DCYF 2022 Agency Request Legislation and Decision Packages

The Washington State Department of Children, Youth, and Families (DCYF) submitted one piece of Agency Request Legislation (ARL) and several policy-level Decision Packages (DPs) for the 2022 Supplemental Session. Each proposal was developed with stakeholder input and community collaboration, and will advance DCYF's Strategic and Racial Equity Plan (www.dcyf.wa.gov/practice/strategic-plan).



DECISION PACKAGES

ICWA Notice Reason to Know

A top agency priority is a funding request to better support children and families from tribal nations involved in the child welfare system. This will enable DCYF to have the capacity to appropriately apply the Indian Child Welfare Act and the Washington State Indian Child Welfare Act to cases in alignment with new standards issued by the Washington State Supreme Court.

\$20 MILLION FOR 2021-23 BIENNIUM; \$24.5 MILLION FOR THE 2023-25 BIENNIUM

♥ Placement Continuum Expansion

This will increase rates for placements and services to better serve foster youth with more significant needs. It will fund a pilot project for an independent living option for older adolescents in DCYF care. There are currently limited options for these young people in the placement continuum. Multiple state agencies are putting forth proposals to expand the continuum of services for young adults and adolescents with similar needs this year to address this critical gap. \$23.5 MILLION FOR THE 2021-23 BIENNIUM; \$37.8 MILLION FOR THE 2023-25 BIENNIUM

Combined In-Home Services

This request is for a rate increase for Combined In-Home services to increase provider capacity and service availability. This service improvement will lead to more options to avoid out-of-home placement and to expedite family reunification.

\$8.4 MILLION FOR THE 2021-23 BIENNIUM;

\$16.8 MILLION FOR THE 2023-25 BIENNIUM

Family Time Rates

This rate increase will stabilize provider capacity by implementing critical fixes to hourly rates, mileage reimbursement, and quality service delivery enhancements for Family Time visitation. \$28.7 MILLION FOR THE 2021-23 BIENNIUM; \$45.9 MILLION FOR THE 2023-25 BIENNIUM

Kinship Caregiver Engagement Unit

The DP will fund statewide expansion of a successful pilot currently operating in two DCYF regions that helps kinship caregivers to complete home study and licensing requirements, thereby expediting legal permanency (adoption/guardianship).

\$1.8 MILLION FOR THE 2021-23 BIENNIUM; \$3.7 MILLION FOR THE 2023-25 BIENNIUM

AGENCY REQUEST LEGISLATION

Repeal of Parent Pay Statute

DCYF's ARL is a proposal to eliminate Washington's "Parent Pay Statute" (RCW 13.40.220), which would repeal a requirement that the parents of incarcerated youth pay a percentage of gross income for the cost of their children's support, treatment, and confinement in DCYF's Juvenile Rehabilitation (JR) facilities. DCYF is requesting funds to offset a decrease in payments received from the parents of youth in JR residential facilities.

\$1.9 MILLION FOR THE 2021-23 BIENNIUM; \$1.9 MILLION FOR THE 2023-25 BIENNIUM

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