

September 14, 2010

The Honorable Mark Parkinson
Governor of Kansas
Statehouse, 2nd Floor
Topeka, KS 66612

Dear Governor Parkinson:

I am submitting the FY 2012 budget proposal for the Kansas Department of Social and Rehabilitation Services.

The enclosed budget reflects months of work on the part of SRS staff, both internally and in collaboration with stakeholders and partners. The end product reflects difficult decisions made by top managers and leaders within SRS. The budget provides information on how SRS plans to provide services to the most needy and vulnerable Kansas citizens within the resource allocation provided by the Division of the Budget. It also includes a 5% reduced resource package. In proposing these reduced resources, SRS considered the vulnerability of the populations we serve, and prioritized preserving services to those most vulnerable. We placed the highest priority on the services and programs that are critical to the Agency's mission of protecting children and promoting adult self sufficiency.

Again, we prepared our budgets as an enterprise, combining the allocations of SRS and the State Hospitals so that individuals in our state hospitals continue to receive services at the current level. We continue to experience growth in caseloads and were able to fund the growth in HCBS Waivers in FY 2011 using one-time fee funds that are not available in FY 2012. Since the funds are one-time, we do not have the resources to maintain those services in FY 2012. Admissions to the Mental Health State Hospitals have been increasing and have reached a level that can no longer be funded within existing resources. The closing of the children's unit at Larned State Hospital (LSH) freed up enough funds to open an 11 bed unit at LSH but not enough to address the growth in census at Osawatomie (OSH) and Rainbow Mental Health Facility (RMHF). With state resources being limited, our highest priority supplemental and enhancement requests include the replacement of fee fund with SGF to maintain services to those people currently on the HCBS Waivers, funding to address the high census in OSH and RMHF, and the SGF replacement in our Medicaid programs to address the lower extended FMAP amount. Other enhancement requests are for restoration of reductions to programs and direct service staffing that SRS has made the last few years.

My staff and I welcome questions from you and your Division of the Budget Staff.

Sincerely,



Don Jordan
Secretary

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

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