/A

Service Connection for Youth on the Streets

Measure	Year and Most Recent Result/ Target for Most Recent Result/ Summary of Result	FY 2025 Target	FY 2026 Target	FY 2026 Target +/- FY 2025 Target
<u>4H</u> : Increase the percentage of youth contacted by the Street Outreach Programs (SOP) that are engaged in deliberate case plan or client assessment. (<i>Outcome</i>)	FY 2023: 69.0% Target: 37% (Target Exceeded)	*	55%	*
<u>4V</u> : Number of Street Outreach Program (SOP) grants. (<i>Output</i>)	FY 2024: 130 (Historical Actual)	N/A	N/A	N/A
<u>4vi</u> : Number of youth contacted by SOP grants. (<i>Output</i>)	FY 2023: 17,112 (Historical Actual)	N/A	N/A	N/A

CAPTA State Grants

Funding Level	FY 2024 Final	FY 2025 Enacted	FY 2026	Change from FY 2025 Enacted
Total, Budget Authority	\$105,091,000	*	\$105,091,000	*

Allocation Method.....Formula Grants

Program Description and Accomplishments

The Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act (P.L. 93-247) of 1974 created the Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act (CAPTA) State Grant program to provide formula grants to states to improve child protective service systems. Grants are based on an initial allocation of \$50,000 per state, with additional funds distributed in proportion to the state's population of children under the age of 18. This program assists states in improving:

- intake, assessment, screening, and investigation of child abuse and neglect reports;
- risk and safety assessment protocols;
- training for child protective services workers and mandated reporters;
- programs and procedures for the identification, prevention, and treatment of child abuse and neglect;
- development and implementation of procedures for collaboration among child protection services, domestic violence, and other agencies; and
- services to disabled infants with life-threatening conditions and their families.

In addition, under this program, states perform a range of prevention activities, including addressing the needs of infants born with prenatal drug exposure, referring children not at risk of imminent harm to community services, implementing criminal record checks for prospective foster and adoptive parents and other adults in their homes, training child protective services workers, protecting the legal rights of families and alleged perpetrators, and supporting citizen review panels. CAPTA requires states to convene multidisciplinary teams to review the circumstances of child maltreatment-related fatalities in the state and make recommendations.

The CAPTA Reauthorization Act of 2010 (P.L. 111-320) reauthorized the program through FY 2015. The program has since been amended by the Justice for Victims of Trafficking Act of 2015 (P.L. 114-22), which added requirements relating to victims of human sex trafficking, and the Comprehensive Addiction and Recovery Act of 2016 (P.L. 114-198), which amended CAPTA's state plan requirements relating to substance-exposed newborns and plans of safe care to address the effects of substance-use disorders on infants, children, and families. The Victims of Child Abuse Act Reauthorization Act of 2018 (P.L. 115-424) amended a CAPTA State Grants program requirement relating to legal immunity for good faith reports of child abuse and neglect, to include professionals who are called upon to consult in a child abuse case or provide a medical diagnosis.

Beginning in FY 2018, \$60 million was provided to help states improve their response to infants affected by substance-use disorders and their families. In addition to providing technical assistance to states on best practices and evidence-based interventions, this funding also supported evaluations of states' activities on plans of safe care. Since FY 2020, Congress has directed that \$60 million be used to help states develop and implement plans of safe care for substance-exposed infants and their families. ACFC has provided technical assistance resources to support them in this important work.

Funding for the program - net of any authorized changes such as transfers or reprogramming - for five years is as follows:

2022	\$95,091,000
2023	\$105,091,000
2024	\$105,091,000
2025	*
2026	\$105,091,000

For FY 2024, 56 awards were made, with an average award of \$1,847,875 and a range from \$68,770 to \$11,771,863.

Funding for this program is also used to pay information technology support, grants paneling, and other related administrative costs.

Budget Request

The FY 2026 request for CAPTA State Grants is \$105 million. The funding will assist states in strengthening their child protective service systems, better serve families affected by substance-use disorders, and support and enhance interagency and community-based collaborations to prevent child abuse and neglect by promoting child and family well-being and to reduce child abuse and neglect related fatalities. The funding will help states to improve their response to infants affected by substance-use disorders or withdrawal symptoms resulting from prenatal drug exposure or a Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder by developing, implementing, and monitoring plans of safe care for these infants and their parents and caregivers.

For FY 2026, it is estimated that 56 awards will be made with an average award of \$1,847,607 and a range of \$68,478 to \$11,951,260.

Performance Analysis

Measure	Year and Most Recent Result/ Target for Most Recent Result/ Summary of Result	FY 2025 Target	FY 2026 Target	FY 2026 Target +/- FY 2025 Target
<u>7B</u> : Decrease the percentage of children with substantiated or indicated reports of maltreatment that have a repeated substantiated or indicated report of maltreatment within six months. (<i>Outcome</i>)	FY 2023: 6.4% Target: 6.1% (Target Not Met)	*	Prior Result -0.2PP	*
<u>7C</u> : Improve states' average response time between maltreatment report and investigation, based on the median of states' reported average response time in hours from screened-in reports to the initiation of the investigation. (<i>Outcome and Efficiency</i>)	FY 2023: 69.20 hrs Target: 52.86 hrs (Target Not Met)	*	Prior Result -5%	*

Child Abuse Discretionary Activities

Funding Level	FY 2024 Final	FY 2025 Enacted	FY 2026	Change from FY 2025 Enacted
Total, Budget Authority	\$36,000,000	*	\$36,000,000	*

Allocation Method.....Competitive Grants and Contracts

Program Description and Accomplishments

The Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act (P.L. 93-247) of 1974 created the Child Abuse Discretionary Activities program to fund competitive research and demonstration grants and contracts that seek to expand the evidence base for child welfare programs with the goal of improving child outcomes as lessons learned are adopted by communities across the country. Examples of positive child outcomes are preventing child maltreatment, strengthening families, improving family well-being, and promoting optimal child and youth development. The program funds research on the causes, prevention, identification, and treatment of child abuse and neglect and on investigative, administrative, and judicial procedures related to child abuse and neglect. It also funds projects to compile, publish, and disseminate training materials; provide technical assistance; demonstrate and evaluate methods and procedures to prevent and treat child abuse and neglect; and develop or expand effective collaboration between child protective services and domestic violence agencies. In addition, the program funds activities of the National Child Welfare Center for Innovation and Advancement on issues relating to maltreatment and a national clearinghouse – the Child Welfare Information Gateway – that gathers and disseminates information on child abuse and neglect and on promising programs of prevention and treatment.

The Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act Reauthorization Act of 2010 (P.L. 111-320) reauthorized the program through FY 2015 and added areas of focus to the program: collaboration between domestic violence and child protection systems, issues facing American Indian and Alaska Native populations, the unique needs of children under age 3, and children with disabilities.

Research and demonstration grants are awarded competitively to public and private agencies, including state and local government agencies, universities, and non-profit and faith-based organizations. The statute provides that contracts may be awarded to public, non-profit and private organizations. Projects supported by grants and contracts awarded under this program may run up to five years, depending upon the availability of funds.

Child abuse discretionary projects support a wide range of efforts intended to increase the knowledge base with respect to evidence-based practices and strategies for their implementation; improve training and procedures for reporting of suspected or known incidents of child abuse or neglect; facilitate systems improvement in state, county, and local programs; identify and evaluate effective strategies to reduce child abuse and neglect of infants and young children; and demonstrate effective approaches to address issues identified through federal monitoring.

Examples of other currently funded projects include:

- Building Early Childhood-Child Welfare Partnerships to Support Family Well-Being;
- Evaluation phase for Grants to Develop A Model Intervention for Youth/Young Adults With Child Welfare Involvement At-Risk of Homelessness;

- National Data Archive on Child Abuse and Neglect;
- Quality Improvement Center on Helplines and Hotlines;
- Community Collaborations to Strengthen and Preserve Families, a primary prevention grant initiative; and
- Research related to the national incidence of child abuse and neglect.

Starting in FY 2022, and every year since, Congress has included a General Provision to expand funding flexibility for research projects in ACF. All research funding provided for in the Appropriations Act can remain available for five years following appropriation. This has allowed for additional time for research and evaluation projects within the Child Abuse Discretionary program.

Funding for the program - net of any authorized changes such as transfers or reprogramming - for five years is as follows:

2022	\$36,000,000
2023	\$38,000,000
2024	\$36,000,000
2025	*
2026	\$36,000,000

For FY 2024, 21 grants were made, with an average award of \$722,794 and a range from \$274,910 to \$2,492,412.

Funding for this program is also used to pay information technology support, grants paneling, and other related administrative costs.

Budget Request

The FY 2026 request for Child Abuse Discretionary Activities is \$36 million. Funding will support a wide range of child abuse and neglect prevention and treatment activities, including addressing child maltreatment fatalities. A grant initiative will continue to support states and jurisdictions in advancing innovations in data collection, analysis, and system response in order to ensure the safety of children and to build better cross-agency systems of prevention and intervention related to child maltreatment fatalities.

Other activities will build knowledge about the screening, assessment, and oversight activities related to the assessment of risk and safety for children and families. Comprehensive assessments in child welfare are the cornerstone of practice in determining a child's needs for immediate protective safety and to guide protective interventions.

For FY 2026, it is estimated that 11 grants will be made, with an average award of \$1,345,454 and a range from \$750,000 to \$5 million.

Community-Based Child Abuse Prevention

Funding Level	FY 2024 Final	FY 2025 Enacted	FY 2026	Change from FY 2025 Enacted
Total, Budget Authority	\$70,660,000	*	\$60,660,000	*

Allocation Method.....Formula Grants

Program Description and Accomplishments

The Community-Based Child Abuse Prevention (CBCAP) program was created by the Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act (CAPTA) of 1974 (P.L. 93-247). Under the CBCAP program, formula grants are provided to lead state agencies to disburse funds for community child abuse and neglect prevention activities. Funds are used to develop, operate, expand, and enhance community-based efforts to strengthen and support families to prevent child abuse and neglect, develop a continuum of preventive services through state and community-based nongovernmental organizations, and publicize activities focusing on the healthy and positive development of families and the prevention of child abuse and neglect. Voluntary home visiting programs are a core local service, as are programs serving families that include children or parents with disabilities. The CBCAP program was reauthorized through FY 2015 by the CAPTA Reauthorization Act of 2010 (P.L. 111-320), which emphasized prevention services for homeless youth and adult former abuse victims, as well as substance-use disorder treatment and domestic violence services.

Seventy percent of a state's grant amount is calculated on the basis of the number of children under 18 in the state, with a minimum award of \$175,000 per state. The remaining part of the grant award is allotted among the states based on the amount leveraged by the state from private, state, or other non-federal sources and directed through the state lead agency in the preceding fiscal year for community-based child abuse prevention services. One percent of the total funding is reserved to fund tribes, tribal organizations, and migrant programs.

Funding for the program - net of any authorized changes such as transfers or reprogramming - for five years is as follows:

2022	\$65,660,000
2023	\$70,660,000
2024	\$70,660,000
2025	*
2026	\$60,660,000

For FY 2024, 60 grants were awarded with an average award of \$1,172,767 and a range from \$175,000 to \$6,315,507.

Funding for this program is also used to pay information technology support, grants paneling, and other related administrative costs.

Budget Request

The FY 2026 request for the CBCAP program is \$60.7 million. The proposed funding level will allow CBCAP state lead agencies to continue to develop and coordinate effective community-based family

support and prevention services. Specifically, the funding will support ongoing efforts to build the capacity of states to evaluate the effectiveness of their CBCAP program. This includes efforts to support CBCAP state lead agencies to identify and implement evidence-based programs to address the needs of the communities they serve. Funding will continue training and technical assistance provided by CBCAP state lead agencies to the community-based programs to gather and analyze data that informs research findings on successful child abuse prevention programs. Funding will continue family supports and prevention services to reduce the likelihood of child abuse and placements in foster care for all families and prevent further trauma exposure.

The funding will also be used to provide support for the CBCAP workforce at the state and local levels. Similar to other areas of child and family support, CBCAP state lead agencies are experiencing significant turnover, staffing shortages, and concerns of low morale among remaining personnel that affect their abilities to implement and maintain CBCAP programs as planned. Funding would allow for increased outreach and recruitment, as well as training and technical assistance, to enhance supports for new and existing staff to improve well-being and attrition, which would also positively affect the programs' capacities to serve children and families.

For FY 2026, an estimated 60 awards will be made with an estimated average award of \$1,036,726 and an estimated range from \$175,000 to \$5,582,908.

Performance Analysis

Measure	Year and Most Recent Result/ Target for Most Recent Result/ Summary of Result	FY 2025 Target	FY 2026 Target	FY 2026 Target +/- FY 2025 Target
<u>7A</u> : Decrease the rate of first-time victims per 1,000 children. (<i>Outcome</i>)	FY 2023: 5.36 Target: 5.31 (Target Not Met)	*	Prior Result -0.05P	N/A
<u>7D</u> : Increase the percentage of CBCAP total funding that supports evidence-based and evidence-informed child abuse prevention programs and practices. (<i>Efficiency</i>)	FY 2023: 61.3% Target: 6.7% (Target Not Met)	*	Prior Result +3PP	N/A

Child Welfare Services

Funding Level	FY 2024 Final	FY 2025 Enacted	FY 2026	Change from FY 2025 Enacted
Total, Budget Authority	\$268,735,000	*	\$268,735,000	*

Allocation Method.....Formula Grants

Program Description and Accomplishments

The Social Security Act of 1935 created Child Welfare Services “for the purpose of enabling the United States, through the Children’s Bureau, to cooperate with state public welfare agencies in establishing, extending, and strengthening, especially in predominantly rural areas, public [child] welfare services . . . for the protection and care of homeless, dependent, and neglected children, and children in danger of becoming delinquent.” Since that time, there have been numerous updates, including an increase of authorized funding to its current level of \$325 million, changing the name of the program to the Stephanie Tubbs Jones Child Welfare Services Program, adding requirements for states to engage in activities to address the developmental needs of children participating in the programs and to reduce the length of time that children under the age of five are without a permanent family, and expanding oversight of the health care needs of children in foster care. The Family First Prevention Services Act (P.L. 115-123) reauthorized the program through FY 2021, made further amendments to health care oversight requirements, and revised requirements relating to the collection of data on child maltreatment fatalities and the development of state plans to prevent such fatalities.

The Trafficking Victims Prevention and Protection Reauthorization Act of 2022 (P.L. 117-348) amended the program by requiring ACFC to reserve funds to make competitive grants to enhance collaboration between state child welfare and juvenile justice systems in years in which the appropriation for the Stephanie Tubbs Jones Child Welfare Services Program exceeds \$270 million

The Supporting America’s Children and Families Act (P.L. 118-258) reauthorized the program through FY 2029. Beginning in FY 2026, the law also amends several state plan requirements. State child welfare agencies will now need to describe the steps being taken to provide information about available legal representation to children and parents, include additional information relating to compliance with the Indian Child Welfare Act of 1978, involve mental health providers in developing the state’s health care coordination and oversight plan for children in foster care, and provide additional information relating to mental health services and oversight of prescription medications.

The Child Welfare Services Program provides formula grants to help state and tribal public child welfare agencies to develop and expand their child and family services programs by:

- protecting and promoting the welfare of all children;
- preventing the neglect, abuse, or exploitation of children;
- supporting at-risk families through services which allow children, when appropriate, to remain safely with their families or to return to their families in a timely manner;
- promoting the safety, permanence, and well-being of children in foster care and adoptive families; and

- providing training, professional development and support to ensure a well-qualified child welfare workforce.

Services are available to children and their families without regard to income.

Three percent of the appropriation is reserved for grants to tribes. Tribal grant allotments are awarded by formula, based on the tribe's population of children under age 21. After reserving the funds for tribes, the balance of the funds is awarded to state agencies. Each state receives a base amount of \$70,000. Additional funds are distributed in proportion to the state's population of children under age 21, multiplied by the complement of the state's average per capita income. The state match requirement is 25 percent.

This program is linked to the Title IV-E Foster Care and Permanency programs, as well as the Promoting Safe and Stable Families program. (See other chapters in this document for more information about those programs.) The same state or tribal agency must administer or supervise the administration of all of these programs. The broad goal of all the programs is to strengthen the families of at-risk children. Taken together, these programs provide a continuum of services to help children and their families.

Funding for the program - net of any authorized changes such as transfers or reprogramming - for five years is as follows:

2022	\$268,735,000
2023	\$268,735,000
2023 Supplemental	\$10,000,000
2024	\$268,735,000
2025	*
2026	\$268,735,000

For FY 2024, 228 awards were made with an average award of \$1,178,662 and a range from \$1,058 to \$28,149,249

Funding for this program is also used to pay information technology support, grants paneling, and other related administrative costs.

Budget Request

The FY 2026 request for the Child Welfare Services Program is \$268.7 million. This funding will support grants to help improve state and tribal child welfare services programs with a goal of keeping families together when appropriate.

For FY 2026, an estimated 228 awards will be made with an average award of \$1,179,662 and a range from \$1,058 to \$28,149,249.

Performance Analysis

Measure	Year and Most Recent Result/ Target for Most Recent Result/ Summary of Result	FY 2025 Target	FY 2026 Target	FY 2026 Target +/- FY 2025 Target
<u>7G</u> : For those children who had been in care less than 12 months, maintain the percentage that has no more than two placement settings. (<i>Outcome</i>)	FY 2023: 80.8% (Historical Actual)	*	TBD	*
<u>7H</u> : Decrease the percent of foster children in care 12 or more months with no case plan goal (including case plan goal "Not Yet Determined"). (Child Welfare Services, PSSF, Foster Care) (<i>Efficiency</i>)	FY 2023: 12.0% (Historical Actual)	*	TBD	*

Child Welfare Research, Training and Demonstration

Funding Level	FY 2024 Final	FY 2025 Enacted	FY 2026	Change from FY 2025 Enacted
Total, Budget Authority	\$21,984,000	*	\$21,984,000	*

Allocation Method.....Competitive Grants

Program Description and Accomplishments

The Social Security Amendments of 1967 (P.L. 90-248) first authorized the Child Welfare Research, Training and Demonstration (CWRTD) program to provide broad authority to award competitive grants to entities that prepare personnel for work in the child welfare field and those engaged in research around child welfare issues. Specifically, it funds:

- institutions of higher education and other non-profit agencies and organizations engaged in research or child welfare activities for special child welfare projects that are of regional or national significance and for demonstration projects on promising approaches that contribute to the advancement of child welfare;
- state or local public child welfare agencies for demonstration projects using child welfare research to encourage experimental and special types of child welfare services;
- public or other non-profit institutions of higher learning for special projects for training personnel for work in the field of child welfare, including traineeships;
- contracts or jointly financed cooperative arrangements with states and other organizations and agencies for the conduct of research, special projects, or demonstration projects relating to child welfare; and
- a national study, with a longitudinal component, based on random samples of children who are at risk of child abuse or neglect.

A properly trained child welfare workforce is essential to effective child welfare practice and improved child and family outcomes. Critical uses of this funding include delivery of child welfare training curriculum on leadership and effective change management, development of a comprehensive workforce framework, development of data analytic tools to support recruitment and retention of the child welfare workforce, facilitation of a national peer network of child welfare leaders focused on professional development of their workforce, implementation and rigorous evaluation of innovative and evidence-based workforce improvement strategies, and strategic dissemination of effective and promising workforce practices.

Significant research is supported by this funding, including The National Survey of Child and Adolescent Well-Being (NSCAW), a nationally representative, longitudinal survey of children and families who have been the subjects of investigation by state child protective services agencies. There have been two cohorts of children enrolled in the survey, which makes available data drawn from first-hand reports from children, parents, and other caregivers, as well as reports from caseworkers, teachers, and data from administrative records. Data collection for the third cohort of NSCAW included a snapshot of the 2021-2022 child welfare workforce during the pandemic. NSCAW III presents data from a descriptive

sub-study of the child welfare workforce that examined their characteristics and competencies; recruitment, hiring, and onboarding; training and professional development; and organizational factors. Additionally, there are plans to conduct preliminary activities to explore future data collection to better position the survey to inform current and evolving policies, practices, and contexts in child welfare. Funding is also used for state-tribal partnership grants to strengthen state Indian Child Welfare Act compliance.

Starting in FY 2022, and every year since, Congress has included a General Provision to expand funding flexibility for research projects in ACF. All research funding provided for in the Appropriations Act can remain available for five years following appropriation. This has allowed for additional time for research and evaluation projects within the CWRTD program.

Funding for the program - net of any authorized changes such as transfers or reprogramming - for five years is as follows:

2022	\$18,984,000
2023	\$18,984,000
2024	\$21,984,000
2025	*
2026	\$21,984,000

For FY 2024, 15 grants were made with an average award of \$967,951 and a range from \$453,600 to \$3.9 million.

Funding for this program is also used to pay information technology support and grants paneling.

Budget Request

The FY 2026 request for Child Welfare Research, Training and Demonstration is \$22.0 million. These funds will continue to support activities, including State-Tribal Partnerships to Implement Best Practices in Indian Child Welfare, NSCAW, and the National Capacity Building Centers for Tribes. The funding will support one additional national technical assistance center to address child welfare workforce needs.

For FY 2026, it is estimated that 16 grants will be made with an average award of \$862,500 and a range from \$500,000 to \$4 million.

Adoption Opportunities

Funding Level	FY 2024 Final	FY 2025 Enacted	FY 2026	Change from FY 2025 Enacted
Total, Budget Authority	\$53,000,000	*	\$53,000,000	*

Allocation Method.....Competitive Grants and Contracts

Program Description and Accomplishments

The Adoption Opportunities program was authorized by the Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment and Adoption Reform Act (P.L. 95-266) in 1978 and funds competitive grants and contracts to public and private organizations to remove barriers to adoption and to provide permanent homes for children who would benefit from adoption, particularly children with special needs. Adoption and Foster Care Analysis and Reporting System Foster Care Data estimates indicate that, at the end of FY 2023, there were approximately 92,700 children in the public foster care system waiting to be adopted. The parental rights of about 65,000 of these children have already been terminated and are more readily available for adoption. Waiting children include those who have a goal of adoption in their case plan, whether or not the parental rights of their parents have been terminated, whereas children who are free for adoption include only those whose parental rights have been terminated. The aforementioned children are typically school-aged, in sibling groups, have experienced neglect or abuse, or have a physical, mental, or emotional disability. The Adoption Opportunities program was reauthorized through FY 2015 by the Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act Reauthorization Act of 2010 (P.L. 111-320).

Demonstration grants are awarded through a competitive process to public and private agencies, including state and local governments, universities, and private non-profit and for-profit agencies. These demonstration grants test new models of service delivery to address and eliminate barriers to adoption, including inter-jurisdictional adoptions, and to help find permanent families for children who would benefit from adoption, particularly children with special needs. Currently funded projects include the National Quality Improvement Center for Engaging Youth in Finding Permanency, the National Training and Development Initiative for Foster/Adoptive Parents, the National Center for Enhanced Post Adoption Supports, the National Center for Adoption Competent Mental Health Services, and the National Adoption Competency Mental Health Training Initiative. In addition, AdoptUSKids, a project begun in 2002 to raise public awareness about the need for foster and adoptive families for children in the public child welfare system, has helped find permanency in an adoptive home for over 52,000 children photo-listed on AdoptUSKids.org.

Starting in FY 2022, and every year since, Congress has included a General Provision to expand funding flexibility for research projects in ACF. All research funding provided for in the Appropriations Act can remain available for five years following appropriation. This has allowed for additional time for research and evaluation projects within the Adoption Opportunities program.

Funding for the program - net of any authorized changes such as transfers or reprogramming - for five years is as follows:

2022	\$48,000,000
2023	\$51,000,000
2024	\$53,000,000
2025	*
2026	\$53,000,000

For FY 2024, 10 grants were made with an average award of \$3,330,000 and a range from \$1 million to \$10.9 million.

Funding for this program is also used to pay information technology support, grants paneling, and other related administrative costs.

Budget Request

The FY 2026 request for the Adoption Opportunities program is \$53.0 million. The funding will be used to continue efforts in diligent recruitment, youth engagement, training for resource families, and national technical assistance on mental health and post adoptions support.

For FY 2026, it is estimated that 17 grants will be made with an average award of \$5,000,010 and a range from \$500,000 to \$10.9 million.

Performance Analysis

Measure	Year and Most Recent Result/ Target for Most Recent Result/ Summary of Result	FY 2025 Target	FY 2026 Target	FY 2026 Target +/- FY 2025 Target
<u>7J</u> : Increase the adoption rate. (Foster Care, Adoption Opportunities, Adoption and Legal Guardianship Incentives, Adoption Assistance) (<i>Outcome</i>)	FY 2023: 13.7% (Historical Actual)	*	TBD	*
<u>7iii</u> : Number of children featured on the AdoptUSKids website who were subsequently placed for adoption. (<i>Output</i>)	FY 2023: 38,381 (Historical Actual)	N/A	N/A	N/A

Adoption and Legal Guardianship Incentive Payments

Funding Level	FY 2024 Final	FY 2025 Enacted	FY 2026	Change from FY 2025 Enacted
Total, Budget Authority	\$75,000,000	\$75,000,000	\$75,000,000	\$0

Allocation Method.....Formula Grants

Program Description and Accomplishments

The Adoption Incentives program was created by the Adoption and Safe Families Act of 1997 (P. L. 105-89). The original program authorized the payment of adoption incentive funds to states that were successful in increasing the number of children adopted from the public foster care system. Once a state exceeded its baseline for the total number of adoptions, the amount of the payments to states was based on increases in the number of children adopted from the foster care system in a year, relative to a baseline number, and the number of children adopted with special needs, relative to a baseline number. The program has been reauthorized and revised several times since then, to continue to provide incentives for states that improve their performance in finding permanent homes for children and youth in foster care who are unable to be reunified with their parents.

The Preventing Sex Trafficking and Strengthening Families Act (P.L. 113-183) revised and renamed the program as the "Adoption and Legal Guardianship Incentive Payments" program. The law replaced the previous incentive structure with a new one that provides incentives for legal guardianships, in addition to adoptions. The law also rewards increases in the number of adoptions and guardianships compared to the number that is derived by multiplying a base rate in each category by the number of children in foster care on the last day of the preceding fiscal year. The base rate is defined as the lesser of the average rate for the immediately preceding three fiscal years or the rate for the prior fiscal year. The incentives are, therefore, adjusted to account for changes in the number of children in foster care.

The current reward structure using this rate-based approach is as follows:

- \$5,000 per child for improving the number of foster child adoptions;
- \$10,000 per child for improving the number of older child adoptions and older foster child guardianships (ages 14 and older);
- \$7,500 per child for improving the number of pre-adolescent adoptions and pre-adolescent foster child guardianships (ages 9-13); and
- \$4,000 per child for improving the number of foster child guardianships.

The reauthorization increased the length of time, from two years to three years, that states have to spend incentive payments. It also added a provision specifying that incentive funds may not supplant federal or non-federal funds for services under titles IV-B or IV-E of the Social Security Act (Child Welfare Services or Federal Payments for Foster Care, Prevention, Adoption Assistance, and Guardianship Assistance). Funding for the program was reauthorized through FY 2021 by the Family First Prevention Services Act (P.L. 115-123).

Funding for the program – net of any authorized changes such as transfers or reprogramming - for five years is as follows:

2022	\$75,000,000
2023	\$75,000,000
2024	\$75,000,000
2025	\$75,000,000
2026	\$75,000,000

In FY 2024, states earned \$61 million in adoption and legal guardianship incentive payments, and ACFC estimates that states will earn \$65 million in FY 2025.

Budget Request

The FY 2026 request for the Adoption and Legal Guardianship Incentive Payments program is \$75 million, the same as the FY 2025 Enacted level.

ACFC estimates that states will earn a minimum of \$65 million in adoption and legal guardianship incentive payments in FY 2026.

ACFC expects that the requested appropriation level will be sufficient to support fully paying incentives in the year they are earned, providing timely award of incentives and timely recognition of achievements.

Performance Analysis

Measure	Year and Most Recent Result/ Target for Most Recent Result/ Summary of Result	FY 2025 Target	FY 2026 Target	FY 2026 Target +/- FY 2025 Target
<u>7J</u> : Increase the adoption rate. (Foster Care, Adoption Opportunities, Adoption and Legal Guardianship Incentive Payment Program, Adoption Assistance) (<i>Outcome</i>)	FY 2023: 13.7% (Historical Actual)	TBD	TBD	TBD

Social Services Research and Demonstration

Funding Level	FY 2024 Final	FY 2025 Enacted	FY 2026	Change from FY 2025 Enacted
Total, Budget Authority	\$75,023,000	*	\$27,510,000	*

Allocation Method.....Competitive Grants and Contracts

Program Description and Accomplishments

The Social Services Research and Demonstration (SSRD) program is authorized in Section 1110 of the Social Security Act. SSRD funding supports research, evaluation, and demonstration efforts that address the goals of preventing and reducing dependency on government programs and improving the administration and effectiveness of services.

ACFC conducts projects through contracts, cooperative agreements, and grants. Evaluation results and data from projects are disseminated to other federal agencies, states, Congress, researchers, and others through publications, the internet, conferences, and workshops. Topics of recent projects include employment and family self-sufficiency research; child poverty; studies of interventions designed using insights from behavioral science; and approaches to improving program efficiency and effectiveness, including efforts to improve the quality, use, and sharing of administrative data.

During the past decade, the SSRD program has supported groundbreaking research rooted in behavioral science that has resulted in several positive findings. One example is the Behavioral Interventions to Advance Self-Sufficiency evaluations, which found positive effects on outcomes such as increasing payment rates on existing child support orders, increasing parents' use of child care providers rated higher-quality by Quality Rating and Improvement Systems, and increasing engagement in Temporary Assistance for Needy Families work activities.

Beginning in FY 2020, the SSRD program began supporting groundbreaking projects to improve quality, use, and sharing of data in human services programs to improve effectiveness. Through an innovative project, ACFC programs are working in partnership to extend and deepen their capacity to build and use evidence. ACFC also recognizes the critical importance of responsibly sharing human services data to better serve program participants, develop additional evidence about what works, and improve program operations. States and localities who want to share this data need to do so in line with applicable federal and state laws and regulations, plus the localized contexts that are unique to their jurisdiction. To support these state and local efforts, the SSRD program is developing a series of publications to help demystify how data can be shared responsibly. For example, the updated ACFC Confidentiality Toolkit provides guidance to states, localities, and others on federal requirements related to sharing human services data. It discusses why and how to share different categories of data, highlights how information technology can assist, and includes sample documents used in data sharing initiatives.

The FY 2022 appropriations included \$10 million for a new Diaper Distribution Demonstration and Research Pilot to address the relatively high cost of diapers for families with low incomes and to support their economic mobility. In FY 2023, Congress increased funding for this pilot to \$20 million, which included \$10 million to support additional awards from the initial competition and \$10 million to support a new competition. The FY 2022 and FY 2023 funds are also supporting a robust federal evaluation, which launched in the spring of FY 2023. In FY 2024, Congress again provided \$20 million, enabling ACFC to make supplemental awards available to the first 14 award recipients as well as awarding seven

new grants. In FY 2024, the evaluation activities included in-depth interviews with grant recipients and collection of administrative data as part of a process evaluation, participant experience evaluation, outcomes evaluation, and the development of an impact study design. An evaluation design report was published in August 2024 and the final report of findings is expected in spring 2026.

Starting in FY 2022, and every year since, Congress has included a General Provision to expand funding flexibility for research projects in ACFC. All research funding provided for in the Appropriations Act can remain available for five years following appropriation. This has allowed for additional time for research and evaluation projects within SSRD.

Funding for the program - net of any authorized changes such as transfers or reprogramming - for five years is as follows:

2022	\$44,504,000
2023	\$142,860,000
2024	\$75,023,000
2025	*
2026	\$27,510,000

For FY 2024, 116 grants were made with an average award of \$518,032 and a range from \$22,922 to \$2,200,000.

Funding for this program is also used to pay inter-agency agreements and other related administrative costs.

Budget Request

The FY 2026 request for SSRD is \$27.5 million. This includes \$20 million to continue the diaper demonstration program.

SSRD is the only source of funds available to ACFC for research, evaluation, and demonstrations that address cross-program anti-poverty initiatives and the effectiveness of programs lacking dedicated funds for research and evaluation. In FY 2026, ACFC plans to continue testing how low-cost adjustments to program practices using insights from behavioral science or artificial intelligence can improve the efficiency and effectiveness of programs. This includes, for example, a plan to modernize code and develop quality assurance tools for calculating work participation rates in Temporary Assistance for Needy Families program using artificial intelligence. ACFC will also focus on improving the use, accessibility, and sharing of data as part of these efforts to promote the efficiency and effectiveness of services.

This request includes the continuation of the General Provision that expanded funding flexibility for research projects in ACFC by providing for a period of availability of five years.

For FY 2026, it is estimated that 8 grants will be made, with an average award of \$1.2 million.

Performance Analysis

Measure	Year and Most Recent Result/ Target for Most Recent Result/ Summary of Result	FY 2025 Target	FY 2026 Target	FY 2025 Target +/- FY 2024 Target
<u>23i</u> : Total number of grants (SSRD and PHS), both OPRE and non-OPRE, non-earmark. (<i>Output</i>)	FY 2024: 44 (Historical Actual)	N/A	N/A	N/A
<u>23ii</u> : Total number of contracts (SSRD and PHS), both OPRE and non-OPRE, non-earmark. (<i>Output</i>)	FY 2024: 15 (Historical Actual)	N/A	N/A	N/A

Native American Programs

Funding Level	FY 2024 Final	FY 2025 Enacted	FY 2026	Change from FY 2025 Enacted
Total, Budget Authority	\$60,500,000	*	\$60,500,000	*

Allocation Method.....Competitive Grants

Program Description and Accomplishments

ACFC Native American Programs are authorized under the Native American Programs Act (NAPA) of 1974 (P.L. 93-644). NAPA's purpose is to promote social development, cultural preservation, and economic self-sufficiency by serving Native American communities. According to the Bureau of Indian Affairs, there are 574 federally recognized tribes. Additionally, there are approximately 67 state recognized tribes and several hundred American Indian, Alaska Native, or Native American community organizations. ACFC also serves Native Hawaiians and Pacific Islander communities. NAPA programs assist tribal and village governments and Native American institutions and organizations in their efforts to support and develop stable, diversified local economies. Tribes and non-profit organizations use awarded funds to develop and implement enduring community-based social and economic development projects and services to improve the well-being of Native American people.

NAPA authorizes funds for a wide range of projects that promote economic development, capacity-building, entrepreneurial activities, financial education, social services support, wellness, cultural and language preservation, as well as the implementation of environmental laws, regulations, and ordinances. To respond to the social and economic conditions of Native Americans, ACFC provides competitive grant funding for community-based projects designed to achieve short- and long-term community goals focused on improvement in the well-being of Native American children, youth, families, and communities. Such funding creates employment and educational opportunities and preserves Native cultures and languages.

Recent and planned spending levels for Native American language programs are as follows:

Program	FY 2024	FY 2025	FY 2026
Esther Martinez Immersion	\$5,444,418	*	\$6,797,374
Preservation and Maintenance	\$11,872,182	*	\$12,500,000
Total	\$17,316,600	*	\$19,297,374

Funding for the program - net of any authorized changes such as transfers or reprogramming - for five years is as follows:

2022	\$58,762,000
2023	\$60,500,000
2024	\$60,500,000
2025	*
2026	\$60,500,000

For FY 2024, 125 grant awards were made, with an average award of \$408,141 and a range from \$89,373 to \$900,000. ACFC fully funded new three-year grant awards upfront rather than in annual increments starting in FY 2024. This will eliminate the need for grantees to submit non-competing continuations and

budget amendments by awarding all funds in the first year of the project, allowing for more self-governance. By FY 2028, all grant funding should be awarded only to new grants as the number of non-competing continuation awards will decline starting in FY 2025.

Funding for this program is also used to pay information technology support, grants paneling, and other related administrative costs.

Budget Request

The FY 2026 request for Native American Programs is \$60.5 million. At this funding level, ACFC will continue funding projects to fulfill the mission of economic development and programs that preserve Native languages.

For FY26, an estimated 68 grants will be made, with an average of \$299,562 with a range from \$100,000 to \$300,000.

Performance Analysis

Measure	Year and Most Recent Result/ Target for Most Recent Result/ Summary of Result	FY 2025 Target	FY 2026 Target	FY 2026 Target +/- FY 2025 Target
<u>9A</u> : Increase NAPA Training or Technical Assistance participants' understanding of community-based project design and/or implementation. (<i>Outcome</i>)	FY 2024: 4.75 out of 5 Target: 4.5 out of 5 (Target Exceeded)	*	4.5 out of 5.0	*
<u>9B</u> : Increase the percentage of projects that meet or exceed funded objectives. (<i>Outcome</i>)	FY 2024: 85% Target: 80% (Target Exceeded)	*	1% over avg prior 6 actuals	*
<u>9i</u> : Number of jobs created through NAPA funding. (<i>Output</i>)	FY 2024: 170 (Historical Actual)	N/A	N/A	N/A

National Domestic Violence Hotline

Funding Level	FY 2024 Final	FY 2025 Enacted	FY 2026	Change from FY 2025 Enacted
Total, Budget Authority	\$20,500,000	*	\$20,500,000	*

Allocation Method.....Cooperative Agreements

Program Description and Accomplishments

The National Domestic Violence Hotline (Hotline) was first authorized by the Child Abuse Amendments of 1984 (P.L. 98-457). The Hotline operates a free and confidential 24-hour national, toll-free telephone and digital (chat and text) hotline services to provide information and assistance to adult and youth survivors of family violence, domestic violence, or dating violence; their family and household members; and friends and others affected by the violence to pursue a path to safety and build healthy supportive communities free from domestic violence. The Hotline is currently experiencing the highest contact volume in its history with 1,048,946 requests received in FY 2024. The Hotline is authorized under the Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Reauthorization Act of 2010 (P L. 111-320), as part of the Family Violence Prevention and Services Act (FVPSA).

The Hotline serves as a critical 24/7 national service provider and partner in the intervention, prevention, and resource assistance efforts of a network of family violence, domestic violence, and dating violence service providers. It provides assistance in the following areas: (1) crisis intervention services, emotional support, and helping the contact identify the abuse and possible support and options for pursuing a path to safety, including making a safety plan for their current situation and in an emergency or escalation of violence; (2) education and information about resources on domestic violence and dating violence, children exposed to domestic violence, sexual assault, intervention programs for batterers, and working through the criminal and civil justice systems; and (3) nationwide referrals to domestic violence shelters and programs, social service agencies, programs addressing the needs of children exposed to domestic violence, legal assistance agencies, economic self-sufficiency programs, and other related services.

The Hotline maintains a comprehensive resource database with access to 3,349 service providers and 1,112 resources in the U.S., Puerto Rico, the Virgin Islands, and Guam, including shelters to which callers may be referred or directly connected. Individuals with limited English proficiency have access to bilingual trained advocates, as well as to an interpretation line providing access to over 200 languages. The Hotline is also accessible to persons who are deaf or hard of hearing.

The Hotline, through the Love is Respect Dating Abuse Helpline, provides specialized services to youth and young adults concerning dating violence and healthy relationships. These distinctive services offer real-time, one-on-one assistance from advocates who are trained to provide support, information, and advocacy to those involved in abusive dating relationships or wanting to learn how to prevent dating abuse, as well as to concerned friends, parents, teachers, clergy, law enforcement, and service providers. The Hotline provides a holistic approach to service delivery through a variety of access points that include a website, telephone (including text and live video), online chatting, and texting.

As a result of ongoing efforts to increase and improve access for at-risk populations disproportionately impacted by domestic violence, the Hotline, in collaboration with the Family Violence Prevention and Services Act's National Indigenous Women's Resource Center, launched the StrongHearts Native Helpline in March 2017 as the first national culturally relevant crisis line for Native American survivors

of domestic and dating violence. In FY 2024, StrongHearts received 9,241 calls, 4,984 chats, and 928 texts and connected survivors to a centralized hub of over 300 Native-specific resources in the rural and remote areas of Indian Country.

StrongHearts is an essential resource to all American Indians and Alaskan Natives affected by domestic violence, helping to fill a gap in critically needed support services that are specialized to address the unique barriers often faced by Native survivors of intimate partner violence and abuse, as well as provide culturally specific trauma-informed support. As a Native-centered hotline, StrongHearts is staffed by advocates with an understanding of Native cultures, as well as issues of tribal sovereignty and law. Seven days a week, 24-hours a day, callers can connect, at no cost, with a knowledgeable advocate who can provide lifesaving tools and immediate support to enable survivors to find safety and live lives free of abuse. StrongHearts receives 15 percent of the Hotline appropriation.

