

***The Social Services Block Grant
Why Is It Important for the SECA States?***

The Social Services Block Grant (SSBG) has for many years provided financial support for varied services, particularly to children, in the SECA states. SSBG can be utilized to fund over 30 services and has become an important support during the last few years for specialized children’s services. Because it is a flexible source of funding, it can be channeled into many different programs. As you review your state’s expenditures, you will find that your state’s most vulnerable populations, children and the elderly, receive services through this funding source.

During the FY 2007 budget debate, this block grant is on the table to consider for budget reductions. The total block grant allocation estimate is reduced from \$1.7 billion to \$1.2 billion. If the \$1.2 billion figure is adopted, the reductions noted in the chart below would affect your state.

Estimated Reductions in SSBG Funding

State	Estimated Reduction
<i>Alabama</i>	-\$7,645,437
<i>Arkansas</i>	-\$4,661,856
<i>Florida</i>	-\$29,841,381
<i>Georgia</i>	-\$15,218,677
<i>Kentucky</i>	-\$7,000,625
<i>Louisiana</i>	-\$7,588,102
<i>Mississippi</i>	-\$4,899,942
<i>North Carolina</i>	-\$14,565,594
<i>Oklahoma</i>	-\$5,951,353
<i>South Carolina</i>	-\$7,137,635
<i>Tennessee</i>	-\$10,002,490
<i>Texas</i>	-\$38,346,163
<i>Virginia</i>	-\$12,693,948
<i>West Virginia</i>	-\$3,047,662

- Estimated state allocations for FY 2007 assumes \$1.7 billion in total funding from US Department of Health and Human Services website at www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/ocs/ssbg.
- These estimates (based on \$1.2 billion in funding) assume funds will be distributed in the same proportion as in the HHS estimate of state allocations for \$1.7 billion in total funding.
- Estimates provided by the National Women’s Law Center, March 2006.

Why is this important?

- If your state is considering implementing a new, expanded or universal pre-K program, any reduction in existing federal revenue means that states must either fund existing programs themselves or eliminate those programs. Many of the programs that are funded by SSBG are legally mandated, particularly protective services for children and revenue may be directed toward those programs, rather than a new pre-K funding level.
- The SSBG funds currently serve the neediest of our populations of children and elderly.
- Activities funded under “administrative costs” are often staff positions for state programs. Cuts in federal funds could mean reductions in staff in critical programs for children who are at-risk..

What do you need to know?

- **Find out how your state spends this money** within the service categories. For example, do the expenditures for foster care include the board payments made to families who care for these children? Do the SSBG funds support the foster care workers who place children outside of harmful family situations? Your Department of Human Services or Human Resources should be able to answer this question
- If reductions occur at the federal level, **what is the plan in your state** to either reduce services or maintain them through new or reallocated funds.
- **Is there a way to utilize SSBG in your state to support your pre-K efforts?** Is some of the SSBG funding already being utilized this way? (SSBG funds can support auxiliary services in pre-K such as child care wrap-around to meet the needs of working parents. Pre-K can pay for part of the day, SSBG for the rest of the day for eligible children.)
- **All states submit a plan to the federal government on how they plan to spend their SSBG allocation.** Do you have a copy of that plan so that you know what services are being funded?

Appendix A provides the expenditures under SSBG in 2003 for your state reported by the Administration for Children & Families. For more comprehensive information about your state, go to www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/ssbg/annrpt/2003.

Appendix B contains contact information for each state. This information is current as of March 2006 and is provided by the Administration for Children and Families website.

Appendix A

SSBG Expenditures for Services in the SECA States (2003 Annual Report)

State	Service	SSBG Allocation
Alabama		
	Day Care-Children	\$500,000
	Foster Care Services-Children	\$19,218,535
	Home-Based Services	\$94,536
	Prevention & Intervention	\$54,391
	Protective Services—Children	\$3,825,569
	Administrative Costs	\$2,806,657
	Total	\$26,499,688
Arkansas		
	Adoption Services	\$4,864
	Congregate Meals (Mostly adults)	\$514,509
	Counseling Services	\$908,456
	Day Care Adults	\$21,291
	Day Care Children	\$18,724
	Education & Training Services	\$3,807
	Home-Based Services	\$75,756
	Home-Delivered Meals	\$687,032
	Independent/Transitional Living	\$1,123,720
	Legal Services	\$101,238
	Prevention & Intervention	\$979,834
	Protective Services-Adults	\$28,447
	Recreation Services	\$308,459
	Residential Treatment	\$2,579,692
	Special Services-Disabled	\$2,824,235
	Special Services-Youth at Risk	\$490,494
	Substance Abuse Services	\$423,975
	Transportation	\$369,953
	Administrative Costs	\$2,177,968
	Total	\$13,642,365
Florida		
	Adoption Services	\$66,958
	Case Management	\$1,883,450
	Day Care- Children	\$5,958,452
	Education & Training Services	\$351,940
	Foster Care Services-Children	\$4,576,994
	Health Related Services	\$1,523,415
	Legal Services	\$4,625,191
	Prevention and Intervention	\$177,719
	Protective Services-Adults	\$5,026,989
	Protective Services-Children	\$9,381,832
	Special Services-Disabled	\$63,328,427
	Administrative Costs	\$95,539
	Total	\$96,996,906

