Department of Children and Families

Work Session

March 10, 2025



Entry level salary and salary range

Q1(i). Identify job classifications applicable to "front line" child protective services work, including a brief description of the scope of work performed under each classification. For each, provide:

Social Work Supervisor (Salary Range: \$86,918 - \$110,175)

- Supervises social work staff in the provision of direct social case work services to clients and providing case work
 quality improvement for an assigned region through a process of administrative case supervision or Special Review
 Investigation.
- Schedules, assigns, oversees and reviews work of staff;
- Provides staff training and assistance;
- Conducts performance evaluations;
- Determines priorities and plans unit work;
- Establishes and maintains unit procedures;
- Develops or makes recommendations on development of policies and standards;
- Acts as liaison with other operating units, agencies and outside officials regarding unit policies and procedures;
- Prepares reports and correspondence;

Entry level salary and salary range

Q1(i). Identify job classifications applicable to "front line" child protective services work, including a brief description of the scope of work performed under each classification. For each, provide:

Social Worker (Salary Range: \$78,981 - \$100,520)

(during training period of up to two years required to obtain self-directed case management experience)

- Investigates reported allegations of abuse or neglect of children;
- Conducts home/placement visits of children under DCF jurisdiction;
- Maintains medical, physical, social and psychological histories;
- Counsels families, children and youth both individually and in groups;
- Investigates, evaluates and makes recommendations for Juvenile Court on all petitions alleging neglect or abuse of children;
- Recruits and selects foster and adoptive homes for placement of children;
- Consults with psychologists, psychiatrists and other staff to develop and administer treatment plans;
- Consults with community groups to determine appropriate referrals and develop community resources;

Entry level salary and salary range

Q1(i). Identify job classifications applicable to "front line" child protective services work, including a brief description of the scope of work performed under each classification. For each, provide:

Social Worker Trainee (Salary Range: \$60,530 - \$76,139)

(during training period of up to two years required to obtain self-directed case management experience)

- Investigates reported allegations of abuse or neglect of children;
- Conducts home/placement visits of children under DCF jurisdiction;
- Maintains medical, physical, social and psychological histories;
- Counsels families, children and youth both individually and in groups;
- Investigates, evaluates and makes recommendations for Juvenile Court on all petitions alleging neglect or abuse of children;
- Recruits and selects foster and adoptive homes for placement of children;
- Consults with psychologists, psychiatrists and other staff to develop and administer treatment plans;
- Consults with community groups to determine appropriate referrals and develop community resources;

Entry level salary and salary range

Q1(i). Identify job classifications applicable to "front line" child protective services work, including a brief description of the scope of work performed under each classification. For each, provide:

Social Worker Case Aide (Salary Range: \$59,904 - \$69,593)

- Transports children and/or clients to and from supervised visits, medical and other service appointments and court appointments;
- Supervises family visitation sessions in office and/or home settings;
- Observes interaction of parent(s) and child during visits and takes notes regarding interaction of family for review by Social Worker and inclusion into case file;
- Prepares reports regarding client contacts;
- Accompanies Social Worker on emergency and other field visits especially in cases where an interpreter is needed;
- Supervises children in regional office during emergency procedures;
- Obtains medical, social and other records to assist professional staff in developing family history;
- Makes collateral contacts to community agencies such as schools, doctors, police and social service agencies to obtain necessary information;

Entry level salary and salary range

Q1(i). Identify job classifications applicable to "front line" child protective services work, including a brief description of the scope of work performed under each classification. For each, provide:

Social Worker Case Aide (Salary Range: \$59,904 - \$69,593) (continued)

- Picks up and delivers cars for servicing;
- Assists clients in completing forms relating to assistance or service requests;
- May perform clerical activity such as typing narratives, filing and obtaining case files and copying and arranging various documents, referral information and other written material;
- May shop for clients for food, clothing and household items;
- May act as an interpreter for staff in cases involving non-English speaking clients or individuals;
- May testify in court regarding information directly observed in client contacts;

Number of DCF Employees Authorized and Filled & Job Retention and Turnover

Q1(ii) Employees Authorized and Filled (FY2024)

Total Authorized DCF Employees: 2974

- Filled "front line" CPS employees on 7/1/23: 1646
- Filled "front line" CPS employees on 6/30/24: 1632

Q1(iii) Job retention and turnover (FY2024)

- 171 New "front line" CPS employees
- 181 "Front line" CPS employees left the agency
- Turnover Rates:

Agency: 10.68%

Front line CPS staff: 11.09%

CPS Adverse Incidents

Q2. Front line child protective services workers may experience adverse incidents in the course of their work. Provide related statistics and descriptive information.

- The Department of Children and Families (DCF) applies the Violence in the Workplace Policy to assist child protective services workers who may experience adverse incidents in the course of their work both in the office and in the field.
- In addition, data is maintained specific to reports of Workplace Violence incidents and is captured through the state at all offices.
- This report provides a comparison of reported Workplace Violence incidents across various DCF offices from the years of **2023** and **2024**.
- It includes breakdowns by area office, type of incident, location derived from, police involvement, and law enforcement actions.

CPS Adverse Incidents

Q2(i). Front line child protective services workers may experience adverse incidents in the course of their work. Provide related statistics and descriptive information.

Area Office	Total 2023		Total 2024	
Bridgeport	16	14%	18	17%
Central Office	2	2%	4	4%
Danbury	2	2%	1	1%
Hartford	10	9%	19	18%
Manchester	9	8%	2	2%
Meriden	2	2%	3	3%
Middletown	5	4%	1	1%
Milford	14	12%	15	14%
New Britian	8	7%	4	4%
New Haven	14	12%	10	9%
Norwalk	4	4%	4	4%
Norwich	11	10%	10	9%
Torrington	3	3%	1	1%
Waterbury	5	4%	8	7%
Willimantic	9	8%	8	7%
Total	114	100%	108	100%



Office Trends (Top 5): Bridgeport, Hartford, Milford, New Haven and Norwich accounted for 65% incidents in 2023 and 72% of incidents in 2024.

CPS Adverse Incidents

Q2(ii). Front line child protective services workers may experience adverse incidents in the course of their work. Provide related statistics and descriptive information.

Incident Type	Total 2023		Total 2024	
Threatening Behavior	81	41%	102	38%
Intimidation	40	20%	49	18%
Verbal Abuse	31	16%	55	20%
Harassment	22	11%	38	14%
Other	11	6%	12	4%
Assault	6	3%	8	3%
Pushing /Shoving	6	3%	5	2%
Physical Abuse	3	2%	3	1%
Total	200	100%	272	100%

Office Trends: Bridgeport, Milford, New Haven and Hartford have the highest number of incidents reported within the last 2 years.

CPS Adverse Incidents

Q2(iii). Front line child protective services workers may experience adverse incidents in the course of their work. Provide related statistics and descriptive information.

Location/Method of Threat	Total 2023		Total 2024	
Field Location	32	24%	33	29%
Phone call/Voicemail	31	23%	24	21%
Text	28	21%	17	15%
Office	16	12%	21	18%
Email	13	10%	7	6%
Social media	12	9%	5	4%
Other	2	1%	8	7%
Total:	134	100%	115	100%

Location/Method of Threat: Field Location, Voice-call/Voicemail and Text accounts for over 60% of threats reported within the last 2 years.