Funding for the program - net of any authorized changes such as transfers or reprogramming - for five years is as follows:

2022	\$15,500,000
2023	\$20,500,000
2023 Supplemental	\$10,000,000
2024	\$20,500,000
2025	*
2026	\$20,500,000

For FY 2024, one grant was made for \$19,987,500.

Budget Request

The FY 2026 request for the National Domestic Violence Hotline is \$21 million. These funds will continue the capacity of the Hotline to answer calls, digital contacts, and text messages and support investments in hotline advocates and technology infrastructure to ensure a timely response to requests for help by phone, text, or online chat. Funds will continue to support the implementation of a strategic plan for assessments and improvements to response time, such as staffing (Hotline Advocates) to respond to contacts, enhanced technology capacity, website optimization to assist and educate users, triage methodology for Hotline contactors, and use of artificial intelligence solutions for non-crisis and non-victim contactors.

For FY 2026, it is estimated that two grants will be made for \$19,987,500, including \$2,998,125 allocated for the National Indigenous Domestic Violence Hotline.

Performance Analysis

Measure	Year and Most Recent Result/ Target for Most Recent Result/ Summary of Result	FY 2025 Target	FY 2026 Target	FY 2026 Target +/- FY 2025 Target
<u>14A</u> : National Domestic Violence Hotline Call Answer Rate. (<i>Outcome</i>)	FY 2024: 54% Target: 75% (Target Not Met, but Improved)	*	64%	*
<u>14B1</u> : Increase the capacity of the National Domestic Violence Hotline to respond to increased chat volume (as measured by percentage of total annual chats to which the Hotline responds). (<i>Outcome</i>)	FY 2024: 38% Target: 65% (Target Not Met)	*	65%	*
<u>14B2</u> : Increase the capacity of the National Domestic Violence Hotline to respond to increased text volume (as measured by percentage of total annual texts to which the Hotline responds). (<i>Developmental Outcome</i>)	FY 2024: 63% Target: 50% (Target Exceeded)	*	TBD	*
<u>14C</u> : Increase the capacity of the National Domestic Violence Hotline (with respect to serving youth/young adults through a national teen dating violence hotline) to respond to increased volume (as measured by percentage of total annual calls, online chats and texts to which the Hotline responds). (<i>Outcome</i>)	FY 2024: 56% Target Not Set	*	70%	*
<u>14E</u> : Increase the percentage of Hotline clients who report improved knowledge of safety planning. (<i>Developmental Outcome</i>)	FY 2024: 70% Target Not Set	*	TBD	*
<u>14F</u> : Increase the percentage of Hotline clients who report increased knowledge of community resources. (<i>Developmental Outcome</i>)	FY 2024: 70% Target Not Set	*	TBD	*
<u>14x</u> : Total average number of calls received per month by the National Domestic Violence Hotline. (<i>Output</i>)	FY 2024: 36,135 (Historical Actual)	N/A	N/A	N/A

Measure	Year and Most Recent Result/ Target for Most Recent Result/ Summary of Result	FY 2025 Target	FY 2026 Target	FY 2026 Target +/- FY 2025 Target
<u>14xi</u> : Total average number of chats received per month by the National Domestic Violence Hotline. (<i>Output</i>)	FY 2024: 15,337 (Historical Actual)	N/A	N/A	N/A
<u>14xii</u> : Total average number of texts received per month by the National Domestic Violence Hotline. (<i>Output</i>)	FY 2024: 11,108 (Historical Actual)	N/A	N/A	N/A
<u>14xiii</u> : Total average number per month of hits/visits to the National Domestic Violence Hotline's websites. (<i>Output</i>)	FY 2024: 628,057 (Historical Actual)	N/A	N/A	N/A
<u>14xiv</u> : Total average number of calls received per month by loveisrespect.org (<i>Output</i>)	FY 2024: 3,222 (Historical Actual)	N/A	N/A	N/A
<u>14xv</u> : Total average number of chats received per month by loveisrespect.org. (<i>Output</i>)	FY 2024: 1,643 (Historical Actual)	N/A	N/A	N/A
<u>14xvi</u> : Total average number of texts received per month by loveisrespect.org. (<i>Output</i>)	FY 2024: 1,011 (Historical Actual)	N/A	N/A	N/A

Family Violence Prevention and Services

Funding Level	FY 2024 Final	FY 2025 Enacted	FY 2026	Change from FY 2025 Enacted
Total, Budget Authority	\$240,000,000	\$240,000,000	\$240,000,000	\$0

Allocation Method.....Formula and Competitive Grants

Program Description and Accomplishments

The Family Violence Prevention and Services Act (FVPSA) program is authorized by the Child Abuse Amendments Act of 1984 (P.L. 98-457), as most recently amended by the Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Reauthorization Act of 2010 (P.L. 111-320). The program provides funding to support programs and projects that work to prevent incidents of family violence, domestic violence, and dating violence and to provide immediate shelter and supportive services for adult and youth survivors of domestic violence (and their dependents).

The statute includes the following funding requirements for the FVPSA appropriation not reserved under section 10412, the Specialized Services for Abused Parents and Their Children (SSAPC):

- not less than 70 percent is awarded in grants to states and territories,
- not less than 10 percent is awarded to Indian tribes (including Alaska Natives) and tribal organizations,
- not less than 10 percent is awarded to State Domestic Violence Coalitions (SDVC),
- not less than 6 percent is for the network of information and technical assistance centers, and
- not more than 2.5 percent may be set aside for program administration, evaluation, and monitoring.

Grants to states and territories are allocated based on each state's population, with a minimum of not less than one-eighth of one percent of the amounts available allocated to territories. FVPSA specifies that a state may use no more than five percent of its allotment for administrative costs and must distribute the remaining funds to local public agencies and non-profit private organizations, including faith-based and charitable organizations, community-based organizations, and tribal organizations. Not less than 70 percent of the funding awarded through state sub-grants must be used for the primary purpose of providing immediate shelter and supportive services. States may use the remaining funds to:

- assist survivors in the development of safety plans and decisions related to safety and well-being;
- provide counseling, peer support groups, and referrals to community-based services;
- provide services, training, and technical assistance and outreach to increase awareness of family violence, domestic violence, and dating violence, and to increase accessibility of services;
- provide culturally and linguistically appropriate services;

- provide specialized services for children exposed to family violence, domestic violence, or dating violence;
- provide advocacy, case management, information, and referral services; and
- provide prevention services, including outreach to underserved populations.

The FVPSA mandates support to Native American tribes (including Native Villages) and tribal organizations through an allocation of not less than 10 percent of the funding, to be used for immediate shelter and supportive services for survivors of family violence, domestic violence, or dating violence and their dependents. Each federally recognized tribe receives an allocation of the total FVPSA funds available based on a formula incorporating its population.

SDVC grants further the purposes of family violence, domestic violence, and dating violence intervention and prevention. SDVCs serve as information clearinghouses and coordinate statewide programs, outreach, and activities. They provide training and technical assistance to local programs (most of which are funded through sub-grants from FVPSA state and territory formula grants) on appropriate and comprehensive responses, including the development and implementation of best practices. The grants to SDVCs also support related collaborative efforts with social services sectors such as housing, health, education, criminal justice, and child welfare.

The statutorily mandated network of information and technical assistance centers requires a National Resource Center on Domestic Violence, a National Indian Resource Center Addressing Domestic Violence and Safety for Indian Women, and at least seven Special Issue Resource Centers. The statute also allows the funding of State Resource Centers to reduce disparities in states with high proportions of Indian, Alaskan Native, or Native Hawaiian populations and to support training and technical assistance that addresses emerging issues. Funding for the first of these State Resource Centers was provided in FY 2017 to respond to the unique needs of Alaska Native tribes. The purpose of this network of support is to provide resource information and training and technical assistance to improve the capacity of individuals, organizations, governmental entities, and communities to prevent family violence, domestic violence, and dating violence and to provide effective intervention services.

In FY 2024, the Consolidated Appropriations Act (P.L. 117-328) provided \$2 million to support a second year of implementation for a new center for Native Hawaiian survivors. ACFC expanded technical assistance for supportive services for Native Hawaiian domestic violence, dating violence, and family violence survivors with the launch of a Native Hawaiian Resource Center on Domestic Violence (NHRCDV) to provide culturally responsive training and technical assistance. A training curriculum, titled Pāpā ‘Ōlelo, was designed for and informed by survivors, their families and communities. The NHRCDV also developed a training for Native Hawaiian men who are survivors or have used violence in their relationships that emphasizes self-assessment exercises designed to assess accountability. In FY 2024, the NHRCDV staff responded to 109 technical assistance requests from local, state, and national service providers, provided over 75 trainings, and increased the number of individuals trained by over 525 percent from the previous year.

For any fiscal year for which the FVPSA appropriation exceeds \$130 million, the FVPSA statute provides for a 25 percent set-aside of the amount in excess of that threshold for SSAPC grants. Since FY 2016, ACFC has funded three cohorts of SSAPC grants with four-year project periods. In FY 2024, ACFC funded the first year of the third cohort, which includes 55 demonstration projects for the expanded capacity of child and family-serving systems and community-based programs in 26 states and

communities to prevent future violence by addressing the needs of children exposed to family violence, domestic violence, and dating violence.

The statute also provides flexibility to use funds not otherwise allocated by statutory formula for competitive grants or contracts to support demonstration initiatives, provide technical assistance, or coordinate or provide for research and evaluation on effective practices. Under this authority in FY 2024, ACFC supported two resource centers focused on providing training and technical assistance to enhance supportive housing for domestic violence survivors: the Safe Housing Capacity Building Center and the Tribal Safe Housing Capacity Building Center.

Funding for the program – net of any authorized changes such as transfers or reprogramming - for five years is as follows:

2022	\$200,000,000
2023	\$240,000,000
2023 Supplemental	\$10,000,000
2024	\$240,000,000
2025	\$240,000,000
2026	\$240,000,000

For FY 2024, 476 grants were made with an average award of \$493,827 and a range of \$171,828 to \$12,839,676 for states and \$58,250 to \$2,739,154 to tribes.

Funding for this program is also used to pay salaries and benefits for federal employees, information technology support, grants paneling, and other related administrative costs.

Budget Request

The FY 2026 request for FVPSA programs is \$240 million, the same as the FY 2025 Enacted level. This request will continue to ensure that survivors receive critical services, such as emergency shelter, crisis counseling, and safety planning.

In FY 2026, NHRDVC will continue to provide technical assistance, services, and supports for Native Hawaiian adults, children, and youth experiencing domestic violence and dating violence. In addition, in FY 2026, both Housing Capacity Building Centers will continue to develop training materials. Also in FY 2026, funding will continue to support the third cohort of 55 SSAPC demonstration grants that expand the capacity of child and family-serving systems and community-based programs to prevent future violence by addressing the needs of children exposed to family violence, domestic violence, and dating violence.

For FY 2026, it is estimated that 441 grants will be made with an average award of \$493,827 and a range from \$171,838 to \$12,839,767 for states and \$58,250 to \$2,739,154 for tribes.

Performance Analysis

Measure	Year and Most Recent Result/ Target for Most Recent Result/ Summary of Result	FY 2025 Target	FY 2026 Target	FY 2026 Target +/- FY 2025 Target
<u>14D</u> : Increase the percentage of FVPSA state subgrant-funded domestic violence program clients who report improved knowledge of safety planning. (<i>Outcome</i>)	FY 2024: 92.57% Target: 90% (Target Exceeded)	90%	90%	Maintain
<u>14i</u> : Number of residential clients served by domestic violence programs, including tribal programs. [1] (<i>Output</i>)	FY 2024: 211,626 (Historical Actual)	N/A	N/A	N/A
<u>14ii</u> : Number of non-residential clients served by domestic violence programs, including tribal programs. (<i>Output</i>)	FY 2024: 887,263 (Historical Actual)	N/A	N/A	N/A
<u>14iii</u> : Number of shelter nights, state programs. (<i>Output</i>)	FY 2024: 8,346,802 (Historical Actual)	N/A	N/A	N/A
<u>14iv</u> : Number of shelter nights, tribal programs. (<i>Output</i>)	FY 2024: 246,718 (Historical Actual)	N/A	N/A	N/A
<u>14v</u> : Number of unmet requests for shelter (state and tribal programs). (<i>Output</i>)	FY 2024: 218,034 (Historical Actual)	N/A	N/A	N/A
<u>14vi</u> : Total number of crisis hotline calls answered by local domestic violence programs, including tribal programs. (<i>Output</i>)	FY 2024: 3,976,110 (Historical Actual)	N/A	N/A	N/A
<u>14vii</u> : Number of youth who attended youth-targeted community education programs, including tribal programs. (<i>Output</i>)	FY 2024: 3,136,976 (Historical Actual)	N/A	N/A	N/A

Chafee Education and Training Vouchers

Funding Level	FY 2024 Final	FY 2025 Enacted	FY 2026	Change from FY 2025 Enacted
Total, Budget Authority	\$44,257,000	*	\$44,257,000	*

Allocation Method.....Formula Grants

Program Description and Accomplishments

The Chafee Foster Care Program for Successful Transition to Adulthood is composed of the discretionary Chafee Education and Training Voucher (CETV) program and the mandatory formula grant program. The Promoting Safe and Stable Families Amendments of 2001 (P.L. 107-133) expanded the Chafee Program by authorizing new discretionary funds for post-secondary education and training vouchers (the CETV program). CETV provides vouchers of up to \$5,000 per year to eligible youth who are, or were formerly, in foster care for expenses related to post-secondary education assistance, such as tuition, books, fees, supplies, and vocational training.

The Family First Prevention Services Act (P.L. 115-123) made changes in eligibility in both the mandatory formula grant program and the CETV program. As amended, states and tribes administering the CETV program may allow eligible youth participating in the voucher program to remain eligible until their 26th birthday, as long as they are enrolled in a postsecondary education or training program and are making satisfactory progress toward completion of that program. Participation in the program, however, is for no more than five years in total.

Funding for the vouchers is distributed to the states based on each state's proportion of children in foster care compared to the national total of all children in foster care. Tribes with an approved plan to operate a foster care and adoption assistance program under title IV-E of the Social Security Act or a title IV-E tribal/state agreement or contract also have the option to directly receive a portion of the state's Chafee Program and CETV allotments to provide services to tribal youth.

Funding for the program - net of any authorized changes such as transfers or reprogramming - for five years is as follows:

2022	\$43,257,000
2023	\$44,257,000
2024	\$44,257,000
2025	*
2026	\$44,257,000

For FY 2024, 59 grants were made with an average award of \$738,867 and a range from \$1,618 to \$5,427,925.

Funding for this program is also used to pay salaries and benefits for federal employees and other related administrative costs.

Budget Request

The FY 2026 request for the discretionary CETV program is \$44.3 million. This level of funding will provide approximately 15,000 vouchers to young people currently or formerly in foster care, increasing the prospect that these youth will be able to complete post-secondary education, secure work, and successfully transition to adulthood. One study of the CETV program in ten states found that young people who are eligible for and receive CETV are 15 percent more likely to enroll in school than those who are eligible but do not receive CETV and that CETV receipt is associated with earlier college enrollment and greater likelihood of graduation by age 24. Approximately 20,000 foster youth age out of foster care per year, and these vouchers provide additional opportunities for these young people.

For FY 2026, it is estimated that 59 grants will be made, with an average award of \$738,867 and a range from \$1,618 to \$5,427,925.

Performance Analysis

Measure	Year and Most Recent Result/ Target for Most Recent Result/ Summary of Result	FY 2025 Target	FY 2026 Target	FY 2026 Target +/- FY 2025 Target
7iv: Number of youth receiving CETV funding. (<i>Output</i>)	Program Year 2023: 14,232 (Historical Actual)	N/A	N/A	N/A

Disaster Human Services Case Management

Funding Level	FY 2024 Final	FY 2025 Enacted	FY 2026	Change from FY 2025 Enacted
Total, Budget Authority	\$1,864,000	\$1,864,000	\$1,864,000	\$0

Allocation Method.....Direct Federal

Program Description and Accomplishments

The Disaster Human Services Case Management (DHSCM) program is authorized through appropriations language under the Children and Families Services account. It is maintained and implemented by the ACFC Office of Human Services Emergency Preparedness and Response, which leads coordination and collaboration for human service preparedness, response, and recovery in emergencies and natural disasters.

Through the DHSCM program, ACFC:

- Develops and sustains a system of policies, guidance, and plans to support individuals and families across ACFC human and social service programs after a disaster. These activities are evaluated and enhanced through ongoing training and exercises. Collectively, these actions build ACFC capability and capacity to provide case management services or other direct support to disaster survivors in affected states, tribes, or territories when activated as a result of a Public Health Emergency from the HHS Secretary, by the Assistant Secretary of ACFC for an emergency or crisis, or by a Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Mission Assignment Task Order (MATO);
- Deploys a cadre of responders who provide psychosocial case management services to survivors on a one-to-one basis by conducting intake assessments, triaging unmet needs, and providing information and referrals, short-term planning, and/or referrals to resources consistent with social work standards of care;
- Administers the Electronic Case Management Record System database, which provides the DHSCM program with an efficient, secure, and cost-effective method of managing disaster survivor data when the program is activated;
- Supports effective information sharing and exchange across human and social service providers, creating a community of practice across jurisdictions nationally; and
- Develops quality improvement and key performance indicator measurement processes that demonstrate the DHSCM program's social and financial return on investment through performance analysis and evaluation of after-action reports and community-of-practice program reviews.

The annual funding for the DHSCM program enables ACFC to develop, maintain, and train personnel; develop and enhance administrative and asset management capability and capacity; and refine and improve human and material resources and deployment infrastructure required to execute case management mission operations.

When the DHSCM program is activated by a FEMA MATO, deployment expenses are reimbursed through the Stafford Act Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act. The DHSCM has been activated to connect individuals and families to human services after such events as the 2017 Hurricanes Harvey, Irma, and Maria, the 2018 Camp and 2019 Paradise Wildfires, 2020 Hurricane Laura, and 2022 Hurricanes Fiona and Ian. The program has also conducted assessments of human services infrastructure every year since FY 2021 to identify service area gaps and use this information to assist jurisdictions and federal ACFC programs providing services to survivors.

Starting in FY 2022, and every year since, Congress has included a General Provision to expand funding flexibility for research projects in ACFC. All research funding provided for in the Appropriations Act can remain available for five years following appropriation. This has allowed for additional time for research and evaluation projects within the DHSCM program.

Funding for the program - net of any authorized changes such as transfers or reprogramming - for the last five years is as follows:

2022	\$1,864,000
2023	\$1,864,000
2024	\$1,864,000
2025	\$1,864,000
2026	\$1,864,000

Funding for this program is also used to pay salaries and benefits for federal employees, information technology support, and other related administrative costs.

Budget Request

The FY 2026 request for Disaster Human Services Case Management program is \$2 million, the same as the FY 2025 Enacted level. ACFC will continue to focus its efforts on leading coordination and collaboration partnerships with human and social service programs. The collaboration will develop guidelines for disaster human services core capabilities and continue system maintenance for direct case management support to jurisdictions affected by disasters.

The funding will continue to support the development of the ACFC disaster human service capability, specifically by:

- Providing training and technical assistance on critical and emerging issue areas, including best practices in disaster assistance for human services topics to jurisdictions and service providers (e.g., aging and disabled populations, child welfare, domestic and intimate partner violence, human trafficking, tribal nations);
- Maintaining current agreements for national disaster human services in partnership with FEMA and the American Red Cross;
- Maintaining current deployable surge capabilities for assessing requirements and delivering case management services;
- Continue programmatic linkage by connecting ACFC national disaster human service case management with non-governmental human service partners and organizations to ensure that

locally driven and federally supported solutions are identified and developed in preparing for, responding to, and recovering from disasters and emergencies;

- Reviewing and maintaining ACFC's existing database system to enable the efficient exchange of appropriate data between ACFC DHSCM human service case managers, other federal officials, and local governments to improve disaster survivor outcomes;
- Reviewing and maintaining existing data sharing agreements and records management operating procedures to ensure appropriate protections of personally identifiable information throughout data information exchanges;
- Leveraging existing program data sources to support case management interventions; and
- Instituting a quality improvement and assurance process to ensure data-driven resource allocation, continued performance, and process improvement from previous disasters through the application of social science qualitative analysis research and review.

Federal Administration

Funding Level	FY 2024 Final	FY 2025 Enacted	FY 2026	Change from FY 2025 Enacted
Total, Budget Authority	\$219,000,000	*	\$224,489,000	*

Allocation Method.....Direct Federal

Program Description and Accomplishments

The Federal Administration account includes funding for salaries, benefits, and associated expenses of ACFC necessary to effectively administer federal programs that promote the economic and social well-being of families, children, individuals, and communities. The Federal Administration account covers such expenses for programs that do not have authority to use existing appropriations for this purpose.

Funding for the program – net of any authorized changes such as transfers or reprogramming – for five years is as follows:

2022	\$212,500,000
2022 Supplemental	\$7,773,000
2023	\$218,500,000
2023 Supplemental	\$18,000,000
2024	\$219,000,000
2025	*
2026	\$224,489,000

Funding for this program is used to pay salaries and benefits for federal employees, information technology support, grants paneling, and other related administrative costs.

Budget Request

The FY 2026 request for Federal Administration is \$224 million. Funding will be used to support current ACFC staff funded from this account as well as the newly aligned ACL staff. Streamlined operating cost such as information technology, equipment, operational services and facilities will also be supported.

ACFC's total FY 2026 estimated FTE is 1,621, including 608 FTE supported by Federal Administration, 914 FTE paid from other program resources, and 99 FTE from ACL.

Performance Analysis

Measure	Year and Most Recent Result / Target for Recent Result / (Summary of Result)	FY 2025 Target	FY 2026 Target	FY 2026 Target +/- FY 2025 Target
<u>11A</u> : Obtain the highest level of success for each management initiative. (<i>Outcome</i>)	FY 2024: Highest level of success in all management initiatives (5) Target: 5 (Target Met)	*	Highest level of success in all management initiatives (5)	*

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES
ADMINISTRATION FOR CHILDREN, FAMILIES, AND COMMUNITIES
PAYMENTS TO STATES FOR CHILD SUPPORT ENFORCEMENT AND FAMILY SUPPORT
PROGRAMS

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Summary of Changes	97
Appropriations History Table	98
Justification	100
General Statement	100
Program Descriptions and Accomplishments	101
Budget Request	104
Performance Analysis	104

This page intentionally left blank.

ADMINISTRATION FOR CHILDREN, FAMILIES, AND COMMUNITIES
Payments to States for Child Support Enforcement and Family Support Programs

Summary of Changes

FY 2025 Enacted	
Total estimated budget authority	\$5,442,708,600
(Obligations)	\$5,695,412,617
FY 2026	
Total estimated budget authority	\$5,745,883,200
(Obligations)	\$5,945,883,200
Net change	<u>\$303,174,600</u>

<u>Description of Changes</u>	<u>FY 2025 Enacted</u>	<u>Change from Base</u>
<u>Increases:</u>		
A. <u>Built-in:</u>		
1) State Child Support Administrative Costs: Technical baseline change reflects changes made to anticipated claims/costs by grantees.	\$4,652,015,700	\$291,639,927
2) Federal Incentive Payments to States: Technical baseline change reflects adjustments in CPI-U rate.	\$728,870,231	\$11,881,142
3) Repatriation: Technical baseline change to reflect changes in program costs and sequestration order.	\$18,822,669	\$770,331
Total Increases		\$304,291,400
<u>Decreases:</u>		
A. <u>Built-in:</u>		
1) Repatriation: Technical baseline change to reflect FY 2026 sequestration order.	\$18,822,669	-\$1,116,800
Total Decreases		-\$1,116,800
Net Change		\$303,174,600

ADMINISTRATION FOR CHILDREN, FAMILIES, AND COMMUNITIES
Payments to States for Child Support Enforcement and Family Support Programs

Appropriations History Table

Year	Budget Estimate to Congress	Appropriation
2017		
Appropriation	3,010,631,000	3,010,631,000
Advance	1,300,000,000	1,300,000,000
Sequestration		-69,000
Total	4,310,631,000	4,310,562,000
2018		
Appropriation	2,995,400,000	2,995,400,000
Advance	1,400,000,000	1,400,000,000
Sequestration		-66,000
Total	4,395,400,000	4,395,334,000
2019		
Appropriation	2,922,247,000	2,922,247,000
Advance	1,400,000,000	1,400,000,000
Sequestration		-62,000
Total	4,322,247,000	4,322,185,000
2020		
Appropriation	2,890,000,000	2,890,000,000
Advance	1,400,000,000	1,400,000,000
Indefinite		276,248,232
Sequestration		-59,000
Total	4,290,000,000	4,566,189,232
2021		
Appropriation	3,039,000,000	3,039,000,000
Advance	1,400,000,000	1,400,000,000
Sequestration		-57,000
Total	4,457,500,000	4,438,943,000
2022		
Appropriation	2,795,000,000	2,795,000,000
Advance	1,400,000,000	1,400,000,000
Sequestration	-567,500	-567,500
Total	4,194,432,500	4,194,432,500

Year	Budget Estimate to Congress	Appropriation
2023		
Appropriation	2,883,000,000	2,883,000,000
Advance	1,300,000,000	1,300,000,000
Indefinite		445,592,715
Sequestration	-580,100	-580,100
Total	4,182,419,900	4,628,012,615
2024		
Appropriation	3,309,000,000	3,309,000,000
Advance	1,300,000,000	1,300,000,000
Indefinite		280,194,472
Sequestration	-1,037,300	-1,037,300
Total	4,607,962,700	4,888,157,172
2025		
Appropriation	3,924,000,000	4,044,000,000
Advance	1,400,000,000	1,400,000,000
Sequestration	-1,291,400	-1,291,400
Total	5,322,708,600	5,442,708,600
2026		
Appropriation	4,147,000,000	
Advance	1,600,000,000	
Sequestration	-1,116,800	
Total	5,745,883,200	
2027		
Advance	1,800,000,000	

ADMINISTRATION FOR CHILDREN, FAMILIES, AND COMMUNITIES
Payments to States for Child Support Enforcement and Family Support Programs

Justification

Funding Level	FY 2024 Final	FY 2025 Enacted	FY 2026	Change from FY 2025 Enacted
Total, Budget Authority	\$4,888,157,172	\$5,442,708,600	\$5,745,883,200	\$303,174,600
Total, Obligations	\$5,126,664,136	\$5,695,412,617	\$5,945,883,200	\$250,470,583

Allocation Method.....Formula Grant

General Statement

The Payments to States for Child Support Enforcement and Family Support Programs appropriation provides funding for four programs:

- state and tribal child support programs, including incentive payments to states for child support enforcement;
- access and visitation grants;
- payments to certain territories for adult-only benefits under assistance programs for aged, blind, and disabled residents; and
- temporary cash and services for repatriated U.S. citizens and dependents.

The purpose of these programs is to provide funding to states to support state-administered programs of financial assistance and services for low-income families to promote child well-being and the economic security, independence, and self-sufficiency of the family. The payments to territories and repatriation programs are paid from the same appropriation as child support grants but are not administered by the child support agencies.

In FY 2024, ACFC obligated \$5.1 billion for Child Support Enforcement and Family Support Programs. ACFC estimates FY 2025 obligations will be \$5.7 billion. This account is partially subjected to sequestration in accordance with the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985 (P.L. 99-177), as amended by the Budget Control Act of 2011 (P.L. 112-25); only the repatriation program funding in this account is affected.

Program Descriptions and Accomplishments

The Social Services Amendments of 1975 (P.L. 93-647) established the federal child support enforcement program as Part D of title IV of the Social Security Act (the Act). The program provides: (1) funding to states and tribes through a federal match of state and tribal administrative costs and (2) incentive funding to states for meeting performance targets. The purpose of the program is to foster parental responsibility and to promote family independence and self-sufficiency and child well-being by supporting state and tribal child support agencies in providing the following services:

- locating noncustodial parents;
- establishing parentage;
- establishing and enforcing support orders;
- modifying orders when appropriate;
- collecting and disbursing child support payments; and
- establishing and enforcing health care coverage.

Many child support functions occur at the state, local, or tribal level. Parents may apply to their state, local, or tribal child support agency for child support enforcement services. Parents who receive Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) are automatically referred to the agency for services.

The Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act of 1996 (PRWORA) (P.L. 104-193) made major reforms to the program, including the addition of new enforcement tools to assist in the collection of child support and new requirements for state automated data processing systems. PRWORA created the capped Access and Visitation Grants program to establish and administer programs to support and facilitate noncustodial parents' access to, and visitation with, their children.

Other legislation since PRWORA has changed the child support enforcement program. The Child Support Performance and Incentive Act of 1998 (CSPIA) (P.L. 105-200) established the performance and incentive system that is currently used to award federal incentive payments to states. The Deficit Reduction Act of 2005 (DRA) (P.L. 109-171) also made changes, including requiring states to assess a \$25 user fee to families who have never received TANF when the family receives at least \$500 in annual collections. The DRA encourages states to send more child support funds to former and current welfare families rather than use those funds as cost recovery. The Bipartisan Budget Act of 2018 (P.L. 115-13) revised the collection fee from \$25 to \$35 and the threshold amount from \$500 to \$550.

The primary aim of the child support enforcement program has evolved from government cost recovery for families receiving government assistance to income support for families. Custodial families receiving TANF are required to assign their rights to child support to the state as a condition of receipt of assistance. However, states may choose to distribute some of these child support collections to families, in lieu of government cost recovery, by adopting a combination of state options enacted as part of the DRA and PRWORA. As of FY 2023, 27 states chose to distribute all or a portion of collections. As a result of these changes, the program distributes on average 97 percent of collections directly to children and families with the remaining funds retained by the state or federal government. In FY 2023, federal and state governments retained less than \$1 billion to reimburse cash assistance costs. For families with children that have never received TANF or Foster Care maintenance payments, the program sends

collections directly to the custodial parents. Title IV-D child support collections in FY 2023 were \$26.7 billion. In FY 2023, child support enforcement programs served 12.7 million children.

The child support enforcement program operates as a robust partnership between the federal government and state, local, and tribal governments. Each state and tribe manages cases and operates its own child support program in accordance with state or tribal, and federal regulations. ACFC helps state, local, and tribal child support agencies develop, manage, and operate their programs effectively and in accordance with federal law. ACFC operates the Federal Parent Locator Service, which includes the National Directory of New Hires (NDNH), to assist states and localities in their efforts to locate parents, establish child support orders, and collect such support. ACFC also operates the Federal Offset and Passport Denial programs that states use to provide limited enforcement and collection services, such as federal tax refund intercepts and passport denials. Additionally, ACFC manages the U.S. Central Authority for International Child Support and is responsible for coordinating with 52 foreign countries and states to provide child support enforcement services when one parent resides outside the country.

The federal government provides funding to states through a 66 percent match rate for allowable state administrative expenditures that are determined by federal statute, regulations, and policy. Federally recognized Indian tribes and Alaska Native organizations are eligible to apply for direct funding for child support programs. Tribes apply for two-year start-up grants and receive 100 percent federal funding. Tribes with approved comprehensive applications receive 90 percent federal funding of their program needs for the first three years of operations and 80 percent federal funding thereafter. As of December 2024, there are 63 tribes receiving funding to operate child support programs and one tribe in the start-up phase. In February 2024, ACFC published a final rule that eliminates the non-federal share of program expenditures requirement for tribal child support programs, effective FY 2025.

States also receive performance-based incentive payments. States receive these incentives (or are subject to performance penalties) based on meeting thresholds for five measures: paternity establishment, child support order establishment, current support collections, collection of arrears payments, and cost-efficiency for administering the program. The total amount of the incentive pool provided to states is fixed and based on a formula set in statute. It is estimated to be \$754 million for FY 2026. States must use incentive funds for child support expenditures, but these expenditures are not eligible for the 66 percent federal match rate.

One of the primary methods of collecting child support payments is through payroll deductions, as required by the Family Support Act of 1988 (P.L. 100-485). The percentage of child support payments collected through payroll deductions was 73 percent in FY 2023. The Preventing Sex Trafficking and Strengthening Families Act (P.L. 113-183) was enacted in September 2014 and mandated all states to electronically transmit any income withholding orders to employers, at the option of the employer, no later than October 1, 2015. Using electronic income withholding (e-IWO) allows families to receive child support payments more quickly since e-IWOs are sent to employers electronically rather than through the mail. In FY 2024, 2.1 million e-IWOs were successfully processed.

The program has also become more successful in helping parents work together to support their children and ensuring that low-income noncustodial parents can secure the resources they need. State, local, and tribal child support agencies routinely engage in outreach, early intervention, case management, referral to other services, and other strategies in partnership with veterans, fatherhood, workforce, prisoner reentry, child welfare, and domestic violence programs to increase parental support. In 2022, ACFC issued guidance and informational memoranda on title IV-E assignment and domestic violence resource

and training. This guidance helps to ensure custodial and noncustodial parents receive the services needed to care for their children.

Another component of ACFC's child support enforcement portfolio is the Access and Visitation Grants program authorized at \$10 million a year. A designated state agency, which is usually not the state child support agency, uses these grant funds to establish and administer programs to support and facilitate noncustodial parents' access to, and visitation with, their children. The statute specifies certain activities that may be funded, which include voluntary and mandatory mediation, counseling, education, the development of parenting plans, supervised visitation, neutral drop-off and pick-up locations, and the development of guidelines for visitation and alternative custody arrangements.

ACFC's child support enforcement research portfolio is multi-faceted. A variety of research and evaluation components are administered to understand more about cost and program effectiveness. Research and evaluation within the portfolio have consisted of supporting large multi-state demonstrations which include random assignment evaluations and supporting research activities of other government programs and agencies by conducting matches of their research samples to the NDNH, subject to federal law, regulation, guidance, and other requirements to protect data privacy and security. NDNH information may be disclosed only if the research purpose is likely to contribute to achieving the purposes of the TANF and, or, child support program.

ACFC's child support enforcement portfolio also includes grants to states and tribal child support agencies, or their state umbrella agencies, for demonstration projects, waivers, and other research-related partnerships authorized by Section 1115(a) of the Social Security Act at \$4 million a year. Section 1115 demonstration grants must be used for research and to improve the child support program.

This appropriation also funds grants to territories for maintenance assistance programs for the aged, blind, and disabled. It provides aid to states to furnish financial assistance to needy individuals who are 65 years of age or over, are blind, or are 18 years of age or over and permanently and totally disabled. These grants are subject to spending limitations under Section 1108 of the Social Security Act. Grant awards are made based on territories' claims.

The final program funded out of this appropriation is the Repatriation Program. This program provides temporary assistance to citizens of the United States and to dependents of citizens who are without available resources and have been identified by the Department of State as having returned from a foreign country to the United States because of destitution or illness or because of war, threat of war, invasion, or similar crisis. Section 1113(a) of the Social Security Act caps the funding level for the temporary financial assistance received by individuals under that section at \$1 million each fiscal year. The Repatriation Program enters into agreements with states, territories, and other service providers to support both routine repatriate arrivals and mass evacuations/repatriations, such as in the event of natural disasters. The program has the authority to reimburse the provision of direct services and related planning and administrative costs. All individuals receiving assistance are expected to repay the cost of such assistance.

Section 1113(b) authorizes the Secretary to develop plans and make arrangements for the provision of temporary assistance. Planning activities related to repatriation are not subject to the statutory funding limit. As part of its planning activities, ACFC conducts training and technical assistance to address gaps identified in jurisdictional repatriation operational activities and enhance state plans for emergency repatriation incidents and partners with states to conduct exercises to enhance federal and state readiness.

The program also provides for the hospitalization of mentally ill nationals returned from foreign countries. Costs for assisting these individuals are not subject to the cap in Section 1113(a).

Obligations for the Child Support Enforcement and Family Support appropriation for five years have been:

2022	\$4,590,397,692
2023	\$4,890,588,639
2024	\$5,126,664,136
2025	\$5,695,400,000
2026	\$5,945,900,000

Budget Request

The FY 2026 current law baseline is \$5.7 billion, an increase of \$303.0 million from the FY 2025 Enacted level. Further, \$1.8 billion will be needed for the first quarter of FY 2027 to assure the timely awarding of first quarter grants.

Performance Analysis

Measure	Year and Most Recent Result/ Target for Recent Result / (Summary of Result)	FY 2025 Target
20.1LT: Maintain annual child support distributed collections. (<i>Outcome</i>)	FY 2023: \$26.7B Target: \$30B (Target Not Met)	\$28B
20A: Maintain the paternity establishment percentage (PEP) among children born out-of-wedlock. (<i>Outcome</i>)	FY 2023: 93% Target: 90% (Target Exceeded)	90%
20B: Percent of IV-D Child Support cases having support orders. (<i>Outcome</i>)	FY 2023: 86% Target: 90% (Target Not Met)	88%
20C: Maintain the IV-D (child support) collection rate for current support. (<i>Outcome</i>)	FY 2023: 65% Target: 68% (Target Not Met)	68%
20D: Maintain the percentage of paying cases among IV-D (child support) arrearage cases. (<i>Outcome</i>)	FY 2023: 64% Target: 66% (Target Not Met)	66%

Measure	Year and Most Recent Result/ Target for Recent Result / (Summary of Result)	FY 2025 Target
<u>20E</u> : Maintain the cost-effectiveness ratio (total dollars collected per \$1 of expenditures). (<i>Efficiency</i>)	FY 2023: \$4.37 Target: \$5.20 (Target Not Met)	\$5.20
<u>20i</u> : Total cases with orders established. (<i>Output</i>)	FY 2023: 10.4 million (Historical Actual)	N/A
<u>20ii</u> : Total number of paternities established. (<i>Output</i>)	FY 2023: 1.3 million (Historical Actual)	N/A
<u>20iii</u> : Total amount of current support distributed. (<i>Output</i>)	FY 2023: \$20.1B (Historical Actual)	N/A

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES
ADMINISTRATION FOR CHILDREN, FAMILIES, AND COMMUNITIES
SOCIAL SERVICES BLOCK GRANT

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Summary of Changes	108
Appropriations History Table	109
Justification	111
General Statement	111
Program Descriptions and Accomplishments	111
Budget Request	112
Performance Analysis	112

This page intentionally left blank.

ADMINISTRATION FOR CHILDREN, FAMILIES, AND COMMUNITIES
Social Services Block Grant

Summary of Changes

FY 2025 Enacted	
Total estimated budget authority	\$1,603,100,000
FY 2026	
Total estimated budget authority	\$1,603,100,000
Net change	\$0

ADMINISTRATION FOR CHILDREN, FAMILIES, AND COMMUNITIES
Social Services Block Grant

Appropriations History Table

Year	Budget Estimate to Congress	Appropriation
2017		
Appropriation	1,700,000,000	1,700,000,000
Pre-appropriated	85,000,000	85,000,000
Sequestration		-123,165,000
Total	1,785,000,000	1,661,835,000
2018		
Appropriation	0	1,700,000,000
Pre-appropriated	85,000,000	85,000,000
Sequestration		-112,200,000
Total	85,000,000	1,672,800,000
2019		
Appropriation	0	1,700,000,000
Pre-appropriated	85,000,000	85,000,000
Sequestration		-105,400,000
Total	85,000,000	1,679,600,000
2020		
Appropriation	0	1,700,000,000
Pre-appropriated	85,000,000	85,000,000
Sequestration		-100,300,000
Total	85,000,000	1,684,700,000
2021		
Appropriation	0	1,700,000,000
Pre-Appropriated	0	3,600,000
Sequestration		-96,900,000
Total	0	1,606,700,000
2022		
Appropriation	1,700,000,000	1,700,000,000
Sequestration	-96,900,000	-96,900,000
Total	1,603,100,000	1,603,100,000
2023		
Appropriation	1,700,000,000	1,700,000,000

Year	Budget Estimate to Congress	Appropriation
Sequestration	-96,900,000	-96,900,000
Total	1,603,100,000	1,603,100,000
2024		
Appropriation	1,700,000,000	1,700,000,000
Sequestration	-96,900,000	-96,900,000
Total	1,603,100,000	1,603,100,000
2025		
Appropriation	1,700,000,000	1,700,000,000
Sequestration	-96,900,000	-96,900,000
Total	1,603,100,000	1,603,100,000
2026		
Appropriation	1,700,000,000	
Sequestration	-96,900,000	
Total	1,603,100,000	

ADMINISTRATION FOR CHILDREN, FAMILIES, AND COMMUNITIES
Social Services Block Grant

Justification

Funding Level	FY 2024 Final	FY 2025 Enacted	FY 2026	Change from FY 2025 Enacted
Social Services Block Grant	\$1,603,100,000	\$1,603,100,000	\$1,603,100,000	\$0

Allocation Method.....Formula and Competitive Grants/Contracts

General Statement

The Social Services Block Grant (SSBG) is a flexible grant provided to 57 states and territories to use for 29 different service areas and activities. States set their eligibility criteria, within federal parameters, and, with a public comment period, design social services programming each fiscal year.

