



## **FCC 2011 LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES**

### **FCC Conf. Call-10-15-10**

- Full funding of Community Based Care (not mentioned as an issue – FCC will do)
- MAS - \$8M increase - \$1M restore nonrecurring funds - \$4M restore nonrecurring CBC funding
- PAS – Coalition not going to push additional funds for this; accept MAS
- DCF wants \$7M and 40 FTEs for Hotline Calls – wants to push more on CBCs (projecting increase of 21,000 calls / up from 10K) – do we want to take on those and the 40 FTEs?
- DCF asking for increase of \$4.7M for PI salaries (for overtime)
- Healthy Families is line item under Child Protection

## **BUDGET ISSUES**

### **1 - Maintenance Adoption Subsidy (\$ 13 million)**

The Coalition supports funding ongoing and new Maintenance Adoption Subsidies. The total projected adoptions for FY 2011-2012 is 3,000.

### **2 - Independent Living (\$ 33.7 million)**

The Coalition supports DCF legislative budget request for the Independent Living Program and the extension of foster care to age 21. The \$33.7 million does not consider the current program modifications to the IL statutes.

### **3 - Post-Adoption Services (\$ million)**

The Coalition supports DCF legislative budget request for post-adoption services.

### **4 - Child Welfare Workforce (\$16.6 million)**

The Coalition requests increase in funding for frontline child welfare workers' salaries in order to improve outcomes by providing workforce stability

## **SUBSTANTIVE ISSUES**

### **1 - Liability**

The Coalition requests statutory change to stabilize the remarkable gains made in Florida's child welfare system since 2005 by providing liability risk relief to Florida's community-based care agencies.

### **2 - Legal Services "Party Status"**

The Coalition requests statutory change to provide both lead agencies and providers with legal party status.

### **3 - Behavioral Health Overlay System (BHOS)**

The Coalition strongly encourages the preservation of this current, cost-effective system of care.

### **4 - Child Welfare Prepaid Mental Health Plan (CWPMHP)**

The Coalition strongly encourages the continuation of this project which provides the right amount of care to children in the dependency system in the most efficient manner possible.

**5 - Health Care for Dependent Children**

The Coalition strongly supports a system of health care that provides and ensures all dependent children in the foster care system receive appropriate and timely health care.

**EXECUTIVE BRANCH ISSUES**

**1 - Title IV-E Waiver**

The Coalition strongly supports the Department of Children and Families' application to extend the waiver for another five years which allows Florida flexibility in the use of federal child safety and permanency funds and encourages the Legislature to maintain the funding level needed to do so.

**2 - Contracting Efficiency Model**

The Coalition encourages continued modifications of the current contract monitoring model to a more cost-effective and efficient contracting model.

**3 - Coordination of Agency Rules**

The Coalition requests that the Department of Children and Families have exclusive jurisdiction to approve rules for health standards established by the Department of Health specific to foster homes, residential child-caring agencies and child-placing agencies.



**Michael Cusick, President/CEO**  
**Deborah Mortham, Governmental Affairs Director**  
Main: 850.561.1102 Fax: 850.222.7117  
200 West College Avenue, Tallahassee, FL 32301  
[www.flchildren.org](http://www.flchildren.org)