CPS Adverse Incidents – Law Enforcement Response

Q2(iv). Front line child protective services workers may experience adverse incidents in the course of their work. Provide related statistics and descriptive information.

Law Enforcement Response	Total 2023		Total 2024	
Local Police	36	73%	24	71%
State Police	13	27%	10	29%
Total	49	100%	34	100%

Law Enforcement Actions

2023

- 49 cases involved Police intervention
- 5 arrests were made in connection with these incidents.

2024

- 34 cases involved Police intervention.
- 4 arrests were made in connection with these incidents. Additionally, 3 cases resulted in No Trespass Orders being issued.

Entry level salary and salary range

Q3(i). Identify job classifications applicable to direct care staff of the Albert J. Solnit Children's Center, including a brief description of the scope of work performed under each classification. For each, provide:

Licensed Practical Nurse (Salary Range: \$63,443 – 84,813)

- Assists doctors and nurses in the general care and treatment of individuals;
- Measures doses and administers medications including insulin injections;
- Documents medications using appropriate forms;
- Performs narcotic counts;
- Checks and may administer intravenous medications;
- Reports changes in individuals to doctors;
- Ensures that restraints are applied correctly;
- Transcribes doctors medication orders;
- Dispenses certain medications in doctor's absence;
- Applies topical medication;
- Takes and charts temperatures, pulses and respirations;

Entry level salary and salary range

Q3(i). Identify job classifications applicable to direct care staff of the Albert J. Solnit Children's Center, including a brief description of the scope of work performed under each classification. For each, provide:

Licensed Practical Nurse (Salary Range: \$63,443 – 84,813) (continued)

- Performs simple nursing treatments;
- Monitors general individual needs including personal hygiene;
- Reports on individual conditions and behavior;
- Keeps the unit safe and healthy;
- Administers enemas or suppositories;
- Performs Foley catheterization care;
- Orients individuals concerning medications and their use;
- May perform emergency first aid;

Entry level salary and salary range

Q3(i). Identify job classifications applicable to direct care staff of the Albert J. Solnit Children's Center, including a brief description of the scope of work performed under each classification. For each, provide:

Nurse (Salary Range: \$79,874 - 104,588)

- Independently implements the nursing process with individuals including carrying out physician's orders regarding diet, medication and treatment;
- Performs assessments;
- Changes dressings;
- Monitors and ensures quality care through observation and evaluation;
- Reports on physiological and mental health status of individuals;
- Documents nursing interventions on medical records;
- Distributes and maintains records of controlled drugs and ensures their security;
- Maintains records and makes reports;
- Makes decisions in routine cases;
- Instructs individuals, staff and family members regarding treatments, nursing plans and related individual care issues directed towards an awareness and understanding of health/mental health issues;

Entry level salary and salary range

Q3(i). Identify job classifications applicable to direct care staff of the Albert J. Solnit Children's Center, including a brief description of the scope of work performed under each classification. For each, provide:

Nurse (Salary Range: \$79,874 – 104,588) (continued)

- Responds to emergencies;
- Maintains availability of medications and supplies;
- Ensures cleanliness of equipment and environment;
- May participate as a member of an interdisciplinary treatment team in the assessment, development, implementation and evaluation of individual's treatment or health/mental health care plans;
- May formulate and implement nursing care plans;
- May participate in outpatient clinics and assist in physical examinations;
- May administer routine tests;
- May conduct training;
- May delegate nursing tasks consistent with established protocols;
- May participate in psychotherapeutic and rehabilitation interventions;
- May physically restrain individuals; May provide related medical or mental health specialty services;

Entry level salary and salary range

Q3(i). Identify job classifications applicable to direct care staff of the Albert J. Solnit Children's Center, including a brief description of the scope of work performed under each classification. For each, provide:

Head Nurse (Salary Range: \$91,192 - 120,638)

- Schedules, assigns, oversees and reviews work;
- Conducts or assist in conducting performance evaluations;
- Leads professional and paraprofessional nursing staff in provision of patient/individual care;
- Ensures controlled drugs are properly stored, administered and ordered;
- Identifies staff development needs and provides staff training and assistance;
- Instructs staff regarding policies and procedures;
- Participates in interdisciplinary meetings to promote and ensure adjustment and continuity of patient/individual care programs;
- Responds to emergencies;

Entry level salary and salary range

Q3(i). Identify job classifications applicable to direct care staff of the Albert J. Solnit Children's Center, including a brief description of the scope of work performed under each classification. For each, provide:

Supervising Nurse (Salary Range: \$99,806 - 133,911)

- Plans, organizes and directs health services for an assigned program, unit(s), facility or geographical area;
- Ensures that goals, objectives and work performed are consistent with standards and that quality care is provided to individuals;
- Provides clinical guidance to nursing staff;
- Conducts performance evaluations;
- Ensures that resources are available to provide quality services;
- Participates in the development of policies and procedures to ensure efficient and effective delivery of services;
- Prepares, analyzes and evaluates reports and other information concerning the delivery of services;
- Responds to psychiatric or medical emergencies;

Entry level salary and salary range

Q3(i). Identify job classifications applicable to direct care staff of the Albert J. Solnit Children's Center, including a brief description of the scope of work performed under each classification. For each, provide:

Advanced Nurse Practitioner (Salary Range: \$116,483 - 154,388)

- Provides comprehensive advanced nursing treatments and/or health care services to individuals including clinical assessments, treatments, diagnosing medical conditions, assessing emergencies, ordering, analyzing and interpreting results of diagnostic studies, prescribing medication and monitoring responses to medications and adjusting accordingly, making appropriate referrals to specialists;
- Leads cardiac arrest codes and documents medical and/or psychiatric care;
- Performs specialized duties in providing medical and psychiatric care to a variety of individuals including hospitalized and ambulatory individuals with acute and chronic conditions;
- Provides individual psychotherapy;
- Educates individuals regarding diagnosis and treatment;
- Assesses the effectiveness of health and/or psychiatric care services;
- Consults with clinical staff regarding assessment methods and treatment plans;
- Assists regional and/or central office staff in determining need for contractual health services;
- Provides direction to staff on appropriate health record documentation;

Entry level salary and salary range

Q3(i). Identify job classifications applicable to direct care staff of the Albert J. Solnit Children's Center, including a brief description of the scope of work performed under each classification. For each, provide:

Advanced Nurse Practitioner (Salary Range: \$116,483 - 154,388) (continued)

- Functions as liaison between agency and community health care providers;
- Prepares reports on health services, problems and investigations;
- Participates in quality assurance and other clinical committees as needed;
- Assists families and other groups in understanding medical and/or psychiatric needs of clients serviced by agency;
- Participates as a member of multi-disciplinary evaluation team;
- May provide training to nursing and paraprofessional staff;
- May complete home assessments for safety;
- May participate in investigations of abuse and/or neglect;
- May testify in court;
- May direct agency clinic services;

Entry level salary and salary range

Q3(i). Identify job classifications applicable to direct care staff of the Albert J. Solnit Children's Center, including a brief description of the scope of work performed under each classification. For each, provide:

Children Services Worker (Salary Range: \$63,443 - 84,813)