The Omnibus Reconciliation Act of 1981 (P.L. 97-35) amended Title XX of the Social Security Act to establish SSBG as a block grant to states that is currently capped at \$1.7 billion in the authorizing statute (42 U.S.C. 1397b). The Omnibus Territories Act (P.L. 95-134) established that territories of the U.S. may receive multiple funding sources under one authority, one application for funding, and following one program's rules. This authority, as amended, set funding amounts as received in 1981.

This account is subject to sequestration in accordance with the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985 (P.L. 99-177), as amended by the Budget Control Act of 2011 (P.L. 112-25).

Program Descriptions and Accomplishments

Social services funded by SSBG grants must be linked to one or more of these statutory goals:

- Achieve or maintain economic self-support to prevent, reduce, or eliminate dependency;
- Achieve or maintain self-sufficiency, including reduction or prevention of dependency;
- Prevent or remedy neglect, abuse, or exploitation of children and adults unable to protect their own interests or preserve, rehabilitate, or reunite families;
- Prevent or reduce inappropriate institutional care by providing for community-based care, home-based care, or other forms of less intensive care; and
- Secure referral or admission for institutional care when other forms of care are not appropriate or providing services to individuals in institutions.

SSBG funds are distributed to the 50 states and Washington, D.C., based on each state's population relative to all other states. Distributions are made to Puerto Rico, Guam, American Samoa, the U.S. Virgin Islands, and the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands based on the same ratio allotted to them in 1981 as compared to the total 1981 appropriation. The territories may consolidate up to 22 health and human services program grants for operation under SSBG in the Consolidated Block Grant. Puerto Rico does not consolidate. There are no matching requirements.

Before receiving grant awards under SSBG, each state or territory must report on the intended use of the payments, including the types of activities to be supported and whether children, adults, or seniors are to be served. At the end of the fiscal year, the state or territory reports on the actual services provided and the recipients served.

In addition to their SSBG award, states may transfer up to 10 percent of their Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) block grant to the SSBG. Funds transferred from TANF to SSBG are to be used only for programs or services to children or their families whose income is less than 200 percent of the federal income poverty guideline. States expended \$2.8 billion in total SSBG funding in FY 2023, including \$1.6 billion in regular SSBG funding and \$1.2 billion transferred funds from the TANF block grant. Just over 19 million individuals and their families received services from the total of regular and transferred resources; about half of service beneficiaries are children.

Funding for the programs – net of any authorized changes such as transfers or reprogramming – for five years is as follows:

2022	\$1,603,100,000
2023	\$1,603,100,000
2024	\$1,603,100,000
2025	\$1,603,100,000
2026	\$1,603,100,000

In FYs 2024 and 2025, 57 SSBG grants were made with an average of \$28,303,508 and a range of \$55,279 to \$186,680,573.

Budget Request

The FY 2026 current law level for SSBG is \$1.7 billion in FY 2026. The request does not include the amount required by law to be sequestered in FY 2026, which is \$96.9 million.

Performance Analysis

Measure	Year and Most Recent Result/ Target for Most Recent Result/ Summary of Result	FY 2025 Target
21A: Decrease administrative costs as a percent of total costs. (<i>Efficiency</i>)	FY 2023: 2.5% Target: 4% (Target Exceeded)	4%
21B: Decrease the percentage of variance between projected expenditures, by service for each state, and actual expenditures. (<i>Outcome</i>)	FY 2023: 77% Target: 80% (Target Not Met)	80%
21i: Number of individuals receiving services funded in whole or in part by SSBG. (<i>Output</i>)	FY 2023: 18.76 million (Historical Actual)	N/A

This page intentionally left blank.

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES
ADMINISTRATION FOR CHILDREN, FAMILIES, AND COMMUNITIES
PROMOTING SAFE AND STABLE FAMILIES

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Summary of Changes	116
Appropriations History Table	117
Justification	119
General Statement	119
Program Descriptions and Accomplishments	120
Budget Request	125
Performance Analysis	126

This page intentionally left blank.

ADMINISTRATION FOR CHILDREN, FAMILIES, AND COMMUNITIES
Promoting Safe and Stable Families

Summary of Changes

FY 2025 Enacted	
Total estimated budget authority	\$547,850,000
(Obligations)	\$562,242,481
FY 2026	
Total estimated budget authority	\$608,575,000
(Obligations)	\$611,575,000
Net change	<u>\$60,725,000</u>

<u>Description of Changes</u>	<u>FY 2025 Enacted</u>	<u>Change from Base</u>
<u>Increases:</u>		
A. <u>Built-in:</u>		
1) PSSF Mandatory: Technical baseline change to reflect sequestration order and increased reauthorization amount.	\$325,335,000	\$94,665,000
Total, Increases		\$94,665,000
<u>Decreases:</u>		
A. <u>Built-in:</u>		
1) PSSF Mandatory: Technical baseline change to reflect FY 2026 sequestration order.	\$325,335,000	-\$23,940,000
Subtotal, Built-in Decreases		-\$23,940,000
B. <u>Program:</u>		
1) Promoting Safe and Stable Families Disc.: Reflects \$10 million decrease due to fewer funds needed because of mandatory reauthorization.	\$72,515,000	-\$10,000,000
Subtotal, Program Decreases		-\$10,000,000
Total, Decreases		-\$33,940,000
Net Change		\$60,725,000

ADMINISTRATION FOR CHILDREN, FAMILIES, AND COMMUNITIES
Promoting Safe and Stable Families

Appropriations History Table

Year	Budget Estimate to Congress	Appropriation
2017		
Appropriation	467,515,000	404,765,000
Pre-Appropriated	90,000,000	150,000,000
Sequestration		-34,155,000
Transfer		-185,893
Total	557,515,000	520,424,107
2018		
Appropriation	404,359,000	452,765,000
Pre-Appropriated		150,000,000
Sequestration		-22,770,000
Total		579,995,000
2019		
Appropriation	444,765,000	459,765,000
Pre-Appropriated	150,000,000	150,000,000
Sequestration		-21,390,000
Transfer		-205,592
Total	594,765,000	588,169,408
2020		
Appropriation	474,765,000	937,515,000
Pre-Appropriated	150,000,000	150,000,000
Sequestration		-20,355,000
Total	624,765,000	1,067,160,000
2021		
Appropriation	474,765,000	427,515,000
Pre-Appropriated	150,000,000	150,000,000
Supplemental		85,000,000
Sequestration		-19,665,000
Total	624,765,000	642,850,000
2022		
Appropriation	451,000,000	427,515,000
Pre-Appropriated	150,000,000	150,000,000
Sequestration	-28,215,000	-28,215,000
Total	572,785,000	549,300,000

Year	Budget Estimate to Congress	Appropriation
2023		
Appropriation	751,000,000	431,515,000
Pre-Appropriated	150,000,000	150,000,000
Sequestration	-28,215,000	-28,215,000
Total	872,785,000	553,300,000
2024		
Appropriation	751,000,000	431,515,000
Pre-Appropriated	75,000,000	150,000,000
Sequestration	-19,665,000	-19,665,000
Total	806,335,000	561,850,000
2025		
Appropriation	721,515,000	417,515,000
Pre-Appropriated	75,000,000	150,000,000
Sequestration	-19,665,000	-19,665,000
Total	776,850,000	547,850,000
2026		
Appropriation	482,515,000	
Pre-Appropriated	150,000,000	
Sequestration	-23,940,000	
Total	608,575,000	

ADMINISTRATION FOR CHILDREN, FAMILIES, AND COMMUNITIES
Promoting Safe and Stable Families

Justification

Funding Level	FY 2024 Final	FY 2025 Enacted	FY 2026	Change from FY 2025 Enacted
Promoting Safe and Stable Families, Discretionary	\$72,515,000	\$72,515,000	\$62,515,000	-\$10,000,000
Promoting Safe and Stable Families, Mandatory	\$325,335,000	\$325,335,000	\$396,060,000	\$70,725,000
Personal Responsibility Education Program	\$75,000,000	\$75,000,000	\$75,000,000	\$0
Sexual Risk Avoidance Education	\$75,000,000	\$75,000,000	\$75,000,000	\$0
Total, Budget Authority	\$547,850,000	\$547,850,000	\$608,575,000	\$60,725,000

Allocation Method.....Formula and Competitive Grants

General Statement

The MaryLee Allen Promoting Safe and Stable Families (PSSF) appropriation provides funding for the PSSF program, the Personal Responsibility Education Program (PREP), and Title V Sexual Risk Avoidance Education (SRAE) (originally authorized as Abstinence Education). The appropriation for the PSSF program includes both mandatory and discretionary budget authority.

The Social Security Act of 1935 (P.L. 74-271) authorized the first federal grants for child welfare. In 1993, the Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act (P.L. 103-66) created the Family Preservation and Family Support Services Program, which became Promoting Safe and Stable Families, under title IV-B-2 of the Social Security Act, with passage of the Adoption and Safe Families Act of 1997 (P.L. 105-89). The Family First Prevention Services Act (FFPSA) (P.L. 115-123) amended and reauthorized the program through FY 2021. The SUPPORT for Patients and Communities Act (P.L. 115-271) further amended PSSF by adding a requirement for ACFC to award a grant or contract for a family recovery and reunification program replication project. The Family First Transition Act (P.L. 116-94) provided grantees with additional resources to implement the requirements of FFPSA, including \$500 million for FFPSA Transition Grants. That law also renamed the program the “MaryLee Allen Promoting Safe and Stable Families Program.” In FY 2025, the Supporting America’s Children and Families Act (P.L. 118-258) reauthorized and amended programs under title IV-B of the Social Security Act, including PSSF, with changes effective in FY 2026. This Act increases PSSF mandatory funding by \$75 million for each of FYs 2026-2029, bringing the annual total to \$420 million.

In FY 2010, the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act (P.L. 111-148, P.L. 111-152) created PREP under section 513 of the Social Security Act and reauthorized Abstinence Education under section 510 of the Social Security Act through FY 2014. Federal support of abstinence education programs began in 1982 through the Adolescent Family Life Act under the Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act of 1981 (P.L. 97-35). In 1996, federal funding for abstinence programs grew with the enactment of the Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act (PRWORA), popularly known as welfare

reform (P.L. 104-193). In FY 2018, Congress amended section 510 to discontinue the Title V State Abstinence Education program and to create the Title V SRAE program, which provides funding to states and community-based organizations to teach youth to avoid non-marital sexual activity and other risky behaviors. The SRAE program also addresses the social, psychological, and health gains to be realized by refraining from non-marital sexual activity and engaging in healthy relationships. PREP addresses the prevention of pregnancy and sexually transmitted infections, including HIV/AIDS. PREP also addresses the transition to adulthood by focusing on six statutorily mandated “adulthood preparation” topics (adolescent development, educational and career success, financial literacy, healthy life skills, healthy relationships, and parent-child communication) and targets services to high-risk youth populations. Both programs were reauthorized for FY 2018 and FY 2019 at \$75 million per program per year in the Bipartisan Budget Act of 2018 (P.L. 115-123) and for FY 2020 in the Further Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2020 (P.L. 116-94). The Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act (P.L. 116-136) authorized both programs through September 30, 2023.

Starting in FY 2022, and every year since, Congress has included a General Provision to expand funding flexibility for research projects in ACFC. All research funding provided for in each Appropriations Act can remain available for five years following appropriation. This has allowed for additional time for research and evaluation projects within the Promoting Safe and Stable Families program.

In FY 2024, ACFC obligated \$549.8 million for programs in the PSSF appropriation. This account is subject to sequestration in accordance with section 251A of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985 (P.L. 99-177), as amended by the Budget Control Act of 2011 (P.L. 112-25), which generally affects funding for PSSF, PREP, and SRAE.

Program Descriptions and Accomplishments

PSSF is an annually appropriated, capped entitlement program designed to enable each state and eligible Indian tribe, tribal organization, and tribal consortium to operate a coordinated program of community-based services. As amended by the Supporting America’s Children and Families Act, the four major service areas funded by the program include:

- Family preservation services for children, youth and families, which are designed to help families (including kinship and adoptive families) alleviate crises, maintain the safety of children in their own homes, support families who are preparing to reunify or adopt, and assist families to obtain needed services, including respite care, parenting skills, peer-to-peer mentoring, and services to provide nonrecurring short-term benefits. The statute also allows grantees to support infant safe haven programs.
- Family support services, which are community-based services, including services provided by family resource centers designed to promote the safety and well-being of children, youth, and families; increase the strength and stability of families (including adoptive, foster and kinship families); support and retain foster families to help ensure the availability of quality family-based settings for children in foster care; promote parental competencies; strengthen parental relationships and promote healthy marriages; and enhance child development, including through mentoring programs.
- Family reunification services, which are provided to a child who is removed from home and placed with kinship caregivers or in a foster care setting or a child who has been returned home and to the parents or primary caregiver in order to facilitate the reunification of the child safely

and appropriately, in a timely fashion, and to ensure the strength and stability of the reunification. Grantees may use funds for counseling; substance-use disorder treatment services; mental health services; assistance to address domestic violence; temporary child care; therapeutic services for families, including crisis nurseries; peer-to-peer mentoring and support groups for parents and primary caregivers; services and activities to facilitate access to, and visitation of, children in foster care by parents and siblings; and transportation to services.

- Adoption promotion and support services, which are designed to encourage more adoptions of children out of the foster care system when adoptions are in the best interests of the children. They include pre- and post-adoption services and other activities designed to expedite the process and support adoptive families.

The program includes a discretionary appropriation with the same allowable expenses.

PSSF authorizes formula grant funding to states, tribes, and territories. The statute also provides that before PSSF funds are distributed to states for support of these services, a part of the program's funding must be reserved for other grants and activities, including Regional Partnership Grants (RPGs), grants for caseworker visits, Court Improvement Program grants, grants for kinship navigator programs and prevention services, evaluation, research, and technical assistance.

Formula grants are distributed to states based on the state's share of children in all states receiving Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program benefits. States are entitled to payments equal to their allotments for use in paying no more than 75 percent of the costs of activities under an approved state plan. The remaining 25 percent of costs must be paid with funds from non-federal sources. States carry out a comprehensive planning process, consulting with a broad range of public and private agencies providing services to families, as well as with parents and families themselves, to ensure that services are coordinated and that funds are spent in a manner responsive to the needs of families.

In addition, three percent of both mandatory and discretionary funds appropriated are reserved for allotment to tribal consortia or Indian tribes that have submitted plans and whose allotment, based on mandatory and discretionary funding combined, is at least \$10,000. Tribal allotments are based on the number of children in the tribe relative to the number of children in all tribes with approved plans. The allotment to Puerto Rico, Guam, the Virgin Islands, the Northern Mariana Islands, and American Samoa is determined by formula.

As described earlier, the statute requires funding to be reserved for other grants and activities prior to the distribution of PSSF funds to states. As amended by the Supporting America's Children and Families Act, starting in FY 2026 these reservations include:

- \$26 million from mandatory funds is allocated for state formula grants to improve the quality of caseworker visits with children in foster care, with an emphasis on reducing caseload ratios and administrative burden, caseworker safety, technology solutions, mental health resources for caseworkers, and recruitment campaigns to attract qualified caseworker candidates.
- \$40 million of the mandatory appropriation and 3.3 percent of any discretionary appropriation are to be used for Court Improvement Program (CIP) grants to assess and improve handling of court proceedings related to family preservation, foster care, and adoption. From the mandatory appropriation for CIP, \$2 million is reserved for grants to be awarded on a competitive basis to Indian tribes or tribal consortia. The remainder of the funding provides formula grants to the highest court in each state for assessment and improvement, including strategies around

continuity of services and use of technology to allow remote court proceedings, data collection and collaboration between courts and child welfare agencies, and training for judges, attorneys, and other legal persons in child welfare cases. At least 30 percent of funds must be used for collaboration and data sharing.

- \$30 million from mandatory funds are reserved for the RPG program, to provide services and activities to benefit children and families affected by a parent's or caretaker's substance-use disorder, including opioid misuse, who come to the attention of the child welfare system. Reauthorization broadened the purposes of the RPG program to help expand the scope of evidence-based services approved by the Title IV-E Prevention Services Clearinghouse.
- 3.3 percent of any discretionary appropriation is set aside for evaluation, research, and training, of which at least \$1 million is to support local RPG site evaluations with the goal of publishing and submitting evaluation findings to the Title IV-E Prevention Services Clearinghouse and at least \$1 million is to support technical assistance to support the effective implementation of the Indian Child Welfare Act.
- \$10 million from the discretionary appropriation is reserved for competitive grants to states, tribes, or private nonprofit organizations to implement and evaluate kinship navigator programs.
- \$5 million from the discretionary appropriation is reserved for competitive Prevention Services Evaluation Partnership grants to support the timely evaluation of prevention and kinship navigator programs.

The appropriations bills in each of fiscal years 2018 through 2024 also included funding for kinship navigator formula grants and provided additional funding for the Title IV-E Prevention Services Clearinghouse. In addition to the annual appropriation for PSSF programs, the SUPPORT for Patients and Communities Act authorized a project to replicate and evaluate a recovery coach model that is designed to help reunify families and protect children by working with parents or guardians with substance-use disorders who have temporarily lost custody of their children. The Act appropriated \$15 million in FY 2019 to remain available through FY 2026. ACFC is implementing the project through a contract.

For PSSF, in FY 2024, there were 197 awards made, with an average of \$1,539,738 and a range of \$10,000 to \$33,145,393. It is estimated there will be 193 awards made in FY 2025, with an average award of \$1,603,562 and a range of \$10,000 to \$31,988,420.

Funding for this program is also used to pay salaries and benefits for federal employees, information technology support, grants paneling, and other related administrative costs.

Funding for the PSSF programs post sequestration – net of any authorized changes such as transfers or reprogramming – for five years is as follows:

Fiscal Year	Mandatory	Discretionary	Total
2022	\$325,335,000	\$82,515,000	\$407,850,000
2023	\$325,335,000	\$86,515,000	\$411,850,000
2024	\$325,335,000	\$72,515,000	\$397,850,000
2025	\$325,335,000	\$72,515,000	\$397,850,000
2026	\$396,060,000	\$62,515,000	\$458,575,000

The PREP program supports evidence-based programs that teach youth about abstinence and contraception to prevent pregnancy and sexually transmitted infections including HIV/AIDS. States are required to target youth between the ages of 10 and 19 who are at high risk for becoming pregnant or who have special circumstances, including living in foster care, being homeless, living with HIV/AIDS, being victims of human trafficking, being pregnant or a mother under 21 years of age, or residing in an area with high teen birth rates. Grantees must also address at least three of the six mandated adulthood preparation subjects: healthy relationships, adolescent development, financial literacy, parent-child communication, educational and career success, and healthy life skills.

This program contains several components: State PREP, Competitive PREP, Tribal PREP, and Personal Responsibility Education—Innovative Strategies (PREIS).

- **State PREP:** Individual state awards for each fiscal year are based on the proportion of the number of youths between the ages of 10 and 19 in a state to the total number of youths between those ages in all of the states and U.S. territories, with a minimum grant award of \$250,000 annually. In FY 2024, there were 48 State PREP grants funded at \$42,815,136 with awards ranging from \$250,000 to \$6.2 million. (New Hampshire and Idaho have relinquished their State PREP grants, moving them to the Competitive PREP funding stream.) In FY 2025, it is anticipated that \$42,594,761 will be available to fund 49 State PREP grants.
- **Competitive PREP:** If a state or territory did not submit an application for State PREP in FY 2010 or FY 2011, the state or territory was deemed ineligible to apply for State PREP funds from the amounts allotted to the state or territory in subsequent years. In FY 2010 and 2011, all fifty states, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, Virgin Islands, Guam, American Samoa, Northern Mariana Islands, the Federated States of Micronesia, the Marshall Islands, and Palau were eligible. Funds that would have gone to those jurisdictions were used to award cohorts of competitive grants to local organizations and entities for the same purpose and in the same geographic regions. In FY 2024, \$12.43 million was competed in 10 eligible jurisdictions: Florida, North Dakota, Texas, Virginia, Indiana, Idaho, Kansas, New Hampshire, American Samoa, and the Marshall Islands. In FY 2025, \$12.8 million will be available to fund continuation Competitive PREP awards in the 8 eligible jurisdictions: Florida, North Dakota, Texas, Virginia, Indiana, Idaho, Iowa, Kansas, and New Hampshire.
- **Tribal PREP:** \$3.25 million is available annually for providing grants to tribes and tribal organizations to implement PREP. Tribal PREP supports grantees and projects that include one year for planning and four years for implementation. Programs have the first six to nine months of their initial award year to conduct a needs assessment and to plan and develop strategies for capacity building, followed by subsequent years for program implementation, data collection and local evaluation. Local evaluations are designed to help inform current and future programming and expand the evidence base of prevention education for American Indian and Alaska Native youth. Programs are encouraged to use models, or model elements, of existing teen pregnancy prevention programs that have demonstrated, through scientific research, that they are effective in changing behavior. In FY 2025, the third cohort has seven Tribal PREP grantees with awards ranging from \$350,000 to \$600,000.
- **PREIS:** The PREIS program is funded annually at \$10 million for competitive grants to entities to implement innovative pregnancy prevention strategies and to target services to high-risk, vulnerable, and culturally under-represented youth populations, including youth in or aging out of foster care, homeless youth, youth with HIV/AIDS, victims of human trafficking, pregnant and

parenting women who are under 21 years of age and their partners, and youth residing in areas with high birth rates for youth. A funding opportunity for the third cohort of PREIS grants resulted in the award of \$10.7 million to 12 applicants in FY 2021, with grants ranging from \$831,051 to \$900,000, for a five-year project period. In FY 2025, it is anticipated that \$10.5 million will be available to fund continuation PREIS grants.

- Training, Technical Assistance, and Evaluation: \$6.5 million is reserved to provide training, technical assistance, and evaluation activities. In addition to federal staff salaries, PREP appropriations fund multiple contracts tasked with providing program implementation, performance measurement, evaluation, medical accuracy review, site monitoring support, and other training and technical assistance services.

The Title V Sexual Risk Avoidance Education (SRAE) Program is designed to enable states and community-based organizations to provide messages to youth that normalize the optimal health behavior of avoiding non-marital sexual activity. The program also addresses the social, psychological, and health benefits gained by refraining from non-marital sexual activity and engaging in healthy relationships. This formula and competitive grant program are allocated using a pro-rata method based on the ratio of the number of low-income children in each state to the total number of all low-income children in all states.

This program contains two components:

- Title V State SRAE: All fifty states, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, U.S. Virgin Islands, Guam, American Samoa, Northern Mariana Islands, the Federated States of Micronesia, the Marshall Islands, and Palau are eligible to receive a portion of \$60 million allotted to implement Title V State SRAE. Since FY 2018, 37 to 39 states and territories have accepted annual Title V State allocations. In FY 2024, there were 37 awards funded at approximately \$48 million with grants ranging from \$47,492 to \$6.9 million. In FY 2025, ACFC anticipates awarding approximately \$49.2 million for 35 grant awards.
- Title V Competitive SRAE: If a state or territory did not submit an application for Title V State SRAE, funds that would have gone to those jurisdictions were used to award competitive two-year grants to local organizations and entities for the same purpose and in the same geographic regions. In FY 2023, there were 13 new awards totaling \$3.5 million and 27 continuation awards at \$8.9 million to grantees in eight states and territories that did not accept FY 2023 Title V State SRAE funding. The range in awards for each year of the two-year project period is \$39,869 to \$445,125. In FY 2024, 25 new grants were awarded totaling \$8.4 million with a range of \$13,501 to \$450,000. In FY 2025, ACFC anticipates awarding \$10.1 million to fund 21 grant awards with amounts ranging from \$13,591 to \$450,00.

Beginning in FY 2016, Congress provided \$10 million to award sexual risk avoidance education grants, also referred to as the General Departmental SRAE Program, through a separate appropriation in the HHS General Departmental Management account. Approximately 10 percent of the funding is reserved for providing training, technical assistance, and data collection activities. Since FY 2019, the annual appropriation has been increased to \$35 million. The sixth cohort of 31 new grants were awarded in FY 2021 with a range of \$327,818 to \$424,854 for a total award amount of \$12.8 million. Additionally, 51 continuation awards ranging from \$36,864 to \$450,000 were funded at a total of \$21.6 million. In FY 2025, ACFC anticipates awarding 80 continuation grants with a range of \$300,000 to \$450,000 totaling \$35 million.

Funding for this program is also used to pay salaries and benefits for federal employees, information technology support, grants paneling, and other related administrative costs.

Funding for the PREP and SRAE programs in the PSSF appropriation account, net of any authorized changes such as transfers or reprogramming, for five years is as follows:

Fiscal Year	PREP	SRAE	Total
2022	\$70,725,000	\$70,725,000	\$141,450,000
2023	\$70,725,000	\$70,725,000	\$141,450,000
2024	\$75,000,000	\$75,000,000	\$150,000,000
2025	\$75,000,000	\$75,000,000	\$150,000,000
2026	\$75,000,000	\$75,000,000	\$150,000,000

Budget Request

The current law mandatory amount is \$420 million, an increase of \$75 million from the FY 2025 enacted level for the PSSF program (as authorized by P.L. 118-258), \$75 million for SRAE, and \$75 million for PREP. This does not include the amount required by law to be sequestered in FY 2026, which totals \$23.94 million for PSSF. The discretionary appropriation request is \$62.515 million, which includes \$2.75 million for the Title IV-E Prevention Services Clearinghouse.

The Budget continues a one-year reauthorization of the PREP and SRAE programs to ensure states and territories, tribes, and community-based organizations have funding available to support youth's access to education on abstinence and contraception to prevent unintended pregnancy and sexually transmitted infections, including HIV/AIDS.

Performance Analysis

Promoting Safe and Stable Families

Measure	Year and Most Recent Result/ Target for Most Recent Result/ Summary of Result	FY 2025 Target
<u>7E</u> : Of all children who exit foster care in less than 24 months, maintain the percentage who exit to permanency (reunification, living with relative, guardianship or adoption). (PSSF, Guardianship Assistance) (<i>Outcome</i>)	FY 2023: 92.4% (Historical Actual)	TBD
<u>7F</u> : Of all children who exit foster care after 24 or more months, maintain the percentage who exit to permanency (reunification, living with relative, guardianship or adoption). (PSSF, Guardianship Assistance) (<i>Outcome</i>)	FY 2023: 82.9% (Historical Actual)	TBD
<u>7H</u> : Decrease the percent of foster children in care 12 or more months with no case plan goal (including case plan goal "Not Yet Determined"). (Child Welfare Services, PSSF, Foster Care) (<i>Efficiency</i>)	FY 2023: 12.0% (Historical Actual)	TBD

Personal Responsibility Education Program (PREP)

Measure	Year and Most Recent Result / Target for Most Recent Result/ Summary of Result	FY 2025 Target
<u>5A</u> : Number of Personal Responsibility Education Program (PREP) participants: in during school-time programs; and in out-of-school-time programs. <i>(Output)</i>	FY 2024 In school: 76,874 Out of school: 17,417 Total: 94,046 Target: N/A (Historical Actual)	N/A
<u>5B</u> : Percentage of participants completing at least 75 percent of program coursework. <i>(Outcome)</i>	FY 2024: 79% Target: 75% (Target Exceeded)	75
<u>5C</u> : Percentage of youth served by evidence-based programs. <i>(Output)</i>	FY 2024: 80% Target: N/A (Historical Actual)	N/A

Sexual Risk Avoidance Education (SRAE)

Measure	Year and Most Recent Result / Target for Most Recent Result/ Summary of Result	FY 2025 Target
<u>6A</u> : The number of SRAE program participants. (<i>Output</i>)	FY 2024: Middle School: 190,154 High School: 106,962 Community and other settings: 27,413 Total: 324,529 (Historical Actual)	Maintain
<u>6B</u> : The percentage of participants that completed at least 75 percent of intended program dosage. (<i>Outcome</i>)	FY 2024: 83% Target: 84% (Target not met)	83%
<u>6C</u> : The percentage of programs that addressed all eight of the SRAE topics covered by the performance measures. (<i>Output</i>)	FY 2024: 77% (Historical Actual)	N/A

This page intentionally left blank.

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES
ADMINISTRATION FOR CHILDREN, FAMILIES, AND COMMUNITIES
PAYMENTS FOR FOSTER CARE AND PERMANENCY

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Summary of Changes	132
Appropriations History Table	133
Justification	135
General Statement	135
Program Descriptions and Accomplishments	136
Budget Request	140
Performance Analysis	141

This page intentionally left blank.

ADMINISTRATION FOR CHILDREN, FAMILIES, AND COMMUNITIES
Payments for Foster Care and Permanency

Summary of Changes

FY 2025 Enacted	
Total estimated budget authority	\$10,052,715,945
FY 2026	
Total estimated budget authority	\$10,445,662,801

Net change	\$392,946,856
------------	---------------

<u>Description of Changes</u>	<u>FY 2025 Enacted</u>	<u>Change from Base</u>
<u>Increases:</u>		
A. <u>Built-in:</u>		
1) Foster Care: Technical baseline change to reflect revised baseline estimates and sequestration order.	\$5,197,874,678	\$116,125,322
2) Adoption Assistance: Technical baseline change to reflect revised baseline estimates.	\$4,142,000,000	\$255,000,000
3) Guardianship Assistance: Technical baseline change to reflect revised baseline estimates.	\$382,000,000	\$4,000,000
4) Tribal IV-E Technical Assistance (Pre-Appropriated): Technical baseline change to reflect sequestration order.	\$2,946,856	\$53,144
5) Chafee Foster Care Program for Successful Transition to Adulthood: Technical baseline change to reflect sequestration order.	\$142,894,411	\$105,589
Total, Increases		\$394,284,055
<u>Decreases:</u>		
A. <u>Built-in:</u>		
1) Foster Care: Technical baseline change to reflect FY 2026 sequestration order.	\$5,197,874,678	-\$1,178,466
2) Tribal IV-E Technical Assistance (Pre-Appropriated): Technical baseline change to reflect FY 2026 sequestration order.	\$2,946,856	-\$53,144
3) Chafee Foster Care Program for Successful Transition to Adulthood: Technical baseline change to reflect FY 2026 sequestration order.	\$142,894,411	-\$105,589
Total, Decreases		-\$1,337,199
Net Change		\$392,946,856

ADMINISTRATION FOR CHILDREN, FAMILIES, AND COMMUNITIES
Payments for Foster Care and Permanency

Appropriations History Table

Year	Budget Estimate to Congress	Appropriation
2017		
Appropriation	5,764,000,000	5,764,000,000
Advance	2,300,000,000	2,300,000,000
Pre-appropriated	3,000,000	3,000,000
Sequestration		-1,883,763
Indefinite	189,000,000	291,702,252
Total	8,256,000,000	8,356,818,489
2018		
Appropriation	5,966,000,000	6,225,000,000
Advance	2,500,000,000	2,500,000,000
Pre-appropriated	3,000,000	4,000,000
Sequestration		-1,378,633
Indefinite		500,000,000
Total	8,469,000,000	9,227,621,367
2019		
Appropriation	6,053,000,000	6,035,000,000
Advance	2,700,000,000	2,700,000,000
Pre-appropriated	3,000,000	4,000,000
Sequestration		-1,266,005
Total	8,756,000,000	8,737,733,995
2020		
Appropriation	5,768,000,000	5,744,000,000
Advance	2,800,000,000	2,800,000,000
Pre-appropriated	11,000,000	4,000,000
Sequestration		-1,198,524
Indefinite		555,548,888
Total	8,579,000,000	9,102,350,364
2021		
Appropriation	7,056,538,105	7,012,000,000
Advance	3,000,000,000	3,000,000,000
Pre-appropriated	4,000,000	4,000,000
Indefinite		962,874,287
Sequestration		-1,564,680
Supplemental		400,000,000
Total	10,060,538,105	11,377,309,607

Year	Budget Estimate to Congress	Appropriation
2022		
Appropriation	6,963,020,000	6,963,020,000
Advance	3,000,000,000	3,000,000,000
Pre-appropriated	4,000,000	4,000,000
Sequestration	-1,405,921	-1,405,921
Total	9,965,614,079	9,965,614,079
2023		
Appropriation	7,606,000,000	7,606,000,000
Advance	3,200,000,000	3,200,000,000
Pre-appropriated	4,000,000	4,000,000
Sequestration	-1,335,711	-1,335,711
Total	10,808,664,289	10,808,664,289
2024		
Appropriation	6,680,000,000	6,680,000,000
Advance	3,200,000,000	3,200,000,000
Pre-appropriated	4,000,000	4,000,000
Sequestration	-1,270,808	-1,270,808
Total	9,882,729,192	9,882,729,192
2025		
Appropriation	6,650,000,000	6,650,000,000
Advance	3,400,000,000	3,400,000,000
Pre-appropriated	4,000,000	4,000,000
Sequestration	-1,284,055	-1,284,055
Total	10,052,715,945	10,052,715,945
2026		
Appropriation	6,843,000,000	
Advance	3,600,000,000	
Pre-appropriated	4,000,000	
Sequestration	-1,337,199	
Total	10,445,662,801	
2027		
Appropriation		
Advance	3,800,000,000	
Pre-appropriated	4,000,000	
Total	3,804,000,000	

ADMINISTRATION FOR CHILDREN, FAMILIES, AND COMMUNITIES
Payments for Foster Care and Permanency

Justification

Funding Level	FY 2024 Final	FY 2025 Enacted	FY 2026	Change from FY 2025 Enacted
Total, Budget Authority	\$11,830,195,910	\$10,052,715,945	\$10,445,662,801	\$392,946,856
Total Obligations	\$9,786,246,514	\$10,056,119,746	\$10,445,662,801	\$389,543,055

Allocation Method.....Formula Grants

General Statement

The Payments for Foster Care, Prevention, and Permanency appropriation provides funding for the Title IV-E Foster Care Program, Adoption Assistance Program, Guardianship Assistance Program, Prevention Services Program, Kinship Navigator Program, the Chafee Foster Care Program for Successful Transition to Adulthood (Chafee program), and technical assistance for tribes that are interested in directly operating Foster Care, Prevention, and Permanency programs.

Foster Care, Prevention, and Permanency programs assist states and territories (including the 50 states, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands) and participating tribes with the costs of maintaining eligible children in foster care, preparing older foster youth to live on their own, assisting relatives with legal guardianship of eligible children, and finding and supporting adoptive homes for children with special needs who are unable to return home to their family of origin. The program also supports the provision of prevention services and kinship navigator services that meet certain program requirements. This appropriation also supports administrative and training costs.

The Social Security Act of 1935 (P.L. 74-271) authorized the first federal grants for child welfare, and the 1961 amendments to the Social Security Act (P.L. 87-31) created the Foster Care component of the Aid to Dependent Children program (later renamed the Aid to Families with Dependent Children (AFDC) program). The Adoption Assistance and Child Welfare Act of 1980 (P.L. 96-272) established title IV-E of the Social Security Act and permanently authorized Foster Care and Adoption Assistance under that title. The Fostering Connections to Success and Increasing Adoptions Act of 2008 (P.L. 110-351, hereafter referred to as Fostering Connections Act) contained numerous provisions that affected the Foster Care and Permanency programs, including allowing federally recognized Indian tribes, Indian tribal organizations, and tribal consortia (hereafter referred to as tribes) to apply to operate title IV-E programs directly, and creating the Guardianship Assistance Program. In 2014, the Preventing Sex Trafficking and Strengthening Families Act (P.L. 113-183) made a number of changes to the Foster Care program to strengthen efforts to prevent domestic trafficking of children involved in the child welfare system, to determine its scope among children and youth involved with the child welfare system, and to improve services to victims. In addition to addressing trafficking, the law also amended other child welfare program requirements to improve opportunities for children in foster care and to support permanency.

In 2018, the Family First Prevention Services Act (FFPSA, P.L. 115-123) made significant changes to the program, including placing limits on the use of title IV-E foster care payments for children placed in Child Care Institutions (CCI, also known as congregate care), making funding available to support kinship navigator programs that meet certain requirements, and authorizing a new optional prevention

services program to help fund certain evidence-based mental health, substance abuse, and in-home parent skill-based programs. The law also renamed and amended the Chafee program. Attached to the FY 2020 Appropriations Act was the Family First Transition Act (P.L. 116-94), which provided grantees with additional time and resources to implement the requirements of FFPSA.

Starting in FY 2022, and every year since, Congress has included a General Provision to expand funding flexibility for research projects in ACFC. All research funding provided for in the Appropriations Act can remain available for five years following appropriation. This has allowed for additional time for research and evaluation projects within the Foster Care program.

In FY 2025, ACFC estimates that obligations will be \$10.06 billion for Payments for Foster Care, Prevention, and Permanency. The current law level for FY 2026 is \$10.45 billion. This account is subject to sequestration of administrative costs in an otherwise exempt account in accordance with the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985 (P.L. 99-177), as amended by the Budget Control Act of 2011 (P.L. 112-25), which affects funding for certain activities under Foster Care, Tribal IV-E Technical Assistance, and the Chafee program.

Program Descriptions and Accomplishments

The Foster Care, Adoption Assistance, and Guardianship Assistance programs are annually appropriated with specific eligibility requirements and fixed allowable uses of funds. The programs provide matching reimbursement funds to state and tribal title IV-E agencies (hereafter referred to as agencies) on a quarterly basis. The rate at which state and tribal funds are matched with federal funds varies by activity. The federal reimbursement for expenditures for maintenance payments and subsidies for adoptions and guardianship is the Federal Medical Assistance Percentage (FMAP), which varies among states from 50 percent to 74 percent, based on a statutory formula. For tribes, HHS has formulated a tribal FMAP that takes into consideration the tribe's service area and population. The statute requires the application of the tribal FMAP, if higher than the state FMAP, for certain payments under title IV-E agreements and contracts between states and tribes. The tribal FMAP ranges from 50 to 83 percent, but many tribes currently participating in title IV-E agreements with states, as well as tribes that are operating the title IV-E program directly, qualify for the maximum FMAP of 83 percent. Administrative costs are matched at 50 percent, and there is a 75 percent match for allowable training for state and local employees, adoptive parents, relative guardians, private child welfare agency staff providing services to children receiving title IV-E assistance, child abuse and neglect court personnel, guardians ad litem, court appointed special advocates, and attorneys for an agency, child, or the child's parent.

The Foster Care program provides matching reimbursement funds for foster care maintenance payments, costs for comprehensive child welfare information systems, training for staff, as well as foster and adoptive parents, and administrative costs to manage the program. Administrative costs that are covered include the work done by caseworkers and others to plan for a foster care placement, arrange therapy for a foster child, train foster parents, and conduct home visits to foster children, as well as more traditional administrative costs, such as automated information systems and eligibility determinations. Title IV-E administrative costs may also include costs of preparation for and participation in judicial determinations in all stages of foster care legal proceedings by a title IV-E agency attorney; independent legal representation for a child who is either a candidate for title IV-E foster care or in title IV-E foster care, the child's parents, the child's relative caregiver(s), and the child's Indian custodian(s) in foster care; other civil legal proceedings necessary to carry out the requirements in the title IV-E foster care plan; and legal representation by an attorney, or representation by a non-attorney, of an Indian child's tribe when the

child's tribe participates or intervenes in a state court proceeding for the foster care placement or termination of parental rights of a title IV-E eligible Indian child.

Administrative costs also include requirements established by the Preventing Sex Trafficking and Strengthening Families Act. Under the law, agencies are required to implement procedures to identify, document, and determine appropriate services for a child who is at-risk of becoming, or who is, a sex trafficking victim, develop procedures to locate missing children from foster care and determine the factors that led to the child being absent from foster care, and report immediately to law enforcement children and youth who are identified as being sex trafficking victims and children and youth who are missing from foster care. In addition to addressing trafficking, the law also amends other statutory requirements including placing limits on use of "another planned permanent living arrangement" as a permanency plan for youth age 16 and over; requiring agencies to engage youth age 14 and over more fully in case planning and to provide the youth with certain rights, such as education, health, visitation, and a copy of his or her credit report; and requiring agencies to provide important documents to youth aging out of foster care, such as a birth certificate, Social Security card, REAL ID-compliant driver's license or identification card, and any official documentation necessary to prove that the child was previously in foster care.