Georgia		
	Adoption Services	\$108,759
	Day Care-Adults	\$107,100
	Day Care-Children	\$90
	Foster Care Services	\$1,072,747
	Home-Based Services	\$2,023,378
	Home-Delivered Meals	\$797,378
	Prevention & Intervention	\$11
	Protective Services-Adults	\$333,189
	Protective Services-Children	\$452,512
	Special Services-Disabled	\$35,314,395
	Transportation	\$8,055,174
	Administrative Costs	-0-
	Total	\$48,264,733
Kentucky		
	Home-Based Services	\$393,857
	Prevention & Intervention	\$526,192
	Protective Services-Adults	\$2,300,011
	Protective Services-Children	\$13,208,044
	Residential Treatment	\$7,677,969
	Special Services—Youth at Risk	\$699,239
	Administrative Costs	\$139,864
	Total	\$24,945,176
Louisiana		
	Adoption Services	\$1,863,113
	Foster Care Services-Children	\$22,353,728
	Prevention & Intervention	\$3,304,209
	Protective Services-Children	\$864,430
	Administrative Costs	\$523,832
	Total	\$28,909,312
Mississippi		
	Adoption Services	\$2,407
	Case Management	\$1,197,077
	Counseling Services	\$1,921,377
	Day Care-Adults	\$187,622
	Day Care-Children	\$255,366
	Education & Training Services	\$1,620,065
	Family Planning Services	\$396,227
	Foster Care Services-Children	\$101,842
	Home-Based Services	\$2,081,415
	Home-Delivered Meals	\$2,367,408
	Independent/Transitional Living	\$1,205,713
	Information & Referral	\$32,044
	Prevention & Intervention	\$35,002
	Protective Services-Adults	\$146,888
	Protective Services-Children	\$2,329,610
	Substance Abuse Services	\$546,713
	Transportation	\$677,828
	Administrative Costs	\$809,745

	Total	\$15,914,349
N Carolina		
	Adoption Services	\$625,193
	Case Management	\$5,843,355
	Counseling Services	\$647,513
	Day Care-Adults	\$1,057,569
	Day Care-Children	\$3,552,102
	Education & Training Services	\$31,961
	Employment Services	\$38
	Family Planning Services	\$14,064
	Foster Care Services-Adults	\$410,964
	Foster Care Services-Children	\$1,151,154
	Health-Related Services	\$1,223,279
	Home-Based Services	\$3,576,690
	Home-Delivered Meals	\$38,582
	Housing Services	\$14,990
	Independent/Transitional Living	\$50,575
	Information & Referral	\$34,176
	Pregnancy and Parenting	\$17,031
	Prevention & Intervention	\$40,616
	Protective Services-Adults	\$2,815,407
	Protective Services-Children	\$65,010
	Special Services-Disabled	\$12,896,619
	Special Services-Youth at Risk	\$9,462
	Transportation	\$664,138
	Other Services	\$11,596,538
	Administrative Costs	\$2,506,174
	Total	\$48,883,200
Oklahoma		
	Congregate Meals	\$4,947,092
	Day Care-Adults	\$1,003,000
	Day Care—Children	\$81,261
	Foster Care Services—Children	\$1,695,361
	Prevention & Intervention	\$421,320
	Protective Services-Adults	\$5,000,000
	Protective Services-Children	\$7,390,537
	Administrative Costs	-0-
	Total	\$20,538,571
S Carolina		
	Adoption Services	\$105,616
	Counseling Services	\$263,824
	Day Care-Adults	\$242,738
	Day Care-Children	\$9,966,767
	Education & Training Services	\$346,219
	Foster Care Services-Children	\$1,720,255
	Home-Based Services	\$3,987,517
	Home-Delivered Meals	\$991,472
	Prevention & Intervention	\$225,523
	Protective Services-Adults	\$3,117,221

