



VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF  
SOCIAL SERVICES

# VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES

**Senate Finance and Appropriations Committee**

**Commissioner James Williams**

January 16, 2025

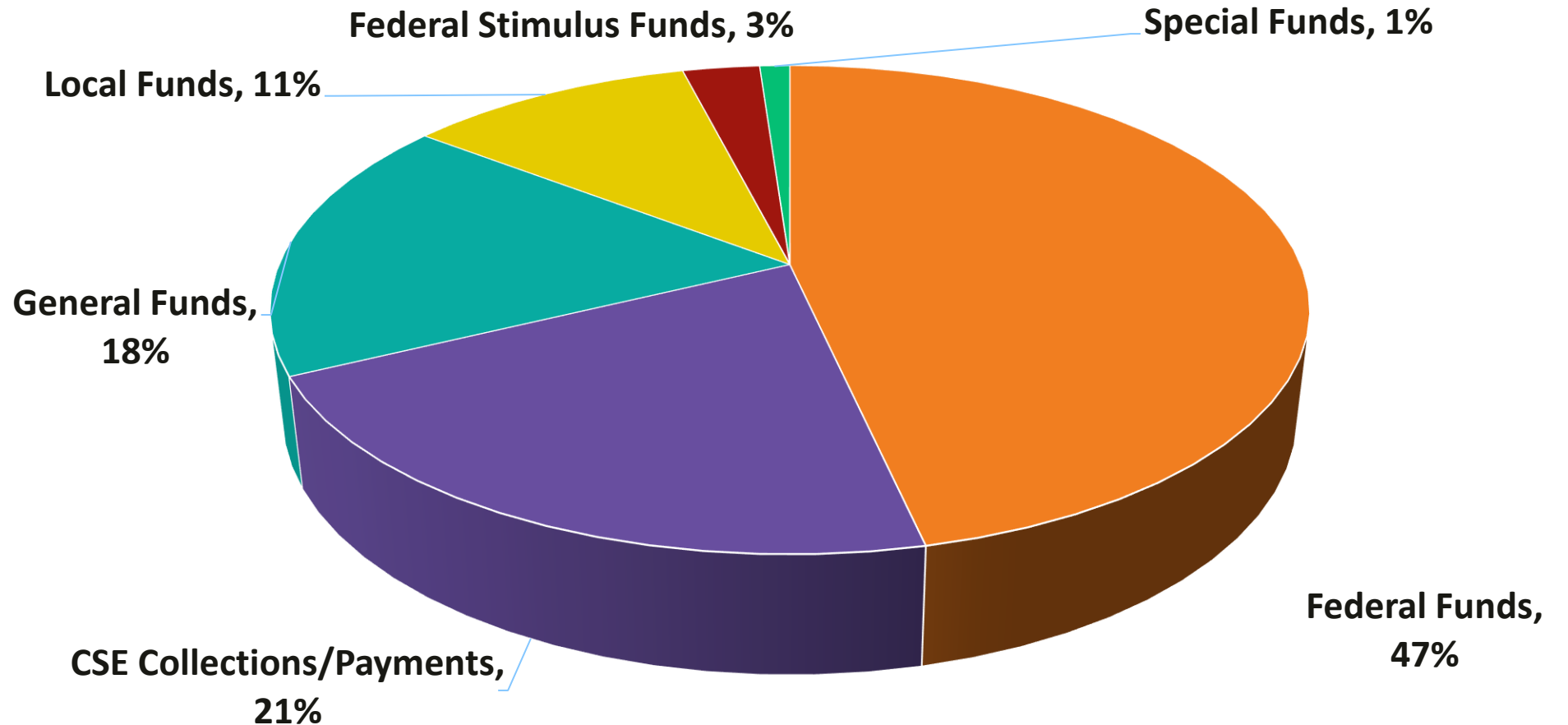
# Presentation Highlights

- » **Social Services Financial Overview**
- » **Priority Areas of Investment**
- » **Governor's Budget Amendments**

