

Children's Cabinet

June 22, 2023

Agenda

- Welcome and Introductions
- Vote on adoption of *May* meeting minutes
- FY24 Budget Highlights
- Public Comment
- Adjournment



Department of Administration/Office of Management and Budget

Highlights of FY 2024 Budget as Enacted

- **Pre-K Expansion:** The budget includes the Governor's recommendation to add \$8.3 million for expansion of state Pre-K programs, including \$6.7M to backfill expired federal funding for Pre-K seats and an additional \$1.6 to create new administrative capacity for expansion.
- **DCYF Workforce Stabilization:** The budget includes an additional \$7.9 million from federal funds to continue the provider stabilization initiative in FY 2024. It also includes language specifying that these funds remain available until a contracted service provider's new contract takes effect at which time payments cease.
- **Local Education Funding :** The FY 2024 Enacted Budget includes \$51.3 million for the K-12 funding formula over FY 2023 enacted levels. The budget codifies includes a new poverty indicator, as proposed by the Governor, as well as transitional support to districts for changes to enrollment and poverty. The budget includes an additional \$33.8 million (\$11.9 million more than the Governor's request) for Categorical Aid, including \$10.5 million for high-cost special education and \$14.4 million for Multilingual Learners.
- **Wavemaker Fellowships:** The budget adopts the Governor's recommendation of \$0.8 million to expand the student loan to teachers.

Highlights of FY 2024 Budget as Enacted

- **RIC Hope Scholarship:** \$4.0 million for a last-dollar scholarship that would fund the full cost of tuition and mandatory fees after other forms of financial aid for in-state students in their third and fourth years at RIC, similar to the existing RI Promise Scholarship at CCRI (pilot program for the graduating classes of 2024 through 2028).
- **CCRI Fresh Start Scholarship:** \$5.0 million aimed at re-enrolling Rhode Islanders who earned some credits at CCRI but stopped before earning a degree. (\$2.5 million per year for two years)
- **Housing:** Builds upon the already approved \$250.0 million in federal State Fiscal Recovery Fund since FY 2022. Includes \$30.0 million for homelessness infrastructure, \$55.0 million for affordable housing, and \$2.5 million for a municipal homelessness support initiative. Also establishes a state low-income housing tax credit to finance the development of affordable housing (\$30.0 million annually for five years).
- **Certified Community Behavioral Health Clinics:** The budget includes \$22.4 million all funds (\$7.2M general revenue increase) to implement the CCBHC model, which will ensure access to coordinated comprehensive behavioral healthcare in which certified providers are required to meet standards for a required range of services.

RI Department of Education

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[Rhode Island Department of Education]

FY24 Budget Highlights

- There is an overall increase of more than \$75 million in education funding.
- Funds were included to stabilize districts as they face the fiscal impact of the enrollment decline.
- The high-cost special education categorical fund reimbursement is now greater because funding begins at four times the core expense rather than five times.
- The multilingual learner categorical fund has increased allocation because it is now based on 15% of the core cost rather than 10% of the core cost; this accounts for a statewide increase of nearly \$14 million.
- Seven new positions are included to support students, families, and educators.
- This includes 3 new positions for IEPs and 504 accommodations plus funds for training; 1 new administrative position; 1 assessment position; 1 position in the Office of College and Career Readiness; and 1 position in Office of Student, Community and Academic Supports to support MLLs.

Office of Postsecondary Commissioner

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Office of the Postsecondary Commissioner

FY24 Budget Highlights

- RI Reconnect:
 - \$8 million for 1,500 students for wraparound services for Rhode Islanders at RI IHE
 - Extra supports for all students, including parenting students
 - Remove barriers to teacher certification for multi-lingual educators in PK-12 and special education

Legislation:

- RI Hope Scholarship Pilot Program Act – 2-year scholarships to junior and seniors at RIC
- Apprenticeship Pathways to Earning a Bachelor’s Degree Act – to enable individuals to earn a bachelor’s degree at a RI public IHE by earning credits through apprenticeships
- DataSpark Transition – Preserve the state longitudinal data system, more information in July.

