



Serving Counties Since 1886

Human Services Safety Net

Each year, more than two million Pennsylvanians and their families turn to counties to meet their human service needs. Across Pennsylvania today human services account for 60 percent of county budgets. Counties face increasing jail populations, budget, and recidivism issues due to 80-85 percent of incarcerated persons having drug, alcohol, mental health, housing, and other human services needs.

State and federal funds have not kept pace with the demand or actual costs of human services. Counties have had to continually increase their local share. Budgets are affected by state and federal mandates, human need, and court orders. To fund human services, counties have had to sacrifice other county services. CCAP supports the need for a responsible, long-term solution to address funding.

Human Services Development Fund (HSDF)

HSDF is the only funding stream available to counties that touches all aspects of human services and provides flexible funding to deal with the needs of their residents.

In 2004-05, 683,000 individuals were served. These dollars are utilized by counties to address the needs of diverse populations including physically challenged/mentally alert individuals, pregnant teenagers, homeless families, children with parents in prison, seniors, and persons in need of transportation to dialysis.

HSDF provides for the coordination of services and information and referral services in a county. In 2002 the state budget reduced HSDF by \$7.5 million. Since the reduction, CCAP Intergovernmental Transfer (IGT) funds have supplemented the HSDF. The FY 07-08 state budget must include \$41 million state dollars to restore HSDF to the 2002-03 level.

For more information on HSDF, contact Kristin Woellmer at 717-232-7554 x 3132 or kwoellmer@pacounties.org.

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