# FY 2024 Total Spending Sources

**\$2.9 Billion**

---



# Department GF Spending

## SFY 2024 General Fund Spending By Program Area

Local Department Operations	\$167.3M	32.8%
Family Services	\$120.2M	23.6%
Benefit Programs	\$ 88.7M	17.4%
Administration and Support*	\$ 61.7M	12.1%
Adult Programs	\$ 25.9M	5.1%
Program Management	\$ 22.9M	4.5%
Child Support Enforcement	\$ 13.7M	2.7%
Licensing/Facility Regulation	\$ 6.7M	1.3%
Non-state entities	\$ 3.1M	0.6%
Supplemental Assistance	\$ .3M	0.1%
Totals	\$510.5M	100%

\*includes ~\$19.5M in VITA service payments



# Statewide Economic Impact

## SFY 2024 Social Services Spending Including Benefits ~\$23 Billion

79%	Medicaid /FAMIS Benefits (in partnership with DMAS)	\$ 18.2B
8%	SNAP Benefits	\$ 1.8B
4%	Local DSS Staff and Operations	\$ 831M
3%	Child Support Enforcement	\$ 692M
2%	CSA (in partnership with OCS)	\$ 542M
2%	Child Care (in partnership with DOE)	\$ 409M
1%	Other Benefit Payments (Foster care/Adoption/Aux Grants, etc)	\$ 227M
<1%	Energy Assistance	\$ 114M
<1%	TANF/UP	\$ 84M
<1%	Local Government Central Services	\$ 56M
<1%	Local Procured Client Services (VIEW, SNAP E&T, etc)	\$ 29M

# DSS Serves Children

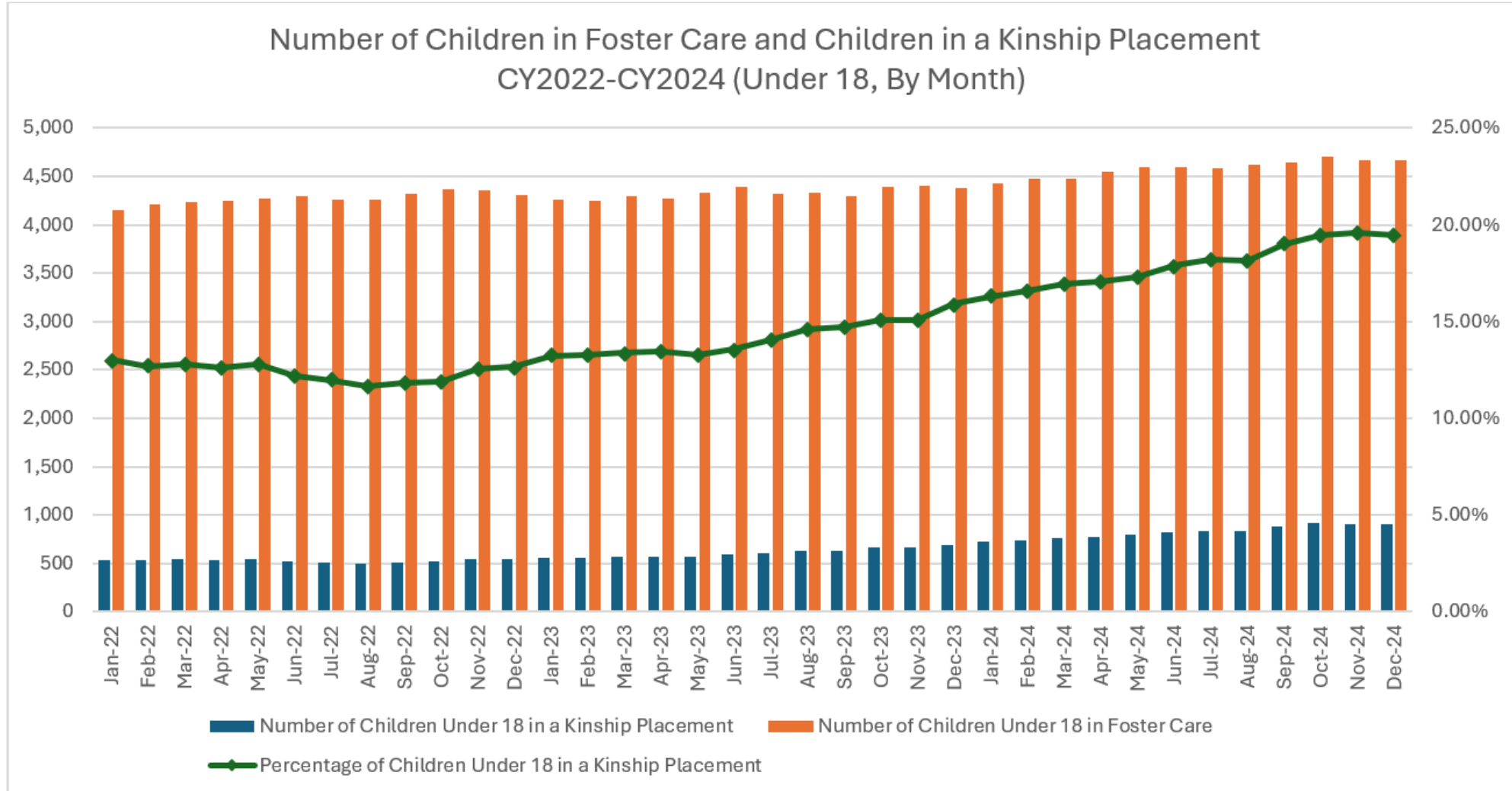
Foster Care Program	Number of Children
Kinship	904
Congregate Care	608
Non-Relative Foster Home	2,723
Trial Home Visit	189
Other Placements	183
<b>Total</b>	<b>4,607</b>