Department of Labor and Training

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DLT/GWB FY24 Budget Highlights (Youth Programs)



Matthew Weldon
Director of Labor and Training



Alyssa Alvarado
GWB Executive Director

Funding for Youth Initiatives in

DLT/GWB Program or Initiative	FY24 Funding	Funding Source	Target Served	Administering Entity	Aggregate Total
Youth WIOA	+/- \$3,000,000	WIOA (Federal)	500+ Youth Aged 14-24	DLT/GWB (grants to local CBOs)	+/- \$3M
Real Skills for Youth	\$2,700,000	JDF (State)	3,500+ Youth Aged 14-24	DLT/GWB (grants to partnerships)	Youth Work- Based Learning Activities \$4.25M
PrepareRI High School Summer Internships	\$1,250,000	JDF (State)	250+ Rising Seniors	Skills for RI's Future	
PrepareRI Work-Based Learning Navigator	\$300,000	JDF (State)	TBD	Skills for RI's Future & Junior Achievement RI	
JA Inspire 8 th Grade Career Exploration Fair	\$275,000	JDF (State)	6,000+ 8 th Graders	Junior Achievement RI	Youth Career Exploration Activities
Career Exploration Equity Grants <i>*NEW*</i>	\$100,000	JDF (State)	TBD	DLT/GWB (grants to schools/CBOs)	\$375k

Approximately \$7.6M in Investments

Paid Internships/Work-Based Learning

Total Youth to be Served = 3,815



PrepareRI/Real Skills for Youth Partner	Target Youth Served
Skills for Rhode Island's Future (SkillsRI)	250
Comprehensive Community Action Program (CCAP)	501
NEW Youth Moving Forward Rhode Island (YMF)	50
Community Action Partnership of Providence (CAPP)	40
East Bay Community Action Program (EBCAP)	90
Tri-County Community Action Agency	290
NEW FAB NEWPORT	35
Southside Community Land Trust (SCLT)	40
Community Care Alliance (CCA)	305
Rhode Island Marine Trade Association (RIMTA)	60
Inspiring Minds	40
Providence Public Library (PPL)	110
DownCity Design	82
Newport Community School (NCS)	192
NEW We Make Rhode Island	20
NEW Highland Charter School	10
Blackstone Valley Community Action Program (BVCAP)	50
Connecting for Children and Families (CCF) - Woonsocket	120
NEW Rhode Island Builders Association (RIBA)	1500
NEW Navigant Credit Union	12
NEW Central Falls School District	10
NEW Arts Sports Technology Resource Organization	8

8th Grade Career Exploration Fair



Governor's Workforce Board
Rhode Island
strategy • policy • funding • action

Connect with the Workforce of Tomorrow!

November 14th–16th at the Rhode Island Convention Center



JA Inspire[®]

JA Inspire Career Exploration Fair



Interested in participating?

Contact Julissa Disu, Director of Youth Career Readiness Programs, at Julissa.Disu@dlt.ri.gov or call 401-462-8971

Career Exploration Equity Grants

- The Career Exploration Equity Grant Program was established by the Governor's Workforce Board to support equitable access to high-quality career exploration opportunities for youth and young adults.
- It provides a 100% reimbursement for eligible activities and costs up to \$5,000 per calendar year.
- K-12 schools and community-based organizations are eligible to apply.
- Examples of supported activities include:
 - Career Exploration Field Trips
 - Employer Site Visits/Tours
 - Industry Presentations, Demonstrations, or Speakers
 - Extracurricular Programs/Activities
 - Virtual Career Exploration
- The program will launch in July 2023.