- Counsels and advises residents individually on such matters as purpose of institutionalization, problems, progress in unit and placement plans;
- Participates in maintaining a therapeutic milieu by meeting psychological and physical needs of residents;
- Oversees daily living activities to ensure proper care of residents;
- Teaches residents in unit self-support skills such as basic money management, daily living habits, hygiene, etc.;
- Dispenses rewards to residents as a result of behavior;
- Oversees recreational activities for residents;
- Writes reports of significant events in unit such as runaways and accidents;
- Checks temperatures of residents and dispenses selected medications;
- Records daily activities in log book; escorts residents to destinations on and off grounds, to and from meals, class, infirmary, court, placements, etc;
- Disciplines children who are acting out and follows up with appropriate action;

Entry level salary and salary range

Q3(i). Identify job classifications applicable to direct care staff of the Albert J. Solnit Children's Center, including a brief description of the scope of work performed under each classification. For each, provide:

Lead Children Services Worker (Salary Range: \$69,908 – 92,775)

- Leads and advises staff in care, custody and therapeutic treatment of residents in unit;
- Provides for adequate coverage of unit and takes necessary action in case of absences;
- Provides for maintenance of a therapeutic milieu by assuring residents' psychological and physical needs are met;
- Assists in development of and supervises recreational activities and programs for residents;
- Schedules unit for maintenance;
- Participates in implementation of behavior modification programs in unit;
- Works with caseworkers and/or social workers and other professional staff in making decisions through evaluation of residents' progress and adjustment;
- Attends meetings with unit staff and/or residents' families in order to discuss behavioral problems and progress of residents in unit;

Entry level salary and salary range

Q3(i). Identify job classifications applicable to direct care staff of the Albert J. Solnit Children's Center, including a brief description of the scope of work performed under each classification. For each, provide:

Lead Children Services Worker (Salary Range: \$69,908 – 92,775) (continued)

- Writes progress reports on residents;
- Reviews and signs reports of significant happenings in unit;
- Maintains monthly supply and weekly clothing inventory;
- Checks temperatures of residents and dispenses medications;
- Assists security personnel in apprehension and return of runaways;
- Initiates contraband searches to ensure residents' safety;
- May perform emergency medical procedures;

Entry level salary and salary range

Q3(i). Identify job classifications applicable to direct care staff of the Albert J. Solnit Children's Center, including a brief description of the scope of work performed under each classification. For each, provide:

Psychologist (Clinical) (Salary Range: \$116,483 - 154,388)

- Participates in and coordinates clinical psychological services for a complex ward or group of wards or comparable units staffed by psychiatric, nursing or other individual care personnel;
- Provides consultation on difficult cases representing complex intellectual, emotional and/or social problems;
- Engages in diagnostic and psychotherapeutic services;
- Coordinates psychological treatment modalities with other disciplines and services;
- Develops and implements new service programs;
- Conducts research and reports findings in a manner suitable for professional publication;
- Consults with community agencies and organizations;
- Conducts training sessions for interns and staff and may participate in training of psychiatric residents;

Entry level salary and salary range

Q3(i). Identify job classifications applicable to direct care staff of the Albert J. Solnit Children's Center, including a brief description of the scope of work performed under each classification. For each, provide:

Advanced Clinical Social Worker (Salary Range: \$84,859 – 114,441)

- Independently provides highly skilled direct clinical social work treatment and/or substance abuse services to clients
 with complex psychological and social problems through comprehensive clinical assessments and provision of
 individual, family and group treatment;
- Provides individual field work instruction and/or clinical supervision which includes instruction in use of comprehensive psychosocial assessments and current diagnostic categories, taking into consideration cultural, social, economic, medical, environmental and legal issues;
- Develops comprehensive service plans including measurable treatment objectives;
- Initiates consultation and collaboration with other mental health providers to improve delivery of current services and/or identify unmet needs within current service system;
- Provides clinical supervision to Licensed Master Social Workers;
- Develops data for statistical and planning systems and/or research and publication;
- Prepares administrative reports and suggests operational policies and procedures;
- Oversees development and/or implementation of individual client treatment and/or service plans;

Entry level salary and salary range

Q3(i). Identify job classifications applicable to direct care staff of the Albert J. Solnit Children's Center, including a brief description of the scope of work performed under each classification. For each, provide:

Advanced Clinical Social Worker (Salary Range: \$84,859 – 114,441) (continued)

- May be assigned administrative oversight of research projects;
- May provide clinical and/or administrative leadership to program components such as crisis intervention teams, inpatient treatment teams, case management teams, psychoeducational program services, psychosocial rehabilitation and forensic services;
- May provide forensic evaluations and expert testimony to courts;
- May represent program or agency during licensing and certification inspections conducted by regulatory bodies;
- May represent program or agency in liaison relationships with other community agencies and resources;
- May provide in-service educational presentations concerning available health, mental health and human services resources and means to access them;
- May chair facility or community-based committees that develop policies and plans to serve psychiatrically disabled individuals;
- May present information on mental illness and mental health services to community groups;

Entry level salary and salary range

Q3(i). Identify job classifications applicable to direct care staff of the Albert J. Solnit Children's Center, including a brief description of the scope of work performed under each classification. For each, provide:

Principal Physician (Salary Range: \$241,644 – 315,292)

- Provides 24 hour medical supervision to specified groups of patients and facility coverage as scheduled including oncall and weekend coverage;
- Makes rounds and provides direct care and clinical oversight of multi-disciplinary treatment teams;
- Coordinates work of medical staff with related programs;
- Reviews treatment plans, medical records, diagnoses and patient discharge plans for adherence to policies and/or The Joint Commission (TJC) and Health Care Financing Authority (HCFA) standards;
- Provides education and training as indicated, e.g. grand rounds and case conferences;
- Assigns, oversees and evaluates work of staff and on-site night duty physicians;
- Conducts and/or participates in meetings on medical and administrative policy, research programs, medical program development and treatment techniques;

Entry level salary and salary range

Q3(i). Identify job classifications applicable to direct care staff of the Albert J. Solnit Children's Center, including a brief description of the scope of work performed under each classification. For each, provide:

Principal Physician (Salary Range: \$241,644 – 315,292) (continued)

- Assesses, examines and evaluates patients for admission or discharge;
- Monitors the use of special treatment procedures;
- Assesses, examines, diagnoses and prescribes appropriate medications and other biologic treatments;
- Consults on difficult and/or complex cases;
- Develops and implements QA/QI process improvement initiatives;
- Prepares and/or reviews reports, medical records and correspondence;
- Perform utilization review and management functions;
- Attends court hearings as a state witness;

Entry level salary and salary range

Q3(i). Identify job classifications applicable to direct care staff of the Albert J. Solnit Children's Center, including a brief description of the scope of work performed under each classification. For each, provide:

Principal Psychiatrist (Salary Range: \$241,644 – 315,292)

- Provides 24-hour supervision to specified groups of patients and facility coverage as scheduled including on-call coverage and weekend coverage;
- Makes rounds and provides direct care and clinical oversight of multi-disciplinary treatment teams;
- Coordinates work of medical staff with related programs;
- Reviews treatment plans, clinical records, diagnoses, and patient discharge plans for adherence to policies and/or The Joint Commission (TJC) and Health Care Financing Authority (HCFA) standards;
- Provides education and training as indicated, e.g., grand rounds and case conferences;
- Assigns, oversees and evaluates work of staff and on-site night duty physicians and/or psychiatrists;
- Conducts and/or participates in meetings on clinical and administrative policy, research programs, clinical program development and treatment techniques;
- Assesses, examines and evaluates patients for admission or discharge;