As amended by the FFPSA, effective October 1, 2018, the law authorizes up to 12 months of foster care payments for a child placed with a parent residing in a licensed residential family-based treatment facility for substance abuse. The law also places time limits on the ability to claim foster care maintenance payments for children placed in a CCI. Agencies may claim title IV-E reimbursement for foster care maintenance payments paid on behalf of an eligible child placed in any CCI for up to two weeks. After two weeks, title IV-E foster care maintenance payments are available for an otherwise eligible child placed in a CCI only if that CCI is one of the following specified settings:

- a qualified residential treatment program (if additional requirements for the placement outlined in statute are met);
- a setting specializing in providing prenatal, post-partum, or parenting supports for youth;
- in the case of a youth who has attained 18 years of age, a supervised setting in which the youth is living independently; or
- a setting providing high-quality residential care and supportive services to children and youth who have been found to be, or are at risk of becoming, sex trafficking victims.

Title IV-E agencies may claim administrative costs for the duration of the child's placement in a CCI regardless of whether the CCI is a specified setting.

The average monthly number of children for whom agencies receive federal foster care payments declined from more than 164,000 in FY 2019 to about 121,000 in FY 2023. The data for FY 2024 indicates a further significant caseload decrease to about 112,000 children. Agencies can claim reimbursement only for title IV-E eligible children, and eligibility requires that a child is removed from a home that would have qualified for the AFDC program under the 1996 income standards, which are not adjusted for inflation. Fewer families meet these static income standards over time, thereby contributing to the reduction in the percentage of children in foster care who receive federal support through the title IV-E Foster Care Program. In FY 2000, approximately 51.8 percent of all children in foster care received maintenance payments through the title IV-E Foster Care Program. In FY 2024, this rate had declined to about 33 percent of all children in foster care.

The Adoption Assistance Program provides funds to states to subsidize families that adopt children with special needs who cannot be reunited with their families, thus preventing long, inappropriate stays in foster care. To receive adoption assistance benefits, a child must have been determined by the agency to be a child with special needs, i.e., one who is older, a member of a minority or sibling group, or has a physical, mental, or emotional disability. Additionally, the child must have been unable to return home, and the agency must have been unsuccessful in its efforts to find an adoptive placement without medical or financial assistance. Adoption assistance is also available for children adopted between FY 2010 and FY 2024 and not subject to updated eligibility criteria described below, receiving or eligible to receive AFDC under the rules in effect on July 16, 1996, title IV-E Foster Care benefits, or Supplemental Security Income (SSI) benefits.

Beginning in FY 2010, in accordance with the Fostering Connections Act, revised Adoption Assistance program eligibility requirements that exclude consideration of AFDC and SSI income eligibility requirements were phased in over a nine-year period for certain children, based primarily on the age of the child in the year the adoption assistance agreement is finalized. The revised eligibility requirements also apply to children based on time in care and to the siblings of children to whom the revised eligibility criteria apply. However, the FFPSA amended the provision to delay the applicability of the revised eligibility criteria for adopted children under two years of age; the revised eligibility criteria were fully phased in effective July 1, 2024. Now fully phased in, eligibility for title IV-E Adoption Assistance is determined using the criteria of the Act without regard to the eligibility criteria under the 1996 income standards in the AFDC program.

Funds also are used for the administrative costs of managing the program and training staff and adoptive parents. The number of children subsidized by this program and the level of federal reimbursement has increased significantly as permanent adoptive homes are found for more children and as eligibility has expanded, particularly as the AFDC and SSI income eligibility requirements have been phased out. The average monthly number of children for whom payments were made has increased 40 percent, from about 395,000 in FY 2011 to over 554,000 in FY 2024.

The Fostering Connections Act created the title IV-E Guardianship Assistance Program (GAP) in FY 2009. GAP provides subsidies on behalf of a child to a relative taking legal guardianship of that child. To be eligible for GAP payments, a child must have been eligible for title IV-E foster care maintenance payments while residing for at least six consecutive months in the home of the prospective relative guardian. Further, the agency must determine that (1) being returned home or adopted are not appropriate permanency options for the child; (2) the child has a strong attachment to the prospective relative guardian and the guardian has a strong commitment to caring permanently for the child; and (3) for a child 14 years or older, the child has been consulted regarding the kinship guardianship arrangement. Additionally, the state or tribe may make GAP payments on behalf of siblings of an eligible child who are placed together with the same relative under the same kinship guardianship arrangement. The Preventing Sex Trafficking and Strengthening Families Act amended the program to allow continuation of title IV-E kinship guardianship assistance payments if the relative guardian dies or is incapacitated and a successor legal guardian is named in the agreement or in any amendments to the agreement. Funds also are used for the administrative costs of managing the program and training staff and relative guardians.

As of May 2025, 42 states, the District of Columbia, 2 territories, and 12 tribes are operating GAPs. The average monthly number of children for whom states receive guardianship assistance payments was about 46,000 in FY 2024. ACFC will continue to work closely with states, as well as tribes, to help them in implementing GAP.

Beginning in FY 2010, federally recognized tribes with approved title IV-E plans also became eligible for title IV-E programs. In addition, \$3 million is directly appropriated for FY 2009 and each fiscal year thereafter for technical assistance to tribes, including grants to assist tribes in developing title IV-E plans through the Tribal IV-E Technical Assistance program. ACFC has awarded plan development grants to 42 tribes since FY 2009. Thus far, 21 tribes have had plans approved to operate the title IV-E program, and, of these, 14 tribes are currently implementing or expected to implement the program.

Beginning in FY 2019, title IV-E agencies may receive funding for kinship navigator programs that are determined by ACFC through the Title IV-E Prevention Services Clearinghouse to meet promising, supported, or well-supported practice criteria and other requirements. As of May 2025, ten states are approved to operate the title IV-E kinship navigator program. Title IV-E agencies may claim 50 percent Federal Financial Participation (FFP) for allowable kinship navigator program costs.

Beginning in FY 2020, title IV-E agencies opting to participate in the Title IV-E Prevention Services Program were allowed to claim title IV-E funding for time-limited (one year) prevention services for mental health services, substance abuse prevention and treatment services, and in-home parent skill-based programs for candidates for foster care, pregnant or parenting foster youth, and the parents or kin caregivers of those children and youth. Services or programs for which states may claim title IV-E reimbursement must be rated as promising, supported, or well-supported in accordance with statutory and ACFC criteria and be approved by ACFC as part of the Title IV-E Prevention Services Clearinghouse. Tribal title IV-E agencies have flexibility to claim title IV-E funds for prevention services and programs they deem culturally appropriate and that meet the unique needs and context of the tribal community, including traditional healing programs, consistent with meeting mental health and substance abuse treatment needs of children, parents, and/or caregivers. As of May 2025, 42 states, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, and four tribes have been approved to operate the Prevention Services program. From FY 2020 to FY 2026, prevention services are reimbursable at 50 percent FFP. Beginning in FY 2027, prevention services are reimbursable at the applicable state or tribal FMAP rate.

The Chafee Foster Care Program for Successful Transition to Adulthood (Chafee program) provides services to youth who are in or who have aged out of foster care. Eligible program participants include youth who have experienced foster care at age 14 or older, youth who left foster care for kinship guardianship or adoption after attaining age 16, and youth in or formerly in foster care between the ages of 18 and 21. This program originated in 1986 and was permanently authorized as part of the Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act of 1993 (P.L. 103-66). In FY 1999, the Federal Independent Living Program was revised and amended by the enactment of the John H. Chafee Foster Care Independence Act (P.L. 106-169). The FFPSA renamed the program and made changes in eligibility in both the mandatory Chafee program grant and the Chafee Education and Training Voucher program, which is funded separately as a discretionary formula grant. The Chafee program provides a variety of services including, but not limited to, educational assistance, career exploration, vocational training, job placement, life skills training, home management, health services, substance abuse prevention, preventive health activities, opportunities to engage in age or developmentally appropriate activities and, for eligible youth over age 18, room and board. (No more than 30 percent of a grantee's allotment may be used for room and board.) Eligible youth may participate in the program until age 21 (or 23 in some states or tribes). The FFPSA amended the program to allow grantees to exercise an option to offer Chafee services to youth until age 23, if they operate foster care programs that serve youth up to age 21.

Other provisions of the law include a formula for determining the amount of state allocation based on a state's percent of children in foster care in proportion to the national total of children in foster care, using data from the most recent year available, and a "hold harmless" provision for the state allotments, so that

no state will receive less funding under Chafee than it received in FY 1998 or \$500,000, whichever is greater. In order to be awarded federal funds, states must provide a 20 percent match. Tribes with an approved title IV-E plan or a title IV-E tribal/state agreement have the option to directly receive a portion of the funds otherwise allotted to the state to provide services to tribal youth. As of FY 2025, seven tribes have chosen to apply for and receive direct funding. The Preventing Sex Trafficking and Strengthening Families Act amended the law also to increase the appropriation for the program by \$3 million to \$143 million beginning in FY 2020. In addition to the Chafee program in this appropriation, the Children and Families Services appropriation includes discretionary funding for Chafee Education and Training Vouchers to serve these youth. See the Children and Families Services Programs chapter for more information.

Obligations for the Payments for Foster Care, Prevention, and Permanency appropriation for the last five years have been:

2022	\$9,417,017,998
2023	\$9,745,997,623
2024	\$9,786,246,514
2025	\$10,056,119,746
2026	\$10,445,662,801

Funding for this program is also used to pay salaries and benefits for federal employees, information technology support, grants paneling, and other related administrative costs.

Budget Request

The FY 2026 current law baseline is \$10.447 billion, an increase of \$0.39 billion from the FY 2025 Enacted level. The FY 2026 current law funding level includes implementation of the FFPSA and continuing implementation of previous amendments to the law. The baseline includes the \$3 million in pre-appropriated funds for technical assistance for tribal programs. Further, \$3.80 billion will be needed for the first quarter of FY 2027 to assure the timely awarding of first quarter grants.

The FY 2026 current law baseline for the Foster Care portion of the account is \$5.52 billion. The FY 2026 current law amount is \$133 million above the FY 2025 level of \$5.38 billion. An estimated average of 140,800 children per month will have payments made on their behalf in the Foster Care program in FY 2025, including children receiving prevention services. In addition to decreased spending from fewer children participating in the Foster Care program, both administrative and training costs are expected to decrease, in part due to the implementation of the Preventing Sex Trafficking and Strengthening Families Act, continuing implementation of provisions and state options in Fostering Connections Act, and the implementation of the FFPSA. In the long term, the average monthly number of children with title IV-E payments made on their behalf is expected to decrease due to the effects of prevention services and eligibility limits for CCIs per the FFPSA, as well as the static income eligibility standards for title IV-E foster care.

The FY 2026 current law baseline for the Adoption Assistance portion of the account is \$4.40 billion. The FY 2026 current law estimate is \$255 million above the FY 2025 level of \$4.14 billion. In FY 2026, an estimated average of 627,500 children per month will have payments made on their behalf.

The FY 2026 current law baseline for the Guardianship Assistance Program portion of the account is \$386 million. The FY 2026 current law estimate is \$4 million above the FY 2025 level of \$382 million. An estimated average of 52,500 children per month will have payments made on their behalf in FY 2026.

The FY 2025 current law baseline for the Chafee program is \$143 million, the same as the FY 2025 level. In addition, the discretionary component of the Chafee program includes funding for education and training vouchers, which is discussed in the Children and Families Services Programs chapter.

Performance Analysis

Foster Care Program

Measure	Year and Most Recent Result/ Target for Most Recent Result/ Summary of Result	FY 2025 Target
<u>7H</u> : Decrease the percent of foster children in care 12 or more months with no case plan goal (including case plan goal "Not Yet Determined"). (Child Welfare Services, PSSF, Foster Care) (<i>Efficiency</i>)	FY 2023: 12.0% (Historical Actual)	TBD
<u>7I</u> : Decrease improper payments in the title IV-E foster care program by lowering the national error rate. (<i>Efficiency</i>)	FY 2024: 4.82% Target: N/A	N/A
<u>7J</u> : Increase the adoption rate. (Foster Care, Adoption Opportunities, Adoption and Legal Guardianship Incentives, Adoption Assistance) (<i>Outcome</i>)	FY 2023: 13.7% (Historical Actual)	TBD
<u>7vi</u> : Number of adoptions from foster care. (<i>Output</i>)	FY 2023: 50,480 (Historical Actual)	N/A
<u>7vii</u> : Annual estimate of improper payments. (<i>Output</i>)	FY 2024: \$62.32 million (Historical Actual)	N/A

Adoption Assistance Program

Measure	Year and Most Recent Result/ Target for Most Recent Result/ Summary of Result	FY 2025 Target
<u>7J</u> : Increase the adoption rate. (Foster Care, Adoption Opportunities, Adoption and Legal Guardianship Incentives, Adoption Assistance) (<i>Outcome</i>)	FY 2023: 13.7% (Historical Actual)	TBD
<u>7vi</u> : Number of adoptions from foster care. (<i>Output</i>)	FY 2023: 50,480 (Historical Actual)	N/A

Chafee Foster Independence Care Program for Successful Transition to Adulthood

Measure	Year and Most Recent Result/ Target for Most Recent Result/ Summary of Result	FY 2025 Target
<u>7N</u> : Increase or maintain the percentage of youth currently or formerly in foster care who report in the National Youth in Transition Database (NYTD) survey having a connection to at least one adult to whom they can go for advice or emotional support. (<i>Outcome and Efficiency</i>)	FY 2023: 87.0% (Cohort 5, 17 years old) (Pre-baseline)	N/A
<u>7O</u> : Increase the percentage of youth currently or formerly in foster care who report in the NYTD survey having at least a high school diploma or GED. (<i>Outcome</i>)	FY 2023: 5.1% (Cohort 5, 17 years old) (Pre-baseline)	N/A

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES
ADMINISTRATION FOR CHILDREN, FAMILIES, AND COMMUNITIES
CHILDREN'S RESEARCH AND TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Summary of Changes	145
Appropriations History Table	146
Justification	147
General Statement	147
Program Descriptions and Accomplishments	147
Budget Request	148

This page intentionally left blank.

ADMINISTRATION FOR CHILDREN, FAMILIES, AND COMMUNITIES
Children's Research and Technical Assistance

Summary of Changes

FY 2025 Enacted		
Total estimated budget authority		\$34,846,334
(Obligations)		\$90,386,915
FY 2026		
Total estimated budget authority		\$34,846,334
(Obligations)		\$74,838,571
Net change		\$0

ADMINISTRATION FOR CHILDREN, FAMILIES, AND COMMUNITIES
Children's Research and Technical Assistance

Appropriations History Table

Year	Appropriation
2017	
Appropriation	36,953,000
Sequestration	-2,550,000
Total	34,403,000
2018	
Appropriation	36,953,000
Sequestration	-2,439,000
Total	34,514,000
2019	
Appropriation	36,953,000
Sequestration	-2,291,000
Total	34,662,000
2020	
Appropriation	36,953,000
Sequestration	-2,180,205
Total	34,772,429
2021	
Appropriation	36,953,000
Sequestration	-2,106,300
Total	34,846,334
2022	
Appropriation	36,953,000
Sequestration	-2,106,300
Total	34,846,334
2023	
Appropriation	36,953,000
Sequestration	-2,106,300
Total	34,846,334
2024	
Appropriation	36,953,000
Sequestration	-2,106,300
Total	34,846,334
2025	
Appropriation	36,953,000
Sequestration	-2,106,300
Total	34,846,334
2026	
Appropriation	36,953,000
Sequestration	-2,106,300
Total	34,846,334

ADMINISTRATION FOR CHILDREN, FAMILIES, AND COMMUNITIES
Children's Research and Technical Assistance

Justification

Funding Level	FY 2024 Final	FY 2025 Enacted	FY 2026	Change from FY 2025 Enacted
Total, Budget Authority	\$34,846,334	\$34,846,334	\$34,846,334	\$0
Total, Obligations	\$61,657,011	\$90,386,915	\$74,838,571	-\$15,548,344

Allocation Method.....Direct Federal/Contract

General Statement

The Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act of 1996 (P.L. 104-193) and the Deficit Reduction Act (DRA) of 2005 (P.L. 109-171) authorized and appropriated funds for training and technical assistance to support the dissemination of information, technical assistance to the states on child support enforcement activities, and the operation of the Federal Parent Locator Service (FPLS) to assist state child support agencies in locating noncustodial parents. The DRA amended the statute to set the funding at the greater of one and two percent of the federal share of child support collections in the prior year or the amount appropriated for these activities in FY 2002. These amounts are \$12.3 million for training and technical assistance and \$24.6 million for the FPLS, though they have been subject to sequestration since FY 2013 in accordance with the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985 (P.L. 99-177), as amended by the Budget Control Act of 2011 (P.L. 112-25). Total obligations in this account consist of direct appropriated funds, recoveries, and offsetting collections.

Program Descriptions and Accomplishments

Funds for training and technical assistance are directed to cover ACFC's costs in providing technical assistance, support research, demonstration, and special projects. These activities are key to successful state outcomes in promoting healthy families and attaining the anticipated benefits of the child support enforcement program.

The FPLS is crucial to helping ACFC fulfill its mission to assist states and tribes to secure the financial support upon which millions of children depend and has contributed to effectiveness and performance of the program. The FPLS includes the Federal Child Support Case Registry, which is a database of child support cases, participants, and orders, and the National Directory of New Hires, which is a database of employment information. State, tribal, and local child support enforcement agencies use FPLS data to locate noncustodial parents, alleged fathers, and custodial parties for the establishment of parentage and support obligations and to assist in the enforcement and modification of orders for child support. The FPLS facilitates standardized and centralized communication and data exchanges with employers, multistate financial institutions, insurance companies, and other federal and state agencies. State and federal agencies also use FPLS data to reduce erroneous payments and overall program costs in public assistance and benefit programs. The FPLS helped states collect \$26.7 billion in child support in FY 2023, including \$3.6 billion in collections directly attributable to federal systems.

Funds for the FPLS are directed to cover ACFC's costs in operating the system to the extent that these costs are not recovered through fees charged to users. Appropriations and fees charged to users fund the

full costs of operating the FPLS. Funding for this program is also used to pay salaries and benefits for federal employees, information technology support, and other related administrative costs.

Obligations for Children’s Research and Technical Assistance for five years have been as follows:

2022	\$54,386,729
2023	\$64,639,096
2024	\$61,657,011
2025	\$90,386,915
FY 2026	\$74,838,571

Budget Request

The current law level for Children’s Research and Technical Assistance is \$37.0 million in FY 2026. This funding level does not include the amount required by law to be sequestered in FY 2026, which is \$2.1 million. The FY 2026 funds will continue to fund child support training and technical assistance efforts in addition to the operation of the FPLS. Total program resources include fees from states to pay costs associated with offset notice preparation and fees from state and federal agencies to pay costs associated with the FPLS.

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES
ADMINISTRATION FOR CHILDREN, FAMILIES, AND COMMUNITIES
TEMPORARY ASSISTANCE FOR NEEDY FAMILIES

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Summary of Changes	151
Appropriations History Table	152
Justification	154
General Statement	154
Program Descriptions and Accomplishments	154
Budget Request	156
Performance Analysis	157

This page intentionally left blank.

ADMINISTRATION FOR CHILDREN, FAMILIES, AND COMMUNITIES
Temporary Assistance for Needy Families

Summary of Changes

FY 2025 Enacted	
Total estimated budget authority	\$17,346,165,587
FY 2026	
Total estimated budget authority	\$17,346,165,587
Net change	\$0

ADMINISTRATION FOR CHILDREN, FAMILIES, AND COMMUNITIES
Temporary Assistance for Needy Families

Appropriations History Table

Year	Budget Estimate to Congress	Appropriation
2017		
Appropriation	17,499,175,000	16,739,175,000
Sequestration		-2,484,000
Contingency Fund	0	608,000,000
Pathways to Jobs	473,000,000	0
Two-Generations Demo	100,000,000	0
Economic Response Fund	2,000,000,000	0
Total	20,072,175,000	17,344,691,000
2018		
Appropriation	15,132,521,000	16,739,175,287
Sequestration		-1,701,190
Contingency Fund	0	608,000,000
Total		17,345,474,097
2019		
Appropriation	15,137,190,676	16,739,175,287
Sequestration		-1,629,573
Contingency Fund	0	608,000,000
Total		17,345,545,714
2020		
Appropriation	15,137,190,676	16,739,175,287
Opportunity and Economic Mobility Demo	100,000,000	0
Sequestration		-1,203,600
Contingency Fund	0	608,000,000
Total	15,237,190,676	17,345,971,687
2021		
Appropriation	15,145,473,947	16,739,175,287
Opportunity and Economic Mobility Demo	100,000,000	0
Sequestration		-1,221,225
Pandemic Emergency Fund		1,000,000,000
Contingency Fund	0	608,000,000
Total	15,245,473,947	18,345,954,062
2022		
Appropriation	16,739,175,287	16,739,175,287

Year	Budget Estimate to Congress	Appropriation
Sequestration	-964,030	-964,030
Contingency Fund	608,000,000	608,000,000
Total	17,346,211,257	17,346,211,257
2023		
Appropriation	16,739,175,287	16,739,175,287
Sequestration	-957,419	-962,842
Contingency Fund	608,000,000	608,000,000
Total	17,346,217,868	17,346,212,445
2024		
Appropriation	16,739,175,287	16,739,175,287
Sequestration	-957,419	-957,419
Contingency Fund	603,000,000	603,000,000
Program Integrity and Improvement Fund	5,000,000	5,000,000
Total	17,346,217,868	17,346,217,868
2025		
Appropriation	16,739,175,287	16,739,175,287
Sequestration	-1,009,700	-1,009,700
Contingency Fund	603,000,000	603,000,000
Program Integrity and Improvement Fund	5,000,000	5,000,000
Total	17,346,165,587	17,346,165,587
2026		
Appropriation	16,739,175,287	
Sequestration	-1,009,700	
Contingency Fund	608,000,000	
Total	17,346,165,587	

ADMINISTRATION FOR CHILDREN, FAMILIES, AND COMMUNITIES
Temporary Assistance for Needy Families

Justification

Funding Level	FY 2024 Final	FY 2025 Enacted	FY 2026	Change from FY 2025 Enacted
Total, Budget Authority	\$17,346,217,868	\$17,346,165,587	\$17,346,165,587	\$0

Allocation Method.....Formula and Competitive Grants

General Statement

The Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) program provides state flexibility in operating programs designed to help families with low incomes achieve economic stability and self sufficiency. Created by the Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act (PRWORA) of 1996 (P.L. 104-193), TANF replaced Aid to Families with Dependent Children (AFDC) and related programs with block grants to states, territories, and tribes. TANF funds must be used for one or more of the following statutory purposes:

- providing assistance to needy families so that children may be cared for in their own homes or the homes of relatives;
- ending dependence of needy parents by promoting job preparation, work, and marriage;
- preventing and reducing the incidence of out-of-wedlock pregnancies; and
- encouraging the formation and maintenance of two-parent families.

The Deficit Reduction Act (DRA) of 2005 (P.L. 109-171) reauthorized TANF through 2010 and modified the requirement that parents work or receive education in order to maintain benefits. The DRA also created and provided funds for grants focused on promoting healthy marriage and responsible fatherhood. Since 2010, TANF has been reauthorized through a series of short-term extensions.

The Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2017 (P.L. 115-31) amended the Social Security Act to make 0.33 percent of the amount appropriated for state and territory family assistance grants available for welfare research, evaluation, and technical assistance and to provide support for the Census Bureau's Survey of Income and Program Participation.

In FY 2024, ACFC obligated \$17.3 billion for TANF programs. This account is subject to sequestration of administrative costs in an otherwise exempt account in accordance with the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985 (P.L. 99-177), as amended by the Budget Control Act of 2011 (P.L. 112-25).

Program Descriptions and Accomplishments

Funding under the TANF program is provided primarily through State Family Assistance Grants. State allocations, totaling \$16.5 billion per fiscal year under current law, are based on AFDC spending levels from the mid-1990s. While states must meet certain federal requirements relating to work participation for families receiving assistance, as well as a maintenance-of-effort (MOE) spending requirement based

on a historical level of state spending on allowable activities, the law provides states with broad flexibility in the use of TANF funds and in program design.

Currently, states use TANF funding on a variety of programs and services that are reasonably calculated to address the program's four broad purposes. Under the program, states also have broad discretion to determine their own eligibility criteria, benefit levels, and the type of services and benefits available to TANF cash assistance recipients. Families with an adult who has received federally funded assistance under TANF for five cumulative years are not eligible for federally funded assistance, subject to limited exceptions.

States may transfer a portion of their TANF grant funding to either the Child Care and Development Block Grant (CCDBG) program or the Social Services Block Grant (SSBG) program. The total transferred may not exceed 30 percent of the grant, though no more than 10 percent may be transferred to SSBG. In FY 2023, states transferred \$1.1 billion of TANF state grants (seven percent of total federal funds used) to CCDBG and \$1.1 billion (seven percent of total federal funds used) to SSBG. In addition, states can use their federal TANF and MOE funds to directly fund child care, both for families receiving TANF cash assistance and for other low-income families. In FY 2022, an additional nine percent of federal TANF funds – or \$1.3 billion – was spent directly on child care. Further, states spent \$2.5 billion in MOE funds directly on child care in FY 2023.

The TANF Contingency Fund provides a funding reserve of \$608 million to assist states that meet certain criteria, related to the state's unemployment rate and Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program caseload, which are intended to reflect economic distress. States also must meet a higher MOE requirement of 100 percent in order to qualify for contingency funds. Contingency funds can be used for any allowable TANF expenditure and must be spent in the fiscal year in which they were awarded. Approximately 14 states access the Contingency Fund in a given fiscal year.

Tribes are eligible to operate their own TANF programs, and those that choose to do so receive their own family assistance grants, which totaled almost \$208 million in FY 2024. The number of approved tribal TANF programs has steadily increased since the first three tribal TANF programs started in July 1997. As of May 2025, 76 Tribal TANF grantees have been approved and operate tribal TANF programs.

The territories of Guam, Puerto Rico, and the U.S. Virgin Islands also operate their own TANF programs. Territories are subject to the same state plan, work, and MOE requirements as the states. A territory's allocation is based on historic funding levels, with a total of \$77.9 million made available annually.

Additionally, ACFC continues to partner with the Social Security Administration on rigorous evaluations of innovative employment programs for people with low incomes and complex challenges to employment, such as physical and mental health conditions, substance-use disorders, or criminal justice system involvement. Descriptive, cost, and experimental impact studies are being conducted of the programs selected to participate in the evaluations. ACFC anticipates releasing descriptive and cost findings starting in FY 2025 and impact findings starting in FY 2026.

The DRA included \$150 million for annual Healthy Marriage Promotion and Responsible Fatherhood Grants. The Claims Resolution Act of 2010 (P.L. 111-291) specified that funding be equally split between healthy marriage and responsible fatherhood activities. Program funds currently support 110 Healthy Marriage and Responsible Fatherhood grants with awards ranging from \$508,000 to \$1,500,000 and average grant of \$1,055,033. These grantees are funded under a five-year project period, which began in FY 2020. Funds also support research and evaluation activities, training and technical

assistance, and the continuation of a national responsible fatherhood clearinghouse and media campaign. Together, these activities are designed to promote and encourage healthy marriage education, relationship skills, positive father-child and family interactions, and other activities that foster economic security and child and family well-being.

In addition, up to \$2 million of Healthy Marriage and Responsible Fatherhood funding is available for demonstration projects to test the effectiveness of coordinating tribal TANF and child welfare services for tribal families at risk of child abuse or neglect. Eight Tribal TANF-Child Welfare Coordination demonstration projects are providing improved case management for families eligible for assistance, supportive services and assistance to tribal children in out-of-home placements, and prevention services and assistance to tribal families at risk of child abuse and neglect.

A separate program, Native Employment Works grants, provides funds to Indian tribes and Alaska Native organizations that conducted a Job Opportunities and Basic Skills Training program in FY 1995. These grants, totaling \$7.5 million annually to 78 grantees, provides Indian tribes and Alaska Native organizations capacity to operate programs to make employment and training activities available to their members.

The Fiscal Responsibility Act (FRA) of 2023 (P.L. 118-5) contained several provisions affecting the TANF program that will strengthen flexibility to meet the needs of children and families and create greater accountability to the American public in program performance. The provisions include two changes to how ACFC calculates the work participation rate as well as two changes that promote work outcomes in the TANF program. Specifically, to promote work outcomes, the FRA established a new requirement that all states report the data necessary to produce outcome measures for work-eligible individuals who leave TANF, and states have successfully begun to submit this new data. In addition, the FRA introduced a new pilot program that will allow up to five states' projects to be measured against negotiated benchmarks for work and family stability outcomes instead of to the work participation rate. ACFC will issue a request for pilot proposals aligned with the Administration's focus on promoting work and reducing dependency and the key measures of success related to those priorities. The pilot program is as a key opportunity to strengthen state accountability to the original core TANF values of work and self-sufficiency.

Funding for TANF - net of any authorized changes such as transfers or reprogramming - for five years is as follows:

2022	\$17,346,211,257
2023	\$17,346,212,445
2024	\$17,346,217,868
2025	\$17,346,165,587
2026	\$17,346,165,587

Budget Request

The current law level for TANF is \$17.3 billion in FY 2026. At this funding level, states, territories, and tribes can continue to use TANF to promote work, reduce dependency, and encourage stable families, within the parameters of the law. Additionally, ACFC plans to fund a new cohort of Healthy Marriage, Responsible Fatherhood, and Tribal TANF-Child Welfare Coordination grants.

Performance Analysis

TANF

Measure	Year and Most Recent Result / Target for Recent Result / (Summary of Result)	FY 2025 Target
<u>22A</u> : Increase the percentage of state work participation rates that meet or exceed requirements.+ (<i>Efficiency</i>)	FY 2023: 92% ⁺ Target: 100% (Target Not Met, but Improved)	90%
<u>22B</u> : Increase the percentage of TANF work-eligible individuals who entered employment.+ (<i>Outcome</i>)	FY 2021: 14.1% Target: 14.1% (Target Met)	Prior Result + 0.1PP
<u>22C</u> : Increase the percentage of employed TANF work eligible individuals who were employed two quarters after a baseline quarter. + (<i>Outcome</i>)	FY 2021: 75.1% Target: 69.4% (Target Exceeded)	Prior Result + 0.1PP
<u>22D</u> : Increase the median percentage gain in earnings of employed TANF work-eligible individuals between a baseline quarter and two quarters later. + (<i>Outcome</i>)	FY 2021: 45.3% Target: 40.9% (Target Exceeded)	Prior Result + 0.1PP
<u>22E</u> : Increase the rate of case closures related to employment, child support collected, and marriage. (<i>Outcome</i>)	FY 2023: 16.4% Target: 14.8% (Target Exceeded)	Prior Result + 0.1PP
<u>22F</u> : Increase the median state share of federal TANF and state maintenance-of-effort (MOE) funds used for work, education, and training activities. (<i>Outcome</i>)	FY 2023: 8.4% Target: 8.4% (Target Met)	Prior Result + 0.1PP
<u>22i</u> : Average monthly number of TANF and separate state program (SSP) families receiving assistance. (<i>Output</i>)	FY 2024: 982,767 (Historical Actual)	N/A

+ The actual results exclude territories but include the District of Columbia.

Healthy Marriage

Measure	Year and Most Recent Result / Target for Recent Result / (Summary of Result)	FY 2025 Target
<u>22G</u> : (For adult-serving programs) Increase the proportion of participants who, at program exit, express positive attitudes towards marriage. (<i>Outcome</i>)	FY 2024: 88.9% Target: 87.0% (Target Exceeded)	87.0%
<u>22H</u> : (For adult-serving programs) Increase the proportion of married couples who, at program exit, view their marriage as lifelong. (<i>Outcome</i>)	FY 2024: 94.9% Target: 95.0% (Target Not Met)	94.5%
<u>22I</u> : (For youth-serving programs) Increase the proportion of youth who express attitudes supportive of the success sequence. (<i>Outcome</i>)	FY 2024: 54.9% Target: 51.5% (Target Exceeded)	47.4%

Responsible Fatherhood

Measure	Year and Most Recent Result / Target for Recent Result / (Summary of Result)	FY 2025 Target
<u>22J</u> : Increase the proportion of community father participants who report, at program exit, high involvement with their children. (<i>Outcome</i>)	FY 2024: 44.7% Target: 45.0% (Target Not Met)	45.2%
<u>22K</u> : Increase the proportion of reentering father participants who report, at program exit, frequent contact with their children. (<i>Outcome</i>)	FY 2024: 42.4% Target: 42.0% (Target Exceeded)	42.2%
<u>22L</u> : Increase the proportion of community and reentering father participants who report, at program exit, collaborative co-parenting relationships. (<i>Outcome</i>)	FY 2024: 44.1% Target: 44.0% (Target Exceeded)	44.2%
<u>22M</u> : Increase the proportion of community father participants who report, at program exit, being economically stable. (<i>Outcome</i>)	FY 2024: 36.4% Target: 36.0% (Target Exceeded)	36.2%

This page intentionally left blank.

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES
ADMINISTRATION FOR CHILDREN, FAMILIES, AND COMMUNITIES
DRUG CONTROL POLICY

Resource Summary

	Budget Authority (in millions)		
	FY 2024 Final	FY 2025 Enacted	FY 2026
Drug Resources by Function			
Prevention	*	*	*
Total Drug Resources by Function	*	*	*
Drug Resources by Decision Unit			
Promoting Safe and Stable Families – Regional Partnership Grants Mandatory Program	*	*	*
Total Drug Resources by Decision Unit	*	*	*
Drug Resources Personnel Summary			
Total FTEs (direct only)	*	*	*
Drug Resources as a percent of Budget			
Total Agency Budget (in Billions)	*	*	*
Drug Resources percentage	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%

* Pending Language from OMB

Program Summary

Mission

The Administration for Children, Families, and Communities (ACFC), within HHS, is responsible for federal programs that promote the economic and social well-being of families, children, individuals, and communities. The mission of ACFC is to foster health and well-being by providing federal leadership, partnership, and resources for the compassionate and effective delivery of human services.

The Promoting Safe and Stable Families (PSSF) appropriation includes both mandatory and discretionary budget authority.

The Social Security Act of 1935 (P.L. 74-271) authorized the first federal grants for child welfare. In 1993, the Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act (P.L. 103-66) created the Family Preservation and Family Support Services Program, which became Promoting Safe and Stable Families, under title IV-B-2 of the Social Security Act, with passage of the Adoption and Safe Families Act of 1997 (P.L. 105-89). The Family First Prevention Services Act (FFPSA) (P.L. 115-123) amended and reauthorized the program through FY 2021.

The Targeted Grants To Increase the Well-Being of, and To Improve the Permanency Outcomes for, Children Affected by Methamphetamine or Other Substance Abuse within the PSSF program was established by the Child and Family Services Improvement Act of 2006 (P.L. 109-288). In 2011, these grants were renamed Targeted Grants to Increase the Well-Being of, and To Improve the Permanency

Outcomes for, Children Affected by Substance Abuse and reauthorized through FY 2016 as part of The Child and Family Services Improvement and Innovation Act of 2011 (P.L. 112-34). In 2018, these grants were renamed Targeted Grants to Implement IV-E Prevention Services, and Improve the Well-Being of, and Improve the Permanency Outcomes for, Children Affected by Heroin, Opioids, and other Substance Abuse and reauthorized through FY 2021 as part of the Bipartisan Budget Act of 2018 (P. L. 115-123). The program was reauthorized in 2025 through FY 2029 by the Supporting American's Children and Families Act (P.L. 118-258). Grants funded under this program support regional partnerships in establishing or enhancing a collaborative infrastructure to build a region's capacity to meet a broad range of needs for families affected by substance-use disorders and involved with or at risk for involvement with the child welfare system.

Budget Summary

Promoting Safe and Stable Families – Regional Partnership Grants Mandatory Program

This funding will continue the success of earlier RPGs and will support state efforts to reduce foster care placements due to parental substance abuse. Adult substance-use disorders, including opioid-use disorder and fentanyl use, remain a major and growing factor for involvement in the child welfare system and in out-of-home placements. The RPG program represents the only source of funding specifically focused on the intersection of substance-use disorders, including opioid addiction, and child welfare involvement.

This page intentionally left blank.

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES
ADMINISTRATION FOR CHILDREN, FAMILIES, AND COMMUNITIES
SUPPLEMENTAL MATERIAL

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Programs Proposed for Elimination Table	165
ACFC State Tables	167
Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program State Table	167
Child Care & Development Block Grant State Table	169
Head Start State Table	171
Runaway and Homeless Youth State Table	173
CAPTA State Table	175
Community-Based Child Abuse Prevention State Table	177
Child Welfare Services State Table	179
Community Services Block Grant State Table	183
ALGIP State Table	181
Family Violence Prevention and Services State Table	185
Chafee Education and Training Vouchers State Table	187
Promoting Safe and Stable Families State Table	189

This page intentionally left blank.

ADMINISTRATION FOR CHILDREN, FAMILIES, AND COMMUNITIES
Programs Proposed for Elimination in the FY 2026 Budget
(dollars in millions)

Program	Description	FY 2025 Enacted	Rationale
LIHEAP Block Grants	The Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program provides federally funded assistance to manage costs associated with home energy bills, energy crises, and weatherization and energy-related minor home repairs.	\$4,025.000	LIHEAP has not demonstrated that it has a meaningful impact on self-sufficiency, has a history of fraud and abuse, and does not serve a necessary federal role since many states have policies preventing utility disconnection.
Transitional and Medical Services	The Transitional and Medical Services program provides refugees and other eligible populations with time-limited cash assistance to purchase food and clothing, pay rent, use public transportation, and secure other necessities.	*	With an end to open border policies, American taxpayers will no longer need to support illegal immigrants with cash handouts, free medical care, and other public welfare services. Further, the U.S. will only admit refugees who can fully and appropriately assimilate, thereby ensuring that the U.S. preserves taxpayer resources for its citizens.
Refugee Support Services	The Refugee Support Services program provides services to address barriers to employment, focusing on employment-based English language training, case management, employment preparation, and job placement and retention services.	*	With an end to open border policies, American taxpayers will no longer need to support illegal immigrants with cash handouts, free medical care, and other public welfare services. Further, the U.S. will only admit refugees who can fully and appropriately assimilate, thereby ensuring that the U.S. preserves taxpayer resources for its citizens.

Program	Description	FY 2025 Enacted	Rationale
Preschool Development Grants	The Preschool Development Grants Birth through Five Initiative was authorized to improve coordination of the delivery models and funding streams existing in each state's mixed delivery system serving children from birth through age five.	\$315.000	States are best equipped to fund and tailor early care and education programs to families' needs. Federal funding for state capacity building, strategic initiatives, and DEI grants are unproductive and unnecessary.
Community Services Block Grant and Community Services Discretionary Activities	The Community Services Block Grant account provides grant allocations to states, territories, and tribes, for poverty reduction. In addition, the Community Economic Development program provides grants to community development corporations, and the Rural Community Development program provides grants and technical assistance to improve water supply and waste disposal services.	\$804.383	These programs are not meeting their intended purpose to reduce poverty through services such as job training, instead focusing on equity building and green energy initiatives. Eliminating these programs will reduce waste, prevent duplication of federal funding, and promote federalism.