Executive Office of Health and Human Services

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FY24 Budget Highlights

- **Certified Community Behavioral Health Clinics (CCBHC): \$22.4M AF.** Includes funding to administer and finance the federal CCBHC model, ensuring access to coordinated comprehensive behavioral health care for children and adults (Feb 2024).
- **Cedar Family Centers: \$0.5M GR.** Increases rates for the Cedar Family Centers to support, sustain, and expand current activities, ensuring equitable access to services for Medicaid eligible children with special healthcare needs and their families, including children eligible through the Katie Beckett pathway.
- **Continuous Coverage for Children/Families: May Caseload.** Includes an additional six months of continued coverage for children and their families. They will not be redetermined until January 2024 (aligns with start of 12-month continuous coverage requirement for children authorized under the Consolidated Appropriations Act).
- **Preschool Development Grant: \$4.0M FF.** Rhode Island was awarded this competitive federal grant designed to improve states' early childhood systems by building upon existing federal, state, and local early care and learning investments. This \$4.0 million federal award will be disbursed across multiple agencies and fiscal years.
- **3.0 FTEs for Legal Support: \$0.3M GR.** Includes 2.0 legal positions to support DCYF to reduce attorney caseload ratios and 1.0 legal position in DHS for child support enforcement.
- **Equality in Abortion Coverage/Reproductive Justice: \$0.6M GR.** Includes financing to expand the Reproductive Privacy Act of 2019 to individuals who lack the financial means, ensuring abortion coverage to individuals enrolled in Medicaid.

Department of Human Services

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Department of Human Services

FY24 Budget Highlights

- **Head Start Funding:** \$3M in TANF funding to help strategic efforts to sustain and re-open Head Start and Early Head Start seats.
 - This funding will be added to the \$1.2M of General Revenue currently in the budget.
- **CCAP for Child Care Workers:** \$4M in CCBDG funding to pilot a program that provides Child Care Assistance Program eligibility to all child care staff up to 300% FPL with no co-payment.
 - This will be beneficial for child care staff who live in a household between 200% FPL (over \$49,720 for a family of three) and 300% FPL (\$75,580 for a family of three)
 - Pilot will be separate from current CCAP program in order to capture data for this specific population for possible future policy changes.
- **Pandemic Retention Bonuses & other Child Care projects:** Carryover ARPA funds will allow the pandemic retention bonuses, quality improvement and TEACH funding to continue through FY24 and into early FY25. These investments were approved in the FY22 and FY23 budgets.
- **RI Works Expanded Access:** Rhode Island state law was amended to enable those who are unemployed or pregnant and low-wage to qualify for cash assistance from the onset of the pregnancy rather than only in the third trimester.

Department of Behavioral Health, Developmental Disabilities, and Hospitals

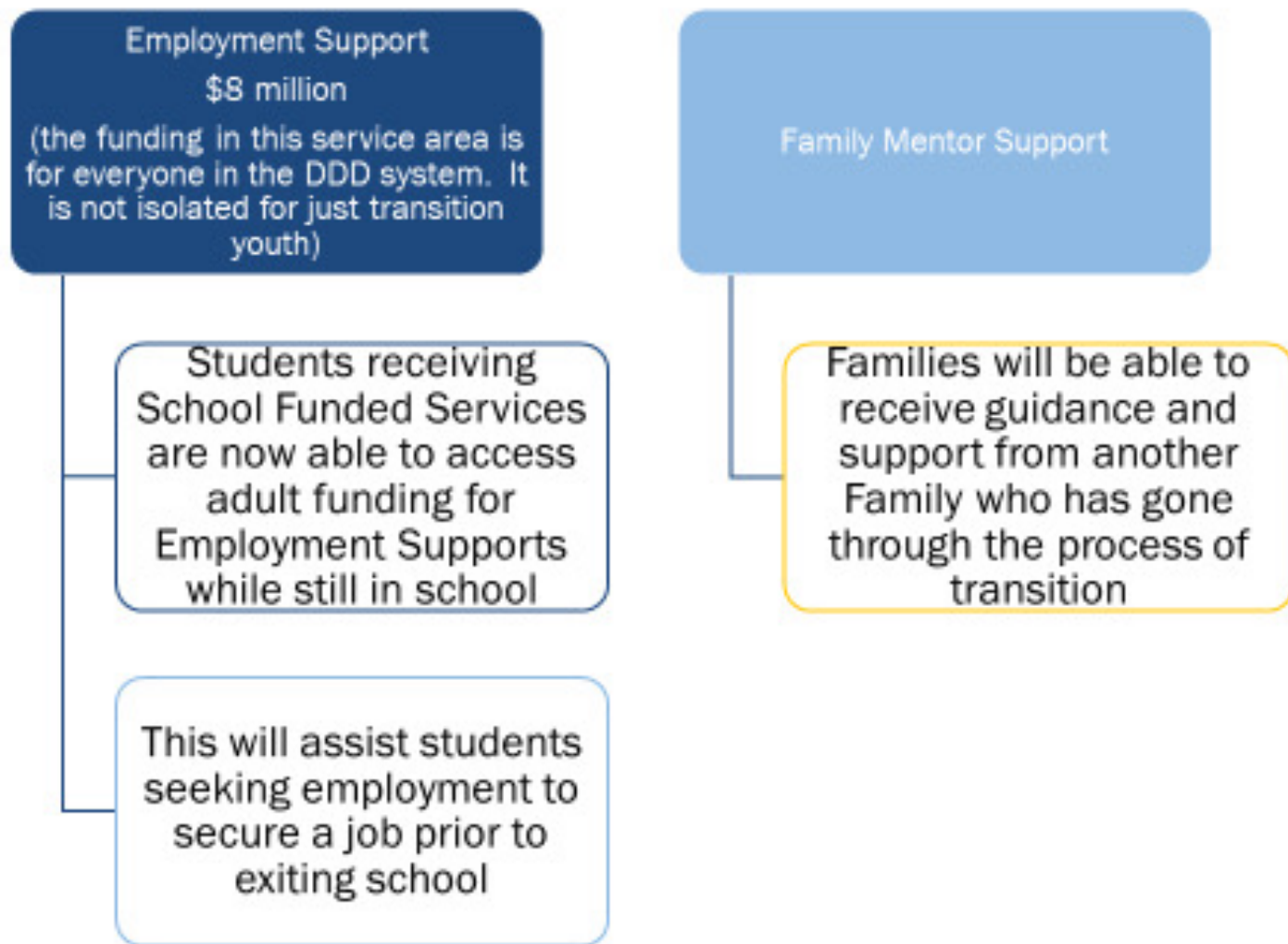
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BHDDH's Division of Developmental Disabilities