Adoptions Program	Number of Children
Children in IV-E Adoptions	7,775
Children in State Adoptions	639
<b>Total</b>	<b>8,414</b>

Foster Care Prevention (Relative Maintenance Support)	Number of Children (Dec. 2024)
Children	1,305
<b>Number of Parental Child Safety Program Agreements</b>	<b>208</b>

Child data from November 2024

# Kinship Foster Care



# Budget Proposals to Improve Outcomes for Children

Proposal	FY 2025	FY 2026	MEL
<b>Enhance Child Protective Services</b> - Provides funding to implement OSIG recommendations to improve child protective services. One-time funding is provided to enhance the Interactive Voice Response system.	\$500,000 GF	\$7,466,148 GF	5
<b>Fund Foster Care and Adoption Cost of Living Adjustments</b> - Raises the maximum payments for foster care families and adoption assistance by 3 percent per the Appropriation Act.	-	\$1,534,927 GF \$1,360,628 NGF	-
<b>Cover Administrative Costs of Child Support Enforcement</b> - Provides support for the Division of Child Support Enforcement to cover the increased cost of mail and legal services.	\$449,239 GF \$872,053 NGF	\$457,563 GF \$888,213 NGF	-
<b>Total Amendments for Improve Outcomes for Children</b>	\$1,821,292	\$11,707,479	5



