

Kansas Department of

# **Social and Rehabilitation Services**

Janet Schalansky, Secretary

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**Senate Ways and Means Committee**

March 5, 2003 123-S

**FY 2004 Federal Block Grants**

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Services**

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**FY 2004 Federal Block Grants**

Mr. Chairman and members of the Committee, thank you for holding this federally required hearing and the opportunity to provide you information on the Federal Block Grant programs administered by the Department of Social and Rehabilitation Services.

Summary information on the following individual federal block grant programs is included in this document.

| <b>Federal Block Grant Program</b>   | <b>FY 2004<br/>GBR</b> |
|--|------------------------|
| Social Services Block Grant (SSBG)   | \$ 23,134,390          |
| Block Grant for the Prevention and Treatment of Substance Abuse            | 1,184,265              |
| Community Mental Health Services Block Grant                               | 3,436,330              |
| Low Income Energy Assistance Block Grant (LIEAP)                           | 12,452,454             |
| Projects for Assistance in Transition from Homelessness Block Grant (PATH) | 300,000                |
| <b>Total</b>   | <b>\$ 51,507,439</b>   |

The total amount of federal dollars appropriated for these block grant programs is \$51.5 million in FY 2004, if not otherwise adjusted by Congress. Our total federal funding, in all programs, is over \$1.3 billion. These block grants account for less than five percent of our federal funding.

## SOCIAL SERVICES BLOCK GRANT

The Social Services Block Grant supports a variety of social service programs SRS administers. This is the twenty-first year of the social services block grant program.

For FY 2004, the GBR includes \$23.1 million Social Services Block Grant funds. The estimated expenditures are as follows:

| Services   | FY 2004<br>GBR      |
|--|---------------------|
| Child Care Services                                    | \$ 493,912          |
| Developmental Disability Community Support Services    | 7,563,615           |
| Independent Living Services                            | 160,373             |
| Mental Health Services                                 | 2,934,316           |
| Adoption Services                                      | 7,379,614           |
| Adult Protective Services                              | 182,829             |
| Field Operations - Child and Adult Protective Services | 4,419,731           |
| <b>Total</b>   | <b>\$23,134,390</b> |

Totals include the TANF transfer of \$4.3 million.

Services are provided to individuals who are deemed eligible based on two criteria: 1) personal need; and 2) financial need. Personal need is based on one of the five national goals: 1) helping individuals to become economically self-supporting; 2) helping individuals to reduce dependency and become self-sufficient; 3) providing protective services for those in need (regardless of income); 4) providing services to help persons to remain in their own homes; and 5) when no other alternatives exist, providing services to help persons receive the most appropriate institutional care (i.e., adult care homes, state institutions, private institutions, etc.).

Financial need is based upon an individual's income. The state's established maximum income level for SSBG is 185 percent of the federally established poverty guideline. A single individual may not have a gross income exceeding \$1,384 per month. This scale is graduated upward according to family size.

The social services block grant funds will continue to be used on a statewide basis to purchase services, to fund direct grants, and to provide direct services by SRS employees.

**BLOCK GRANT FOR THE PREVENTION AND TREATMENT OF SUBSTANCE ABUSE**

The Block Grant for the Prevention and Treatment of Substance Abuse is authorized by Public Law 102-321. The Governor’s Budget Recommendation includes \$12.2 million in Substance Abuse Block Grant funds. The funds will be utilized as indicated below:

| Services  | FY 2004<br>GBR     |
|---|--------------------|
| Administration                                    | \$ 565,069         |
| Substance Abuse Prevention and Treatment Services | 1,619,196          |
| <b>TOTAL</b>                                      | <b>\$2,184,265</b> |

In our prevention efforts, SRS utilizes a regional approach. Within each of the regions, or SRS Management Areas, high risk data concerning families, youth, and schools is used to target prevention services to communities with high risk factors for substance abuse.

Our treatment approach is to fund programs that provide the least restrictive environment for recovery from alcohol and other drug addictions. The use of five regional assessment centers to accurately assess the level of care needed for each client is allowing the client to receive the most appropriate and cost effective form of treatment available to the majority of Kansans. Priority populations served are pregnant women, women with children, anyone who has been exposed to or is at high risk for TB and/or HIV, and lastly, those who would not be able to afford treatment otherwise. While clinically sound treatment for all who seek those services is our goal, we also place great emphasis on treatment outcomes and improvement in the delivery system. Treatment services funded by the Block Grant for the Prevention and Treatment of Substance Abuse are projected to provide services for over 14,000 persons who seek treatment. In addition, our prevention centers are projected to reach over one million persons during FY 2003.

**COMMUNITY MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES BLOCK GRANT**

The Community Mental Health Service Block Grant is distributed via a performance based system of contracting to the 27 Community Mental Health Centers (CMHCs).

For FY 2004 SRS is budgeted to expend \$3.4 million under this grant. Less than 5 percent of these funds is allocated to administration.

| Services                         | FY 2004<br>GBR<br>Amount |
|----------------------------------|--------------------------|
| Administration                   | \$ 165,353               |
| Community Mental Health Services | 3,270,977                |
| <b>TOTAL</b>                     | <b>\$ 3,436,330</b>      |

CMHCs funded under these contracts provide an organized and comprehensive community-based system of supports and services for individuals with severe and persistent mental illness and for children with serious emotional disturbances. CMHCs have a combined staff of over 2,000 and provide mental health services to every county in the state. These independent and locally-operated centers foster a quality system of services for the benefit of citizens needing mental health care and treatment.

