

Voices for Virginia's Children Budget Priorities

Children's Mental Health

- Expand Children's Crisis Response and Child Psychiatry: An additional \$1.45 million is needed to fund 2 additional communities in the crisis intervention and child psychiatry pilot programs that began in FY13.
 - The Governor has included \$1 million in his budget
 - Please support an additional \$450,000 (Item 315 #6h- O'Bannon & Item 315 #9s- Hanger)
- Conduct a review of Medicaid funded children's mental health services by DMAS in consultation with DBHDS.
 - Budget language (Item 307 #37s- Hanger)

Early Care and Education

- Investing in evidence-based home visiting programs to empower parents as their child's first teacher. Since 2009, state funding for home visiting has been reduced by a third and programs have had to close or downsize in many communities. Please restore funding to the evidence based programs in Virginia's network, CHIP/Parents as Teachers and Healthy Families Virginia by supporting these budget amendments for FY14:
 - Restore \$190,000 to Healthy Families Virginia (Item 343 #1h- Peace, Item 343 #4s- Howell)
 - Restore \$757,946 to CHIP of Virginia/Parents as Teachers (Item 297 #4h- Dance, Item 297 #4s- Hanger)
- Ensuring that all infants and toddlers with developmental disabilities have access to assessment and services through Early Intervention/IDEA Part C by closing the budget shortfall of \$8.5 million. Since 2007, the number of infants and toddlers identified for services has increased 52% to over 15,000 infants and toddlers.
 - The Governor has included \$3 million in FY13 and FY14.
 - Please support \$5.5 million for Early Intervention/IDEA Part C to meet the budgeted shortfall in FY14 (Item 315 #2h- O'Bannon, Item 315 #6s- Howell)

Child Welfare and Adoption

- Connect more foster care children to a permanent home by supporting incentives for adoption and additional supportive services for adoptive families.
 - The Governor has proposed \$2 million in additional funding to support adoption in his budget.

Children's Health

- When parents are healthy and have health coverage their children are more likely to be healthy. Support the extension of Medicaid to parents and individuals up to 133% of poverty so that both parents and children can access care.
 - Please support Virginia's participation in the Medicaid Extension (Item 307 #38h- Hope)