	Protective Services-Children	\$2,284,417
	Special Services-Disabled	\$31,539
	Other Services	\$626,966
	Administrative Costs	\$475,630
	Total	\$24,385,704
Tennessee		
	Adoption Services	\$46,100
	Case Management	\$10,804,400
	Day Care-Adults	\$614,743
	Day Care-Children	\$15,820,990
	Home-Based Services	\$2,916,538
	Protective Services-Adults	\$2,302,052
	Protective Services-Children	\$200
	Special Services-Youth at Risk	\$1,234,900
	Other Services	\$131,900
	Administrative Costs	\$2,902,047
	Total	\$36,773,870
Texas		
	Case Management	\$9,200,411
	Counseling Services	\$416,493
	Day Care-Adults	\$3,033,104
	Family Planning Services	\$6,908,059
	Foster Care Services-Adults	\$935,920
	Foster Care Services-Children	\$9,502
	Home-Based Services	\$47,679,481
	Home-Delivered Meals	\$11,042,037
	Information & Referral	\$867,431
	Prevention & Intervention	\$600,916
	Protective Services-Adults	\$21,305,590
	Protective Services-Children	\$136,071
	Special Services -Disabled	\$1,137,394
	Special Services-Youth at Risk	\$376,185
	Other Services	\$3,941,760
	Administrative Costs	\$9,571,934
	Total	\$117,162,288
Virginia		
	Adoption Services	\$489,371
	Counseling Services	\$19,553
	Day Care-Adults	\$217,609
	Day Care-Children	\$191,572
	Education & Training Services	\$543
	Employment Services	\$13,137
	Foster Care Services-Adults	\$7,784
	Foster Care Services-Children	\$5,127,818
	Health-Related Services	\$7,293
	Home-Based Services	\$7,754,856
	Home-Delivered Meals	\$9,458
	Housing Services	\$186,237
	Information & Referral	\$643,367

	Legal Services	\$7,383
	Prevention & Intervention	\$2,641,585
	Protective Services-Adults	\$4,274,485
	Protective Services-Children	\$3,649,387
	Recreation Services	\$8,193
	Special Services-Disabled	\$2,764
	Substance Abuse Services	\$885
	Transportation	\$36,477
	Other Services	\$7,741,961
	Administrative Costs	\$5,220,048
	Total	\$38,251,766
West Virginia		
	Adoption Services	\$712,314
	Counseling Services	\$267,652
	Day Care-Children	\$1,127,546
	Foster Care Services-Adults	\$534,449
	Foster Care Services-Children	\$1,157,830
	Protective Services-Adults	\$1,068,898
	Protective Services-Children	\$3,206,694
	Special Services-Youth at Risk	\$891,033
	Administrative Costs	\$1,853,488
	Total	\$10,819,904

Source: www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/ocs/ssbg/annrpt/2003/states.html

Appendix B

State Contacts for the Social Services Block Grant

State	Contact	Phone	E-mail
Alabama			
	James D Connell <i>AL Dept of Human Resources</i>	334-242-9463	jconnell@dhr.state.al.us
Arkansas			
	Mark Hauser <i>AR Dept of Health & Human Services</i>	501-682-6539	Mark.hauser@arkansas.gov
Florida			
	Melissa Jacoby <i>Dept of Children & Families</i>	850-410-5284	Melissa_jacoby@dcf.state.fl.us
Georgia			
	Otis J. Prewitt <i>GA Dept of Human Resources</i>	404-656-7098	ojprewitt@dhr.ga.gov
Kentucky			
	Jason Moseley <i>KY Dept for Community Based Services</i>	502-564-3556	Jasonc.Moseley@ky.gov
Louisiana			
	Debbie Johnson <i>LA Dept of Social Services, Office of Community Services</i>	225-342-2766	Djohns13@dss.state.la.us
Mississippi			
	Eriaka R Jones <i>MS Dept of Human Services</i>	601-359-4777	ejones@mdhs.state.ms.us
N Carolina			
	Hank Bowers <i>NC Dept of Health & Human Services, Div of Social Services</i>	919-733-4530	Hank.Bowers@ncmail.net
Oklahoma			
	Marilynn Knott <i>OK Dept of Human Services</i>	405-521-2907	Marilynn.knott@okdhs.org
S Carolina			
	Elizabeth Smith <i>SC Dept of Social Services</i>	803-898-2754	lsmith@dhhs.state.sc.us

Tennessee			
	Jim Williams <i>TN Dept of Human Services</i>	615-313-5383	James.Robert.Williams@state.tn.us
Texas			
	Kathy Payne <i>TX Health & Human Services Commission</i>	512-424-6861	Kathy.payne@hsc.state.tx.us
Virginia			
	Susan Ross <i>VA Dept of Social Services</i>	804-726-7231	Susan.ross@dss.Virginia.gov
W Virginia			
	Tom Strawderman <i>WV Dept of Health & Human Resources</i>	304-558-2974	tstrawderman@wvdhhr.org

Source: Administration for Children & Families Website, March 2006
www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/ocs/ssbg/annrpt/2003/states.html

Note: Personnel at the agencies may change; however, the agency listed usually maintains the administration of the block grant.