Entry level salary and salary range

Q3(i). Identify job classifications applicable to direct care staff of the Albert J. Solnit Children's Center, including a brief description of the scope of work performed under each classification. For each, provide:

Principal Psychiatrist (Salary Range: \$241,644 – 315,292) (continued)

- Assesses, examines, diagnoses and prescribes appropriate medications and other biologic and psychosocial treatments for patients with psychiatric illnesses and substance abuse disorders;
- Performs advanced level risk assessments;
- Consults on difficult and/or complex cases;
- Develops and implements QA and/or QI process improvement initiatives;
- Prepares and/or reviews reports, medical records and correspondence;
- Performs utilization review and management functions;
- Attends court hearings as a state witness;

Entry level salary and salary range

Q3(i). Identify job classifications applicable to direct care staff of the Albert J. Solnit Children's Center, including a brief description of the scope of work performed under each classification. For each, provide:

Psychiatric Resident (Salary Range: \$97,424 – 115,277)

- Receives training in examination, diagnosis and treatment of psychiatric patients/clients;
- Performs psychiatric interviews and physical examinations on patients/clients admitted to unit;
- Formulates diagnoses;
- Collaborates with treatment team in development of treatment plans;
- Conducts psychotherapy under supervision;
- Maintains progress notes on patients/ clients;
- Attends residency training classes and case conferences;
- Assumes on-call duties as required;
- May act as chief resident;
- May appear in court at probable cause hearings;

Entry level salary and salary range

Q3(i). Identify job classifications applicable to direct care staff of the Albert J. Solnit Children's Center, including a brief description of the scope of work performed under each classification. For each, provide:

Occupational Therapist (Salary Range: \$86,261 – 116,571)

- Selects, plans, administers and implements occupational therapy programs for training of individuals with physical disabilities and/or an intellectual disability;
- Administers individual and group instructions to individuals in various occupational therapies including but not limited to activities of daily living, independent living skills, sensorimotor skills and performance components, psychosocial skill and performance components, therapeutic adaptations and specialized assessments;
- Determines and carries out treatment and activities for individuals consistent with physician prescription;
- Assesses individuals educational needs;
- Organizes new projects and methods;
- Consults with supervisor, physicians and other professionals regarding individual reactions, progress and treatment plans;
- Recommends changes in individuals treatment;
- Participates in training programs for professional and paraprofessional staff and students/interns gaining clinical experience;

Entry level salary and salary range

Q3(i). Identify job classifications applicable to direct care staff of the Albert J. Solnit Children's Center, including a brief description of the scope of work performed under each classification. For each, provide:

Occupational Therapist (Salary Range: \$86,261 – 116,571) (continued)

- Attends and participates in workshops and conferences;
- Instructs and demonstrates to individuals and parents treatments to be carried on in a treatment center and at home;
- Makes adaptive equipment;
- Maintains records and prepares reports on individuals care and administrative matters;
- Coordinates occupational therapy services with other disciplines such as physical, speech and rehabilitative therapies;
- Orders, requisitions and distributes supplies and materials;
- Coordinates efforts of volunteers;
- May escort individuals on trips into community;
- May perform duties in individuals home or community settings;
- May act as a consultant, advisor or resource person to other staff, programs or units;

Entry level salary and salary range

Q3(i). Identify job classifications applicable to direct care staff of the Albert J. Solnit Children's Center, including a brief description of the scope of work performed under each classification. For each, provide:

Rehabilitation Therapist 1 (Salary Range: \$66,135 - 88,229)

- Evaluates individuals' level of functioning by assessing behavior and reviewing medical, social and emotional case histories;
- Writes and implements treatment plans using a specific modality;
- Conducts individual and group activities, consulting with other professionals and selecting appropriate techniques and materials to teach skills to correct disorders in intellectual, emotional or motor status of an individual;
- Attends case conferences, actively participating in admission, treatment and discharge planning;
- Observes, records and evaluates individual progress;
- Participates in or assists in conducting training programs for staff therapists and rehabilitation and nursing students;
- Uses data from observation and diagnostic evaluations to develop goals and new activities;
- Administers and interprets evaluations in specialty areas;

Entry level salary and salary range

Q3(i). Identify job classifications applicable to direct care staff of the Albert J. Solnit Children's Center, including a brief description of the scope of work performed under each classification. For each, provide:

Rehabilitation Therapist 1 (Salary Range: \$66,135 – 88,229) (continued)

- Requisitions and distributes supplies;
- Adapts musical, art and recreational equipment used in designated discipline;
- May attend workshops and conferences;
- May transport and escort individuals to off grounds activities;
- May perform prevocational activities with individual;
- May participate in and plan special activities within community;
- May perform duties in individual home or community setting;
- May serve as a Qualified Intellectual Disabilities Professional;

Entry level salary and salary range

Q3(i). Identify job classifications applicable to direct care staff of the Albert J. Solnit Children's Center, including a brief description of the scope of work performed under each classification. For each, provide:

Rehabilitation Therapist 2 (Salary Range: \$78,480 - 106,374)

- Selects, plans, administers and implements a therapeutic program by utilizing a specific therapy function to teach skills to correct disorders in intellectual, emotional or motor status of an individual;
- Writes and implements treatment plans;
- Plans, schedules and conducts individual and group activities;
- Actively participates in admission, treatment and discharge planning of an individual;
- Participates in interdisciplinary team meetings presenting cases and discussing future treatment goals and objectives for an individual;
- Participates in institutional, professional and community groups and/or task forces;
- Participates in staff meetings and on interdisciplinary committees;
- Trains and supervises staff and individuals in application of a specific discipline;
- Provides in-service training to other staff;
Entry level salary and salary range

Q3(i). Identify job classifications applicable to direct care staff of the Albert J. Solnit Children's Center, including a brief description of the scope of work performed under each classification. For each, provide:

Rehabilitation Therapist 2 (Salary Range: \$78,480 – 106,374) (continued)

- Attends and participates in workshops and conferences;
- Gathers and uses data from observation and diagnostic tests to develop goals and new activities;
- Coordinates therapy services with other disciplines such as occupational or physical therapy;
- Selects appropriate materials and implements a therapeutic program to meet needs of individual;
- Maintains and orders equipment;
- Observes, records and evaluates individual progress;
- May transport and escort individuals to community functions;
- May teach direct care and paraprofessional staff in application of a specific therapy;
- May make adaptive equipment;
- May serve as a Qualified Intellectual Disabilities Professional;

Entry level salary and salary range

Q3(i). Identify job classifications applicable to direct care staff of the Albert J. Solnit Children's Center, including a brief description of the scope of work performed under each classification. For each, provide:

Rehabilitation Therapist Assistant 2 (Salary Range: \$52,860 – 70,959, 35 hours; \$60,411 – 81,095, 40 hours)