# How DSS Serves Families

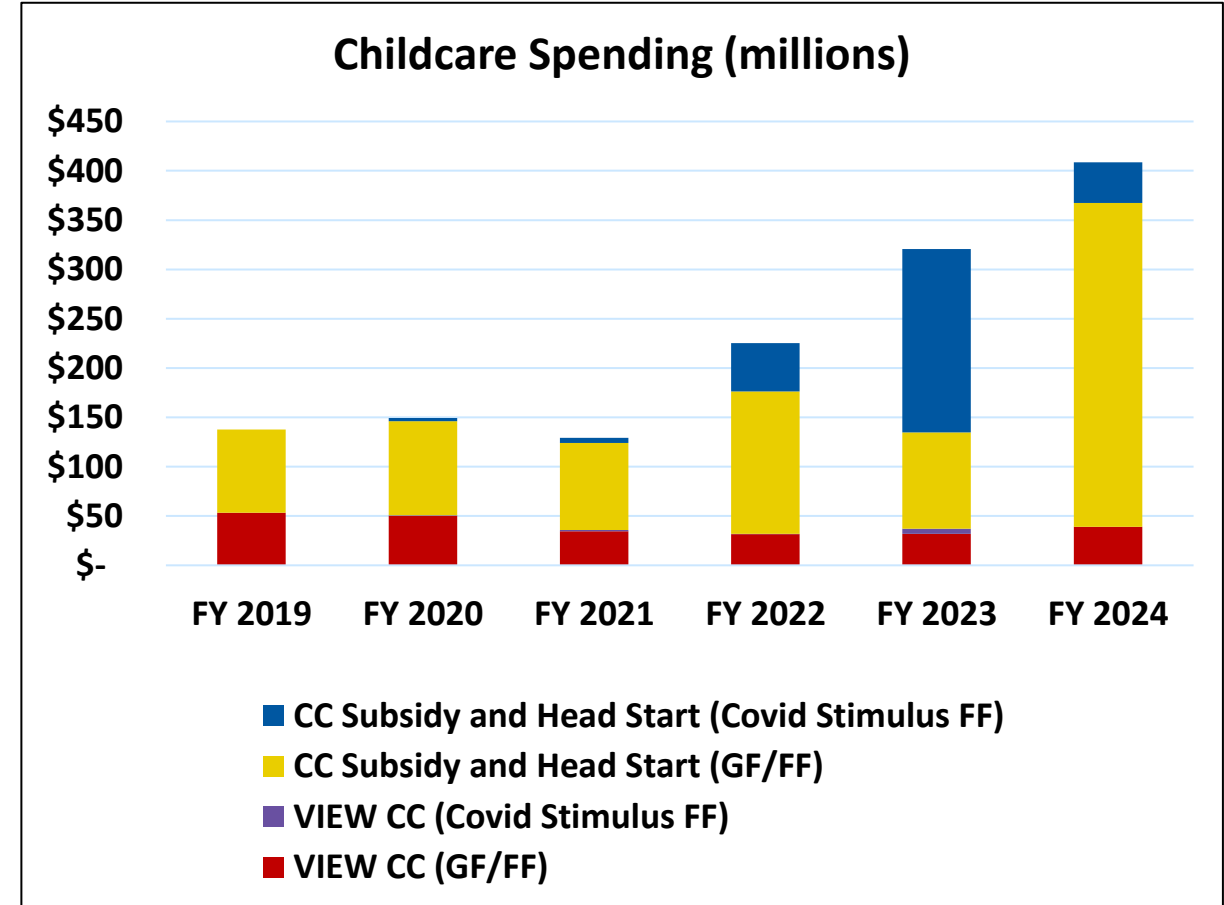
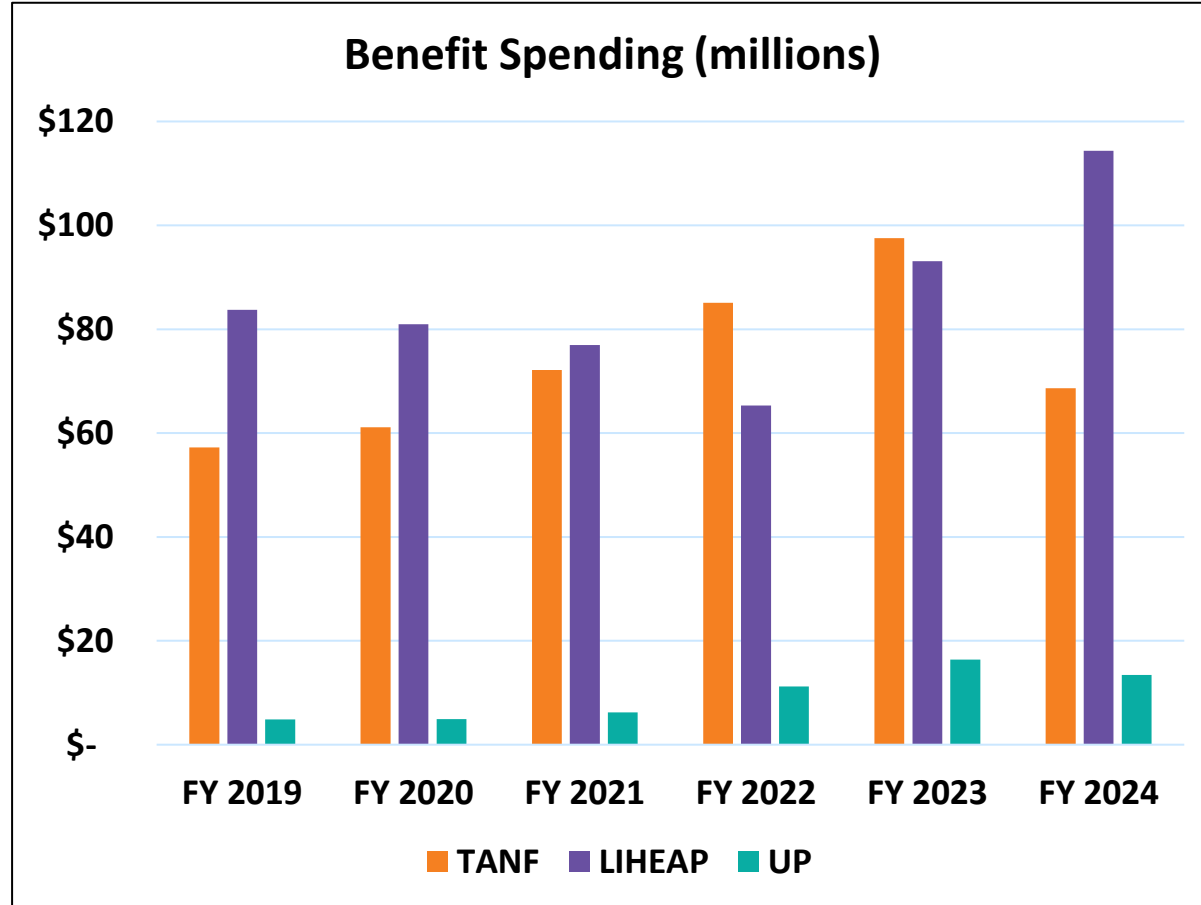
Program	March 2023	December 2024	Percent Change
Medicaid Participants	2,188,100	1,994,822	8% Decrease
SNAP Participants	907,661	893,219	2% Decrease
SUN Bucks Participants	-	712,936 (Summer 24)	-
TANF Cases	17,449	12,871	26% Decrease
TANF UP Cases	2,030	1,838	9% Decrease
Children Receiving Childcare Subsidy	37,867	42,477	12% Increase

