



FY 2023-2024 Budget Presentation
House Ways and Means Committee
Healthcare Subcommittee
January 25, 2023

Agency Attendees

- Michael Leach – Agency Director
- Don Grant – Deputy Director of Administration
- Susan Roben – Chief Financial Officer
- Connelly-Anne Ragley – Legislative Liaison

Agency Information

- The Department of Social Services (DSS) serves 1 in every 6 South Carolinians, while employing more than 4,200 professionals statewide, and operates offices in all 46 counties as well as regional offices, totaling nearly 80 locations.
- Our top priority is the safety and well-being of children, adults and families. DSS provides services for children and vulnerable adults, administering the child welfare and adult protective services programs for the state.
- We are also responsible for administering economic services programs throughout South Carolina, including the state's Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) program, the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), and early care and education.
- The Department also administers the state's child support program, including paternity establishment and fatherhood initiatives.

Overarching Framework for the Request

- Investing in safe and stable placements for children and families.
- Creating innovative pathways for exiting children from foster care.
- Meeting basic needs for South Carolina's families and caring for vulnerable adults safely in their communities.
- Maintaining key network and security infrastructure for mission-critical information systems and mitigating related security risks.

Overall Budget Request

Recurring Budget Request: Strengthening Support for South Carolina's Children and Adults

- Total Request - \$27,239,870
 - General Funds - \$20,570,281
 - Federal Authorization - \$ 6,669,589
- To promote safety of children and strengthening of families, DSS must properly allocate funds based on the level of care and support needed for foster children, vulnerable adults, and related services and initiatives.

Recurring Budget Request: Infrastructure Integrity and Information Security

- Total Request - \$ 2,032,478; 7 FTE's
 - General Funds - \$ 1,386,332; 4.82 FTE's
 - Federal Authorization - \$ 646,146; 2.18 FTE's
- This key area focuses on the mission-critical information systems, security risks and agency network performance.

Non-Recurring Budget Request: Infrastructure Integrity and Information Security

	<u>General Funds</u>	<u>Federal Funds</u>
• Economic Services System Application Modernization (ESSAM)	\$ 8,753,496	\$ 8,243,584
• Family Court Case Management System (FCCMS)	\$ 2,249,385	\$ 0
• Network Infrastructure Hardware Refresh	\$ 2,820,144	\$ 1,296,160
• Wired Network Upgrades	\$ 333,497	\$ 153,278
• Load Balancer Equipment Refresh	<u>\$ 66,052</u>	<u>\$ 30,358</u>
	<u>\$14,222,574</u>	<u>\$ 9,723,380</u>

Non-Recurring Budget Request: Food Insecurity

- Total Request - \$ 5,000,000
 - General Funds - \$ 5,000,000
 - Federal Authorization - \$ 0

- To continue operation of the Healthy Bucks Program, additional non-recurring funding and a related proviso revision are needed to allow SNAP recipients to obtain additional fresh fruits and vegetables.

Impact if Not Funded

- The agency will not be capable of effectively pursuing the safety and well-being of South Carolina's children. This will also inhibit the ability of the agency to meet the basic needs of children, families and vulnerable adults.
- The Healthy Bucks Program will end if not funded.
- If the outdated mainframe/legacy SNAP and TANF system is not replaced, \$2 billion in annual federal benefits, serving 630,000 SC individuals is at risk.
- Elevated risk of interruptions and delivery of critical services to South Carolinians.