- Implements rehabilitation activities including but not limited to life skills and recreational groups;
- Range of motion and exercise programs and recreational outings and activities;
- Assists in planning rehabilitation activities and programs to improve or correct individual disorders;
- Participates in interdisciplinary treatment teams;
- Under the direction of a professional therapist, provides assistance and support to direct care and day services staff in program implementation and proper use of therapy equipment;
- Assumes some responsibility for training new employees and students;
- Observes, reports and charts individual behavior or response;
- Prepares records and reports;

Entry level salary and salary range

Q3(i). Identify job classifications applicable to direct care staff of the Albert J. Solnit Children's Center, including a brief description of the scope of work performed under each classification. For each, provide:

Rehabilitation Therapist Assistant 2 (Salary Range: \$52,860 – 70,959, 35 hours; \$60,411 – 81,095, 40 hours) *(continued)*

- Cleans areas and maintains equipment and supplies;
- Conducts minor repairs on adaptive equipment;
- In consultation with a professional therapist may modify, design and fabricate customized adaptive equipment;
- May prepare treatment plans and screen individuals under supervision of a professional therapist;
- May transport and escort individuals off grounds;

Number of DCF Employees Authorized and Filled & Job Retention and Turnover

Q3(ii) Employees Authorized and Filled (FY2024)

Total Authorized DCF Employees: 2974

- Filled direct care employees on 7/1/23: 233
- Filled direct care employees on 6/30/24: 253

Q3(iii) Job retention and turnover (FY2024)

- 60 New direct care employees
- 33 Direct care employees left the agency
- Turnover Rates:

Agency: 10.68%

Nursing staff: 13.04%

AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT (ARPA) FUNDING

ARPA Funds Allocated to DCF by Project and Status

Initiative	Initial Funding	Project Status	Project To Be Maintained After ARPA Funds Expire
Urgent Crisis Center	\$ 13,500,000	Fully Implemented	Yes
Mobile Crisis 24/7	8,600,000	Fully Implemented	Yes
Sub-Acute Crisis Stabilization	8,400,000	Fully Implemented	Yes
Child First Expansions	5,100,000	Fully Implemented	Yes
Intensive Transition Care Management	2,000,000	Fully Implemented	No
Urban Trauma Initiative	2,000,000	Fully Implemented	No
Social Determinants of MH	2,000,000	Fully Implemented	No
Family Assistance Grants	1,000,000	Fully Implemented	No
Access MH Expansion	990,000	Fully Implemented	Yes
Waterbury IOP Seed Money (DSS)	650,000	Fully Implemented	Yes
Racial Justice Provider Institute	500,000	Fully Implemented	No
Peer to Peer Care Coordination (DMHAS)	500,000	Fully Implemented	No
Peer to Peer Training Program	150,000	Fully Implemented	Yes
Respite to Non DCF Families	85,000	Fully Implemented	Yes
Resource Guide Development & Translation	50,000	Fully Implemented	Yes
TOTAL	\$ 45,525,000		

AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT (ARPA) FUNDING

ARPA Funds Allocated to DCF by Project and Status – Legislative Earmarked Projects

Legislative Earmarks	Initial Funding	Project Status	Date Services To Be Supported With ARPA Funds	Project To Be Maintained After ARPA Funds Expire	Ur	nexpended Funds
Casa Boricua	\$ 100,000	N/A	N/A	No	\$	100,000
Girls for Technology, Inc.	100,000	Complete	6/30/2023	No		-
R-Kids	100,000	Complete	6/30/2024	No		-
Valley Save our Youth	70,000	N/A	N/A	No		70,000
Children in Placement	25,000	Complete	6/30/2023	No		-
Fostering Community	20,000	N/A	N/A	No		20,000
TOTAL	\$ 415,000				\$	190,000

- \$255K of \$415K ARPA Funded Earmarked Projects has expended
- See Attachment A, ARPA Project Status Chart

Scope of Services Provided by JRBs

Q5(a). Describe the JRB service network in Connecticut and the scope of services provided by the JRBs. How comprehensive are these services?

Juvenile Review Boards (JRBs) are community-based diversion programs for youth who may otherwise be referred to Juvenile Court for minor violations.

- The purpose is to redirect youth from formal justice system involvement while holding them accountable for their behavior.
- There are 90 JRBs in 135 municipalities serving about 2,600 youth a year.
- The age range of youth served is 10 years-17 years.

Scope of Services Provided by JRBs

Q5(a). Describe the JRB service network in Connecticut and the scope of services provided by the JRBs. How comprehensive are these services?

The Connecticut Youth Services Association (CYSA) has established best practice protocols for JRBs.

- The composition and practices of the JRBs are influenced by community needs.
- Referrals come from a variety of sources including law enforcement, juvenile court, and schools. Panel members include YSB staff, community members, school staff, local law enforcement, and volunteers.
- Recommendations for youth from a panel process include activities and traditional interventions which are restorative in nature.
- The most common recommendations from the panel processes are apology, community service, and youth development activities.
- Other supports commonly recommended from the panels include mental and behavioral health evaluations, substance use assessment/intervention, educational advocacy, essay and mentoring.

Landscape Analysis

Q5(b). A "landscape analysis" was mentioned during testimony. Please comment further. Provide related documentation if feasible.

- JJPOC requested a landscape analysis of the Youth Service Bureaus that was conducted by Dillinger in 2022 and can be found here:
- See Attachment B, Dillinger Research and Applied Data, Inc. Report.

Currently Obligated Funding & Other Funding Sources

Q5(c). Identify currently obligated funding (for FY 25) under the JRB account, by vendor and location/service area.

DCF fully funds 3 JRB contracts to cover Hartford, Bridgeport and New Haven. There are 2 contracts with CYSA and the Waterbury YMCA (JRB-Support and Enhancement) whereby DCF provides contributions to 36 JRBs to meet local service needs.

Total state funding: \$1,719, 554

- City of Hartford-The Village: \$254,089
- Bridgeport-RYASAP: \$225,856
- New Haven-Urban Community Alliance: \$254,089
- Waterbury area-Waterbury YMCA: \$343,983
- All other areas: \$641,537 (36 JRBs through JRB-Support and Enhancement)

Q5(d). Does DCF support JRBs from any other funding source? If so, provide detail.

90% of JRBs fall under the umbrella of a Youth Service Bureau (YSB). Approximately ½ of JRBs are not funded directly through DCF but may use a portion of their YSB grant if they so choose.

FY2026 Funding Reduction & Timeline

Q5(e). How was the proposed FY 26 funding reduction of \$2,145,230 under the Juvenile Review Board account derived?

- Public Act 23-188 established an implementation team to develop a plan for prearrest diversion of low-risk children to be submitted to JJPOC by July 1, 2024. The team consisted of DCF, JB-CSSD, CSDE and DOC. CYSA was invited to represent the YSB's. DCF took the lead in developing the plan with input from JB-CSSD, CYSA and the other agencies. That proposal was submitted to the JJPOC Diversion Work Group in December 2023. After review and many discussions, the Diversion Work Group approved a diversion plan in December 2024.
- To properly implement the diversion plan, the Department is required to hire staff and then produce and post a new RFP to provide JRB services in communities where they do not currently exist.
- Since this is a new service type administered by DCF, the RFP's must be developed and approved through state contracting statutes and protocols which can take several months.
- Once approved, the Department will post the RFP and hopefully a community provider, or providers, will respond.
- It will take time for them to establish the regional JRB's, hire and train staff and then initiate the contract.
- We believe that can be done by the end of the calendar year resulting in the need for half year funding.
- The Governor's proposed budget includes the full cost in FY 27.