ADMINISTRATION FOR CHILDREN, FAMILIES, AND COMMUNITIES
State Table - Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program

Formula Grants

CFDA# 93.568

STATE/TERRITORY	FY 2024 Final	FY 2025 Enacted	FY 2026	Difference from FY 2025 Enacted
Alabama	\$60,869,609	\$58,915,646	\$0	(\$58,915,646)
Alaska	12,255,153	11,865,340	0	(11,865,340)
Arizona	33,168,380	32,705,014	0	(32,705,014)
Arkansas	37,283,970	36,066,180	0	(36,066,180)
California	247,852,004	239,729,066	0	(239,729,066)
Colorado	59,242,103	57,224,199	0	(57,224,199)
Connecticut	78,690,486	81,730,366	0	(81,730,366)
Delaware	14,243,622	13,774,502	0	(13,774,502)
District of Columbia	12,400,561	12,350,277	0	(12,350,277)
Florida	113,675,223	112,087,248	0	(112,087,248)
Georgia	89,891,795	88,636,061	0	(88,636,061)
Hawaii	8,160,024	8,421,059	0	(8,421,059)
Idaho	22,716,719	22,624,603	0	(22,624,603)
Illinois	192,826,705	201,233,518	0	(201,233,518)
Indiana	82,677,548	84,106,011	0	(84,106,011)
Iowa	58,114,525	57,827,039	0	(57,827,039)
Kansas	39,339,730	39,632,541	0	(39,632,541)
Kentucky	59,142,078	58,245,237	0	(58,245,237)
Louisiana	60,673,976	58,720,678	0	(58,720,678)
Maine	40,840,674	40,694,017	0	(40,694,017)
Maryland	81,301,604	80,468,401	0	(80,468,401)
Massachusetts	142,379,212	150,132,058	0	(150,132,058)
Michigan	175,700,558	177,482,218	0	(177,482,218)
Minnesota	123,876,615	123,263,811	0	(123,263,811)
Mississippi	37,948,271	36,699,778	0	(36,699,778)
Missouri	85,652,007	85,873,510	0	(85,873,510)
Montana	23,108,875	23,015,166	0	(23,015,166)
Nebraska	35,053,503	34,911,288	0	(34,911,288)
Nevada	16,320,578	16,092,589	0	(16,092,589)
New Hampshire	30,232,286	31,282,656	0	(31,282,656)
New Jersey	132,845,809	129,738,970	0	(129,738,970)
New Mexico	21,418,455	20,701,852	0	(20,701,852)
New York	396,528,400	394,566,816	0	(394,566,816)
North Carolina	111,991,527	108,353,533	0	(108,353,533)
North Dakota	23,119,962	23,026,209	0	(23,026,209)

STATE/TERRITORY	FY 2024 Final	FY 2025 Enacted	FY 2026	Difference from FY 2025 Enacted
Ohio	167,685,423	170,394,294	0	(170,394,294)
Oklahoma	42,304,052	41,229,962	0	(41,229,962)
Oregon	43,216,397	41,734,128	0	(41,734,128)
Pennsylvania	213,109,850	219,054,329	0	(219,054,329)
Rhode Island	26,246,386	26,143,343	0	(26,143,343)
South Carolina	52,545,618	50,893,883	0	(50,893,883)
South Dakota	20,850,392	20,765,842	0	(20,765,842)
Tennessee	74,433,989	71,993,499	0	(71,993,499)
Texas	189,147,311	186,505,038	0	(186,505,038)
Utah	28,046,369	27,932,640	0	(27,932,640)
Vermont	22,660,175	22,568,287	0	(22,568,287)
Virginia	101,731,091	99,639,338	0	(99,639,338)
Washington	64,801,616	62,561,971	0	(62,561,971)
West Virginia	34,461,103	34,321,363	0	(34,321,363)
Wisconsin	111,506,741	110,955,129	0	(110,955,129)
Wyoming	10,835,290	10,791,353	0	(10,791,353)
Subtotal, States	\$3,965,124,350	\$3,949,681,856	\$0	(\$3,949,681,856)
Indian Tribes	45,616,121	45,641,200	0	(45,641,200)
American Samoa	333,407	332,124	0	(332,124)
Guam	730,984	728,172	0	(728,172)
Northern Mariana Islands	253,890	252,914	0	(252,914)
Puerto Rico	18,144,970	18,075,169	0	(18,075,169)
Virgin Islands	691,224	688,565	0	(688,565)
Subtotal, Territories	\$20,154,475	\$20,076,944	\$0	(\$20,076,944)
Total States, Tribes & Territories	\$4,030,894,946	\$4,015,400,000	\$0	(\$4,015,400,000)
Training and Technical Assistance	9,600,000	9,600,000	0	(9,600,000)
Subtotal, Adjustments	\$9,600,000	\$9,600,000	\$0	(\$9,600,000)
TOTAL RESOURCES	\$4,040,494,946	\$4,025,000,000	\$0	(\$4,025,000,000)

Notes:

1. State allocations in all years are subject to change based on tribal agreements; all final state allocations will be included on the HHS/ACFC Office of Community Services web site.
2. FY 2024 includes funding reallocated from FY 2023 grant awards.

ADMINISTRATION FOR CHILDREN, FAMILIES, AND COMMUNITIES
State Table - Child Care & Development Block Grant

Formula Grants

CFDA # 93.575

STATE/TERRITORY	FY 2024 Final	FY 2025 Enacted	FY 2026	Difference from FY 2025 Enacted
Alabama	\$157,901,678	\$171,213,823	\$171,234,925	\$21,102
Alaska	14,498,738	15,354,309	15,356,201	1,892
Arizona	203,756,237	179,461,536	179,483,654	22,118
Arkansas	110,200,506	101,188,772	101,201,242	12,470
California	820,080,682	737,509,641	737,600,538	90,897
Colorado	93,018,340	91,666,587	91,677,885	11,298
Connecticut	61,147,542	63,429,377	63,437,194	7,817
Delaware	22,156,840	23,593,153	23,596,060	2,907
District of Columbia	12,909,975	13,408,807	13,410,460	1,653
Florida	490,395,969	532,626,620	532,692,266	65,646
Georgia	352,087,168	333,930,904	333,972,059	41,155
Hawaii	29,212,178	28,824,832	28,828,385	3,553
Idaho	49,448,916	44,870,966	44,876,497	5,531
Illinois	254,358,696	267,862,062	267,895,075	33,013
Indiana	189,606,212	198,382,337	198,406,786	24,449
Iowa	80,388,435	84,564,099	84,574,522	10,423
Kansas	74,078,720	78,176,418	78,186,053	9,635
Kentucky	154,780,419	172,246,248	172,267,477	21,229
Louisiana	155,717,243	166,591,668	166,612,200	20,532
Maine	23,679,672	23,434,891	23,437,780	2,889
Maryland	108,199,692	121,825,322	121,840,337	15,015
Massachusetts	110,419,403	116,926,547	116,940,958	14,411
Michigan	233,504,167	255,045,235	255,076,669	31,434
Minnesota	110,336,360	119,322,911	119,337,617	14,706
Mississippi	104,039,089	108,804,423	108,817,832	13,409
Missouri	165,682,147	152,346,801	152,365,577	18,776
Montana	22,080,828	22,166,155	22,168,887	2,732
Nebraska	48,209,133	53,606,708	53,613,314	6,606
Nevada	71,899,881	74,282,464	74,291,618	9,154
New Hampshire	18,217,381	16,154,107	16,156,097	1,990
New Jersey	163,834,826	161,384,832	161,404,722	19,890
New Mexico	72,456,398	64,599,488	64,607,449	7,961
New York	389,281,143	405,297,645	405,347,597	49,952
North Carolina	263,691,008	278,791,939	278,826,299	34,360
North Dakota	15,589,439	16,060,420	16,062,400	1,980

STATE/TERRITORY	FY 2024 Final	FY 2025 Enacted	FY 2026	Difference from FY 2025 Enacted
Ohio	300,008,387	280,484,254	280,518,823	34,569
Oklahoma	133,588,669	122,754,735	122,769,864	15,129
Oregon	78,975,583	78,091,907	78,101,532	9,625
Pennsylvania	268,042,464	271,627,973	271,661,450	33,477
Rhode Island	19,512,471	19,718,236	19,720,666	2,430
South Carolina	156,838,277	158,509,179	158,528,714	19,535
South Dakota	23,941,465	19,992,950	19,995,414	2,464
Tennessee	235,534,067	191,066,357	191,089,905	23,548
Texas	952,960,797	986,339,965	986,461,530	121,565
Utah	105,539,110	83,787,789	83,798,115	10,326
Vermont	9,851,450	10,114,619	10,115,865	1,246
Virginia	170,209,901	187,859,224	187,882,378	23,154
Washington	128,185,828	132,750,266	132,766,627	16,361
West Virginia	54,344,019	56,242,131	56,249,063	6,932
Wisconsin	123,279,266	126,043,127	126,058,661	15,534
Wyoming	9,743,410	9,531,321	9,532,496	1,175
Subtotal, States	\$8,017,420,225	\$8,029,866,080	\$8,030,855,735	\$989,655
Indian Tribes	499,540,589	499,540,589	498,543,610	(996,979)
American Samoa	11,194,114	11,307,635	11,307,635	0
Guam	17,355,900	17,531,908	17,531,908	0
Northern Mariana Islands	7,884,145	7,520,609	7,520,609	0
Puerto Rico	52,998,446	59,429,144	59,436,468	7,324
Virgin Islands	7,297,776	7,371,783	7,371,783	0
Subtotal, Territories	\$96,730,381	\$103,161,079	\$103,168,403	\$7,324
Total States/Territories	\$8,613,691,195	\$8,632,567,748	\$8,632,567,748	\$0
Research	29,720,240	33,420,252	33,420,252	0
Training and Technical Assistance	43,839,139	35,770,000	35,770,000	0
Other	45,156,424	44,629,000	44,629,000	0
Subtotal, Adjustments	\$118,715,803	\$113,819,252	\$113,819,252	\$0
TOTAL RESOURCES	\$8,732,406,998	\$8,746,387,000	\$8,746,387,000	\$0

Note: Other includes funding for both the hotline and federal administrative expenses. Administrative expenses include salaries and benefits, IT costs, and other overhead related costs.

ADMINISTRATION FOR CHILDREN, FAMILIES, AND COMMUNITIES
State Table - Head Start

Competitive Grants

CFDA # 93.600

STATE/TERRITORY	FY 2024 Final	FY 2025 Enacted	FY 2026	Difference from FY 2025 Enacted
Alabama	\$167,817,311	\$168,058,516	\$168,058,516	\$0
Alaska	23,327,531	23,361,060	23,361,060	0
Arizona	205,516,284	205,811,674	205,811,674	0
Arkansas	117,325,930	117,494,564	117,494,564	0
California	1,500,480,681	1,502,637,339	1,502,637,339	0
Colorado	115,771,160	115,937,559	115,937,559	0
Connecticut	126,126,374	126,307,656	126,307,656	0
Delaware	24,558,957	24,594,256	24,594,256	0
District of Columbia	41,977,158	42,037,493	42,037,493	0
Florida	508,947,066	509,678,581	509,678,581	0
Georgia	291,870,969	292,290,478	292,290,478	0
Hawaii	36,557,295	36,609,839	36,609,839	0
Idaho	44,590,879	44,654,970	44,654,970	0
Illinois	469,730,833	470,405,982	470,405,982	0
Indiana	169,065,179	169,308,179	169,308,179	0
Iowa	91,833,774	91,965,768	91,965,768	0
Kansas	89,099,547	89,227,611	89,227,611	0
Kentucky	207,193,728	207,491,529	207,491,529	0
Louisiana	216,357,193	216,668,166	216,668,166	0
Maine	49,227,590	49,298,345	49,298,345	0
Maryland	140,305,703	140,507,366	140,507,366	0
Massachusetts	185,658,591	185,925,440	185,925,440	0
Michigan	417,709,566	418,309,944	418,309,944	0
Minnesota	142,790,879	142,996,114	142,996,114	0
Mississippi	265,246,610	265,627,852	265,627,852	0
Missouri	213,245,125	213,551,624	213,551,624	0
Montana	42,396,271	42,457,208	42,457,208	0
Nebraska	72,042,902	72,146,450	72,146,450	0
Nevada	28,426,011	28,466,868	28,466,868	0
New Hampshire	23,910,217	23,944,583	23,944,583	0
New Jersey	194,437,321	194,716,788	194,716,788	0
New Mexico	88,660,326	88,787,759	88,787,759	0
New York	827,762,565	828,952,317	828,952,317	0
North Carolina	276,297,396	276,694,520	276,694,520	0
North Dakota	29,515,594	29,558,017	29,558,017	0

STATE/TERRITORY	FY 2024 Final	FY 2025 Enacted	FY 2026	Difference from FY 2025 Enacted
Ohio	439,520,891	440,152,619	440,152,619	0
Oklahoma	160,713,902	160,944,898	160,944,898	0
Oregon	121,695,863	121,870,778	121,870,778	0
Pennsylvania	380,976,430	381,524,011	381,524,011	0
Rhode Island	38,932,906	38,988,864	38,988,864	0
South Carolina	152,109,346	152,327,975	152,327,975	0
South Dakota	32,626,912	32,673,807	32,673,807	0
Tennessee	218,217,715	218,531,362	218,531,362	0
Texas	828,549,840	829,740,723	829,740,723	0
Utah	97,974,086	98,114,905	98,114,905	0
Vermont	27,600,860	27,640,531	27,640,531	0
Virginia	190,716,366	190,990,485	190,990,485	0
Washington	195,039,539	195,319,871	195,319,871	0
West Virginia	85,971,607	86,095,175	86,095,175	0
Wisconsin	155,640,105	155,863,808	155,863,808	0
Wyoming	25,560,021	25,596,759	25,596,759	0
Subtotal, States	\$10,597,626,905	\$10,612,858,986	\$10,612,858,986	\$0
Indian Tribes	356,347,703	356,859,885	356,859,885	0
American Samoa	5,372,122	5,379,844	5,379,844	0
Guam	4,313,825	4,320,026	4,320,026	0
Northern Mariana Islands	4,170,732	4,176,727	4,176,727	0
Palau	2,234,673	2,237,885	2,237,885	0
Puerto Rico	319,200,628	319,659,418	319,659,418	0
Virgin Islands	12,453,470	12,471,369	12,471,369	0
Subtotal, Territories	\$347,745,450	\$348,245,269	\$348,245,269	\$0
Total States/Territories	\$11,301,720,058	\$11,317,964,140	\$11,317,964,140	\$0
Other Grants	140,785,166	25,000,000	25,000,000	0
Research	21,912,256	25,500,360	20,000,000	-5,500,360
Training and Technical Assistance	257,058,199	257,058,199	257,058,199	0
Other	118,005,229	118,005,229	118,005,229	0
Migrant Program	533,792,432	533,792,432	533,792,432	0
Subtotal, Adjustments	\$1,071,553,282	\$959,356,220	\$953,855,860	-\$5,500,360
TOTAL RESOURCES	\$12,373,273,340	\$12,277,320,360	\$12,271,820,000	-\$5,500,360

Notes:

1. The Other Grants line includes \$25 million to support Designated Renewal System awards and one-time program improvement health and safety awards in FY 2024.
2. FY 2024 and FY 2025 include funds carried over from previous years for research.
3. Other includes federal administrative costs, including salaries and benefits, IT costs, and other overhead related costs.
4. Grant recipients that operate in multiple states are displayed in the state in which the grant is administered.

ADMINISTRATION FOR CHILDREN, FAMILIES, AND COMMUNITIES
State Table - State Table - Runaway and Homeless Youth - Basic Center

Formula Grants

CFDA # 93.623

STATE/TERRITORY	FY 2024 Final	FY 2025 Enacted	FY 2026	Difference from FY 2025 Enacted
Alabama	\$200,000	*	\$921,501	*
Alaska	1,099,442	*	899,442	*
Arizona	1,550,000	*	1,599,834	*
Arkansas	500,000	*	578,598	*
California	6,604,692	*	6,993,543	*
Colorado	1,505,199	*	994,711	*
Connecticut	628,176	*	644,131	*
Delaware	175,000	*	250,000	*
District of Columbia	449,999	*	250,000	*
Florida	3,999,578	*	3,863,713	*
Georgia	1,774,234	*	1,977,076	*
Hawaii	250,000	*	250,000	*
Idaho	645,000	*	553,344	*
Illinois	2,022,524	*	2,375,530	*
Indiana	591,061	*	1,365,521	*
Iowa	690,000	*	544,196	*
Kansas	190,000	*	599,369	*
Kentucky	899,887	*	748,568	*
Louisiana	762,679	*	792,035	*
Maine	396,957	*	396,957	*
Maryland	849,720	*	999,290	*
Massachusetts	995,389	*	1,005,544	*
Michigan	2,396,340	*	1,789,799	*
Minnesota	2,174,882	*	968,404	*
Mississippi	200,000	*	593,385	*
Missouri	1,295,178	*	1,019,231	*
Montana	0	*	250,000	*
Nebraska	1,036,365	*	654,008	*
Nevada	426,088	*	595,304	*
New Hampshire	583,870	*	250,000	*
New Jersey	1,643,000	*	1,689,536	*
New Mexico	1,047,699	*	353,117	*
New York	3,370,442	*	2,980,573	*
North Carolina	1,150,000	*	1,699,669	*
North Dakota	297,588	*	250,000	*

STATE/TERRITORY	FY 2024 Final	FY 2025 Enacted	FY 2026	Difference from FY 2025 Enacted
Ohio	2,170,724	*	1,915,011	*
Oklahoma	1,188,106	*	709,125	*
Oregon	1,983,958	*	641,812	*
Pennsylvania	1,550,000	*	1,976,064	*
Rhode Island	0	*	250,000	*
South Carolina	974,933	*	831,749	*
South Dakota	398,135	*	250,000	*
Tennessee	1,199,750	*	1,428,883	*
Texas	4,037,439	*	5,898,956	*
Utah	900,000	*	894,020	*
Vermont	200,000	*	250,000	*
Virginia	650,000	*	1,386,761	*
Washington	2,100,000	*	1,530,748	*
West Virginia	160,000	*	269,865	*
Wisconsin	1,307,295	*	949,688	*
Wyoming	445,000	*	25,000	*
Subtotal, States	\$61,666,329	*	\$60,903,611	*
American Samoa	200,000	*	250,000	*
Guam	189,918	*	250,000	*
Northern Mariana Islands	0	*	250,000	*
Puerto Rico	630,000	*	250,000	*
Virgin Islands	0	*	250,000	*
Subtotal, Territories	\$1,019,918	*	\$1,250,000	*
Total States/Territories	\$62,686,247	*	\$62,153,611	*
Other Grants	1,200,000	*	1,200,000	*
Research	721,556	*	0	*
Training and Technical Assistance	2,312,870	*	2,665,683	*
Other	2,607,036	*	2,886,266	*
Subtotal, Adjustments	\$6,841,462	*	\$6,751,949	*
TOTAL RESOURCES	\$69,527,709	*	\$68,905,560	*

Note: Other includes funding for administrative expenses, including salaries and benefits, grant review panels, and overhead costs.

ADMINISTRATION FOR CHILDREN, FAMILIES, AND COMMUNITIES
State Table - CAPTA State Grants

Formula Grants

CFDA # 93.669

STATE/TERRITORY	FY 2024 Final	FY 2025 Enacted	FY 2026	Difference from FY 2025 Enacted
Alabama	\$1,581,800	*	\$1,600,140	*
Alaska	293,260	*	290,585	*
Arizona	2,239,811	*	2,220,022	*
Arkansas	1,010,702	*	1,017,250	*
California	11,771,863	*	11,627,191	*
Colorado	1,725,180	*	1,715,093	*
Connecticut	1,057,435	*	1,041,074	*
Delaware	336,821	*	340,525	*
District of Columbia	221,539	*	223,533	*
Florida	5,970,800	*	6,055,263	*
Georgia	3,508,742	*	3,529,817	*
Hawaii	459,740	*	452,486	*
Idaho	688,619	*	690,635	*
Illinois	3,798,100	*	3,758,664	*
Indiana	2,213,516	*	2,225,817	*
Iowa	1,048,421	*	1,050,856	*
Kansas	1,002,037	*	1,001,797	*
Kentucky	1,434,408	*	1,443,963	*
Louisiana	1,513,123	*	1,512,853	*
Maine	391,629	*	391,402	*
Maryland	1,905,738	*	1,916,923	*
Massachusetts	1,893,122	*	1,889,349	*
Michigan	2,957,378	*	2,945,020	*
Minnesota	1,833,489	*	1,833,328	*
Mississippi	984,435	*	981,904	*
Missouri	1,930,849	*	1,934,076	*
Montana	372,136	*	373,030	*
Nebraska	706,910	*	709,355	*
Nevada	1,000,585	*	990,313	*
New Hampshire	398,555	*	395,512	*
New Jersey	2,798,068	*	2,805,707	*
New Mexico	683,255	*	668,706	*
New York	5,547,652	*	5,478,263	*
North Carolina	3,212,527	*	3,252,998	*
North Dakota	301,883	*	303,234	*

STATE/TERRITORY	FY 2024 Final	FY 2025 Enacted	FY 2026	Difference from FY 2025 Enacted
Ohio	3,581,459	*	3,584,286	*
Oklahoma	1,363,441	*	1,374,995	*
Oregon	1,203,456	*	1,190,278	*
Pennsylvania	3,666,784	*	3,653,856	*
Rhode Island	331,012	*	329,422	*
South Carolina	1,590,040	*	1,618,282	*
South Dakota	352,032	*	354,179	*
Tennessee	2,169,709	*	2,203,158	*
Texas	10,325,234	*	10,414,641	*
Utah	1,333,852	*	1,329,169	*
Vermont	208,147	*	207,144	*
Virginia	2,622,761	*	2,629,157	*
Washington	2,319,131	*	2,309,179	*
West Virginia	534,985	*	532,814	*
Wisconsin	1,766,589	*	1,762,312	*
Wyoming	229,311	*	227,587	*
Subtotal, States	\$102,392,071	*	\$102,387,145	*
American Samoa	75,115	*	69,049	*
Guam	107,173	*	123,309	*
Northern Mariana Islands	68,770	*	70,329	*
Puerto Rico	764,325	*	733,592	*
Virgin Islands	73,546	*	82,576	*
Subtotal, Territories	\$1,088,929	*	\$1,078,855	*
Total States/Territories	\$103,481,000	*	\$103,466,000	*
Training and Technical Assistance	1,600,000	*	1,600,000	*
Other	1,561	*	25,000	*
Subtotal, Adjustments	\$1,601,561	*	\$1,625,000	*
TOTAL RESOURCES	\$105,082,561	*	\$105,091,000	*

Note: Other includes funding for information technology support and grant review panels.

ADMINISTRATION FOR CHILDREN, FAMILIES, AND COMMUNITIES
State Table - Community-Based Child Abuse Prevention

Formula Grants

CFDA # 93.590

STATE/TERRITORY	FY 2024 Final	FY 2025 Enacted	FY 2026	Difference from FY 2025 Enacted
Alabama	\$932,396	*	\$796,955	*
Alaska	175,000	*	175,000	*
Arizona	1,418,538	*	1,194,583	*
Arkansas	445,816	*	379,286	*
California	5,897,057	*	4,931,444	*
Colorado	1,473,846	*	1,247,605	*
Connecticut	1,865,099	*	1,581,845	*
Delaware	186,512	*	184,828	*
District of Columbia	191,053	*	188,704	*
Florida	2,960,370	*	2,536,278	*
Georgia	1,633,308	*	1,388,682	*
Hawaii	385,857	*	344,182	*
Idaho	296,872	*	251,667	*
Illinois	1,896,452	*	1,588,748	*
Indiana	1,858,108	*	1,582,359	*
Iowa	804,183	*	683,474	*
Kansas	1,543,771	*	1,313,994	*
Kentucky	3,593,992	*	3,066,291	*
Louisiana	691,804	*	584,639	*
Maine	344,792	*	319,948	*
Maryland	1,357,562	*	1,155,849	*
Massachusetts	1,081,322	*	914,289	*
Michigan	1,427,240	*	1,202,025	*
Minnesota	2,962,498	*	2,521,846	*
Mississippi	429,934	*	362,319	*
Missouri	1,543,865	*	1,311,711	*
Montana	181,193	*	180,287	*
Nebraska	922,042	*	785,453	*
Nevada	486,543	*	407,584	*
New Hampshire	270,711	*	256,706	*
New Jersey	2,694,385	*	2,292,134	*
New Mexico	309,716	*	256,241	*
New York	3,800,345	*	3,195,490	*
North Carolina	1,459,022	*	1,248,585	*
North Dakota	180,735	*	179,896	*

STATE/TERRITORY	FY 2024 Final	FY 2025 Enacted	FY 2026	Difference from FY 2025 Enacted
Ohio	1,838,315	*	1,556,339	*
Oklahoma	1,114,701	*	950,829	*
Oregon	534,489	*	446,581	*
Pennsylvania	1,697,567	*	1,429,747	*
Rhode Island	223,624	*	216,509	*
South Carolina	795,168	*	683,605	*
South Dakota	176,165	*	175,995	*
Tennessee	1,007,950	*	864,956	*
Texas	6,315,507	*	5,385,032	*
Utah	846,425	*	715,641	*
Vermont	175,000	*	175,000	*
Virginia	1,197,509	*	1,014,502	*
Washington	1,693,709	*	1,432,980	*
West Virginia	250,006	*	210,651	*
Wisconsin	882,207	*	744,619	*
Wyoming	181,931	*	180,917	*
Subtotal, States	\$66,632,212	*	\$56,794,830	*
Indian Tribes	706,600	*	606,600	*
American Samoa	175,000	*	175,000	*
Guam	175,000	*	175,000	*
Northern Mariana Islands	175,000	*	175,000	*
Puerto Rico	327,188	*	264,570	*
Virgin Islands	175,000	*	175,000	*
Subtotal, Territories	\$1,027,188	*	\$964,570	*
Total States/Territories	\$68,366,000	*	\$58,366,000	*
Training and Technical Assistance	2,054,000	*	2,054,000	*
Other	240,000	*	240,000	*
Subtotal, Adjustments	\$2,294,000	*	\$2,294,000	*
TOTAL RESOURCES	\$70,660,000	*	\$60,660,000	*

Note: Other includes funding for information technology support and grant review panels..

ADMINISTRATION FOR CHILDREN, FAMILIES, AND COMMUNITIES
State Table - Child Welfare Services

Formula Grants

CFDA # 93.645

STATE/TERRITORY	FY 2024 Final	FY 2025 Enacted	FY 2026	Difference from FY 2025 Enacted
Alabama	\$5,000,749	*	\$5,028,943	*
Alaska	68,842	*	50,398	*
Arizona	5,628,811	*	5,580,524	*
Arkansas	3,088,253	*	3,124,134	*
California	25,142,064	*	24,830,240	*
Colorado	4,016,849	*	3,972,049	*
Connecticut	1,928,082	*	1,834,296	*
Delaware	862,411	*	868,083	*
District of Columbia	352,170	*	341,429	*
Florida	15,982,332	*	16,249,547	*
Georgia	10,211,713	*	10,314,814	*
Hawaii	1,150,397	*	1,161,577	*
Idaho	2,003,293	*	1,995,701	*
Illinois	9,412,983	*	9,326,836	*
Indiana	6,426,647	*	6,452,646	*
Iowa	2,988,349	*	2,949,320	*
Kansas	2,723,111	*	2,710,425	*
Kentucky	4,381,657	*	4,460,142	*
Louisiana	4,393,490	*	4,451,042	*
Maine	1,027,240	*	1,014,850	*
Maryland	4,391,189	*	4,459,863	*
Massachusetts	3,542,547	*	3,393,177	*
Michigan	8,401,083	*	8,251,448	*
Minnesota	4,402,450	*	4,430,389	*
Mississippi	3,168,898	*	3,154,164	*
Missouri	5,597,267	*	5,628,349	*
Montana	668,620	*	658,080	*
Nebraska	1,796,032	*	1,807,237	*
Nevada	2,648,626	*	2,683,707	*
New Hampshire	861,678	*	839,067	*
New Jersey	5,706,229	*	5,786,373	*
New Mexico	1,488,283	*	1,351,474	*
New York	11,659,311	*	11,395,116	*
North Carolina	9,406,271	*	9,453,313	*
North Dakota	615,925	*	602,062	*

STATE/TERRITORY	FY 2024 Final	FY 2025 Enacted	FY 2026	Difference from FY 2025 Enacted
Ohio	10,228,580	*	10,290,913	*
Oklahoma	621,127	*	73,308	*
Oregon	3,142,819	*	3,107,298	*
Pennsylvania	9,618,774	*	9,373,169	*
Rhode Island	839,516	*	798,467	*
South Carolina	4,805,680	*	4,882,354	*
South Dakota	429,226	*	391,007	*
Tennessee	6,198,811	*	6,364,938	*
Texas	28,149,249	*	28,649,646	*
Utah	3,776,587	*	3,777,305	*
Vermont	520,619	*	487,701	*
Virginia	6,521,050	*	6,517,062	*
Washington	4,922,960	*	4,998,707	*
West Virginia	1,653,661	*	1,632,401	*
Wisconsin	4,689,012	*	4,663,031	*
Wyoming	425,718	*	411,943	*
Subtotal, States	\$257,687,241	*	\$257,030,065	*
Indian Tribes	7,404,643	*	8,329,911	*
American Samoa	158,233	*	139,521	*
Guam	277,000	*	337,553	*
Northern Mariana Islands	136,556	*	144,194	*
Puerto Rico	2,779,912	*	2,564,866	*
Virgin Islands	155,120	*	188,890	*
Subtotal, Territories	\$3,506,821	*	\$3,375,024	*
Total States/Territories	\$268,598,705	*	\$268,735,000	*
TOTAL RESOURCES	\$268,598,705	*	\$268,735,000	*

ADMINISTRATION FOR CHILDREN, FAMILIES, AND COMMUNITIES
State Table - Adoption and Legal Guardianship Incentives

Formula Grants

CFDA # 93.603

STATE/TERRITORY	FY 2024 Final	FY 2025 Enacted	FY 2026	Difference from FY 2025 Enacted
Alabama	\$1,284,000	\$0	\$0	\$0
Alaska	367,500	0	0	0
Arizona	4,151,000	0	0	0
Arkansas	1,087,000	0	0	0
California	7,958,000	0	0	0
Colorado	120,000	0	0	0
Connecticut	1,228,500	0	0	0
Delaware	44,000	0	0	0
District of Columbia	52,000	0	0	0
Florida	819,000	0	0	0
Georgia	865,000	0	0	0
Hawaii	430,000	0	0	0
Idaho	200,000	0	0	0
Illinois	3,429,500	0	0	0
Indiana	3,453,500	0	0	0
Iowa	1,034,000	0	0	0
Kansas	334,000	0	0	0
Kentucky	112,000	0	0	0
Louisiana	0	0	0	0
Maine	646,000	0	0	0
Maryland	1,440,500	0	0	0
Massachusetts	1,394,000	0	0	0
Michigan	2,091,000	0	0	0
Minnesota	2,398,000	0	0	0
Mississippi	1,042,000	0	0	0
Missouri	1,113,500	0	0	0
Montana	653,500	0	0	0
Nebraska	350,000	0	0	0
Nevada	1,334,000	0	0	0
New Hampshire	220,500	0	0	0
New Jersey	448,000	0	0	0
New Mexico	0	0	0	0
New York	5,388,000	0	0	0
North Carolina	285,000	0	0	0
North Dakota	219,000	0	0	0

STATE/TERRITORY	FY 2024 Final	FY 2025 Enacted	FY 2026	Difference from FY 2025 Enacted
Ohio	1,339,000	0	0	0
Oklahoma	1,762,000	0	0	0
Oregon	738,000	0	0	0
Pennsylvania	120,000	0	0	0
Rhode Island	628,000	0	0	0
South Carolina	2,108,000	0	0	0
South Dakota	369,000	0	0	0
Tennessee	288,000	0	0	0
Texas	3,680,000	0	0	0
Utah	144,000	0	0	0
Vermont	8,000	0	0	0
Virginia	842,500	0	0	0
Washington	785,500	0	0	0
West Virginia	457,000	0	0	0
Wisconsin	1,480,000	0	0	0
Wyoming	173,500	0	0	0
Subtotal, States	\$60,914,500	\$0	\$0	\$0
Puerto Rico	144,000	0	0	0
Total States/Territories	\$61,058,500	\$0	\$0	\$0
TOTAL RESOURCES	\$61,058,500	\$90,474,762	\$75,000,000	(\$15,474,762)

Note: FYs 2025 and 2026 do not reflect the release of Adoption Incentives funding since no awards can be calculated at this time.

ADMINISTRATION FOR CHILDREN, FAMILIES, AND COMMUNITIES
State Table - Community Services Block Grant

Formula Grants

CFDA # 93.569

STATE/TERRITORY	FY 2024 Final	FY 2025 Enacted	FY 2026	Difference from FY 2025 Enacted
Alabama	\$14,053,621	\$14,053,621	\$0	\$(14,053,621)
Alaska	2,732,597	2,732,597	0	(2,732,597)
Arizona	6,261,817	6,261,817	0	(6,261,817)
Arkansas	10,428,172	10,428,172	0	(10,428,172)
California	68,379,005	68,379,005	0	(68,379,005)
Colorado	6,669,350	6,669,350	0	(6,669,350)
Connecticut	9,235,789	9,235,789	0	(9,235,789)
Delaware	4,021,915	4,021,915	0	(4,021,915)
District of Columbia	12,600,098	12,600,098	0	(12,600,098)
Florida	22,289,668	22,289,668	0	(22,289,668)
Georgia	20,629,644	20,629,644	0	(20,629,644)
Hawaii	4,021,915	4,021,915	0	(4,021,915)
Idaho	3,978,370	3,978,370	0	(3,978,370)
Illinois	36,228,024	36,228,024	0	(36,228,024)
Indiana	11,166,773	11,166,773	0	(11,166,773)
Iowa	8,300,123	8,300,123	0	(8,300,123)
Kansas	6,259,828	6,259,828	0	(6,259,828)
Kentucky	12,929,178	12,929,178	0	(12,929,178)
Louisiana	17,752,640	17,752,640	0	(17,752,640)
Maine	4,021,469	4,021,469	0	(4,021,469)
Maryland	10,523,239	10,523,239	0	(10,523,239)
Massachusetts	19,004,448	19,004,448	0	(19,004,448)
Michigan	28,154,059	28,154,059	0	(28,154,059)
Minnesota	9,228,859	9,228,859	0	(9,228,859)
Mississippi	12,197,889	12,197,889	0	(12,197,889)
Missouri	21,221,987	21,221,987	0	(21,221,987)
Montana	3,689,076	3,689,076	0	(3,689,076)
Nebraska	5,333,594	5,333,594	0	(5,333,594)
Nevada	4,021,915	4,021,915	0	(4,021,915)
New Hampshire	4,021,915	4,021,915	0	(4,021,915)
New Jersey	21,009,914	21,009,914	0	(21,009,914)
New Mexico	4,227,147	4,227,147	0	(4,227,147)
New York	66,561,863	66,561,863	0	(66,561,863)
North Carolina	20,128,743	20,128,743	0	(20,128,743)
North Dakota	3,716,061	3,761,999	0	(3,761,999)

STATE/TERRITORY	FY 2024 Final	FY 2025 Enacted	FY 2026	Difference from FY 2025 Enacted
Ohio	29,895,067	29,895,067	0	(29,895,067)
Oklahoma	8,941,983	8,941,983	0	(8,941,983)
Oregon	6,114,946	6,114,946	0	(6,114,946)
Pennsylvania	32,469,202	32,469,202	0	(32,469,202)
Rhode Island	4,239,488	4,239,488	0	(4,239,488)
South Carolina	11,783,885	11,783,885	0	(11,783,885)
South Dakota	3,306,746	3,306,746	0	(3,306,746)
Tennessee	15,108,417	15,108,417	0	(15,108,417)
Texas	36,894,940	36,894,940	0	(36,894,940)
Utah	3,930,376	3,930,376	0	(3,930,376)
Vermont	4,021,915	4,021,915	0	(4,021,915)
Virginia	12,278,331	12,278,331	0	(12,278,331)
Washington	9,082,449	9,125,864	0	(9,125,864)
West Virginia	8,585,325	8,585,325	0	(8,585,325)
Wisconsin	9,331,239	9,331,239	0	(9,331,239)
Wyoming	3,767,207	3,767,207	0	(3,767,207)
Subtotal, States	\$714,752,221	\$714,841,574	\$0	(\$714,841,574)
Indian Tribes	6,851,801	6,762,448	0	(6,762,448)
American Samoa	1,045,566	1,045,566	0	(1,045,566)
Guam	989,548	989,548	0	(989,548)
Northern Mariana Islands	619,904	619,904	0	(619,904)
Puerto Rico	32,308,318	32,308,318	0	(32,308,318)
Virgin Islands	1,366,897	1,366,897	0	(1,366,897)
Subtotal, Territories	\$36,330,233	\$36,330,233	\$0	(\$36,330,233)
Total States/Territories	\$757,934,255	\$757,934,255	\$0	(\$757,934,255)
Other Grants	750,000	750,000	0	(750,000)
Training and Technical Assistance	6,150,000	6,150,000	0	(6,150,000)
Other	5,101,368	5,165,745	0	(5,165,745)
Subtotal, Adjustments	\$12,001,368	\$12,065,745	\$0	(\$12,065,745)
TOTAL RESOURCES	\$769,935,623	\$770,000,000	\$0	(\$770,000,000)

Notes:

1. Other Grants includes funding for a demonstration program.
2. Other includes funding for federal administrative expenses, including salaries and benefits, IT costs, and other overhead related costs.

ADMINISTRATION FOR CHILDREN, FAMILIES, AND COMMUNITIES
State Table - Family Violence Prevention and Services

Formula Grants

CFDA # 93.592

STATE/TERRITORY	FY 2024 Final	FY 2025 Enacted	FY 2026	Difference from FY 2025 Enacted
Alabama	\$2,557,499	\$2,694,982	\$2,694,982	\$0
Alaska	1,187,581	1,222,718	1,222,718	0
Arizona	3,274,268	3,472,694	3,472,694	0
Arkansas	1,921,099	2,012,374	2,012,374	0
California	13,203,333	14,018,431	14,018,431	0
Colorado	2,790,407	2,945,400	2,945,400	0
Connecticut	2,103,407	2,196,454	2,196,454	0
Delaware	1,283,091	1,329,044	1,329,044	0
District of Columbia	1,174,094	1,210,655	1,210,655	0
Florida	7,946,101	8,554,105	8,554,105	0
Georgia	4,380,449	4,667,224	4,667,224	0
Hawaii	1,403,990	1,452,059	1,452,059	0
Idaho	1,572,869	1,642,174	1,642,174	0
Illinois	4,917,935	5,191,073	5,191,073	0
Indiana	3,114,034	3,287,080	3,287,080	0
Iowa	1,970,939	2,060,290	2,060,290	0
Kansas	1,881,620	1,964,078	1,964,078	0
Kentucky	2,378,278	2,497,607	2,497,607	0
Louisiana	2,403,677	2,514,272	2,514,272	0
Maine	1,399,447	1,452,120	1,452,120	0
Maryland	2,894,081	3,048,076	3,048,076	0
Massachusetts	3,160,215	3,333,038	3,333,038	0
Michigan	4,121,287	4,352,669	4,352,669	0
Minnesota	2,762,960	2,909,811	2,909,811	0
Mississippi	1,885,036	1,966,414	1,966,414	0
Missouri	2,903,966	3,058,895	3,058,895	0
Montana	1,316,043	1,362,964	1,362,964	0
Nebraska	1,581,047	1,645,769	1,645,769	0
Nevada	1,960,021	2,052,010	2,052,010	0
New Hampshire	1,402,641	1,454,282	1,454,282	0
New Jersey	3,876,429	4,100,261	4,100,261	0
New Mexico	1,624,664	1,689,088	1,689,088	0
New York	7,150,827	7,547,397	7,547,397	0
North Carolina	4,298,962	4,587,808	4,587,808	0
North Dakota	1,206,666	1,244,543	1,244,543	0

STATE/TERRITORY	FY 2024 Final	FY 2025 Enacted	FY 2026	Difference from FY 2025 Enacted
Ohio	4,661,791	4,938,149	4,938,149	0
Oklahoma	1,859,412	1,954,715	1,954,715	0
Oregon	2,297,791	2,404,459	2,404,459	0
Pennsylvania	5,045,781	5,334,118	5,334,118	0
Rhode Island	1,306,861	1,350,516	1,350,516	0
South Carolina	2,614,866	2,774,866	2,774,866	0
South Dakota	1,248,968	1,291,300	1,291,300	0
Tennessee	3,176,565	3,369,554	3,369,554	0
Texas	10,379,380	11,186,104	11,186,104	0
Utah	2,026,340	2,129,640	2,129,640	0
Vermont	1,167,274	1,201,100	1,201,100	0
Virginia	3,665,458	3,876,184	3,876,184	0
Washington	3,398,537	3,590,201	3,590,201	0
West Virginia	1,522,337	1,577,946	1,577,946	0
Wisconsin	2,817,877	2,967,643	2,967,643	0
Wyoming	1,145,770	1,178,934	1,178,934	0
Subtotal, States	\$153,343,971	\$161,863,288	\$161,863,288	\$0
Indian Tribes	26,637,500	27,725,000	27,725,000	0
American Samoa	535,485	565,140	565,140	0
Guam	535,485	565,140	565,140	0
Northern Mariana Islands	535,485	565,140	565,140	0
Puerto Rico	1,977,726	2,059,948	2,059,948	0
Virgin Islands	171,828	181,344	181,344	0
Subtotal, Territories	\$3,756,009	\$3,936,712	\$3,936,712	\$0
Total States/Territories	\$183,737,480	\$193,525,000	\$193,525,000	\$0
Other Grants	27,433,339	25,750,000	25,750,000	0
Training and Technical Assistance	21,487,857	14,707,074	14,707,074	0
Other	7,179,915	6,017,926	6,017,926	0
Subtotal, Adjustments	\$56,101,111	\$46,475,000	\$46,475,000	\$0
TOTAL RESOURCES	\$239,838,591	\$240,000,000	\$240,000,000	\$0

Note:

1. Other Grants includes funding for a demonstration program.

2. Other includes funding for federal administrative expenses, including salaries and benefits, IT costs, grants panel reviews, and other overhead related costs.