Program	FY 2024
Children Receiving Child Support	353,406
Individuals Served – Refugee Program	4,981

Program – LIHEAP Households	FY 2024
Fuel Assistance	117,293
Crisis Assistance	14,312
Cooling Assistance	84,757

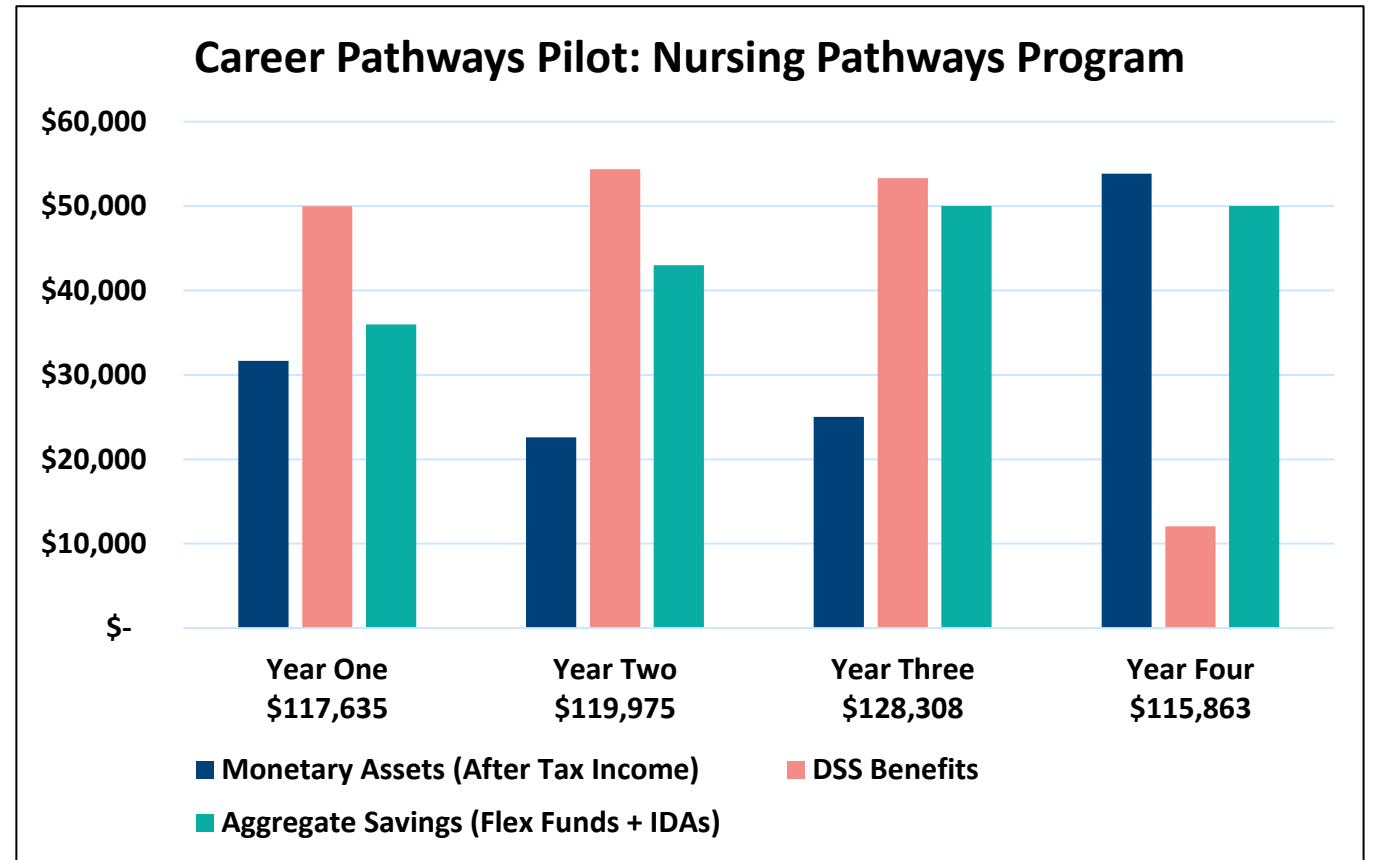
# The Families that DSS Serves

## Spending for Public Benefits FY 2019 - FY 2024



# Strengthening and Expanding our Self-Sufficiency Initiatives

- » **Public/Private/Non-Profit Collaboration**
- » **Expansion of the Full Employment Program**
- » **Pilot Programs**



# Budget Proposals to Improve Outcomes for Virginians

Proposal	FY 2025	FY 2026	MEL
<b>Expand the TANF Full Employment Program (FEP)</b> - Expands TANF FEP to agencies, community organizations, and educational institutions that offer volunteer work/education with the goal of improving the participant's employability.	-	<b>\$440,000 NGF</b>	-
<b>Modernize the 2-1-1 System</b> - One-time funding to modernize the statewide 2-1-1 Information and Referral System. DSS will integrate required information for VDH's Opioid Impact Reduction Registry.	-	<b>\$500,000 GF \$500,000 NGF</b>	-
<b>Total Amendments for Improve Outcomes for Virginians</b>	-	<b>\$1,440,000</b>	-