FY2026 Funding Reduction & Timeline

Q5(f). How would the proposed reduction impact the rollout of new services?

• We expect the rollout to be completed by the end of the calendar year.

Q5(g) How does DCF recommend that prearrest diversion services be implemented?

- DCF is responsible for a portion of the prearrest diversion plan. The implementation of such plan will follow the steps outlined in the report issued by the Diversion work group.
- See Attachment C, Diversion First Plan.

Pediatric MCIS model

Q6(a) Describe the Pediatric MCIS model and service network in Connecticut

- Mobile Crisis Intervention Services (MCIS) (formerly called Emergency Mobile Psychiatric Services(EMPS)) are available for children and adolescents experiencing a behavioral or mental health crisis. The purpose of the program is to serve children in their homes and communities, reduce the number of visits to hospital Emergency Rooms, and divert them from hospitalization if a lower level of care is a safe, effective alternative.
- Services are accessed by calling 2-1-1 or 9-8-8. United Way of Connecticut operates the statewide call center, staffed with trained crisis call specialists. When 211/988 is called, the United Way crisis specialist triages the call and connects the caller, via live "warm transfer," to a local Mobile Crisis provider. Mobile Crisis providers are a statewide network (*See Attachment D1, Mobile Crisis Providers_Towns Served*) of specially trained mental health clinicians who can respond to the youth's location (home, school, etc.), typically arriving in under 45 minutes. Mobile Crisis can be dispatched 24 hours a day, 365 days a year.

MOBILE CRISIS INTERVENTION SERVICES (MCIS) Pediatric MCIS model

Q6(a) Describe the Pediatric MCIS model and service network in Connecticut (continued)

- Following the initial crisis response, the Mobile Crisis clinician and other members of the Mobile Crisis team can continue to meet with the family for six weeks, develop a Crisis Safety Plan, and connect the youth and family with additional mental and behavioral health resources within the community.
- The Child Health and Development Institute (CHDI), through a contract with DCF, operates a Performance Improvement Center (PIC) for the Mobile Crisis program. The PIC provides training and ongoing quality assurance monitoring of program performance. Comprehensive reporting of program performance and outcomes is available on the Mobile Crisis website: <u>mobilecrisisempsct.org</u>

Utilization and Outcomes Data

Q6(b) Provide recent utilization and outcomes data

- The Child Health and Development Institute (CHDI), through a contract with DCF, operates a Performance Improvement Center (PIC) for the Mobile Crisis program.
- The PIC provides training and ongoing quality assurance monitoring of program performance. Comprehensive reporting of program performance and outcomes is available on the Mobile Crisis website (mobilecrisisempsct.org).
- See Attachments D2, D3 & D4 for SFY24 and for the first two quarters of SFY25.

DCF and External Funding Sources

Q6c. Provide FY 25 budget detail for MCIS, from all DCF funding sources, by provider and service area.

SID	SFY25 DCF Funding	Federal Funding	Total SFY 2025 Funding
16141 - Community Kidcare	13,585,668		13,585,668
ARPA-Expand Mobile Crisis Intervention		8,600,000	8,600,000
One-time ARPA Children's Behavioral Health		1,089,558	1,089,558
One-time ARPA Private Provider Cost of Living Adjustment (COLA) to non-profit providers		324,697	324,697
Total Mobile Crisis Intervention Services SFY25 Contract Funding	13,585, 668	10,014,255	23,559,923

DCF - 16141 - Community Kidcare

Q6c. Provide FY 25 budget detail for MCIS, from all DCF funding sources, by provider and service area.

SID	Provider	SFY25 DCF Funding	Service Area	Other Funding Streams
16141 - Community Kidcare	Wheeler Clinic, Inc.	\$ 3,083,642	Hartford, Meriden & New Britain	Service Fees: Client third party fees (Est. \$45,431.07)
	Child and Family Guidance Center, Inc.	2,414,019	Bridgeport	Husky A - Patient fees (Est. \$50,000)
	Clifford W. Beers Guidance Clinic, Inc.	2,341,605	Milford & New Haven	Service Fees (Est. \$221,689)
	Wellmore, Inc	2,329,750	Danbury, Torrington & Waterbury	In-Kind: Agency's contribution to program to cover direct and indirect costs - (Est. \$717,419) United Way: Designated for Outpatient program: Naugatuck/Beacon Falls UW \$6,056 andGreater Waterbury UW \$19,870 - (Est. \$25,926) Husky A: 3rd party revenue represents billings to Medicaid/commercial insurances and to clients directly for services provided - (Est. \$385,000)
	United Community and Family Services, Inc.	1,773,981	Norwich & Willimantic	None
	Community Health Resources, Inc.	1,642,671	Manchester & Middletown	Service Fees - Third Party Billing (Est. \$211,666)
16141 Total		\$ 13,585,668		

DCF - ARPA-Expand Mobile Crisis Intervention

Q6c. Provide FY 25 budget detail for MCIS, from all DCF funding sources, by provider and service area.

Funding Source	Provider	SFY25	DCF Funding
ARPA-Expand Mobile Crisis Intervention	Wheeler Clinic, Inc.	\$	2,323,836
	Wellmore, Inc		1,515,590
	Community Health Resources, Inc.		1,418,302
	United Community and Family Services, Inc		1,386,818
	Clifford W. Beers Guidance Clinic, Inc.		1,132,886
	Child and Family Guidance Center, Inc.		822,568
28018 Total		\$	8,600,000

DCF - One-time ARPA Children's Behavioral Health

Q6c. Provide FY 25 budget detail for MCIS, from all DCF funding sources, by provider and service area

Funding Source	Provider	SFY25	DCF Funding
One-time ARPA Children's Behavioral Health	Wheeler Clinic, Inc.	\$	247,306
	Child and Family Guidance Center, Inc. Clifford W. Beers Guidance Clinic, Inc. Wellmore, Inc United Community and Family Services, Inc.		193,602
			187,795
			186,844
			142,271
	Community Health Resources, Inc.		131,740
28556 Total		\$	1,089,558

DCF - One-time ARPA Private Provider Cost of Living Adjustment (COLA) to Non-Profit providers

Q6c. Provide FY 25 budget detail for MCIS, from all DCF funding sources, by provider and service area

Funding Source	Provider	SFY25	DCF Funding
One-time ARPA Private Provider Cost of Living Adjustment (COLA) to non-profit providersWheeler Clinic, Inc.Wheeler Clinic, Inc.Child and Family Guidance Center, Inc.Clifford W. Beers Guidance Clinic, Inc.Wellmore, Inc		\$	73,699
			57,695
			55,964
			55,681
	United Community and Family Services, Inc.		42,398
	Community Health Resources, Inc.		39,260
29773 Total		\$	324,697

External Funding Sources

Q6d. Identify and describe any other funding streams (i.e., external to DCF's budget) that support the MCIS network in Connecticut