FY24 Budget Highlights

Transition Age Youth

BHDDH's Division of Developmental Disabilities has been engaged in Rate Methodology Work, which lead to expanded service options.



Department of Children, Youth, and Families

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FY24 Governor's Budget – Bottom Line For DCYF

- **FY24 Governor's Budget Highlights:**

- The General Assembly approved and Governor signed an additional \$7.9M in American Rescue Plan Act Funds to support Provider Workforce Stabilization payments until the completion of the RFP process, and at which time “new contracts” take effect.
- The Governor's Budget Amendment on the RICHIST project, provided additional funding to support updated costs associated with system replacement.
- Provided for a general agreement in language to allow DCYF to carry-forward \$2M in GR for the purpose of modernizing the aged vehicle fleet. Purchases must be made prior to June 30th, 2023.
- Effective 1 July 2023, there will be a 7% Rate increase for Provider Contracts until completion of the RFP process, at which time a review of the overall final adjustment will be made. This will provide necessary “bridge funding” for Providers to continue the necessary service support for Children, Youth and Families during the Procurement process.

RI Department of Health

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FY24 Budget Highlights.

- **Preschool Development Grant (GBA).** In December 2022, the state was awarded a \$4.0 million federal Preschool Development Grant to support early childhood services for children birth to age five. Grant funds will be used by several agencies to support planning and other initiatives. The Governor requested an amendment to add \$41,750 in each FY 2023 and FY 2024 to the Department of Health for mental health care planning for infants and toddlers, and expenses for parent engagement group sessions
- **Lead** – Approval to replace lead pipes across the state and require Rhode Island water suppliers to create a service line inventory no later than October 16, 2024, to determine where the lead contamination is taking place.
- **Home Visiting Programs** - The House Finance Committee did not concur with the Governor’s recommendation to transfer \$2.0 million, including \$0.9 million from general revenues for the Family Home Visiting and First Connections programs to the Executive Office of Health and Human Services. The recommended budget had transferred Medicaid related expenses and non-Medicaid expenses of \$9.1 million were retained in the Department’s budget.
- **First Connections:** EOHHS has agreed to let us extend the use of the funding until June 30, 2024 so that the First Connections agencies can access the increased rates until that date. If this was not available, they would discontinue the program. With blended funding we make up the rest of the program finances for the non-Medicaid eligible children. In calendar year 2022 there were 5,461 visits provided.

Public Comment