# Enhance Program Integrity and Administration

Proposal	FY 2025	FY 2026	MEL
<b>Enhance Electronic Identity Validation</b> - Provides funding for electronic identity validation services, which utilize a digital platform to verify applicant identities online. Through this effort the agency aims to decrease improperly provided benefits and services	-	\$805,000 GF \$805,000 NGF	-
<b>Address Increased Procurement Workload</b> - Adds resources to support the agency's procurement efforts and meet increasing workload demands.	-	\$310,875 GF \$310,875 NGF	4
<b>Fund Increases in Employment and Income Verification Contractual Services</b> - Supplement existing support for employment and income verification services. DSS is required to investigate alternatives to its current contract that may offer more affordable contract opportunities.	-	\$7,310,288 GF \$6,482,709 NGF	-
<b>Total Amendments For Program Integrity and Administration</b>	-	\$16,024,747	4

# Mandated Amendments

Proposal	FY 2025	FY 2026	MEL
<b>Fund the Child Welfare Forecast</b> - Adjusts funding for the cost of providing foster care and adoption subsidy payments based on recent expenditure trends and the impact of child welfare policy changes.	(\$14,344,210) GF (\$9,763,277) NGF	(\$12,992,409) GF (\$9,243,568) NGF	-
<b>Fund the TANF/VIEW Child Care Forecast</b> - Updates appropriation to properly account for the anticipated cost of providing mandated TANF benefits, which includes cash assistance payments, employment services, and Virginia Initiative for Education and Work childcare. This package also includes adjustments to the Unemployed Parents program.	\$1,993,498 GF (\$22,800,242) NGF	\$1,791,103 GF (\$27,778,979) NGF	-
<b>Total Amendments due to Mandates</b>	(\$44,914,231)	(\$48,223,853)	-



# Technical Amendments

Proposal	FY 2025	FY 2026	MEL
<p><b>Appropriate Benefits for the SUN Bucks Food Program for Children</b> - Provides funding for the benefits portion of the new permanent summer Electronic Benefits Transfer program for children. This program was made permanent by the federal Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2023.</p>	-	<b>\$105,203,000 NGF</b>	-
<p><b>Appropriate Anticipated Federal Energy Assistance Revenue</b> - Increases appropriation to account for the estimated federal revenue that will be received for LIHEAP.</p>	<b>\$12,003,176 NGF</b>	<b>\$12,003,176 NGF</b>	-
<p><b>Increase Non-General Fund Appropriations</b> - Appropriates the nongeneral fund portion of the 2025 salary increases for state-supported local employees, increases the federal appropriation for pass through funding at local departments of social services, and appropriates background search fee revenue for ongoing system operations and maintenance expenses.</p>	<b>\$14,463,813 NGF</b>	<b>\$14,463,813 NGF</b>	-

# Technical Amendments Cont'd

Proposal	FY 2025	FY 2026	MEL
<b>Rebase Agency Appropriations</b> - Transfers funding between programs to reflect agency reorganization and to reduce the need for administrative adjustments during the budget year. In addition, appropriation for child support collections is adjusted to better align with anticipated revenues.	(\$25,000,000) NGF	(\$25,000,000) NGF	-
<b>Clarify Percentage of Income Payment Program Language</b> - Updates the Percentage of Income Payment Program language to clarify administrative costs.	-	-	-
<b>Transfer Seven Positions to VDOE</b> - Transfers seven currently filled positions to VDOE for the childcare subsidy program.	-	-	(7)
<b>Total Technical Amendments</b>	<b>\$1,466,989</b>	<b>\$106,669,989</b>	<b>(7)</b>



# The Families and Children who DSS Serves - Relative Maintenance Payments FY 2022 – FY 2025