Provider	Service Area	Other Funding Streams
Wheeler Clinic, Inc.	Hartford, Meriden & New Britain	Service Fees: Client third party fees (Est. \$45,431.07)
Child and Family Guidance Center, Inc.	Bridgeport	Husky A - Patient fees (Est. \$50,000)
Clifford W. Beers Guidance Clinic, Inc.	Milford & New Haven	Service Fees (Est. \$221,689)
Wellmore, Inc	Danbury, Torrington & Waterbury	In-Kind: Agency's contribution to program to cover direct and indirect costs - (Est. \$717,419) United Way: Designated for Outpatient program: Naugatuck/Beacon Falls UW \$6,056 and Greater Waterbury UW \$19,870 - (Est. \$25,926) Husky A: 3rd party revenue represents billings to Medicaid/commercial insurances and to clients directly for services provided - (Est. \$385,000)
United Community and Family Services, Inc.	Norwich & Willimantic	None
Community Health Resources, Inc.	Manchester & Middletown	Service Fees - Third Party Billing (Est. \$211,666)

Distribution of ARPA funds to the UCCs by Provider and Service Area

Q7(a & b) Report on the distribution of ARPA funds to the UCCs, by provider and service area. Provide detail for each relevant fiscal year, comparing distributed funds to the amounts allocated for this purpose. Describe, and to the extent feasible provide data on, other funding streams for the UCC's that supplement the ARPA funding.

Provider	SFY23 DCF Funding	SFY24 DCF Funding	SFY25 DCF Funding	Total SFY23 - SFY25
Child & Family Agency of Southeastern Connecticut, Inc.	\$ 1,983,333	\$ 1,610,306	\$ 2,710,173	\$ 6,303,812
Village for Families and Children, Inc.	2,637,812	3,882,188	4,377,971	10,897,971
Wellmore, Inc	1,953,333	1,900,000	2,710,173	6,563,506
Total Urgent Crisis Center Contract Funding	\$ 6,574,478	\$ 7,392,494	\$ 9,798,317	\$ 23,765,289
Yale-New Haven Hospital	2,800,000	1,400,000	-	4,200,000
Total Urgent Crisis Center Emergency Department Contract Funding	\$ 9,374,478	\$ 8,792,494	\$ 9,798,317	\$ 27,965,289

Utilization and Outcomes Data

Q7(c) Provide recent utilization and outcomes data

- During the period January 1, 2023 through December 31, 2024 the UCCs provided 1,403 episodes of care.
- The insurance plans of these UCC clients is reported below. Please note that not all plans reimburse for UCC care.

Client Insurance Plans	%
Medicaid	57%
Private Insurance	41%
Military Health Coverage	1%
No Insurance	1%
TOTAL	100%

UCC Reimbursement Under Medicaid

Q7(d) How are UCC services currently reimbursed under Medicaid? Will this change under the Governor's proposal (if so, please explain)?

- The UCCs operate under the providers' Outpatient Psychiatric Clinic for Children (OPCC) licenses. Providers are eligible to submit for reimbursement via a series of outpatient behavioral health service codes. Some of these service codes are available to all outpatient behavioral health providers (e.g., psychiatrist assessment, clinician assessment, individual therapy, family therapy). Additional services codes have been made available solely for the UCC providers. These include codes for nursing triage assessment and for crisis care. UCC services are currently reimbursed "unbundled," i.e., each component of the UCC service (nurse triage, clinician assessment, crisis care, etc.) is documented and billed separately. (See Attachment E, DSS Provider Bulletin)
- The current UCC Medicaid service codes and billing processes do not change under the Governor's budget proposal.

UCC Reimbursement Under Medicaid

Q7(e) Under what financial arrangements are UCC services currently provided to children and youth not covered by Medicaid? Will this change under the Governor's proposal (if so, please explain)?

- Each provider negotiates private insurance reimbursement individually with each insurance carrier. Currently some of the UCC services can be billed using standard outpatient service codes (e.g., clinician therapy session, psychiatrist evaluation, etc.). The UCC providers continue to negotiate with private insurers to try to have UCC services reimbursed as a unique service type.
- Grant funding through ARPA has subsidized the cost of UCC development and care for children as the
 program has become established. This funding was provided to give UCCs the time necessary to address
 permanent sustainability through both commercial insurance and Medicaid coverage.

Q7(f) How will the Medicaid funding recommended by the Governor for UCC services be distributed by provider/service area?

Medicaid reimbursement would be on a fee-for-service basis according to service utilization. Each UCC
provider's total Medicaid billing would depend upon the number of Medicaid clients served.

INTENSIVE IN-HOME CHILD & ADOLESCENT PSYCHIATRIC SERVICES (IICAPS)

Utilization Data by Insurance status

Q8(a) Provide utilization data by insurance status, to the extent known.

Insurance Type	FY2024	% FY2024	FY2025	% FY2025
Childrens' Health Insurance Program (HUSKY A)	1,568	85%	1,195	84%
Private Health Insurance	152	8%	105	7%
Childrens' Health Insurance Program (HUSKY B)	80	4%	49	3%
Medicare	19	1%	22	2%
Medicaid (Non-HUSKY)	12	1%	17	1%
Other	11	1%	9	1%
No Health Insurance	1	0%	-	0%
No Health Insurance Listed	-	0%	29	2%
Total	1,843	100%	1,426	100%

INTENSIVE IN-HOME CHILD & ADOLESCENT PSYCHIATRIC SERVICES (IICAPS)

- Q8(b) Under what financial arrangements are IICAPS services provided to children and youth not covered under Medicaid?
 - Some providers have been able to enter into agreements with private insurers to cover IICAPS services. In other instances, families have been able to access IICAPS services via the Voluntary Care Management program.

Supportive Housing Account Services

Q9(a) Briefly describe the services procured through the Supportive Housing account.

The Supportive Housing for Families (SHF) program serves DCF involved families experiencing homelessness or at risk of homelessness. Services are provided when housing is a barrier to reunification or preservation of the family. SHF provides the following services:

- Weekly, in-home case management
- In-home vocational services
- In-home parenting support
- Budgeting assistance
- Payment for childcare and summer camp
- Payment for training programs
- Clothes and supplies for families entering the workforce
- Basic food supplies when families are in need
- Apartment search supported by Housing Support Specialists

Supportive Housing Account Services

Q9(a). Briefly describe the services procured through the Supportive Housing account.

The Supportive Housing for Families (SHF) program serves DCF involved families experiencing homelessness or at risk of homelessness. Services are provided when housing is a barrier to reunification or preservation of the family. SHF provides the following services: *(continued)*

- Security deposit
- Temporary rental subsidy (while the family is in the program)
- Payment of past due utility bills
- Furniture for new apartment
- Household items to support family
- Landlord mediation
- Referrals to mental health/substance use/relapse prevention programs

Supportive Housing Account Services

Q9(a). Briefly describe the services procured through the Supportive Housing account.

The SHF Program provides direct housing assistance including:

- Security deposits
- Past due rent arrearage
- Past due utility payments
- Temporary rental payments
- Food, clothing, furniture
- Transportation

SHF facilitates access to housing subsidies for permanent housing support and/or provides direct temporary housing assistance through program funds. Families may receive up to two years of case management and support.

