

DHS-DIVISION OF COUNTY OPERATIONS (719)
FISCAL YEAR 2018
As Enacted by Act 901 of 2017

I) AGENCY SUMMARY & REVENUE SOURCES

MISSION

The Division is responsible for providing services at the local level in county offices. Services that are provided to citizens include eligibility for Medicaid, Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF), and Food Stamps; and economic services such as Housing Assistance, Weatherization, Low Income Energy Assistance, and the Community Services Block Grant; and clerical support to the other divisions located in the county offices.

TOTAL APPROPRIATION

The total appropriations are \$179,514,166 in FY2018, with total increases of \$1,726,407. These include \$2,825,998 in appropriation for Medicaid Expansion programs payable from the Tobacco Settlement Proceeds Act. These programs are appropriated in a separate appropriation act.

FUNDING SOURCES

The budget is funded from federal funds, general revenue, and other funds.

II) CHANGE LEVEL REQUESTS

Operations

The recommendation for this appropriation, funded by General, Federal and Other Revenues is for \$119,406,612, with increases of \$1,426,407, including the following changes:

- **Regular Salaries** increases of \$1,028,634 and **Personal Services Matching** increases of \$506,538 for the restoration of 47 positions.
- Extra Help increase of \$239,760.
- Operating Expenses decrease of (\$48,525).

GRANTS - FEDERAL

The recommendation for this appropriation, funded entirely from federal revenues, is \$31,379,386. The change in the appropriation is due to the elimination of the **Shelter Plus Care Program** line item (appropriated at \$2,008,800 in FY17). Recent changes to federal law have allowed the entities utilizing the money to receive it directly, eliminating the need for the state to continue acting as a pass through agent.

III) ADDITIONAL POSITIONS (Total Authorized Positions FY2017 :

1,842)

Total Positions for FY2018: 1,830*

Total Base Level Positions: 1,788*

*Includes sixty (60) positions authorized for Medicaid Expansion funded from the Tobacco Settlement Proceeds Act and authorized in a separate appropriation act.

Increase(Decrease): 42 - Restoration of 47 positions associated with support of program eligibility determination and transfer out of (5) positions in support of agency reorganization.

Extra Help Positions FY2018: 37 (Base Level Extra Help: 37)

IV) SPECIAL LANGUAGE

- INTERAGENCY TRANSFER OF STATE GENERAL REVENUE: Authorizes the CFO of the State to approve transfers up to \$3,640,650 each year of General Revenue between DHS and Department of Workforce Services (DWS) in support of TANF Programs, with DWS reporting any transfers to the PEER committee of ALC or JBC.
- DCO FEDERAL DISASTER DECLARATIONS: In the event that a State or Federal disaster is declared, DCO is allowed to exceed the 240 hour per quarter limit on temp help and can waive the 1,000 hour limit per state fiscal year for Extra Help.

MEDICAID EXPANSION PROGRAM - SAME LANGUAGE APPLIES TO THE DIVISION OF MEDICAL SERVICES

- ****REVISED LANGUAGE** MEDICAID EXPANSION PROGRAM-PAYING ACCOUNTS:** Separate Paying Accounts will be established by the Department for each component of the Medicaid Expansion Program to draw federal funds. Replaces listed purposes with reference to A.C.A § 19-12-116(b)(1) that lists purposes.
- ACCOUNTS: Appropriation and Fund Accounts will be established on the books of the Treasurer and Auditor of the State.
- POSITIONS: General revenue funds will not be used to replace Tobacco Settlement funds when funds expire. No positions paid from the Tobacco Settlement will be construed as a commitment to continue funding the positions if sufficient funds no longer exist.
- TRANSFER RESTRICTIONS: No appropriations in the Medicaid Expansion Program Appropriation act shall be transferred, but only as provided by this act.
- TRANSFERS OF APPROPRIATIONS: Provides the process in which transfers can be made within the maintenance and general operations appropriation line items. The Director can also

request the transfer of appropriation only between the Hospital and Medical Services and Prescription Drug line items in the Medicaid Expansion appropriation.

- COMPLIANCE WITH OTHER LAWS: Disbursement of funds authorized shall be limited to the appropriation for such agency and funds made available by law and shall strictly comply with applicable state laws, rules and regulations.
- LEGISLATIVE INTENT: Requires funds to be disbursed in this act in compliance with Initiated Act 1 of 2000 and all pertinent documentation and testimony submitted and recorded during hearings or sessions that relates to its passage and adoption.