ADMINISTRATION FOR CHILDREN, FAMILIES, AND COMMUNITIES
State Table - Chafee Education and Training Vouchers

Formula Grants

CFDA # **93.599**

STATE/TERRITORY	FY 2024 Final	FY 2025 Enacted	FY 2026	Difference from FY 2025 Enacted
Alabama	\$622,134	*	\$712,741	*
Alaska	318,164	*	326,653	*
Arizona	1,448,505	*	1,265,915	*
Arkansas	467,428	*	513,276	*
California	6,008,959	*	5,455,456	*
Colorado	488,837	*	532,110	*
Connecticut	389,721	*	395,750	*
Delaware	64,815	*	73,745	*
District of Columbia	50,504	*	60,903	*
Florida	2,660,392	*	2,485,300	*
Georgia	1,281,880	*	1,364,090	*
Hawaii	158,490	*	126,209	*
Idaho	183,092	*	187,969	*
Illinois	2,453,408	*	2,383,060	*
Indiana	1,355,093	*	1,291,813	*
Iowa	630,242	*	481,479	*
Kansas	1,299,106	*	783,324	*
Kentucky	934,975	*	1,006,619	*
Louisiana	435,494	*	539,325	*
Maine	287,293	*	305,373	*
Maryland	426,860	*	467,048	*
Massachusetts	1,043,671	*	1,122,433	*
Michigan	1,057,391	*	1,162,301	*
Minnesota	725,389	*	728,150	*
Mississippi	452,407	*	439,287	*
Missouri	1,505,434	*	1,479,782	*
Montana	316,035	*	285,194	*
Nebraska	455,245	*	451,196	*
Nevada	728,665	*	489,918	*
New Hampshire	139,684	*	143,698	*
New Jersey	329,518	*	342,918	*
New Mexico	212,898	*	262,080	*
New York	3,761,975	*	1,825,635	*
North Carolina	1,331,556	*	1,327,890	*
North Dakota	182,974	*	180,142	*

STATE/TERRITORY	FY 2024 Final	FY 2025 Enacted	FY 2026	Difference from FY 2025 Enacted
Ohio	2,267,760	*	1,909,774	*
Oklahoma	979,473	*	794,190	*
Oregon	1,061,612	*	583,719	*
Pennsylvania	1,874,316	*	1,516,470	*
Rhode Island	203,790	*	213,651	*
South Carolina	448,623	*	436,719	*
South Dakota	191,016	*	203,134	*
Tennessee	1,070,757	*	1,108,613	*
Texas	2,526,148	*	1,908,307	*
Utah	244,477	*	228,204	*
Vermont	129,631	*	123,030	*
Virginia	595,995	*	605,732	*
Washington	950,389	*	858,545	*
West Virginia	1,322,258	*	889,826	*
Wisconsin	783,227	*	770,098	*
Wyoming	139,417	*	98,815	*
Subtotal, States	\$48,997,123	*	\$43,247,609	*
Indian Tribes	36,725	*	42,120	*
Puerto Rico	252,638	*	300,359	*
Virgin Islands	4,731	*	3,057	*
Subtotal, Territories	\$257,369	*	\$303,416	*
Total States/Territories	\$49,291,217	*	\$43,593,145	*
Other	639,144	*	653,855	*
Subtotal, Adjustments	\$649,144	*	\$663,855	*
TOTAL RESOURCES	\$49,940,361	*	\$44,257,000	*

Notes:

1. Other includes funding for federal administrative expenses, including salaries and benefits, IT costs, and other overhead related costs.
2. FY 2024 includes funding reallocated from FY 2022 grant awards.

ADMINISTRATION FOR CHILDREN, FAMILIES, AND COMMUNITIES
State Table - Promoting Safe and Stable Families

Formula Grants

CFDA # 93.556

STATE/TERRITORY	FY 2024 Final	FY 2025 Enacted	FY 2026	Difference from FY 2025 Enacted
Alabama	\$1,100,464	\$1,109,877	\$794,267	-\$315,610
Alaska	99,833	75,422	53,974	-\$21,448
Arizona	1,161,712	1,187,763	850,005	-337,758
Arkansas	445,570	385,610	275,957	-109,653
California	5,448,388	5,530,156	3,957,575	-1,572,581
Colorado	718,121	741,595	530,712	-210,883
Connecticut	398,541	417,997	299,134	-118,863
Delaware	174,429	172,683	123,578	-49,105
District of Columbia	144,292	151,705	108,565	-43,140
Florida	3,860,923	3,761,707	2,692,010	-1,069,697
Georgia	2,180,867	2,286,597	1,636,369	-650,228
Hawaii	193,011	181,892	130,168	-51,724
Idaho	203,890	187,915	134,479	-53,436
Illinois	2,510,722	2,514,125	1,799,197	-714,928
Indiana	885,530	875,022	626,197	-248,825
Iowa	388,253	371,308	265,721	-105,587
Kansas	268,510	256,893	183,842	-73,051
Kentucky	753,490	740,219	529,727	-210,492
Louisiana	1,229,541	1,257,286	899,758	-357,528
Maine	154,735	153,256	109,675	-43,581
Maryland	786,059	810,439	579,979	-230,460
Massachusetts	934,827	1,029,047	736,422	-292,625
Michigan	1,494,185	1,572,337	1,125,220	-447,117
Minnesota	588,548	599,219	428,823	-170,396
Mississippi	617,953	602,872	431,437	-171,435
Missouri	983,437	940,967	673,389	-267,578
Montana	115,205	107,373	76,840	-30,533
Nebraska	230,491	223,656	160,056	-63,600
Nevada	580,896	600,762	429,926	-170,836
New Hampshire	85,208	84,240	60,285	-23,955
New Jersey	1,133,529	1,105,137	790,875	-314,262
New Mexico	637,829	620,848	444,301	-176,547
New York	2,970,859	2,993,769	2,142,447	-851,322
North Carolina	2,152,946	2,165,599	1,549,779	-615,820
North Dakota	68,454	64,517	46,170	-18,347

STATE/TERRITORY	FY 2024 Final	FY 2025 Enacted	FY 2026	Difference from FY 2025 Enacted
Ohio	1,870,190	1,873,177	1,340,512	-532,665
Oklahoma	837,311	884,439	632,936	-251,503
Oregon	695,707	706,319	505,467	-200,852
Pennsylvania	2,139,405	2,136,631	1,529,049	-607,582
Rhode Island	144,904	150,042	107,375	-42,667
South Carolina	925,562	874,359	625,722	-248,637
South Dakota	119,063	112,142	80,253	-31,889
Tennessee	1,164,418	1,092,579	781,888	-310,691
Texas	5,963,023	5,754,878	4,118,394	-1,636,484
Utah	251,677	234,279	167,658	-66,621
Vermont	71,524	69,610	49,816	-19,794
Virginia	985,344	1,033,253	739,433	-293,820
Washington	908,067	961,844	688,330	-273,514
West Virginia	327,757	323,894	231,790	-92,104
Wisconsin	889,277	932,600	667,401	-265,199
Wyoming	43,199	44,539	31,874	-12,665
Subtotal, States	\$53,037,676	\$53,064,395	\$37,974,757	-\$15,089,638
Indian Tribes	1,792,950	1,792,954	1,875,450	82,496
American Samoa	87,885	84,092	80,085	-4,007
Guam	111,959	124,232	108,811	-15,421
Northern Mariana Islands	83,491	85,039	80,762	-4,277
Puerto Rico	619,294	575,705	431,900	-143,805
Virgin Islands	87,254	94,099	87,246	-6,853
Subtotal, Territories	\$989,883	\$963,167	\$788,804	-\$174,363
Total States/Territories	\$55,820,509	\$55,820,516	\$40,639,011	-\$15,181,505
Other Grants	11,472,245	11,472,245	12,062,995	590,750
Research	0	7,609,286	7,750,000	140,714
Training and Technical Assistance	1,952,522	1,972,245	2,000,000	27,755
Other	472,771	0	62,994	62,994
Subtotal, Adjustments	\$13,897,538	\$21,053,776	\$21,875,989	\$822,213
TOTAL RESOURCES	\$69,718,047	\$76,874,292	\$62,515,000	-\$14,359,292

Notes:

1. Other Grants includes Court Improvement and Kinship Navigator programs.
2. Other includes funding for federal administrative expenses, including salaries and benefits, IT costs, and other overhead related costs.

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES
ADMINISTRATION FOR CHILDREN, FAMILIES, AND COMMUNITIES
AGING AND DISABILITY SERVICES PROGRAMS

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Home and Community-Based Supportive Services	192
Nutrition Services to States	194
Preventive Health Services	197
Falls Prevention	199
Native American Nutrition and Supportive Services	211
Aging Network Support Activities	203
Family Caregiver Support	208
Native American Caregiver Support Services	211
Alzheimer's Disease Program	213
Lifespan Respite Care	217
Long Term Ombudsman Program	219
Prevention of Elder Abuse and Neglect	221
Health Care Fraud and Abuse Control/Senior Medicare Patrol Program	223
Elder Rights Support Activities	226
Elder Justice/Adult Protective Services	229
State Councils on Developmental Disabilities	233
Developmental Disabilities - Protection and Advocacy	235
Independent Living	237
Traumatic Brain Injury	240
National Institute on Disability, Independent Living, and Rehabilitation Research	242
Aging and Disability Resource Centers	245
State Health Insurance Assistance Programs	247
Assistive Technology Programs	249
Medicare Improvements for Patients and Providers Act Programs (MIPPA)	251
Programs Proposed for Elimination	254

Home and Community-Based Supportive Services

Program	FY 2024 Final	FY 2025 Enacted	FY 2026 President's Budget	FY 2026 +/- FY 2025
Home and Community-Based Supportive Services	\$410,000	*	\$410,000	N/A

BA is in thousands of dollars, FTE are in whole numbers.

*Consistent with the 2025 operating plan, funding levels are displayed for statutory PPAs. This activity is not intended to be a separate PPA for 2025 and is rolled up within the account.

Allocation Method.....Formula Grant/Competitive Grant/Contract

Program Description

The Home and Community-Based Supportive Services (HCBSS) are a broad array of low-cost services that enable older adults – most of who are at risk – to continue living in their own homes, if that is their preference. Through this program, the aging services network serves older adults holistically, providing a combination of services selected to meet the unique needs of each person.

Services provided through the HCBSS program include: (1) access services, such as transportation, case management, and information and referral; (2) in-home services, such as personal care, chore, and homemaker assistance; and (3) community services, such as adult day care and physical fitness programs. The HCBSS program also funds multi-purpose senior centers, that coordinate services for older adults. States and area agencies on aging also have the flexibility to provide services intended to mitigate isolation as the result of illness, disability, or age.

Budget Request

The FY 2026 request for the Home and Community-Based Supportive Services program is \$410,000,000. This funding level maintains support for vital services that make it possible for millions of older adults to continue to live in their homes, maintain their health, and avoid the need for more costly institutional care.

Funding History

Funding for Home and Community-Based Supportive Services over the past ten years is as follows:

Fiscal Year	Amount	COVID-19 Supplemental Funding
FY 2017	\$349,426,000	--
FY 2018	\$385,074,000	--
FY 2019	\$384,676,000	--
FY 2020	\$390,074,000	\$200,000,000
FY 2021	\$392,574,000	\$460,000,000
FY 2022	\$398,574,000	--
FY 2023	\$410,000,000	--
FY 2024	\$410,000,000	--

FY 2025 Enacted	*	--
FY 2026 President's Budget	\$410,000,000	--

* Consistent with the 2025 operating plan, funding levels are displayed for statutory PPAs. This activity is not intended to be a separate PPA for 2025 and is rolled up within the account.

Program Accomplishments

The Home and Community-Based Supportive Services (HCBSS) program funds services that enable older adults to continue to live independently in their own homes. Services funded by this program – particularly adult day care, personal care, homemaker, and chore services – also support family caregivers, who otherwise might have to take time away from work, straining family resources.

Outcomes and Outputs Table: Home and Community-Based Supportive Services

Measure	Year and Most Recent Result / Target for Recent Result / (Summary of Result)	FY 2025 Target	FY 2026 Target	FY 2026 Target +/-FY 2025 Target
2.9e Maintain at 85% or higher the percentage of transportation clients who report service helps them stay in their home longer.* (Outcome)	FY 2024: 94% Target: Not Defined (Historical Actual)	Set Baseline	N/A	N/A

*This is a developmental performance measure. ACL is currently collecting sufficient data to establish a baseline. To set a baseline, the agency relies on 3 years of data. This process ensures that the data are stable and show a clear trend. The agency will set targets for this measure once a baseline is established.

Indicator	Year and Most Recent Result	FY 2025 Projection	FY 2026 Projection	FY 2026 Projection +/-FY 2025 Projection
Output C: Transportation Service units (<i>Output</i>)	FY 2023: 13.1	*	N/A	N/A
Output D: Personal Care, Homemaker and Chore Services units (<i>Output</i>)	FY 2023: 24.3	*	N/A	N/A

Nutrition Services

Program	FY 2024 Final/1	FY 2025 Enacted	FY 2026 President's Budget	FY 2026 +/- FY 2025
Nutrition Services	\$1,057,434	*	\$1,058,684	N/A
<i>Congregate Meals (non-add)</i>	<i>\$564,592</i>	<i>*</i>	<i>\$565,342</i>	<i>N/A</i>
<i>Home-Delivered Meals (non-add)</i>	<i>\$380,842</i>	<i>*</i>	<i>\$381,342</i>	<i>N/A</i>
<i>Nutrition Services Incentive Program (non-add)</i>	<i>\$112,000</i>	<i>*</i>	<i>\$112,000</i>	<i>N/A</i>
FTEs	3	6	2	-4

BA is in thousands of dollars, FTE are in whole numbers.

1/Amounts adjusted for a reprogramming of \$1.25 million in FY 2024 to add funding for Native American Nutrition to hold tribes harmless for cuts to the Nutrition Services Incentive Program.

* Consistent with the 2025 operating plan, funding levels are displayed for statutory PPAs. This activity is not intended to be a separate PPA for 2025 and is rolled up within the account.

Allocation Method.....Formula Grant/Competitive Grants/Contracts

Program Description

ACFC's Nutrition Services program helps older adults maintain their health and independence by providing nutritious meals and nutrition screening, education, and counseling. The Nutrition Services program provides nutritious prepared meals that are appealing to older adults and also adhere to current Dietary Guidelines for Americans, provide at least one-third of the Dietary Reference Intakes, and comply with food safety state and local requirements. In addition, the program connects older adults who receive meals with other resources, like transportation or homemaker services, to help them stay independent and engaged in their community. Together, these services work to:

- Reduce hunger, food insecurity, and malnutrition;
- Promote socialization and reduce isolation; and
- Promote health and well-being by connecting older adults to other resources, such as chronic disease self-management programs.

Nutrition Services are provided in every state and U.S. territory through a network of more than 7,400 local providers.

The program includes two primary components:

- Congregate Nutrition Services (Title III-C1): Provides meals and related services in a variety of community settings, such as senior centers and churches. In addition to a healthy meal, congregate meals offer participants an opportunity for social interaction and access to health promotion programs, nutrition education and counseling, volunteer activities, and more, all of which contribute to participants' overall health and well-being.
- Home-Delivered Nutrition Services (Title III-C2): Provides in-home meals and related services to older adults who are unable to participate in the congregate program due to illness, disability, or

geographic isolation. Home-delivered meals are often the first in-home service that an older adult receives and are often the primary access point for other home and community-based services. In addition to providing a meal, this service helps frail older adults combat isolation and maintain contact with the community. Home-delivered meals also are provided to spousal caregivers, which helps maintain their own health and well-being – and their ability to continue to provide care.

Each formula grant for congregate nutrition services and home-delivered nutrition services is allocated based on the state or territory's share of the U.S. population that is age 60 or over. The grants are effectively leveraged to generate additional funding. On average, every dollar provided to states and territories through this program is matched by four dollars in funding from state and local sources.

A third component of the Nutrition Services program, the Nutrition Services Incentive Program, provides a secondary source of funding specifically to purchase domestically produced food for meals served through congregate and home-delivered meals programs. Grant awards are based on the number of meals served in the prior year. Grantees can elect to receive part or all their grants as commodities from the U.S. Department of Agriculture if they determine that doing so will enable them to better meet the needs of older adults.

Budget Request

The FY 2026 request for Nutrition Services programs is \$1,058,684,000. At this level, ACFC is proposing to maintain funding levels for Congregate Nutrition Services at \$565,342,000, Home-Delivered Services at \$381,342,000, and Nutrition Services Incentive Program at \$112,000,000. The request maintains funding for these vital programs that help older adults maintain their health and independence by providing nutritious meals and nutrition screening, education, and counseling.

Funding History

Comparable funding for Nutrition Services over the past ten years is as follows:

Fiscal Year	Amount	COVID-19 Supplemental Funding
FY 2017	\$837,753,000	--
FY 2018	\$896,753,000	--
FY 2019	\$905,815,000	--
FY 2020	\$936,753,000	\$720,000,000
FY 2021	\$951,753,000	\$918,000,000
FY 2022	\$966,753,000	--
FY 2023	\$1,066,753,000	--
FY 2024/1	\$1,057,434,000	--
FY 2025 Enacted	*	--
FY 2026 President's Budget	\$1,058,684,000	--

1/Amounts adjusted for a reprogramming of \$1.25 million in FY 2024 to add funding for Native American Nutrition to hold tribes harmless for cuts to the Nutrition Services Incentive Program.

* Consistent with the 2025 operating plan, funding levels are displayed for statutory PPAs. This activity is not intended to be a separate PPA for 2025 and is rolled up within the account.

Program Accomplishments

In FY 2023, an estimated 237.7 million meals were provided to older adults across the nation; those meals represented half – or more – of a person’s daily food intake for more than 50 percent of the people receiving them.

Of that total, an estimated 57 million were served in congregate settings, where participants also benefited from social engagement and access to a range of services – such as health screenings – that collectively contribute to their improved health and well-being. An estimated 180.7 million meals were delivered to homes.

Research consistently shows that the Nutrition Services program is helping older adults improve their nutritional intake and maintain their independence and quality of life. According to data from the 2023 *National Survey of Older Americans Act Participants*^[1]:

- 96 percent of congregate meal participants, and 94 percent of home-delivered meal participants, report they would recommend the services; and
- 75 percent of congregate meal participants, and 90 percent of home-delivered meal recipients, report the meals enable them to continue living independently.

[1] National Survey of Older Americans Act Participants

Outcome and Outputs Table Program: Nutrition Services

Measure	Year and Most Recent Result / Target for Recent Result / (Summary of Result)	FY 2025 Target	FY 2026 Target	FY 2026 Target +/-FY 2025 Target
2.9d Maintain at 85% or higher the percentage of home delivered meal clients who report service helps them stay in their home longer.* (Outcome)	FY 2024: 93% Target: Not Defined (Historical Actual)	Set Baseline	N/A	N/A

*This is a developmental performance measure. ACL is currently collecting sufficient data to establish a baseline. To set a baseline, the agency relies on 3 years of data. This process ensures that the data are stable and show a clear trend. The agency will set targets for this measure once a baseline is established.

Indicator	Year and Most Recent Result	FY 2025 Projection	FY 2026 Projection	FY 2026 Projection +/-FY 2025 Projection
Output G: Number of Home-Delivered meals served (<i>Output</i>)	FY 2023: 180.7 M	*	N/A	N/A
Output H: Number of Congregate meals served (<i>Output</i>)	FY 2023: 57.0 M	*	N/A	N/A
Outputs G & H: Total Number of Meals (<i>Output</i>)	FY 2023: 237.7 M	*	N/A	N/A

*Performance targets under development.

Preventive Health Services

Program	FY 2024 Final	FY 2025 Enacted	FY 2026 President's Budget	FY 2026 +/- FY 2025
Preventive Health Services	\$26,339	*	\$26,339	N/A

BA is in thousands of dollars.

*Consistent with the 2025 operating plan, funding levels are displayed for statutory PPAs. This activity is not intended to be separate PPA for 2025, and is rolled up within the account.

Allocation Method..... Formula Grant

Program Description

Preventive Health Services funds the delivery of evidence-based programs to educate older adults about the importance of healthy lifestyles and promote healthy behaviors. These evidence-based programs help prevent chronic disease and disability, thereby reducing the need for more costly medical interventions. Preventive Health Services formula grants are awarded directly to the 56 state units on aging that work with 622 area agencies on aging and their networks of service providers. The program allows flexibility for allocating resources to best meet local needs.

Americans are leading longer and more active lives due in large part to advances in public health and medical care. According to the Profile of Older Americans, an American turning 65 today has an average life expectancy of an additional 18.9 years. The population of older Americans is growing, particularly the population age 85 and over, which is projected to more than double from 6.5 million in 2022 to 13.7 million in 2040.¹ A consequence of this increased longevity is a higher incidence of chronic diseases such as arthritis, cancer, and diabetes. In addition, approximately 25 percent of older adults report falling each year, with 3 million falls resulting in emergency department visits. This percentage is increasing for all older adults, but especially for those age 85 and over.¹

Budget Request

The FY 2026 request for Preventive Health Services program is \$26,339,000. The Preventive Health Services program reduces the need for interventions that would ultimately be more costly by utilizing funding to prevent chronic diseases and disability.

Funding History

Funding for Preventive Health Services over the past five years is as follows:

Fiscal Year	Amount
FY 2022	\$24,848,000
FY 2023	\$26,339,000
FY 2024	\$26,339,000
FY 2025 Enacted	*
FY 2026 President's Budget	\$26,339,000

*Consistent with the 2025 operating plan, funding levels are displayed for statutory PPAs. This activity is not intended to be separate PPA for 2025, and is rolled up within the account.

Program Accomplishments

In FY 2022, the most recent year for which data is available, an estimated 731,733 older adults participated in evidence-based health and disease prevention programs related to the prevention and mitigation of the effects of chronic diseases (including hypertension, diabetes, and cardiovascular disease), alcohol and substance abuse, falls prevention, physical activity, nutrition, medication management, and mental and behavioral health. States also continue to expand the types of evidence-based health programs offered to address various health conditions, with over 70 programs available, focusing on pressing public health challenges like mental health and social isolation.

In recent years, states have also used funding to establish and enhance the delivery of these programs remotely, which has expanded access to older adult populations that have not previously widely engaged in health promotion and disease prevention programs including older adults 85 years and older, people with disabilities, those with mobility and transportation issues or otherwise homebound, caregivers, and those living in rural areas.

[1] Profile on Older Americans

Falls Prevention

Program	FY 2024 Final	FY 2025 Enacted	FY 2026 President's Budget	FY 2026 +/- FY 2025
Falls Prevention	\$7,500	*	\$2,500	N/A
<i>PPHF (non-add)</i>	<i>\$5,000</i>	<i>\$5,000</i>	--	<i>-\$5,000</i>
<i>Direct Appropriations (non-add)</i>	<i>\$2,500</i>	<i>*</i>	<i>\$2,500</i>	<i>N/A</i>

BA is in thousands of dollars.

*Consistent with the 2025 operating plan, funding levels are displayed for statutory PPAs. This activity is not intended to be separate PPA for 2025, and is rolled up within the account.

The FY 2026 Budget eliminates the Prevention and Public Health Fund.

Allocation Method..... Competitive Grants/Cooperative Agreements

Program Description

ACFC's Falls Prevention program awards grants to community-based organizations, states, tribal organizations, and universities to provide evidence-based falls prevention that reduce falls and the risk of falls. These programs focus on mitigating risk factors, supporting increased independence, and reducing healthcare costs. Grantees choose from a list of evidence-based programs approved by ACFC that demonstrate – through randomized controlled trials – effectiveness in reducing falls.

In addition, ACFC's Falls Prevention program funds the National Falls Prevention Resource Center to increase public awareness about the risk of falls, develop resources and educational opportunities to enhance the aging network's falls prevention efforts, and support the implementation of evidence-based falls prevention programs and strategies across the country. The Resource Center also maintains the National Falls Prevention database, a platform developed to track performance and outcomes of ACFC funded falls prevention programs.

The older adult population in the United States is growing rapidly. Falls are the leading cause of both fatal and nonfatal injuries among older adults and pose a serious threat to their health and independence. An estimated one out of four older adults report falling each year. Each year an estimated three million older adults are treated in emergency departments for fall injuries, and more than 800,000 of these patients are hospitalized. In 2020, the estimated medical costs attributable to fatal and nonfatal falls totaled more than \$80 billion. Healthcare expenditures on older adult falls comprise 9% of total Medicare spending. Evidence of the effectiveness of falls prevention strategies indicates that further expanding falls prevention interventions at the local and national level can help reduce medical expenditures.¹

Budget Request

The FY 2026 request for the Falls Prevention program is \$2,500,000. The funding amount of \$2,500,000 will provide support for evidence-based, community programs that have been proven to reduce falls and the National Falls Prevention Resource Center.

Funding History

Funding for Falls Prevention over the past five years is as follows:

Fiscal Year	Amount/1
FY 2022/1	\$5,000,000
FY 2023/1	\$7,500,000
FY 2024/1	\$7,500,000
FY 2025 Enacted	*
FY 2026 President's Budget	\$2,500,000

1/Previous years included \$5 million in Prevention and Public Health Fund funding, which is eliminated in the President's Budget request.

*Consistent with the 2025 operating plan, funding levels are displayed for statutory PPAs. This activity is not intended to be separate PPA for 2025, and is rolled up within the account.

Program Accomplishments

Since 2014, more than 240,000 people across the nation have participated in evidence-based falls prevention programs supported by ACL grants.[2]

Numerous studies have documented the efficacy of these programs in reducing falls and/or falls risk. In addition, the falls prevention programs reduce the healthcare costs associated with falls. For example, a 2023 study that reviewed 5 years of data from the national falls prevention data repository concluded that participation in evidence-based fall prevention programs resulted in fewer reports of falls, improved confidence in participants' ability to reduce falls, and decreased fear of falling, as well as fewer injuries when falls did occur. Studies have also shown that group exercise, a hallmark of these programs, reduces loneliness and social isolation in older adults.[3]

[1] Cost of Older Adult Falls

[2] ACL Falls Prevention National Database

[3] Mays AM, Kim S, Rosales K, Au T, Rosen S. The Leveraging Exercise to Age in Place (LEAP) Study: Engaging Older Adults in Community-Based Exercise Classes to Impact Loneliness and Social Isolation. American Journal Geriatric Psychiatry. 2021 August.

Native American Nutrition and Supportive Services

Program	FY 2024 Final	FY 2025 Enacted	FY 2026 President's Budget	FY 2026 +/- FY 2025
Native American Nutrition and Supportive Services	\$39,514	*	\$38,264	N/A

1/ BA is in thousands of dollars. In FY 2024 amounts were adjusted for a reprogramming of \$1.25 million to add funding for Native American Nutrition to hold tribes harmless for cuts to the Nutrition Services Incentive Program.

*Consistent with the 2025 operating plan, funding levels are displayed for statutory PPAs. This activity is not intended to be separate PPA for 2025, and is rolled up within the account.

Allocation Method.....Formula Grant/Competitive Grant/Contract

Program Description

ACFC's Native American Nutrition and Supportive Services program provides grants to over 400 eligible tribal organizations across the nation to pay for services that support the health and nutritional needs of older American Indians, Alaska Natives, and Native Hawaiians. These services, which are authorized by Title VI of the Older Americans Act, include transportation, congregate and home-delivered meals, information and referral, and personal care, home chores, and other supportive services, and adult day services.

Title VI services are unique among federal programs for older adults because they are responsive to the cultural traditions of Native American communities and represent an important part of each community's comprehensive elder services. When offered as part of a portfolio of support to elders, they can help to reduce the need for costly nursing home care and medical interventions for people who receive the services.

The Native American Nutrition and Supportive Services program also provides training and technical assistance to tribes and tribal organizations, such as inter-tribal councils and consortiums, to support the development of comprehensive and coordinated systems of services to meet the needs of Native American elders. All training and technical assistance is designed to meet the needs and preferences of the communities receiving support. As a result, methods of delivery vary by audience and can include national meetings, site visits with Tribal leaders, dedicated e-newsletters, telephone calls, and written consultations, or through the Native American Resource Centers (funded under Aging Network Support Activities).

Budget Request

The FY 2026 request for Native American Nutrition and Supportive Services is \$38,264,000. This funding level maintains support for this vital program that provides grants to eligible tribal organizations across the nation to pay for services that support the health and nutritional needs of older American Indians, Alaska Natives, and Native Hawaiians. These services, include transportation, congregate and home-delivered meals, information and referral, personal care, home chores, and other supportive services, as well as adult day services.

Funding History

Funding for Native American Nutrition and Supportive Services over the past five years is as follows:

Fiscal Year	Amount
FY 2022	\$36,264,000
FY 2023	\$38,264,000
FY 2024/1	\$39,514,000
FY 2025 Enacted	*
FY 2026 President's Budget	\$38,264,000

1/Amounts adjusted for a reprogramming of \$1.25 million in FY 2024, to add funding for Native American Nutrition to hold tribes harmless for cuts to the Nutrition Services Incentive Program.

*Consistent with the 2025 operating plan, funding levels are displayed for statutory PPAs. This activity is not intended to be separate PPA for 2025, and is rolled up within the account.

Program Accomplishments

The value of ACFC's Title VI nutrition and supportive services cannot be overstated. In addition to improving health and wellness for a growing population of tribal elders across the nation, there is evidence to suggest that the Title VI program may reduce healthcare costs and improve or maintain the health of tribal elders. According to ACL's recent evaluation of the Native American Nutrition and Supportive Services, tribal elders who received meals and other supportive services through the program had improved health and wellness. They reported an average of 36 percent fewer hospital visits (for all causes) and 10 percent fewer falls per person per year than elders not using Title VI services. The difference was even greater for elders served by programs that provide a higher number of services; elders who participate in those programs, experienced 53 percent fewer hospitalization and 45 percent fewer falls per year. Title VI services also had positive outcomes on overall well-being and social engagement. Elders participating in Title VI services reported 35% more social activities per month than non-Title VI elders.

Output Table: Native American Nutrition & Supportive Services

Indicator	Year and Most Recent Result	FY 2025 Projection	FY 2026 Projection	FY 2026 Projection +/-FY 2025 Projection
Output L: Transportation Services units (<i>Output</i>)	FY 2023: 515,466	*	N/A	N/A
Output M: Home-Delivered Nutrition meals (<i>Output</i>)	FY2023: 3.8 M	*	N/A	N/A
Output N: Congregate Nutrition meals (<i>Output</i>)	FY 2023: 2.8 M	*	N/A	N/A

*Performance targets under development.

Aging Network Support Activities

Program	FY 2024 Final	FY 2025 Enacted	FY 2026 President's Budget	FY 2026 +/- FY 2025
Aging Network Support Activities	\$30,461	*	\$30,461	N/A
FTEs	2	2	1	-1

BA is in thousands of dollars, FTE are in whole numbers.

*Consistent with the 2025 operating plan, funding levels are displayed for statutory PPAs. This activity is not intended to be separate PPA for 2025, and is rolled up within the account.

Allocation Method Competitive Grants/Co-operative Agreements and Contracts

Program Description

The Aging Network Support Activities (ANSA) program provides funding and technical assistance to help states, tribes, and aging services providers expand capacity and improve the effectiveness and efficiency of the systems that help older people live independently in their communities. Through ANSA programs, ACFC also funds resources to help older adults and their families connect to local services and resources. Funding is awarded through competitive grants and cooperative agreements, as well as contracts. Typically, grantees match at least 25 percent of the funding they receive through these programs.

ANSA programs include:

Information and Referral: Eldercare Locator and the Information and Referral Support Center

Since 1991, ACL has funded the Eldercare Locator, a national center that connects older adults and family caregivers to local services and resources. Assistance is available in 150 languages from trained information specialists through a toll-free telephone line (800-677-1116). The Eldercare Locator website (eldercare.acl.gov) offers resources on a variety of topics, such as making a home age-friendly and planning for long-term care. Users also can search for local services and resources 24/7, or chat with an information specialist during business hours.

ACL also funds the National Information and Referral Support Center, which provides technical assistance, training, and consultation to support the aging network in improving their information and referral/assistance systems.

engAGED: The National Resource Center for Engaging Older Adults

ACL is working with the aging network to help older adults remain active, engaged, and socially connected as they age. EngAGED, the National Resource Center for Engaging Older Adults, provides technical assistance and serves as a repository for innovations designed to increase the aging network's ability to tailor social engagement activities to meet the needs of older adults.

Strengthening the Direct Care Workforce

In September 2022, ACL established the Direct Care Workforce Strategies Center (DCW) (DCW Center) to help expand and strengthen the direct care workforce. The DCW Strategies Center serves as hub

through which federal, state, and private entities involved in the recruitment, training, and retention of direct care workers can access best practices, training materials, technical assistance, and learning collaboratives.

Pension Counseling and Retirement Planning

The Pension Counseling program currently funds six regional projects covering 31 states that assist older adults in accessing information about their retirement benefits and helps them negotiate with former employers or pension plans to receive compensation to which they are entitled. The program also supports a national pension assistance resource center, which provides technical assistance, training, and other resources to the regional projects and the aging network; assists people who live outside the covered regions; and connects people to legal service providers.

ACFC also supports the National Resource Center on Women and Retirement (WiserWoman.org), which provides a one-stop website for women that integrates financial information and resources on retirement planning with information on health and long-term care. This resource center makes user-friendly financial education and retirement planning tools available to women, with a focus on traditionally hard-to-reach populations, including low-income women, women in rural areas, and other underserved women who are most at risk of not having adequate savings for retirement.

National Resource Centers on Native American Elders

The three National Resource Centers on Native American Elders develop community-based solutions to improve the quality of life and delivery of support services to older Native Americans and to increase awareness of their unique needs. The resource centers are administered under cooperative agreements by institutions of higher education. To expand their impact, the resource centers partner with Native American organizations and communities, educational institutions (including tribal colleges and universities), and professionals and paraprofessionals in the field.

Person-Centered, Trauma-Informed Support: Holocaust Survivor Assistance

In 2015, ACL funded an initiative to increase the capacity of community-based agencies to provide direct services to Holocaust survivors in a person-centered, trauma-informed manner. The program continues to support Holocaust survivors, but since 2020, the program has also served other older adults with a history of trauma. ACFC also funds a national technical assistance center that focuses on expanding the aging services network's capacity to deliver person-centered, trauma-informed services. As of 2023, more than 20,000 professionals have been trained in the delivery of person-centered, trauma-informed care. The program has served nearly 44,000 Holocaust survivors and more than 8,000 older adults with a history of trauma, as well as over 7,000 caregivers.

Program Performance and Technical Assistance

The Program Performance and Technical Assistance (PPTA) program supports cooperative efforts between ACFC, selected states, and area agencies on aging to develop tools, performance measures, and best practices that can be used to effectively and efficiently identify the results produced through Older Americans Act programs on an ongoing basis. These efforts include partnerships with national aging organizations to foster innovation and provide technical assistance in strategic planning, program development, and performance improvement for programs that serve older adults.

Care Corps

The Care Corps program provides funding for grants to test innovative ways to place volunteers to provide non-medical care in communities to assist caregivers, older adults, and people with disabilities so they can maintain their independence. Through the Care Corps program, volunteers provide respite, transportation, meal preparation, minor home cleaning and modifications, education, caring calls/visits, and more.

ACFC Innovation Lab

The ACFC Innovation Lab supports a collaborative, multi-partner effort to build knowledge and advance falls prevention efforts across the nation. Funded for the first time in FY 2023, the primary activities for the Innovation Lab will include developing a taxonomy for falls prevention research; funding a cohort of community-based organizations to conduct research in order to understand and measure the extent to which existing interventions reduce falls and falls risk factors amongst older adults; developing a secure and dynamic system to house grantee data and evidence; and providing analysis, sustainability, and technical assistance support and resources for sub-grantees and the broader aging network.

Interagency Coordinating Committee on Healthy Aging & Age-Friendly Communities

The Interagency Coordinating Committee on Health Aging and Age-Friendly Communities (ICC) was authorized under the Older Americans Act in 2020 to focus on the coordination of aging issues across federal agencies. Funded for the first time in FY 2023, the ICC is now convening federal partners and seeking input from experts and stakeholders to inform the development of a national framework for multi-sector plans for aging.

Budget Request

The FY 2026 request for Aging Network Support Activities is \$30,461,000. This funding level maintains funding and technical assistance to states, tribes, and aging services providers allowing them to expand capacity and improve the effectiveness and efficiency of the systems that help older people live independently in their communities.

Funding History

Comparable funding for Aging Network Support Activities over the past five years is as follows:

Fiscal Year	Amount
FY 2022	\$18,461,000
FY 2023	\$30,461,000
FY 2024	\$30,461,000
FY 2025 Enacted	*
FY 2026 President's Budget	\$30,461,000

*Consistent with the 2025 operating plan, funding levels are displayed for statutory PPAs. This activity is not intended to be separate PPA for 2025, and is rolled up within the account.

Program Accomplishments

The portfolio of programs within ACFC's Aging Network Support Activities (ANSA) is collectively expanding the capacity and effectiveness of systems critical to helping older adults live independently. These programs are also ensuring that older adults and their caregivers have timely access to resources designed to help them thrive in the community. Recent highlights of the impact of the ANSA program include:

- Connecting older adults to resources in their community: In 2022, the Eldercare Locator expanded the call center hours to add an additional hour in the morning and in the evening to accommodate more callers seeking assistance in connecting with local resources. The Eldercare Locator received almost 409,000 calls in 2022.
- Supporting retirement security: In 2021, pension counseling projects helped 1,898 people and recovered approximately \$10.6 million in retirement income that otherwise would have been lost. Since the program's inception:
 - Pension counseling projects have successfully recovered approximately \$288.4 million in client benefits, representing a return of more than nine dollars for every federal dollar invested in the program. For many older adults, the recovered funds are the difference between needing government support and having sustainable income.
 - Projects have cumulatively directly served over 68,000 individuals, providing hands-on assistance in pursuing claims through administrative appeals processes, helping older adults to locate pension plans "lost" as a result of mergers and acquisition, answering queries about complex plan provisions, and making targeted referrals to other professionals for assistance.
 - ACL's National Resource Center on Women and Retirement has conducted approximately 200 workshops per year on strategies to access financial and retirement planning information, since its founding. It has also developed and published over 175 fact sheets tailored to the specific needs of hard-to-reach women.
- Supporting Holocaust survivors: Since its inception in 2015, the Holocaust Survivor Assistance program has been working to advance the principles of person-centered, trauma-informed care (PCTI) for survivors and their family caregivers. In 2020, the program began expanding its reach to serve other older adults with histories of trauma and their family caregivers. To date, the program has touched the lives of nearly 44,000 Holocaust survivors with PCTI services and supports; trained nearly 20,000 professionals and volunteers in the principles and practice of PCTI; provided tailored supports to more than 7,000 family caregivers; and provided PCTI services to more than 8,000 older adults with a history of trauma.
- Preventing social isolation and loneliness: In 2022, the National Resource Center on Engaging Older Adults held a series of nine webinars for 1,946 attendees to provide the aging network with information on innovative strategies to engage older adults and people with disabilities. In August 2022, the center co-hosted with Commit to Connect a two-day virtual summit that brought together 1,400 researchers and national, state, and local leaders for discussions regarding the current state of social isolation research.

- Supporting volunteer programs: Since 2020, the Care Corps program has awarded 79 grants to organizations serving a mix of urban, suburban, rural, and tribal communities across the country to support volunteer programs that provide a wide range of non-medical services to people living in the community. These include respite care, transportation, meal preparation, minor home cleaning and modifications, education, caring calls/visits, and training. During the first two years of the project, more than 24,000 older adults, people with disabilities, and caregivers were served.