DCF's provider is The Connection and there are 5 subcontracted agencies (ACCESS Agency, BH Care, Family & Children's Agency, Wellmore, Wheeler Clinic)

Supportive Housing Account Services

Q9(b). How many children and families are supported through funding appropriated to this budgetary account?

Children and families are supported through funding appropriated in FY2024:

- 639 families were served, inclusive of 1,273 children
- Total funding \$15.7M

ADOPTION/SUBSIDIZED GUARDIANSHIP

Board and Care for Children – Adoption Account Funding

Q10(a). Provide detail on services and activities that are funded through the Board and Care for Children – Adoption account, with associated funding levels.

Funds described below are for children where permanency has been achieved. The DCF case has been closed and an agreement has been made the guardian / adoptive parent to continue the care for the child.

DCF provides subsidy payments to families adopting a special needs child.

 A special needs child is one that is difficult to place in adoption because of the presence of one or more conditions including but not limited to:

Physical or mental disability; serious emotional maladjustment;

high risk of physical or mental disability; age, racial, ethnic or other factors.

- Adoptive families caring for medically complex children receive a higher monthly maintenance payment.
- Similar payments are made on behalf of children in subsidized guardianship homes.
- This benefits those children who (1) have been in the care or custody of the department; and (2) have been in a licensed home for at least six months (as appliable to guardianship).

ADOPTION/SUBSIDIZED GUARDIANSHIP

Board and Care for Children – Adoption Account Funding

Q10(a). Provide detail on services and activities that are funded through the Board and Care for Children – Adoption account, with associated funding levels.

Adoption/ Subsidized Guardianship Services	Pr	SFY 25 ojected Budget
Subsidized Expenditure (Adoption Med Complex and Guardianship)	\$	92,575,077
Miscellaneous Expenses (Camp, College, Room & Board, Med Treatment)		12,444,826
UCONN Adoption Assistance Program (Recruitment, Travel, Foster Family Support, Home/Vehicle Modification)		1,408,773
TOTAL	\$	106,428,676

Q10(b). How many subsidized adoptive/guardianship children and families are receiving services?

• 10,255 (as of 3/5/25)

FOSTER CARE

Board and Care for Children – Foster Account Funding

Q11(a). Provide detail on services and activities that are funded through the Board and Care for Children – Foster account, with associated funding levels

This account funds maintenance payments made on behalf of foster children and related costs of clothing, personal allowances, psychiatric evaluations, day care, cost-secondary tuition, and other costs as deemed necessary by the child's caseworker in consultation with the foster parents. In certain instances, foster families are approved by private agencies, which provide ongoing training and support services. Also funded are Independent Living programs, which helps youth making the transition from foster care to self-reliance and independent living.

- A small number of foster children have complex medical needs ranging from mild-persistent asthma requiring daily
 medications to comprehensive care for a child with severe cerebral palsy. Some children may need specialized medical
 equipment. Foster parents willing to provide care for these special children are given specialized training and receive a
 higher monthly maintenance payment.
- Specialized/Therapeutic Foster Care (Functional Family Therapy Model) is a family-based service delivery approach
 that provides individualized treatment for children and their families. Treatment is delivered through a constellation of
 integrated services, with interventions and supports provided by foster parents who are trained, supervised and
 supported by private agencies under contract with the department.

FOSTER CARE

Board and Care for Children – Foster Account Funding

Q11(a). Provide detail on services and activities that are funded through the Board and Care for Children – Foster account, with associated funding levels

- CKIN Connecticut Kinship Navigation Model is designed to recruit and support relative and fictive kin foster parents.
- The Connecticut Alliance of Foster and Adoptive Parents (CAFAF) works collaboratively with DCF to develop, implement and support programs for foster, adoptive and relative families, including but not limited to: A buddy system; post licensing training; Helpline; a quarterly newsletter; an annual conference; periodic workshops; respite care authorization; and a fiduciary role for open adoption legal services. Foster family support services are also provided via a contract with the Town of Bloomfield.
- The department also funds private entities that license DCF employees wishing to become foster parents.
- See Attachment F, Foster Care Maintenance Rate Schedule

FOSTER CARE

Board and Care for Children – Foster Account Funding

Q10(a). Provide detail on services and activities that are funded through the Board and Care for Children – Foster account, with associated funding levels.

Foster Care Services	SFY 25 Projected Budget	
Foster Family Support (CAFAP, Caregiving, Therapeutic, Faimly Time, Quality Parenting Center)	\$	43,920,282
Miscellaneous Other (Court Order Evals, Holiday Checks, Translation Education Training, After School Service Meals, Med Expenses, Security Deposit, Sibling Visitation, Transportation, Youth Stipend)		40,656,830
Foster Care		32,296,356
Independent Living		4,957,217
TOTAL	\$	121,830,685

Q10(b). How many children and families are receiving foster care services?

- 3262 children & youth (ages 0-24) are in foster care (as of 3/5/25)
 - 2750 under the age of 18
 - 512 over the age of 18 (voluntary services post-majority (SPM))

SHORT-TERM AND RESIDENTIAL SERVICES

Board and Care for Children – Short-term and Residential Account

Q11(a). Provide detail on services and activities that are funded through the Board and Care for Children – Shortterm and Residential account, with associated funding levels.

 This account funds residential and therapeutic services for children placed in treatment settings. Funded placement types include, but are not limited to: residential treatment centers, therapeutic group homes, transitional living supervised apartments, crisis stabilization facilities, and specialized trauma—informed treatment assessment reunification homes (STTAR).

SHORT-TERM AND RESIDENTIAL SERVICES

Board and Care for Children – Short-term and Residential Account

Q12(a). Provide detail on services and activities that are funded through the Board and Care for Children – Shortterm and Residential account, with associated funding levels.

Short-Term & Residential Services	SFY 25 Projected Budget
Residential Services Voluntary Care Management Therapeutic Group Homes Sub Acute Crisis Stabilization	24,080,302 8,739,000 21,835,645 5,812,983
Short-Term Assessment & Respite	8,355,465
TOTAL	\$69,628,396

Q12(b). How many children and youth are receiving these services?

• 183 (as of 3/5/25)

SHORT-TERM AND RESIDENTIAL SERVICES

Board and Care for Children – Short-term and Residential Account

Q12(c). The agency's requested FY 26 funding level under this account \$72.8 million exceeds the FY 25 adjusted appropriation of \$69.6 million by \$3.2 million. The Governor's budget does not provide the requested increase (and further reduces the account by \$4 million via a proposed transfer to the Community Kidcare account of VCM Wraparound dollars). How did DCF anticipate utilizing the requested increased amount under the BCC-Short-term and Residential account?

• The Governor's Budget adequately funds the account to meet the needs of the children we serve.

MULTISYSTEMIC THERAPY SERVICES (MST)

Multisystemic Therapy (MST) Services

Q13(a). The Governor's proposed budget reduces funding for Multisystemic Therapy (MST) services by \$28,657 in both FY 26 and FY 27. DCF procures MST services through both the Substance Abuse Treatment account and the Community Kidcare account. Please review the contractual revision that was the impetus for this budget adjustment and indicate to which budgetary account this reduction would best be applied.

• SID 16116, Substance Abuse Treatment, is the budgetary account the reduction would best be applied.

Thank You!