A portion of the block grant funds are used by the CMHCs to provide services to the target population of adults with severe and persistent mental illness and children with serious emotional disturbances. Services are provided based on each individual's strengths and needs. Three universal programs funded by the block grant are (1) community support services, (2) community based services, and (3) 24-hour emergency services. The services for the target population also may include:

- case management
- residential programs
- vocational programs
- drop-in centers
- medication management
- partial hospitalization
- psychosocial rehabilitation programs
- mental health services to homeless
- consumer/self-help programs
- compeer
- attendant care

The focus of this federal block grant in recent years has turned toward enhancing the state service system for persons with mental health issues. To that end, the other portion of the

block grant funds is dedicated to filling service gaps in the Kansas system which have been identified by the Governor's Mental Health Services Planning Council. SRS issues Requests for Proposals (RFPs) to CMHCs to provide specialized services designed to fill service gaps. Currently the federal block grant money is funding programs across the state focusing on:

- cultural diversity
- forensic services (in partnership with the substance abuse service system, the Department of Corrections and the Juvenile Justice Authority)
- consumer-run organizations
- children's 24-hour crisis mobile response
- services for youth transitioning to adulthood

## LOW INCOME ENERGY ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (LIEAP) BLOCK GRANT

The federally funded Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIEAP) Block Grant helps households pay energy costs. The 2004 Kansas allocation is estimated to be \$16 million. The FY 2004 Governor's Budget Recommendation for the LIEAP Program was made prior to Congress' federal FY 2003 LIHEAP appropriation. Under the recent appropriation, Kansas will receive an increase of \$1,804,337 over the federal FY 2002 award, allowing \$1,689,284 more for energy assistance benefits and an increase of \$116,728 in transfers to the Weatherization Program in state FY 2004. Assuming stable funding, SRS proposes utilization in the following manner:

**1. Energy Assistance (85 percent of the grant)** - Utility or fuel assistance is provided to qualifying households whose income is under 130 percent of poverty. For a one-person household, the income limit is \$973 monthly. At this level, households typically have difficulty paying for basic living costs such as housing, fuel, utilities, food, and medicine. Their vulnerability is worsened by medical conditions, disabilities and other problems. Most LIEAP recipients are older persons with "low-end" Social Security benefits, single parent families living on the minimum wage, or disabled individuals.

As a condition of eligibility, applicants must also demonstrate recent utility payments. This state-added requirement emphasizes the household's responsibility for paying its own fuel costs, promotes the importance of maintaining a regular payment history, and provides positive reinforcement. By supplementing the household's own payments, LIEAP helps elderly and disabled persons continue to stay in their homes, and protects vulnerable families who are at risk.

Applications are mailed to targeted groups of individuals who may need assistance. Completed applications may be mailed without need to visit the SRS Office. About 300 volunteer organizations help distribute outreach information to households who are unaware of the assistance. SRS verifies income by accessing data bases e.g., Social Security, workman's compensation and other systems.

Once the household is determined eligible, benefits are applied to the household's fuel or utility account to ensure that the benefit is used for energy purchases. Benefit levels vary according to household income and size, fuel type, dwelling type, and the household's utility rates. The recipient may split the benefit between two vendors (e.g., natural gas, electric, propane, or wood vendors).

About 31,800 households are expected to receive assistance in FY 2004 with a projected annual benefit averaging \$366.

**2. Weatherization Assistance (15 percent of the grant)** - Federal regulations allow States to use up to 15 percent of the LIEAP grant for weatherization improvements. If funding permits, the Department proposes transferring the maximum allowed level (estimated at \$2.1 million) to the Weatherization Program.

**BLOCK GRANT FOR PROJECTS FOR ASSISTANCE IN TRANSITION FROM HOMELESSNESS (PATH)**

Kansas is a minimum allotment state under this federal formula grant program. Since 1993, \$300,000 has been received each year.

All funds are distributed to homeless programs at five community mental health centers (CMHCs). The current allocations are as follows:

| Program  | FY 2004<br>GBR    |
|--|-------------------|
| Valeo Behavioral Health Care                       | \$ 80,000         |
| ComCare  | 95,306            |
| Wyandot Center for Community Behavioral Healthcare | 70,094            |
| Bert Nash Community Mental Health Center           | 26,600            |
| Franklin County Community Mental Health Center     | 28,000            |
| <b>TOTAL</b>                                       | <b>\$ 300,000</b> |

Valeo Behavioral Health Care (Shawnee County), Comcare (Sedgwick County), and Wyandot Center for Community Behavioral Healthcare: PATH block grant funds at these centers allow staff to provide outreach and case management services to persons who are homeless and mentally ill. Case managers help people secure transitional and permanent housing, health services, and mental health and substance abuse services in appropriate cases.

Franklin County CMHC and Bert Nash CMHC (Douglas County): Both of these centers provide outreach case management and work to link homeless persons with health, mental health and substance abuse services. Case management assists persons with transitional and permanent housing and vocational services.

**Maintenance of effort, matching, and administration limit requirements of the federal block grants**

| Grant Name  | Admin Limit | Maintenance of Effort and/or Match                              | FY 2004 GBR MOE and Match (State funds) |
|---|-------------|---|---|
| SSBG - Social Services Block Grant  | None        | Neither Required  | \$0                                     |
| SAPTBG - Substance Abuse Prevention and Treatment Block Grant             | 5%          | MOE required- avg of prior 2 years                              | \$8,321,123                             |
| CMHBG - Community Mental Health Block Grant                               | 5%          | MOE required- avg of prior 2 years                              | \$62,068,474                            |
| LIHEAP - Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program                        | 10%         | Neither Required  | \$0                                     |
| PATH - Projects for Assistance in Transition for Homelessness Block Grant | 4%          | MOE required- avg of prior 2 years and 25% State match required | \$100,000                               |