Family Caregiver Support

Program	FY 2024 Final	2025 Enacted	FY 2026 President's Budget	FY 2026 +/- FY 2025
Family Caregiver Support	\$207,000	*	\$207,000	N/A
<i>Caregiver Activities of National Significance (non-add)</i>	\$8,200	*	\$8,200	N/A
<i>National Strategy Demonstration Grants (non-add)</i>	\$2,000	*	\$2,000	N/A
<i>Supporting Grandparents Raising Grandchildren (non-add)</i>	\$0,300	*	\$0,300	N/A
<i>RAISE (non-add)</i>	\$0,400	*	\$0,400	N/A
FTEs	1	3	1	-2

BA is in thousands of dollars, FTE are in whole numbers

*Consistent with the 2025 operating plan, funding levels are displayed for statutory PPAs. This activity is not intended to be separate PPA for 2025, and is rolled up within the account.

Allocation Method Formula Grants/Competitive Grants/Contracts

Program Description

Since 2000, the cornerstone of ACL's support for family caregivers has been the National Family Caregiver Support Program (NFCSP), authorized by Title III-E of the Older Americans Act. Through the NFCSP, states and territories receive formula grants based on their proportion of the population age 60 and older. These funds are then distributed to area agencies on aging and other service providers that deliver adult day care, respite care, counseling, support groups, and information and referral services. Typically, these services work in conjunction with other Older American Act programs, such as nutrition and chronic disease self-management programs, to provide a coordinated set of supports to help older adults age in place with dignity and while maintaining a high quality of life.

ACFC also conducts demonstration grants through the Caregiver Activities of National Significance and the National Strategy Demonstration Grants. Through these programs, ACFC is identifying ways to enhance services to caregivers by developing tools to implement the five goals in ACL's National Strategy to Support Family Caregivers (the Strategy).

In addition, through the National Family Caregiver Support Program, ACFC coordinates two advisory councils created by Congress to improve support for family caregivers. The advisory councils were established by the Recognize, Assist, Include, Support, and Engage (RAISE) Family Caregivers Act and the Supporting Grandparents Raising Grandchildren (SGRG) Act. It is through the work of these two councils that the aforementioned Strategy was developed.

The need to support family caregivers has never been greater. As the populations of older adults and people with disabilities increase, the number of family caregivers also are increasing. In addition, family caregivers are taking on more informal care because of the direct care workforce crisis that is impacting the availability of paid services. Family caregivers provide assistance with a wide variety of tasks, ranging from personal care and homemaker services to more complex health-related support, like medication administration and wound care.

Budget Request

The FY 2026 request for the National Family Caregiver Support Program is \$207,000,000. This funding level maintains support for this vital program to fund a range of supports that assist family and informal caregivers to care for their loved ones at home for as long as possible as well as develop, test, and scale models to implement recommended actions from the National Strategy to Support Family Caregivers.

Funding History

Funding for Family Caregiver Support over the past five years is as follows:

Fiscal Year	Amount
FY 2022	\$193,936,000
FY 2023	\$205,000,000
FY 2024	\$207,000,000
FY 2025 Enacted	*
FY 2026 President's Budget	\$207,000,000

*Consistent with the 2025 operating plan, funding levels are displayed for statutory PPAs. This activity is not intended to be separate PPA for 2025, and is rolled up within the account.

Program Accomplishments

The National Family Caregiver Support Program (NFCSP) is part of the cross-sector response to the growing challenges faced by the nation's 53 million family caregivers. Studies have shown that the types of support provided through NFCSP reduce caregiver depression, anxiety, and stress, and enable them to provide care longer, often while continuing to work, thereby avoiding or delaying the need for costly institutional care for their loved ones. For example, one study indicates that counseling and support for family caregivers of individuals with Alzheimer's disease can permit the care recipient to stay at home, at significantly less cost, for an additional year.[1]

In 2022, the latest year for which data is available, three-quarters of caregivers who responded to ACL's National Survey of Older Americans Act Participants reported that ACL-funded services enable them to provide care for longer than otherwise would be possible. Approximately 80 percent of caregivers reported that caregiver services made it easier to be a caregiver and allowed them to be a better caregiver. A majority also reported feeling less stress (68 percent) and having a clearer understanding of how to get the services they and the care recipient needed (73 percent).

[1] Mittelman MS, Ferris SH, Shulman E, Steinberg G, Levin B. A Family Intervention to Delay Nursing Home Placement of Patients with Alzheimer's Disease. A randomized controlled trial. Aging and Dementia Research Center, New York University. Journal of the American Medical Association. December 4, 1996. Accessed 23 February 2023.

Outcomes and Outputs Table: Family Caregiver Support

Measure	Year and Most Recent Result / Target for Recent Result / (Summary of Result)	FY 2025 Target	FY 2026 Target	FY 2026 Target +/-FY 2025 Target
2.9f Maintain at 75% or higher the percentage of caregiver services clients who report that services enabled them to provide care for the care recipient for a longer time than would have been possible without these services.* (Outcome)	FY 2024: 74% Target: Not Defined (Historical Actual)	Set Baseline	N/A	N/A

*This is a developmental performance measure. ACL is currently collecting sufficient data to establish a baseline. To set a baseline, the agency relies on 3 years of data. This process ensures that the data are stable and show a clear trend. The agency will set targets for this measure once a baseline is established.

Indicator	Year and Most Recent Result	FY 2025 Projection	FY 2026 Projection	FY 2026 Projection +/-FY 2025 Projection
Output K: Caregivers receiving respite care services. <i>(Output)</i>	FY 2023: 53,166	*	N/A	N/A

*Performance targets under development.

Native American Caregiver Support Services

Program	FY 2024 Final	FY 2025 Enacted	FY 2026 President's Budget	FY 2026 +/- FY 2025
Native American Caregiver Support Services	\$12,000	*	\$12,000	N/A

BA is in thousands of dollars.

*Consistent with the 2025 operating plan, funding levels are displayed for statutory PPAs. This activity is not intended to be separate PPA for 2025, and is rolled up within the account.

Allocation Method.....Formula Grant

Program Description

The Native American Caregiver Support Services program provides grants to tribal organizations to support family and informal caregivers of American Indian, Alaskan Native, and Native Hawaiian elders. Funding is allocated to eligible tribal organizations based on their share of the American Indian, Alaskan Native, and Native Hawaiian populations aged 60 and over. Organizations must receive a grant under the Native American Nutrition and Supportive Services program to receive this funding.

Budget Request

The FY 2026 request for Native American Caregiver Support Services is \$12,000,000. This funding level maintains support for this vital program that provides a variety of services that meet a range of caregivers' needs, including information and outreach, assistance access, individual counseling, support groups and training, respite care, and other supplemental services.

Funding History

Funding for Native American Nutrition and Supportive Services over the past five years is:

Fiscal Year	Amount
FY 2022	\$11,306,000
FY 2023	\$12,000,000
FY 2024	\$12,000,000
FY 2025 Enacted	*
FY 2026 President's Budget	\$12,000,000

*Consistent with the 2025 operating plan, funding levels are displayed for statutory PPAs. This activity is not intended to be separate PPA for 2025, and is rolled up within the account.

Program Accomplishments

ACFC's Title VI caregiver support programs reach caregivers of elders with the greatest need. According to a recent evaluation, elders of greatest need, are older, have lower income, and are more likely to have difficulty with activities of daily living and instrumental activities of daily living than elders not using Title VI services.

In FY 2021, the most recent year for which data is available, more than 1.3 million units of family caregiver services were provided through the program. This includes services such as respite care;

information and referral services; caregiver training; and support groups. ACFC performance data indicate that by supporting family caregivers, these services help many Native American Elders remain independent and in the community for longer than they would be able to without these services.

Alzheimer's Disease Program

Program	FY 2024 Final	FY 2025 Enacted	FY 2026 President's Budget	FY 2026 +/- FY 2025
Alzheimer's Disease Program	\$31,500	*	\$16,800	N/A
<i>Direct (non-add)</i>	<i>\$16,800</i>	<i>*</i>	<i>\$16,800</i>	<i>N/A</i>
<i>PPHF (non-add)</i>	<i>\$14,700</i>	<i>\$14,700</i>	<i>--</i>	<i>- \$14,700</i>
FTEs	1	2	1	-1

BA is in thousands of dollars. FTE are in whole numbers.

The FY 2026 Budget eliminates the Prevention and Public Health Fund.

*Consistent with the 2025 operating plan, funding levels are displayed for statutory PPAs. This activity is not intended to be separate PPA for 2025, and is rolled up within the account.

Allocation Method..... Competitive Grants/Cooperative Agreements and Contracts

Program Description

Through the Alzheimer's Disease Program Initiative (ADPI), ACFC awards competitive grants to states, communities, and tribal organizations to support the provision of person-centered, home and community-based services to people with Alzheimer's disease and related dementias (ADRD) and their caregivers. Each project contributes to a growing nationwide system designed to identify people with ADRD – and their caregivers – and to offer effective and coordinated services and supports that are responsive to their unique needs.

Grantees receive both funding and extensive technical assistance to support the development and delivery of evidence-based direct services for people living with ADRD and their caregivers. These services typically are offered through partnerships between public and private entities. This approach ensures services are effectively embedded in the local community, reflect local needs and preferences, and are sustainable once federal funding ends. While each grant reflects the needs of the community it is designed to serve, ADPI focuses on piloting programs for people living alone with ADRD, people with intellectual and developmental disabilities and ADRD, people at high risk of ADRD, and caregivers who are learning to manage the behavioral challenges that may develop with ADRD.

To support this work, ACFC also funds the National Alzheimer's and Dementia Resource Center to provide technical assistance to program grantees, develop and disseminate resources, build awareness of ADRD, and provide training and education for both service providers and family caregivers.

In addition, ACFC provides funding for a National Alzheimer's Call Center (Call Center). Call Center staff are available 24-hours a day, seven days a week, 365 days a year. The Call Center serves people in 56 states and territories, providing information, expert advice, care consultation, and referrals at both national and local levels.

As the number of people 65 and older rapidly increases, the number of people living with ADRDs is expected to reach 13.8 million by 2060. Approximately one-third of people with ADRD live alone in the community, which increases their risks of malnutrition, injury, and abuse.

Because dementia is a progressive condition, the needs of people living with ADRD increase over time. In addition to significant medical care, meeting those needs typically requires a comprehensive range of dementia-capable home and community-based services and extensive support from family caregivers. Caregiver stress and support needs also increases over time, as the volume and complexity of care they provide increase. When caregivers become overwhelmed and cannot continue to provide care, residential care – which is typically significantly more expensive – is often the only option, making support to family caregivers of people with ADRD crucial, as well.

The ADPI program supports states and communities in addressing their most critical gaps in dementia services and is building capability across the country to support growing needs, making the program of paramount importance to the nation.

Budget Request

The FY 2026 request for the Alzheimer’s Disease Program is \$16,800,000. The requested program funding of \$16,800,000 will continue to provide support for bringing dementia-capable home and community-based services (HCBS) and supports to individuals living with ADRD and their caregivers.

For two decades, the ADPI has awarded competitive grants to time-limited demonstration and pilot projects at the state and local level. The projects funded through those grants have advanced dementia capability in almost every state and have supported development of effective programs and interventions that can be replicated and across the country.

While tremendously effective in supporting innovation through the development and testing of new approaches, the reach of these demonstration projects is limited to a small number states each year. In addition, because of the time-limited nature of the grants, the program has not been able to support sustained national implementation of the programs and services that are needed by people with ADRD and their caregivers.

As noted above, the number of older adults continues to increase rapidly, and the number of new ADRD cases diagnosed each year is estimated to more than double in the coming decades.¹ Rapid advancement of our national dementia capability, and increased availability of high-quality, long-term services and supports tailored to the individual needs of the people with ADRD and family caregivers who receive them, are imperative to their health and well-being.

Funding History

Fiscal Year /1	Amount
FY 2022	\$29,500,000
FY 2023	\$31,500,000
FY 2024	\$31,500,000
FY 2025 Enacted	*
FY 2026 President’s Budget /2	\$16,800,000

1/ All years include \$14.7 million in funding from the Prevention and Public Health Fund.

2/ Excludes funding from the Prevention and Public Health Fund.

*Consistent with the 2025 operating plan, funding levels are displayed for statutory PPAs. This activity is not intended to be separate PPA for 2025, and is rolled up within the account.

Program Accomplishments

The Alzheimer's Disease Programs Initiative (ADPI) grants support states, communities, and tribes in developing and testing promising practices to support people living with ADRD and their caregivers. Over the past two decades, ADPI grantees have:

- Developed and implemented home and community-based services and supports to meet the individual needs of people living with ADRD and their caregivers. In 2022, more than 7,000 people living with ADRD and more than 7,500 caregivers benefitted from direct service programs; over a third of the people who received services were members of underserved populations.
- Developed and delivered training for professionals, including primary care providers, registered nurses, social workers, and community health workers. In 2022, more than 17,500 professionals participated in in-person and virtual training to better serve those with ADRD in their practices and their local communities.
- Worked with public and private entities to identify and address the unique needs of people living with ADRD and their caregivers.
- Shared lessons learned and promising practices to enable local programs serving people with ADRD and their caregivers to be scaled and replicated in other communities.
- Developed approaches to better meet the unique needs of a number of underserved populations, including people from African American, Asian/Pacific Islander, Filipino, Hispanic, Hmong, Native American, Persian and Somali communities; people with intellectual and developmental Disabilities (I/DD); and people who have low incomes and/or live in rural areas.

Collectively, these ADPI-funded projects are increasing national dementia capability, which has resulted in:

- Broader range of services and supports available to people living with ADRD.
- Improved capacity to provide specialized services to people with ADRD and their caregivers.
- Increased availability of dementia education for communities and professionals who provide services to people with ADRD.
- Adoption of standardized, measurable, and replicable procedures for community dementia screenings so that more people with ADRD can receive an early diagnosis and have access to treatments and appropriate supports and services.

Ultimately, the Alzheimer's Disease Programs Initiative programs have made it possible for more people with ADRD to remain in their homes and communities.

Outcomes and Outputs Tables: Alzheimer's Disease Program

Measure	Year and Most Recent Result / Target for Recent Result / (Summary of Result)	FY 2025 Target	FY 2026 Target	FY 2026 Target +/-FY 2025 Target
ALZ.3 Improve dementia capability of long-term support systems to create dementia-friendly, livable communities. (Outcome)	FY 2023: 18% Target: 17% (Target Exceeded)	*	N/A	N/A

*Performance targets under development.

Lifespan Respite Care

Program	FY 2024 Final	FY 2025 Enacted	FY 2026 President's Budget	FY 2026 +/- FY 2025
Lifespan Respite Care Program	\$10,000	*	\$10,000	N/A
FTEs	--	--	--	

BA is in thousands of dollars. FTE are in whole numbers.

*Consistent with the 2025 operating plan, funding levels are displayed for statutory PPAs. This activity is not intended to be separate PPA for 2025, and is rolled up within the account.

Allocation Method..... Competitive Grants

Program Description

The Lifespan Respite Care program provides grants to state government agencies to improve the quality of – and access to – respite care for family caregivers of all ages. Through this program, state systems are enhanced and expanded to provide accessible, community-based respite care services. Respite supports family caregivers of children and adults across all age groups, disabilities, and chronic conditions. As an essential component of home, and community-based long-term services, respite services can contribute to healthier families and the health and well-being of caregivers and care recipients. Respite care can be both planned or emergency-based to provide relief to family caregivers.

The program also supports technical assistance and training to states, community, and nonprofit respite care programs. It helps advance state systems and capacities to deliver respite care and address the systemic infrastructure necessary to mitigate gaps in respite care services. The program also works to ensure caregivers can access quality respite care by providing information, referral services, and public education programs on respite care.

Budget Request

The FY 2026 request for the Lifespan Respite Care Program is \$10,000,000. This funding level maintains support for this vital program that provides access to respite services at the state level; supports development of more efficient, cost-effective methods of providing respite services; and continues outreach to historically underserved communities to populations.

Funding History

Fiscal Year	Amount
FY 2022	\$8,110,000
FY 2023	\$10,000,000
FY 2024	\$10,000,000
FY 2025 Enacted	*
FY 2026 President's Budget	\$10,000,000

*Consistent with the 2025 operating plan, funding levels are displayed for statutory PPAs. This activity is not intended to be separate PPA for 2025, and is rolled up within the account.

Program Accomplishments

Since its inception in 2009, the Lifespan Respite Care program has awarded 139 grants to 38 states, and the District of Columbia, to develop, expand, integrate, and sustain their respite care systems and funds a National Technical Assistance Resource Center.

Throughout the nation, the program has resulted in the creation and adoption of statewide respite plans through the engagement of stakeholders and support for statewide coalitions to reach the broadest possible cross section of people who need respite care services. Training programs for respite providers have been replicated across states, increasing the number of trained respite professionals. The program also provides trainings for caregivers themselves, including teaching caregivers how to manage their own health care needs while providing support to another and how to use therapeutic journaling to manage stress, guilt, bereavement, loss, and loneliness.

A key focus of the program since its inception has been filling gaps in existing respite services, such as services in rural areas and services for caregivers of children with intellectual and developmental disabilities and adults with physical disabilities.

The National Strategy to Support Family Caregivers, which was released in 2022, called for increased access to respite for family caregivers. In response, the Lifespan Respite TA center developed a “Policy-to-Practice” brief to make it easy for agencies, providers, and others to identify specific actions within the Strategy they can take to increase the use of respite – and the quality of respite services – as a part of comprehensive approach to increasing support for family caregivers.

Data is used to identify the best use of funds to support family caregivers. In FY 2023, a new data collection tool was implemented to gather consistent information on the people served, the kinds of respite services provided, the types of education and trainings provided, plus a range of other topics. The data collected as a result of this effort will drive the creation of more evidence-based practices to better support family caregivers.

Long-Term Care Ombudsman Program

Program	FY 2024 Final	FY 2025 Enacted	FY 2026 President's Budget	FY 2026 +/- FY 2025
Long-Term Care Ombudsman	\$21,885	*	\$21,885	N/A

BA is in thousands of dollars.

*Consistent with the 2025 operating plan, funding levels are displayed for statutory PPAs. This activity is not intended to be separate PPA for 2025, and is rolled up within the account.

Allocation Method..... Formula Grant

Program Description

The Long-Term Care Ombudsman program is a consumer advocacy program that works to improve the quality of life and care for the estimated three million individuals of all ages who reside in over 76,000 long-term care facilities (over 15,700 licensed nursing facilities and 60,300 assisted living/board and care facilities). Ombudsmen resolve complaints with, and on behalf of, these residents, while advocating for systemic improvement of long-term services and supports, including routinely monitoring the condition of long-term care facilities.

The program provides formula grants to states and territories based on the number of people aged 60 and older to support the training, travel, and other operating costs of nearly 6,000 designated staff and volunteers. It complements ACFC's other elder rights programs and is a critical component of a comprehensive system of services that prevent, detect, and resolve elder abuse, neglect, and exploitation.

A primary duty of ombudsmen and their representatives is to identify, investigate, and resolve complaints that are made by or on behalf of residents and to protect older adults. These complaints relate to action, inaction, or decisions of providers, public agencies, and others that may adversely affect residents' health, safety, welfare, or rights.

Budget Request

The FY 2026 request for the Long-Term Care Ombudsman program is \$21,885,000. This funding level maintains support for this program which is critical to protecting the health, welfare, and safety of people in long-term care facilities. Ombudsmen resolve complaints with, and on behalf of, these residents, while advocating for systemic improvements to long-term care services and supports.

Funding History

Funding for the Long-Term Care Ombudsman program over the past five years is as follows:

Fiscal Year	Amount
FY 2022 /1	\$19,885,000
FY 2023	\$21,885,000
FY 2024	\$21,885,000
FY 2025 Enacted	*
FY 2026 President's Budget	\$21,885,000

1/ The amount listed does not include \$18 million provided out of funding for Elder Justice in FY 2022 in the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021.

*Consistent with the 2025 operating plan, funding levels are displayed for statutory PPAs. This activity is not intended to be separate PPA for 2025, and is rolled up within the account.

Program Accomplishments

In 2022, ombudsman and their representatives received nearly 183,000 complaints from (or on behalf of) residents of long-term care facilities – an increase of nearly 11 percent from the prior year. Despite the increase in demand, ombudsman programs were able to fully or partially resolve nearly three-quarters of these complaints.

The efficiency of the Long-Term Care Ombudsman program is due in part to strong support from volunteers who visit residents regularly and assist with problem resolution. These trained volunteer ombudsmen extend and amplify the successful work of the Long-Term Care Ombudsman. In FY 2022, volunteers provided over 231,447 hours of assistance with improving the quality of life and care for residents of long-term care facilities.

Outcomes and Outputs Tables: Long-Term Care Ombudsman Program

Measure	Year and Most Recent Result / Target for Recent Result / (Summary of Result)	FY 2025 Target	FY 2026 Target	FY 2026 Target +/-FY 2025 Target
2.14a Percent of complaints partially/fully resolved to the satisfaction of the complainant. (Outcome)	FY 2024: 72% Target: 72% (Target Met)	*	N/A	N/A

*Performance targets under development.

Prevention of Elder Abuse and Neglect

Program	FY 2024 Final	FY 2025 Enacted	FY 2026 President's Budget	FY 2026 +/- FY 2025
Prevention of Elder Abuse & Neglect	\$4,773	*	\$5,000	N/A

BA is in thousands of dollars.

*Consistent with the 2025 operating plan, funding levels are displayed for statutory PPAs. This activity is not intended to be separate PPA for 2025, and is rolled up within the account.

Allocation Method..... Formula Grant

Program Description

The Prevention of Elder Abuse and Neglect program, which is authorized under Older Americans Act (OAA) Title VII, Section 721, provides formula grants to state units on aging, based on their share of the population aged 60 and over, to train state and local officials and promote public awareness of elder abuse. The program also supports state and local elder abuse prevention coalitions and multi-disciplinary teams. The program coordinates activities with state and local Adult Protective Services programs (over half of which are directly administered by state units on aging) and other professionals who work to address issues of elder abuse and elder justice.

The Prevention of Elder Abuse and Neglect program is a crucial piece of ACFC's ongoing commitment to protecting the rights of older adults and promoting their dignity and autonomy. Through education efforts directed at aging network professionals, awareness initiatives directed towards broad populations of older people, their families, and communities to expose problems that would otherwise be hidden, and providing a voice for older adults, the program helps ensure that all older Americans are able to age with dignity in a safe environment.

Budget Request

The FY 2026 request for the Prevention of Elder Abuse and Neglect program is \$5,000,000. This will allow states and territories to continue to train law enforcement officials, develop and distribute educational materials, conduct public awareness campaigns, and create community coalitions and multidisciplinary teams to investigate and respond to elder abuse and neglect.

Funding History

Funding for Prevention of Elder Abuse and Neglect over the past five years is as follows:

Fiscal Year	Amount
FY 2022	\$4,773,000
FY 2023	\$4,773,000
FY 2024	\$4,773,000
FY 2025 Enacted	*
FY 2026 President's Budget	\$5,000,000

*Consistent with the 2025 operating plan, funding levels are displayed for statutory PPAs. This activity is not intended to be separate PPA for 2025, and is rolled up within the account.

Program Accomplishments

In FY 2021 and FY 2022, over \$38 million of the Prevention of Elder Abuse and Neglect services expenditures was leveraged from non-OAA funds, a ratio of more than \$9 non-OAA funds for every dollar of funding from ACL. States use their OAA Title VII, Section 721 funding for a number of different activities, including:

- In 2022, the Connecticut SUA used a portion of the Elder Abuse Prevention funds to support the work of the Coalition for Elder Justice in Connecticut. The coalition has worked collaboratively with the Attorney General's Office to support the new Elder Justice Hotline, present at the Connecticut Coalition to End Homelessness Annual Training Institute, promote the Walk for WEAAD (World Elder Abuse Awareness Day) by hosting weekly walks across the state to raise awareness, provide training to state and municipal police through partnership with the Connecticut Police Academy, appear on AARP's monthly "Fraud Fighting Fridays" webinars, and offer monthly webinars geared toward attorneys and social workers who are appointed as conservators in collaboration with the Office of Probate Administration and the Connecticut Bar Association, Elder Law Section.
- The Idaho Commission on Aging held a three-day convening titled "Better Together" designed to strengthen partnerships and providing education to prevent abuse, neglect, and exploitation of vulnerable adults. Participants included individuals and organizations interacting with vulnerable adults, such as social services, first responders, health care providers, guardians and fiduciaries, legal and public health community, judiciary, and elected officials.

Outputs Table: Prevention of Elder Abuse and Neglect

Indicator	Year and Most Recent Result	FY 2025 Projection	FY 2026 Projection	FY 2026 Projection +/- FY 2025 Projection
Output U: Elder Abuse prevention non-OAA service expenditures (<i>Output, dollars in thousands</i>)	FY 2022: \$52,078	*	Discontinued	N/A

*Performance targets under development.

Health Care Fraud and Abuse Control/Senior Medicare Patrol Program

Program	FY 2024 Final/1	FY 2025 Enacted	FY 2026 President's Budget	FY 2026 +/- FY 2025
Senior Medicare Patrol Program/HCFAC	\$35,000	\$35,000	\$35,000	--
FTEs	5	5	5	--

* BA is in thousands of dollars. FTE are in whole numbers.

1/ The FY 2024 appropriations language states that SMP/Health Care Fraud and Abuse Control Program (HCFAC) is paid out of discretionary CMS HCFAC appropriations based on the Secretary of HHS's determination of the amount needed to provide funding but not less than the floor of \$35 million provided in appropriations language.

Allocation Method.....Competitive Grant/Contracts

Program Description

The Senior Medicare Patrol (SMP) program provides grants to states to fund outreach, counseling, and education to empower and assist Medicare beneficiaries, their families, and caregivers in the prevention, detection, and reporting of health care fraud, errors, and abuse. ACFC supports 54 SMP grantee projects across the nation, with one in each state, the District of Columbia, Guam, Puerto Rico, and the U.S. Virgin Islands.

The SMPs provide education to Medicare beneficiaries and the public through in-person and virtual outreach events, media activities, and one-on-one assistance to those who contact the program with questions or suspected cases of Medicare fraud. The SMPs teach Medicare beneficiaries to take proactive steps to protect themselves and the Medicare program from potential fraud, errors, and abuse. The program also actively disseminates fraud prevention and identification information through the media, outreach campaigns, community events, and one-on-one beneficiary support. SMPs help individuals and their loved ones understand how to review their health care statements and bills for accuracy, as well as how to identify and avoid potential fraud schemes. If suspicious activity is identified or suspected, SMPs can help answer questions, resolve errors, or report suspicious activity for further investigation.

SMPs also refer potential fraud complaints to other investigative entities on behalf of Medicare beneficiaries. This process can include facilitating referrals to the HHS Office of Inspector General (HHS-OIG), the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS), Federal Bureau of Investigations (FBI), Federal Trade Commission (FTC), state Medicaid fraud control units (MFCUs), state attorneys general, and other organizations. Capturing SMP program activity data is also a key function of the projects, including tracking, analyzing, and reporting of beneficiary complaints, referrals, potential savings, and other outcomes.

Budget Request

The FY 2026 request for the Senior Medicare Patrol (SMP) is \$35,000,000. The \$35,000,000 will maintain SMP projects in each state, the District of Columbia, Guam, Puerto Rico, and the U.S. Virgin Islands.

Funding History

Comparable funding for SMP discretionary appropriations over the past five years is as follows:

Fiscal Year	Amount
FY 2022	\$30,000,000
FY 2023 /1	\$35,000,000
FY 2024 /1	\$35,000,000
FY 2025 /1 Enacted	\$35,000,000
FY 2026 President's Budget	\$35,000,000

1/ Does not include an additional \$1,300,000 in funding allocated to this program from Health Care Fraud and Abuse Control Program (HCFAC) wedge funding in FY 2023 and \$2,350,000 in FY 2024 and FY 2025.

Program Accomplishments

The Senior Medicare Patrol (SMP) program remains at the forefront of providing education and prevention to combat Medicare fraud, often being the first to identify new trends. For example:

- In 2021, unscrupulous marketers targeted beneficiaries to enroll them in hospice services that they may not have needed. SMPs conducted 304 group education events covering hospice fraud to ensure beneficiaries understood the need to confirm that their doctor had certified that they are terminally ill before enrolling. These events reached a total of 11,795 people. In addition, SMPs reached more than 17 million people through an earned media campaign.
- The Medicaid renewal process that was triggered by the end of the COVID-19 Public Health Emergency caused a great deal of confusion, which creates an opportunity for scammers to take advantage of affected beneficiaries. In response, ACL and the SMP Resource Center created a set of materials to head off the potential scams related to the Medicaid renewal, including a new Consumer Alert, social media pushes, and increased public outreach.
- In 2023, reports of scams related to COVID testing increased exponentially. SMPs quickly updated public education materials and launched a campaign including public events, media outreach, and social media content to ensure beneficiaries were aware of the risk and had the information they needed to protect themselves.

Additional data obtained from the SMP data system, the SMP Information and Reporting System (SIRS), for calendar year 2022 shows that Senior Medicare Patrol projects:

- Maintained 5,365 active SMP team members who worked over 475,826 hours to educate beneficiaries about how to prevent Medicare fraud, errors, and abuse.
- Educated 1,000,240 people during 18,274 group outreach and education events
- Responded to 246,722 individual inquiries for information or assistance from Medicare beneficiaries, family members, and caregivers related to Medicare fraud, errors, and abuse.

Since the SMP program's inception, grant recipients have received more than 3.5 million inquiries from Medicare beneficiaries about preventing, detecting, and reporting billing errors, potential fraud, or other discrepancies. SMPs also have educated more than 42 million people through group presentations and community outreach events. The primary focus of these sessions are education, prevention, and teaching beneficiaries how to protect themselves and avoid fraud in the first place. As HHS-OIG explained in their June 2023 report on the SMP program, these data likely understate its impact:

We note that the projects may not be receiving full credit for recoveries, savings, and cost avoidance attributable to their work. It is not always possible to track referrals to Medicare contractors or law enforcement from beneficiaries who have learned to detect fraud, waste, and abuse from the projects. In addition, the projects are unable to track the potentially substantial savings derived from a sentinel effect whereby Medicare beneficiaries' scrutiny of their bills reduce fraud and errors.

While SMPs make numerous referrals of potential fraud to CMS and the OIG, there are challenges to evaluating the investigation, prosecution, and collection that is required to calculate the full savings to the government because of SMP referrals. Thus far, HHS-OIG has documented over \$141.5 million in savings attributable to the program as a result of beneficiary complaints since the program's inception in 1997.

Output Table: Senior Medicare Patrol Program

Indicator	Year and Most Recent Result	FY 2025 Projection	FY 2026 Projection	FY 2026 Projection +/-FY 2025 Projection
Output W: Medicare Beneficiaries Educated and Served on Medicare Fraud, Waste, and Abuse (Output)	CY 2023: 1,244,697	1,000,000	N/A	N/A

Elder Rights Support Activities

Program	FY 2024 Final	FY 2025 Enacted	FY 2026 President's Budget	FY 2026 +/- FY 2025
Elder Rights Support Activities	\$3,874	*	\$4,005	N/A

BA is in thousands of dollars.

*Consistent with the 2025 operating plan, funding levels are displayed for statutory PPAs. This activity is not intended to be separate PPA for 2025, and is rolled up within the account.

Allocation Method..... Competitive Grants/Co-operative Agreements and Contracts

Program Description

ACFC's Elder Rights Support Activities programs provide grants, technical assistance, and other resources to states and communities to uphold the rights of older Americans and protect them from abuse, neglect, and exploitation. The Elder Rights Support Activities include the National Center on Elder Abuse, the National Long-Term Care Ombudsman Resource Center, the National Center for Law and Elder Rights, and the Legal Assistance Enhancement Grant Program Together with ACFC's Elder Justice and Adult Protective Service programs, Long-Term Care Ombudsman Program, and the national network of local legal assistance providers, the Elder Rights Support Activities program plays a critical role in promoting independence, autonomy and well-being of older adults.

To promote the rights of older Americans and to combat the increasing frequency of elder abuse, neglect, and exploitation in America, ACFC's goal is to create, in coordination with its Elder Justice/Adult Protective Services programs and the Elder Justice Coordinating Council, a comprehensive approach that provides a coordinated and seamless response system that includes the Long-term Care Ombudsman Program, the national network of local legal assistance providers and other community services partners. The Elder Rights Support Activities described below are key components of ACFC's essential elder rights programs.

National Center on Elder Abuse

The National Center on Elder Abuse (NCEA) supports and enhances state and local efforts to prevent elder abuse, neglect, and exploitation. NCEA is a national resource center that disseminates critical information and materials to professionals and the public and provides technical assistance and training to states and to community-based organizations. NCEA provides consultations to professionals and agencies, identifies and shares information about elder abuse prevention promising practices and interventions, offers training on emerging elder-justice related topics, collaborates on elder justice-related research, and operates a listserv that serves as a forum for professionals. NCEA also facilitates the exchange of strategies for uncovering and prosecuting fraud in areas such as telemarketing and sweepstakes scams.

National Long-Term Care Ombudsman Resource Center

The National Long-Term Care Ombudsman Resource Center (NORC) provides training and technical assistance to support the activities of the state and local long-term care ombudsmen. A complement to ACFC's State Long-Term Care Ombudsman Program, NORC works to enhance the skills, knowledge,

and management capacity of the statewide ombudsman programs to address residents' complaints and represent residents' interests. NORC also provides information to consumers and connects them to ombudsmen who can assist with navigating the long-term care system and resolving problems in nursing facilities, board-and-care homes, and assisted living facilities.

Legal Assistance and Support: National Center on Law and Elder Rights and the Legal Assistance Enhancement Program

The National Center on Law and Elder Rights (NCLER) provides technical assistance, training, and other capacity-building support to legal assistance providers, including those funded by Older Americans Act programs as well as other legal assistance providers and their partners in the aging and disability networks. This network includes a diverse range of legal and aging services professionals, including Older Americans Act Title III-B legal services program professionals, legal aid staff, legal assistance developers, long-term care ombudsman, social workers, service coordinators, area agencies on aging staff, state units on aging staff, protection and advocacy organization staff, adult protective services staff, law enforcement, and other professionals working with older adults to promote elder rights.

The Legal Assistance Enhancement Program (LAEP) provides grants to support innovations that strengthen and enhance the effectiveness of legal assistance programs. The program focuses on four key areas of legal assistance: outreach, partnerships, intake, and delivery.

Budget Request

The FY 2026 request for Elder Rights Support Activities is \$4,005,000. The request will allow ACFC to continue operation of the National Center on Elder Abuse, provide legal assistance and support through the National Center on Law & Elder Rights and Legal Assistance Enhancement Program activities.

Funding History

Comparable funding for Elder Rights Support Activities over the past five years is as follows:

Fiscal Year	Amount
FY 2022	\$3,874,000
FY 2023	\$3,874,000
FY 2024	\$3,874,000
FY 2025 Enacted	*
FY 2026 President's Budget	\$4,005,000

*Consistent with the 2025 operating plan, funding levels are displayed for statutory PPAs. This activity is not intended to be separate PPA for 2025, and is rolled up within the account.

Program Accomplishments

Elder Rights Support activities continue to play a critical role in promoting independence, autonomy, and well-being of older adults.

The National Ombudsman Resource Center (NORC) supports 53 State Long-Term Care Ombudsman programs comprised of 469 state and local offices, 1,500 staff, and 3,400 volunteer advocates. In 2023, NORC responded to over 1,000 requests for technical assistance, the top three of which were program management, volunteer management and training, and systems advocacy. They provided training opportunities, including conferences, webinars for state ombudsmen and for program representatives.

NORC also held monthly virtual office hours for ombudsman representatives to participate in peer-to-peer learning and live technical assistance, including topics such as how to address problems in long-term care settings due to inadequate staffing, program risk management, facility closures, and resident rights. NORC developed numerous resources, including guidance on accurate reporting through the National Ombudsman Reporting System, a reference guide on the role of the Ombudsman program in nursing facility closures, materials for Ombudsman and Adult Protective Services collaboration, a pocket guide for Ombudsman representatives on routine access visits, and FAQs on the long-term care survey process. NORC also updated the Ombudsman Reference in Federal Nursing Home Requirements and the Initial Training Curriculum for Long-Term Care Ombudsman Programs.

The National Center on Law & Elder Rights (NCLER) reaches a network of over 57,000 legal assistance, elder and disability rights, and aging services advocates. Through this large network of law and aging network professionals, NCLER disseminates critical and timely information relevant to supporting older Americans. In the most recent contract year, over 30,000 people participated in NCLER's webinars in real time, with approximately 1,300 law and aging network professionals attending each training. In addition, another 12,000 people watched recordings of NCLER trainings. NCLER produces at least 24 webinar trainings per year, in addition to trainings provided at conferences and in partnership with other ACL-funded resource centers.

Elder Justice/Adult Protective Services

Program	FY 2024 Final	FY 2025 Enacted	FY 2026 President's Budget	FY 2026 +/- FY 2025
Elder Justice/Adult Protective Services	\$30,000	*	\$30,000	N/A
<i>Opioids (non-add)</i>	<i>\$2,000</i>	*	<i>\$2,000</i>	N/A
<i>Guardianship (non-add)</i>	<i>\$2,000</i>	*	<i>\$2,000</i>	N/A
<i>Infrastructure (non-add)</i>	<i>\$11,000</i>	*	<i>\$11,000</i>	N/A
<i>State APS Grants/Other (non-add)</i>	<i>\$15,000</i>	*	<i>\$15,000</i>	N/A
FTEs	4	5	3	-2

BA is in thousands of dollars. FTE is a whole number.

*Consistent with the 2025 operating plan, funding levels are displayed for statutory PPAs. This activity is not intended to be separate PPA for 2025, and is rolled up within the account.

Allocation Method..... Competitive Grants/Co-operative Agreements and Contracts

Program Description

Elder Justice–Adult Protective Services (APS) support programs and systems change initiatives focused on upholding the rights of older people and preventing and addressing abuse, neglect, and exploitation of older adults and adults with disabilities. Key objectives include establishing a nationwide system of APS supported by annual formula grants, promoting guardianship reform, and addressing the opioid crisis. ACFC’s elder justice discretionary grants complement and assist state APS systems by testing models and creating knowledge about what works in APS and community-based services to help address elder and adult maltreatment. In addition, this program provides funding to support ACFC in convening the Elder Justice Coordinating Council on behalf of the Secretary of HHS.

Adult Protective Services – State APS Grants

APS programs across the country support older adults and adults with disabilities who experience, or who are at risk of, maltreatment or self-neglect. APS programs investigate reports of maltreatment; conduct case planning, monitoring, and evaluation; and provide (or connect people to) a wide variety of medical, social, economic, legal, housing, and enforcement, and other protective, emergency, or support services, with the goal of maximizing client safety and independence. State APS systems balance the duty to protect the safety of vulnerable adults with the adult’s right to self-determination.

Infrastructure

Until recently, APS has been designed and administered entirely at the state and local level. Consequently, there is wide variation in APS services and practices between, and within, states. Nationally, this has resulted in a fragmented and unequal system that has hampered coordination and lead to the absence of critical support for some people experiencing abuse.

APS funding supports the ongoing implementation of ACFC’s National Adult Maltreatment Reporting System (NAMRS). NAMRS is the first comprehensive, national reporting system to annually measure the incidence of elder and adult abuse, neglect, and exploitation. Although reporting is voluntary, 100 percent of states and territories have participated from the system’s launch. ACFC also continues to conduct research and evaluation activities to build the evidence base for APS. Finally, this funding is used to

provide technical assistance and resources to support states in developing APS systems that reflect a person-centered approach.

Guardianship Reform

Through grantmaking, education, and stakeholder engagement and collaboration across both the aging and disability networks, ACL has been at the forefront of guardianship reform efforts to promote self-determination and person-directedness and preserve the decisional rights of all adults. Competitive grants are awarded to states' highest state courts to undertake activities to help better understand, monitor, and reform guardianship proceedings.

Opioid Crisis

ACFC continues to support the translation of existing evidence-based models for addressing opioids misuse for APS systems to effectively respond to abuse, neglect, and exploitation in APS cases that originate from opioid misuse or disorder. This effort includes piloting the model in communities most impacted by the opioid crisis. The resulting model will be shared widely for replication.

Elder Justice Coordinating Council

The Elder Justice Act established the Elder Justice Coordinating Council (EJCC) to coordinate activities related to elder abuse, neglect, and exploitation across the federal government. The Elder Justice Coordinating Council is directed by the Office of the Secretary of Health and Human Services (HHS) and the Secretary is designated Chair of the Council. Since its establishment, the HHS Secretary has delegated responsibility for implementing the EJCC to ACFC. In addition to the Secretary of Health and Human Services, the Elder Justice Act also names the Attorney General as a permanent member of the Council. As of 2024, 17 federal departments and agencies are members of the Council.

Budget Request

The FY 2026 request for the Elder Justice/Adult Protective Services (APS) program is \$30,000,000. APS systems play a critical role in supporting older adults and adults with disabilities facing abuse, neglect, or financial exploitation. State APS systems investigate reports of abuse and exploitation, provide support and case management, and connect those experiencing or at risk of abuse to a variety of protective, emergency, and support services.

Funding History

Funding for Elder Justice and Adult Protective Services over the past six years is as follows:

Fiscal Year	Amount	COVID-19 Supplemental
FY 2022	\$15,000,000	\$188,000,000
FY 2023	\$30,000,000	--
FY 2024	\$30,000,000	--
FY 2025 Enacted	*	--
FY 2026 President's Budget	\$30,000,000	--

1/ FTEs are shown in whole numbers.

*Consistent with the 2025 operating plan, funding levels are displayed for statutory PPAs. This activity is not intended to be separate PPA for 2025, and is rolled up within the account.

Program Accomplishments

Adult Protective Services – State APS Grants

With initial APS formula grant investments made with supplemental funding, states were able to make significant investments to address gaps in their APS systems to improve operations and infrastructure, increase response rates, and provide critical services for APS clients. States used funding to build and enhance reporting systems, establish and update essential IT infrastructure, train and equip staff, provide direct emergency services, and increase their ability to respond to and investigate reports of abuse, neglect, and exploitation.

Guardianship Reform

The FY 2022 and 2023 “highest state court” grants are helping drive significant progress in the reform of guardianship. For example:

- The Minnesota Judicial Branch has piloted a grievance and investigation process to improve access to complaint processes for people subject to guardianship and conservatorship. The complaint investigator has received 123 complaints, and 75 have been closed.
- Pennsylvania’s Administrative Office of the Court is working on a compatibility interface with their statewide criminal database and their attorney disciplinary board database so they will be able to detect if there are any bad actor guardians who have a criminal record or an attorney disciplinary action. The Court believes this is the first state to pioneer this effort. Additionally, they held the first of three annual summits of judicial and community stakeholders to address the rights of individuals subject to guardianship, and monitoring of both the well-being of such persons and the fiscal conduct of guardians.
- The Maryland Supreme Court held a Guardianship Symposium in October 2023 for judges and senior court administrative staff. The day-long symposium educated, engaged provided networking opportunities for the judges and court professionals working with guardianship cases. Training was provided on model guardianship and conservatorship review protocols, and on the practical application of a tool, the Judicial Guardianship Evaluation Worksheet that assesses the potential for abuse, and how to consider lesser restrictive alternatives to guardianship.

Opioid Crisis

In 2023, to begin addressing the gap in evidence-informed practices, ACL contracted to identify effective strategies and solutions that will maximize the impact of direct home and community-based social, health and mental/behavioral health services for APS clients impacted by the opioid crisis and other substance misuse. ACFC is looking for strategies that can be replicated and tested broadly in states and communities. The contractor is conducting a literature review, assessing existing APS opioids grant activities, and conducting an environmental scan of challenges faced by APS with these cases. This work is ongoing and will continue identifying system and service gaps, and implementing and evaluating a pilot program to test the identified strategies and solutions.

Elder Justice Coordinating Council

Since its inception, the EJCC has engaged in a number of activities to improve coordination among federal agencies working on elder justice issues. Recent accomplishments made through the relationships forged by the EJCC and the member agencies have made significant progress in addressing maltreatment

State Councils on Developmental Disabilities

Program	FY 2024 Final	FY 2025 Enacted	FY 2026 President's Budget	FY 2026 +/- FY 2025
State Councils on Developmental Disabilities	\$81,000	*	\$80,000	N/A

BA is in thousands of dollars.

*Consistent with the 2025 operating plan, funding levels are displayed for statutory PPAs. This activity is not intended to be separate PPA for 2025, and is rolled up within the account.

Allocation Method..... Formula Grant

Program Description

There are 56 State Councils on Developmental Disabilities (DD Councils), one in each state and U.S. territory. DD Councils are led by people with intellectual and developmental disabilities (I/DD), families, and other key stakeholders. DD Councils support the development and implementation of policies and programs that improve opportunities for people with I/DD and help them live – and fully participate – in their communities. The DD Councils spark community change by bringing together people and partners to create equal access to education, health, employment, and other aspects of community life; empower self-advocates and family leaders, support development of state policies, and educate people with I/DD and their families; and educate decision-makers using research and lived experiences to improve the lives of people with I/DD.

Budget Request

The FY 2026 request for State Councils on Developmental Disabilities (DD Councils) is \$80 million. This request will maintain support for the work of DD Councils to improve and streamline state systems of support for people with I/DD to be included in all facets of community life.

Funding History

Funding for the program over the past five years is as follows:

Fiscal Year	Amount
FY 2022	\$80,000,000
FY 2023	\$81,000,000
FY 2024	\$81,000,000
FY 2025 Enacted	*
FY 2026 President's Budget	\$80,000,000

*Consistent with the 2025 operating plan, funding levels are displayed for statutory PPAs. This activity is not intended to be separate PPA for 2025, and is rolled up within the account.

Program Accomplishments

DD Councils are catalysts for change that improve the lives of people with I/DD. Their work removes barriers and increases opportunities for people with I/DD.

While specific activities and focus vary between DD councils in response to local needs, all councils are advancing community living and equal opportunities for people with I/DD.

Outcomes and Outputs Tables: State Councils on Developmental Disabilities

Measure	Year and Most Recent Result / Target for Recent Result / (Summary of Result)	FY 2025 Target	FY 2026 Target	FY 2026 Target +/-FY 2025 Target
8G Increase the percentage of people with developmental disabilities and their family members increasing their advocacy knowledge. (Outcome)	FY 2023: 79.13% Target: 78.68% (Target Exceeded)	*	N/A	N/A

*Performance targets under development

Developmental Disabilities - Protection and Advocacy

Program	FY 2024 Final	FY 2025 Enacted	FY 2026 President's Budget	FY 2026 +/- FY 2025
Developmental Disabilities – Protection and Advocacy	\$45,000	*	\$45,000	N/A

BA is in thousands of dollars.

*Consistent with the 2025 operating plan, funding levels are displayed for statutory PPAs. This activity is not intended to be separate PPA for 2025, and is rolled up within the account.

Allocation Method..... Formula Grant

Program Description

There are 57 Developmental Disabilities Protection and Advocacy systems (P&As), one in each state, territory, and the District of Columbia, as well as a Native American Consortium. P&As are the nation's largest providers of legal advocacy services for people with disabilities.

P&As play a critical role in protecting the health and welfare of people with intellectual and developmental disabilities (I/DD). They help ensure that people with I/DD can exercise their rights to make choices, fully participate in society, and live independently. Specifically, P&As

- Provide legal representation and assistance to people with disabilities who live in the community, as well as to people who live in institutions or other congregate settings.
- Protect the rights and safety of people who live in institutions and other congregate settings and help facilitate transitions for people who want to move to the community.
- Help ensure equal opportunities and access in workplaces, schools, healthcare facilities and public places for people who live in the community.

Budget Request

The FY 2026 request for the Developmental Disabilities Protection and Advocacy (P&A) program is \$45,000,000. Funding will allow P&As to maintain service levels and enable them to continue to address the most urgent issues faced by people with I/DD.

Funding History

Funding for the program over the past five years is as follows:

Fiscal Year	Amount
FY 2022	\$42,784,000
FY 2023	\$45,000,000
FY 2024	\$45,000,000
FY 2025 Enacted	*
FY 2026 President's Budget	\$45,000,000

*Consistent with the 2025 operating plan, funding levels are displayed for statutory PPAs. This activity is not intended to be separate PPA for 2025, and is rolled up within the account.

Program Accomplishments

With the help of P&A services, more people with I/DD are living the lives they want to lead in the community. P&As ensure that people with I/DD receive the services and supports they need to succeed in school and workplaces; have equal access to health care, including life-saving treatments; and are able to move from institutions to homes in communities when desired.

A hallmark of P&As is their dual focus: they both pursue systemic change that will improve access and inclusion for all people with I/DD and provide direct services to uphold the rights and support the well-being of individual people with I/DD. The support P&As provide to individual people is driven by the needs and preferences of the person seeking assistance.

In FY 2023, DD P&As provided services to 12,300 people with I/DD to address a variety of issues. The following are examples of how the DD P&As support the rights of people with I/DD. While most tell the story of one person, each represents the kind of cases – and the impact – that are typical for P&As.

Outcome and Outputs Tables: Developmental Disabilities Protection and Advocacy

Measure	Year and Most Recent Result / Target for Recent Result / (Summary of Result)	FY 2025 Target	FY 2026 Target	FY 2026 Target +/-FY 2025 Target
8F Increase the percentage of individuals with developmental disabilities whose rights were enforced, retained, restored or expanded. (Outcome)	FY 2023: 79.98% Target: 79.62% (Target Exceeded)	*	N/A	N/A

Indicator	Year and Most Recent Result	FY 2025 Projection	FY 2026 Projection	FY 2026 Projection +/-FY 2025 Projection
8iii: Number of clients receiving professional individual legal advocacy for the Protection and Advocacy program. (Output)	FY 2023: 12,283	*	N/A	N/A
8iv: Number of people receiving information and referral from the Protection and Advocacy program. (Output)	FY 2023: 41,717	*	N/A	N/A

*Performance targets under development

Independent Living

Program	FY 2024 Final	FY 2025 Enacted	FY 2026 President's Budget	FY 2026 +/- FY 2025
Independent Living	\$128,183	*	\$228,183	N/A
<i>Independent Living State Grants (non-add)</i>	<i>\$26,078</i>	<i>*</i>	<i>\$126,078</i>	<i>N/A</i>
<i>Centers for Independent Living (non-add)</i>	<i>\$102,105</i>	<i>*</i>	<i>\$102,105</i>	<i>N/A</i>
FTEs	<i>1</i>	1	<i>1</i>	--

* BA is in thousands of dollars; FTE are in whole numbers.

Allocation Method.....Formula and Discretionary Grants

Program Description

ACFC's Independent Living (IL) programs provide services and supports, training, and other resources to help people with disabilities live the lives they want to lead in their communities. They also advocate to ensure the needs of people with disabilities are reflected in policies and programs and foster partnerships and collaboration between programs and organizations that support community living. In keeping with the IL philosophy that disabled people should have the same civil rights, options, and control over their lives as people without disabilities, ACFC's IL programs are disability-led and prioritize peer support.

Independent Living Services State Grants

The Independent Living Services (ILS) State Grants program funds formula grants to states and territories to support the provision, expansion, and improvement of independent living services for people with disabilities, particularly in underserved areas. Specifically, the program supports the operation of statewide independent living councils (SILCs), as well as training and technical assistance for the IL network. SILCs work with the state's centers for independent living (CILs) to develop a State Plan for Independent Living (SPIL), which is the state's three-year roadmap for executing, expanding, and improving independent living services. Other SILC functions vary between states, but include coordination of IL services, capacity-building to increase availability of services, resource development, and research to support enhancement of IL services. Federal grant funds are allocated to states and territories based on total population, and states and territories must match 10 percent of these grants with non-federal cash or in-kind resources. At least 95 percent of funding must be used to fund activities included in the state's SPIL.

Centers for Independent Living

The Centers for Independent Living (CIL) program provides grants to more than 350 community-based, nonprofit agencies that provide a comprehensive range of services that help people with all types of disabilities live and fully participate in their communities. A hallmark of CILs is that they are designed, operated, and led by people with disabilities. Services vary in support of local needs, but all CILs:

- Provide skills training and peer support.
- Assist with navigating systems that provide services and supports, including determining eligibility and applying for programs.

- Help connect people to local services and resources, such as housing, transportation, personal care attendants, food, and other important benefits.
- Support young people with disabilities who are transitioning to adult life following high school, provide a range of supports to help people who want to move from institutions to the community, and help to prevent institutional admissions for people currently in the community.

Grants are awarded directly to CILs using a population-based formula. The Rehabilitation Act of 1973 requires that grants be awarded to any eligible agency that received a grant the preceding fiscal year.

Budget Request

The FY 2026 request for Independent Living is \$228,183,000. It includes a proposal allowing the expanded funding to be used to continue the activities previously provided by University Centers for Excellence in Developmental Disabilities, Developmental Disabilities Projects of National Significance, the Limb Loss Resource Center, and the Paralysis Resource Center, and providing Voting Access for People with Disabilities. Allowing funding in each state to be distributed based on state need increases program flexibility and improves the ability to target funding as needed.

Funding History

Funding for Independent Living activities over the past five years is as follows:

Centers for Independent Living

Fiscal Year	Amount
FY 2022	\$92,805,000
FY 2023	\$102,105,000
FY 2024	\$102,105,000
FY 2025 Enacted	*
FY 2026 President's Budget	\$102,105,000

Independent Living State Grants

Fiscal Year	Amount
FY 2022	\$25,378,000
FY 2023	\$26,078,000
FY 2024	\$26,078,000
FY 2025 Enacted	*
FY 2026 President's Budget	\$126,078,000

1/ FTEs are in whole numbers.

* Consistent with the 2025 operating plan, funding levels are displayed for statutory PPAs. This activity is not intended to be separate PPA for 2025, and is rolled up within the account.

Program Accomplishments

Designed and operated by individuals with disabilities, Centers for Independent Living (CILs) provide tools, resources, and peer support for promoting independent living and integrating people with disabilities fully into their communities. In FY 2023, CILs funded by ACL served more than 250,000 people with disabilities with more than 1.5 million independent living services to help people with disabilities achieve over 208,000 independent living goals they had established for themselves, increasing their independence, integration, and full inclusion in society with each achievement.

Outcomes and Outputs Table: Independent Living

Measure	Year and Most Recent Result / Target for Recent Result / (Summary of Result)	FY 2025 Target	FY 2026 Target	FY 2026 Target +/-FY 2025 Target
IL1 Increase the percentage of people who are successfully relocated from nursing homes or institutions to community-based living by Centers for Independent Living (based on goals set/goals achieved).* (Outcome)	FY 2023: 40.02% Target: Not Defined (Historical Actual)	Set Baseline	N/A	N/A

*This is a developmental performance measure. ACL is currently collecting sufficient data to establish a baseline. To set a baseline, the agency relies on 3 years of data. This process ensures that the data are stable and show a clear trend. The agency will set targets for this measure once a baseline is established.

Traumatic Brain Injury

Program	FY 2024 Final	FY 2025 Enacted	FY 2026 President's Budget	FY 2026 +/- FY 2025
Traumatic Brain Injury	\$13,118	*	\$13,118	N/A
FTEs	2	2	2	--

BA is in thousands of dollars; FTE are in whole numbers.

* Consistent with the 2025 operating plan, funding levels are displayed for statutory PPAs. This activity is not intended to be separate PPA for 2025, and is rolled up within the account.

Allocation Method..... Formula Grant/Competitive Grant/Contract

Program Description

The Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI) program develops comprehensive, coordinated family- and person-centered service systems at the state and community level for people with TBI. The program also works with states to streamline access to services and supports that are often fragmented across systems of care, making access challenging.

The TBI Program includes two grant programs: the State Protection and Advocacy (P&A) Systems Grants (formula grants) and the TBI State Partnership Program (TBI SPP) (competitive grants). The program also funds the TBI Technical Assistance and Resource Center (TARC), which helps TBI State Partnership Program grantees promote access to integrated, coordinated services and supports for people who have sustained a TBI, their families, and their caregivers. The center also provides a variety of resources to non-grantee states, people affected by brain injury, policymakers, and providers.

State Partnership Program Grants

The purpose of ACFC's TBI SPP grants is to ensure that there is one central state program coordinating state systems to improve access to resources for people with TBI, and their families, with a goal of improved long-term outcomes. The TBI SPP helps states expand and improve state and local capability to provide comprehensive and coordinated services for people with TBI and their families.

Protection and Advocacy Systems Grants

TBI P&A grants are awarded to P&A organizations in every state, territory, the District of Columbia, and one Native American consortium to provide support to people with TBI and their families. The P&A programs play a crucial role in making it possible for people with TBI to continue to live independently. Grantees use these funds to develop plans and provide P&A services – including individual and family advocacy, self-advocacy training and assistance, information and referral services, and legal representation – to people who have experienced a TBI.

Budget Request

The FY 2026 request for the Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI) program is \$13,118,000. The FY 2026 request maintains the TBI program's capacity to protect the rights, safety, and welfare of people with TBIs.

Funding History

Funding for the program over the last five years is as follows:

Fiscal Year	Amount
FY 2022	\$11,821,000
FY 2023	\$13,118,000
FY 2024	\$13,118,000
FY 2025 Enacted	*
FY 2026 President's Budget	\$13,118,000

* Consistent with the 2025 operating plan, funding levels are displayed for statutory PPAs. This activity is not intended to be separate PPA for 2025, and is rolled up within the account.

Program Accomplishments

In Nebraska, the Department of Vocational Rehabilitation (VR) is supporting Nebraskans with brain injury in need of VR support to find and retain employment. Nebraska VR has ensured that all VR counselors possess competencies to effectively support job seekers with brain injury aged 16 and older. The agency has also increased the availability of Supported Employment Services for job seekers with brain injury. Additionally, they have implemented a universal approach to applying an evidence-based screening tool for lifetime history of brain injury to identify specific needs for successful employment strategies and aid in augmented data collection related to prevalence of traumatic brain injury

National Institute on Disability, Independent Living, and Rehabilitation Research

Program	FY 2024 Final	FY 2025 Enacted	FY 2026 President's Budget	FY 2026 +/- FY 2025
National Institute on Disability, Independent Living, and Rehabilitation Research	\$119,000	*	\$100,000	N/A
FTEs	1	2	2	--

BA is in thousands of dollars; FTE are in whole numbers.

* Consistent with the 2025 operating plan, funding levels are displayed for statutory PPAs. This activity is not intended to be separate PPA for 2025, and is rolled up within the account.

Allocation Method..... Discretionary Grants and Contracts

Program Description

The National Institute on Disability, Independent Living, and Rehabilitation Research (NIDILRR) sponsors comprehensive grants that facilitate the research and development of new knowledge and innovative technological devices, prototypes, measurement tools, interventions to help people with disabilities live more independently. The outcomes of NIDILRR's work support and provide social integration, employment, and independent living of individuals with disabilities of all ages. NIDILRR translates and disseminates its research findings in plain language.

The primary grant mechanisms under which NIDILRR makes awards are:

- Rehabilitation Research and Training Centers (RRTC): RRTCs facilitate research that improves rehabilitation methodologies and service delivery systems, alleviates, or stabilizes disabling conditions, and promotes maximum social and economic independence for persons with disabilities. RRTCs also provide training to help rehabilitation personnel deliver more effective rehabilitation services.
- Rehabilitation Engineering Research Centers (RERCs): RERCs focus on rehabilitation technology, including rehabilitation engineering and assistive technology devices and services designed to diminish barriers to independence. RERCs also train individuals, including those with disabilities, to become researchers and practitioners in the field of rehabilitation technology.
- Model Systems: The Model Systems programs in spinal cord injury (SCI), traumatic brain injury (TBI), and burn injury provide coordinated systems of rehabilitation care and conduct research on recovery and long-term outcomes. In addition, these centers serve as platforms for collaborative, multi-site research, including research intended to improve long-term functional, vocational, cognitive, and quality-of-life outcomes in individuals with SCI, TBI, or burn injury. Each Model System functions as a center of excellence, combining acute care, inpatient rehab, outpatient services, and community reintegration. The programs also track Model Systems patients over time.
- Field-Initiated Projects: Field-Initiated Projects supplement NIDILRR's directed research and development, capacity building, and knowledge translation efforts by addressing a wide range of topics identified by investigators.

- Disability and Rehabilitation Research Projects: Grantees focus on addressing problems that people with disabilities encounter with activities of daily living.
- ADA National Network Centers: The network centers support technical assistance, information, and training to promote increased understanding, awareness, and enforcement of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA).
- Advanced Rehabilitation Research Training (ARRT): The ARRT program funds grants to institutions of higher education to recruit and train qualified persons with doctoral or similar advanced degrees and prepare them to conduct independent research in areas related to disability and rehabilitation.
- Small Business Innovation Research (SBIR): SBIR grants are awarded to small businesses to support the development of new rehabilitation technologies that promote increased accessibility and independence.
- Switzer Research Fellowships: The Switzer program awards one-year fellowships to individuals to carry out research projects in areas of importance to the disability and rehabilitation community.

Budget Request

The FY 2026 request for the National Institute on Disability, Independent Living, and Rehabilitation Research (NIDILRR) is \$100,000,000. The request maintains NIDILRR's capacity to support research and translate and disseminate findings to foster innovation to afford people with disabilities the opportunity to gain their highest functional health status, live and fully participate in the community, and to gain and sustain competitive, integrated employment.

Funding History

Funding for NIDILRR over the last five years is as follows:

Fiscal Year	Amount
FY 2022	\$116,470,000
FY 2023	\$119,000,000
FY 2024	\$119,000,000
FY 2025 Enacted	*
FY 2026 President's Budget	\$100,000,000

* Consistent with the 2025 operating plan, funding levels are displayed for statutory PPAs. This activity is not intended to be separate PPA for 2025, and is rolled up within the account.

Program Accomplishments

Grantees produce peer-reviewed publications, intervention protocols, software, databases, and a wide range of other outputs and outcomes across NIDILRR's three domains: health and function, community living and participation, and employment.

In FY 2023, NIDILRR grantees produced 641 peer reviewed publications; 246 non-peer reviewed publications; 173 information products; 63 tools, measures and information protocols; and 47 technology products and devices. NIDILRR funded 271 grant awards supporting 1,515 discrete projects.

Outcomes and Outputs Tables: National Institute on Disability, Independent Living, and Rehabilitation Research

Measure	Year and Most Recent Result / Target for Recent Result / (Summary of Result)	FY 2025 Target	FY 2026 Target	FY 2026 Target +/-FY 2025 Target
R4 By 2027, generate new research-based policies, practices, services, or interventions to reduce disparities in outcomes experienced by people with disabilities from underserved communities and communities of color. (Outcome)	FY 2023: Three new RRTCs have been funded (2022-2027), focusing on reducing disparities in Health and Function; Employment; and Community Living and Participation outcome domains Target: By 2023, fund three new Rehabilitation Research and Training Center (RRTC) grants to serve as Equity Centers in the Health and Function, Employment, and Community Living outcome domains. (Target Met)	*	N/A	N/A
R5 By 2027, generate new evidence-based practices and interventions to promote improved outcomes for people with spinal cord injury (SCI), traumatic brain injury (TBI), and burn injury (burn). (Outcome)	FY 2023: All SCIMS, TBIMS, and BMS new grant cycles were funded. Target: By 2023, fund new grant cycles for the Spinal Cord Injury Model Systems (SCIMS), Traumatic Brain Injury Model Systems (TBIMS), and Burn Model Systems (BMS) programs. (Target Met)	*	N/A	N/A
R6 By 2027, generate new evidence-based practices and interventions for implementation by employers, to promote improved employment outcomes among people with disabilities. (Outcome)	FY 2023: RRTC on Disability Employer Practices continued to be funded in 2023. Target: By 2023, make a RRTC award aimed at improving employer practices and ultimately employment outcomes for individuals with disabilities. (Target Met)	*	N/A	N/A

*Performance targets under development

Aging and Disability Resource Centers

Program	FY 2024 Final	FY 2025 Enacted	FY 2026 President's Budget	FY 2026 +/- FY 2025
Aging and Disability Resource Centers	\$8,619	*	\$8,619	N/A

BA is in thousands of dollars.

* Consistent with the 2025 operating plan, funding levels are displayed for statutory PPAs. This activity is not intended to be separate PPA for 2025, and is rolled up within the account.

Allocation Method.....Competitive Grants/Cooperative Agreements and Contracts

Program Description

The Aging and Disability Resource Centers (ADRCs) supports states in streamlining access to the long-term services and supports (LTSS) many older people and people with disabilities need to live and participate in their communities. With grants from ACL, states have developed or expanded “No Wrong Door” (NWD) systems in which state agencies retain responsibility for their respective services but coordinate to integrate access to other agency services through a single, standardized process (currently 56 states and territories have NWD systems). At the local level, community-based ADRCs within a state NWD system deliver one-on-one, person-centered counseling and serve as consumer-friendly entry points to the system.

Budget Request

The FY 2026 request for Aging and Disability Resource Centers (ADRCs) is \$8,619,000. These funds will support ADRCs in providing objective information, advice, counseling, and assistance to help people make informed decisions about LTSS and accessing both public and private programs, easing access for those who need services.

Funding History

Funding for Aging and Disability Resource Centers over the last five years is as follows:

Fiscal Year	Amount
FY 2022	\$8,119,000
FY 2023	\$8,619,000
FY 2024	\$8,619,000
FY 2025 Enacted	*
FY 2026 President's Budget	\$8,619,000

* Consistent with the 2025 operating plan, funding levels are displayed for statutory PPAs. This activity is not intended to be separate PPA for 2025, and is rolled up within the account.

Program Accomplishments

In FY 2023, 10 states were awarded two-year grants to enhance ADRC/NWD infrastructure in their state. Grantees mapped the current state of the LTSS access system to gain an understanding of individuals and family caregivers experience in accessing supports to inform a collaborative, multi-agency approach to addressing gaps and challenges. For example, in Tennessee, the cross agency collaboration (which includes the state unit on aging, state Medicaid agency, state department on Veteran's Affairs, and state agencies that administer programs for mental and behavioral health, as well as people with intellectual and physical disabilities) provided momentum for a merger of Tennessee's Aging and Intellectual/Developmental Disability (I/DD) agencies to form a new Department of Aging and Disability. This will operationalize NWD infrastructure for the state and streamline access for thousands of older adults and people with disabilities.

Through the Veteran-Directed Care (VDC) program, a partnership between the Veterans Health Administration and ACFC, ADRCs and other local aging and disability network agencies provide integrated options counseling and access points to care transition and diversion support to help veterans with disabilities continue living in the community. Veterans and caregivers value the program because it gives veterans control over the care and support they receive in the community. The program enables them to design their care to fit their life rather than designing their life to fit the care provided. The VDC program is available in 39 states, plus the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, and U.S Virgin Islands and is serving 6,085 veterans through 82 VA Medical Centers (VAMCs) and 295 aging and disability network agencies.

State Health Insurance Assistance Programs

Program	FY 2024 Final	FY 2025 Enacted	FY 2026 President's Budget	FY 2026 +/- FY 2025
State Health Insurance Assistance Program	\$55,242	\$55,242	\$55,242	--
FTEs	5	5	5	--

* BA is in thousands of dollars; FTE are in whole numbers.

Allocation Method..... Formula and Competitive Grants/Contracts

Program Description

State Health Insurance Assistance Programs (SHIPs) provide unbiased education and assistance to Medicare beneficiaries, their families, and caregivers – the majority of who are in the most need of assistance. Through a national network of nearly 11,500 highly trained SHIP team members, half of who are volunteers, the program conducts public outreach in local communities and provides in-depth one-on-one assistance (by phone, online, and in person) based on the unique needs of the beneficiary.

The assistance provided to Medicare beneficiaries helps them in accessing, understanding, and connecting to the healthcare system, thus improving their customer service experience with Medicare. SHIPs help Medicare beneficiaries fully understand the Medicare choices available to them so that the beneficiaries can make informed enrollment and benefit decisions that ultimately reduce costs to both the beneficiary and Medicare.

ACFC provides SHIP grants to all 50 States, the District of Columbia, Guam, Puerto Rico, and the U.S. Virgin Islands to fund the infrastructure, training, and administration needed to support nearly 11,500 SHIP team members, many of whom are volunteers, in over 2,000 community-based organizations. These organizations are known and trusted in their communities for the unbiased way they assist beneficiaries and provide other forms of assistance and services to older adults and people with disabilities. Nearly two-thirds of the 54 state SHIP programs are administered by State Units on Aging, with the remaining programs administered by State Departments of Insurance.

Budget Request:

The FY 2026 request for State Health Insurance Assistance Programs (SHIP) is \$55,242,000. This funding level maintains support for this vital program that provides unbiased help to older adults and people with disabilities who are Medicare eligible or dually eligible for Medicare and Medicaid.

Funding History

Funding for the State Health Insurance Assistance Program (SHIP) over the past five years is as follows:

Fiscal Year	Amount
FY 2022	\$53,115,000
FY 2023	\$55,242,000
FY 2024	\$55,242,000
FY 2025 Enacted	\$55,242,000
FY 2026 President's Budget	\$55,242,000

Program Accomplishments

The SHIP program provides in-depth assistance to Medicare beneficiaries, including access to a national network of nearly 11,500 highly trained SHIP team members, half of whom are volunteers. The SHIP program is able to provide twice as many trained team members than it could if only hiring paid staff. The network provides local community-based assistance to the ever-increasing number of Medicare beneficiaries.

For example, the SHIP Technical Assistance Center recently received the following feedback from a caregiver who worked with SHIP:

"I've recently had the absolute pleasure of working through signing my parents up for Medicare. My parents and I were very nervous about the process. The SHIP team member was incredibly knowledgeable, giving, and prompt in her responses. I'd get emails back from her the same day, often in just a few hours. This allowed us to quickly get answers and move one step closer to getting the plans we needed. The SHIP information on pricing and expected increases by age (as well as past inflation + medical cost increases) were invaluable. I can't tell you how absolutely essential it was to have a non-biased aid, like our SHIP team member, collect and walk us through this information. She gave us information insurance brokers didn't even have. In short -- thank you for this program! And thank you for having such an amazing staff! Working with our team member really transformed our whole experience with Medicare. It went from intimidating to approachable. Please keep up the good work!"

Assistive Technology Programs

Program	FY 2024 Final	FY 2025 Enacted	FY 2026 President's Budget	FY 2026 +/- FY 2025
Assistive Technology	\$40,000	*	\$40,000	N/A
<i>Assistive Technology Act Programs</i>	<i>\$38,000</i>	*	<i>\$38,000</i>	<i>N/A</i>
<i>Alternative Financing Programs/1</i>	<i>\$2,000</i>	*	<i>\$2,000</i>	<i>N/A</i>
FTEs	--	--	--	--

BA is in thousands of dollars, FTE are in whole numbers.

* Consistent with the 2025 operating plan, funding levels are displayed for statutory PPAs. This activity is not intended to be separate PPA for 2025, and is rolled up within the account.

** Note, the FTE in each year is estimated to be 0.4 rounding to zero.

1/ The Alternative Financing Program was added by Congress in the Further Consolidated Appropriations Act in FY 2024.

Allocation Method.....Formula and Competitive Grants and Contracts

Program Description

ACFC's Assistive Technology (AT) programs expand access to AT devices and services that increase, maintain, or improve the lives of individuals with disabilities. Examples of AT include computer or technology aids, modified driving controls, threshold ramps, sensors, and durable medical equipment such as wheelchairs or walkers. AT helps people with disabilities of all ages remain in their homes and engaged in all aspects of community living.

Assistive Technology (AT) State Grants:

The AT State Grant program, authorized under section 4 of the 21st Century Assistive Technology Act, is a population-based formula grant program to support comprehensive statewide programs that maximize the ability of people with disabilities of all ages to access and acquire AT. The program requires states to apply in the form of a three-year State Plan for AT in order to receive funds. States must also establish an advisory council whose membership includes a majority of individuals with disabilities who use AT. The council advises on the planning, implementation, and evaluation of these statewide programs.

Protection and Advocacy for Assistive Technology:

The Protection and Advocacy for Assistive Technology (PAAT) program provides formula grants to the Protection and Advocacy (P&A) system in each state and territory to expand assistive technology access to individuals with disabilities. With this funding, P&A systems help people with disabilities obtain, use, and maintain AT services or devices.

National Activities Grants:

The National Activities program funds competitively awarded grants, contracts, and cooperative agreements to support the development and implementation of data collection and reporting systems and technical assistance to disabled people of all ages, recipients of state AT grants, and to P&As. The program also supports the AT3 Center, which provides training and technical assistance for all AT Act

programs, and the Center for AT Act Data Assistance, which provides data about – and to inform – AT Act programs.

Budget Request

The FY 2026 request for Assistive Technology (AT) programs is \$40,000,000. This funding level maintains access, availability, and training for assistive technology and reduces the cost of obtaining devices.

Funding History

Funding for the Assistive Technology Programs over the past five years is as follows:

Fiscal Year	Amount
FY 2022/1	\$38,500,000
FY 2023 /1	\$40,000,000
FY 2024 /1	\$40,000,000
FY 2025 Enacted/1	*
FY 2026 President’s Budget/1	\$40,000,000

1/Funding level includes \$2 million in funding directed to the alternative financing program.

Program Accomplishments

AT programs provide a set of integrated activities and services that directly benefit individuals with disabilities of all ages, veterans, caregivers, professionals, schools, vocational rehabilitation agencies, healthcare providers and agencies that increase access to assistive technology.

Outcomes and Outputs Tables: Assistive Technology

Measure	Year and Most Recent Result / Target for Recent Result / (Summary of Result)	FY 2025 Target	FY 2026 Target	FY 2026 Target +/-FY 2025 Target
AT1 Maintain at 90% or higher the number of device demonstrations and short-term device loans that result in positive decision-making to ensure consumer-equipment match. (Outcome)	FY 2024: 94% Target: 90% (Target Exceed)	*	N/A	N/A

*Performance targets under development

Medicare Improvements for Patients and Providers Act Programs (MIPPA)

Program	FY 2024 Final/1	FY 2025 Enacted/2	FY 2026 President's Budget/3	FY 2026 +/- FY 2025
MIPPA	\$50,000	\$50,000	\$50,000	--
<i>Area Agencies on Aging (AAAs)</i>	<i>\$15,000</i>	<i>\$15,000</i>	<i>\$15,000</i>	--
<i>Aging and Disability Resource Centers (ADRCs)</i>	<i>\$5,000</i>	<i>\$5,000</i>	<i>\$5,000</i>	--
<i>Benefits Outreach</i>	<i>\$15,000</i>	<i>\$15,000</i>	<i>\$15,000</i>	--
<i>State Health Insurance Assistance Program (SHIP)</i>	<i>\$15,000</i>	<i>\$15,000</i>	<i>\$15,000</i>	--
FTEs	5	5	4	-1

BA is in thousands of dollars. FTE are in whole numbers.

1/ The Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2024 reauthorized Medicare Improvements for Patients and Providers Act (MIPPA) for 15 months through December of 2024.

2/ The FY 2025 column reflects the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2024; American Relief Act, 2025; and the Full-Year Continuing Appropriations and Extension Act 2025 which reauthorized the MIPPA program through FY 2025.

3/The FY 2026 Budget proposes a one-year reauthorization of the MIPPA program.

Allocation Method..... Competitive Grants/Formula Grants, Contracts, Direct

Program Description

The Medicare Improvements for Patients and Providers Act (MIPPA) programs provide funding to key segments of ACFC's network of community-based service providers – including area agencies on aging (AAAs), Aging and Disability Resource Centers (ADRCs), and State Health Insurance Assistance Programs (SHIPs). This funding allows for additional outreach to help hard-to-reach Medicare beneficiaries, such as those living in rural communities, low-income individuals, and people with limited English proficiency. MIPPA grantees educate beneficiaries about the Low-Income Subsidy (LIS) program for Medicare Part D, which commonly known as the “Extra Help” program, Medicare Savings Programs (MSPs), and Medicare Preventive Services while also providing in-depth application assistance to eligible Medicare beneficiaries to help them apply for benefit programs that help lower their healthcare costs. MIPPA funds also support the National Center for Benefits Outreach and Enrollment.

For beneficiaries who qualify, the MSPs pay their Medicare Part A or/and Part B premiums and co-insurance costs, while the Low-Income Subsidy (LIS) helps reduce Medicare beneficiary prescription drug costs, including Part D premiums, prescription deductibles and co-pays. Medicare beneficiaries are eligible for these programs if they have limited incomes and assets. Medicare Preventive Services help beneficiaries stay healthy and prevent disease.

MIPPA grants provide support for education and application assistance so that Medicare beneficiaries can access MSP and LIS programs for which they qualify but are not yet enrolled in. MIPPA funding is not used to support the day-day services of AAAs, ADRCs, and SHIPs. Instead, it supports additional in-depth one-on-one assistance, both to identify older adults and those with disabilities in need, and to provide much more intensive counseling to these specific populations. Grantees report that the application process for these benefits is complicated and time consuming. Without the grantee assistance funded by MIPPA, many beneficiaries are unable to fully complete the application process and therefore do not

receive all the benefits which they may be eligible. In addition, grantees have indicated that many beneficiaries are unaware that there are programs to help them cover their Medicare costs. If the agencies did not receive this additional MIPPA funding, it is likely that fewer beneficiaries would enroll in MSP or LIS, or access Medicare Preventive Services.

MIPPA funds also support the National Center for Benefits Outreach and Enrollment (NCBOE), which coordinates efforts to inform older adults and beneficiaries with disabilities about the benefits available under Federal and state programs, with an emphasis on providing information on programs available to those with limited incomes and/or assets. The NCBOE provides tools, resources, and technology to help local, state, and regional organizations find, counsel, and assist seniors and younger adults with disabilities in applying for and enrolling in the benefits for which they may be eligible.

Budget Request

Funding is provided through mandatory appropriations. Existing funding has been appropriated and is available through FY 2025. The total FY 2026 funding request is \$50,000,000. MIPPA funding assists over two million people with Medicare annually through education and enrollment assistance.

Three funding streams provide formula grants to States – AAAs and tribes, ADRCs, and SHIPs – to provide services to eligible Medicare beneficiaries. MIPPA funding is not used to support the day-day services of these entities, but to go beyond the assistance normally provided, both in terms of identifying older Americans and people with disabilities in need, and to provide much more intensive counseling and enrollment assistance (up to several hours per beneficiary) that focuses on those qualifying for the Medicare Low-Income Subsidy (LIS) or MSP. Without MIPPA funding, SHIPs, ADRCs, and AAAs would not be able to carry out these targeted outreach and enrollment assistance activities, meaning that beneficiaries would lose this assistance and bear higher out of pocket costs.

A fourth funding stream under MIPPA provides for a National Center for Benefits Outreach and Enrollment (NCBOE), which coordinates efforts to inform older adults and beneficiaries with disabilities about the low-income benefits available under Federal and state programs, with an emphasis on providing information on programs to help Medicare beneficiaries access their Medicare coverage, specifically the LIS and MSP. In addition, the NCBOE supports a nationwide network of 90 local Benefit Enrollment Centers which provide low-income benefits information and enrollment assistance to the public.

^[1] Office of the Assistant Secretary for Planning and Evaluation. Medicare Enrollees and the Part D Drug Benefit: Improving Financial Protection through the Low-Income Subsidy.

^[2] Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services. Inflation Reduction Act and Medicare.

Funding History

In each of fiscal years 2022 through 2025, MIPPA was funded through mandatory appropriations, as follows:

Fiscal Year	Amount
FY 2022/1	\$48,571,000
FY 2023 /1	\$47,150,000
FY 2024 /2	\$50,000,000
FY 2025 Enacted/3	\$50,000,000
FY 2026 President's Budget/4	\$50,000,000

1/ Includes a sequestration of 5.7 percent in the second half of FY 2022 and the entirety of FY 2023.

2/ The Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2024 reauthorized MIPPA for 15 months through December of 2024.

3/ The Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2024; American Relief Act, 2025; and the Full-Year Continuing Appropriations and Extension Act, 2025 which reauthorized the Medicare Improvements for Patients and Providers Act (MIPPA) program through FY 2025.

4/ The FY 2026 Budget proposes a one-year reauthorization of the Medicare Improvements for Patients and Providers Act program.

Program Accomplishments

In the 2022 grant cycle (Sept. 1, 2022 – Aug. 31, 2023), MIPPA State Grantees educated over 1.2 million beneficiaries at nearly 19,000 group outreach events and conducted almost one million one-on-one contacts with Medicare beneficiaries, their families, or caregivers. Additionally, they helped nearly 68,000 beneficiaries with applications for MSP and Low-Income Subsidy (LIS) and educated over 122,000 beneficiaries about Medicare preventive services.

Based on the most recent reporting data (March 1, 2023- August 31, 2023) the NCBOE Benefit Enrollment Centers (BECs) assisted over 87,600 people and submitted just over 140,000 applications for LIS, MSP and other low-income benefits worth an estimated \$312 million.

Programs Proposed for Elimination in the FY 2026 President's Budget

The FY 2026 President's Budget eliminates discretionary funding for University Centers for Excellence in Developmental Disabilities, Projects of National Significance, Limb Loss Resource Center, Paralysis Resource Center, and Voting Access for People with Disabilities.