

Prevention is NOT “Optional” For Children & Families

Monroe County needs a NYS Budget that keeps Community Optional Preventive Services (COPS) *separate* from STSJP and *fully funded*.

The Problem

The Governor’s budget proposes to consolidate Community Optional Preventive Services (COPS) programs and the Supervision and Treatment Services for Juveniles Program (STSJP). Total funds for both programs are \$16.4 million, which represents 20% cut from last year’s Enacted Budget and eliminates the COPS language and program. This would have a catastrophic effect on Monroe County’s children and families.

Who It Harms: Prevention is NOT “optional” for 5,000 Monroe County children and families who benefit every year from COPS-funded programming provided by: EnCompass: Resources for Learning, Hillside Work-Scholarship Connection, and Mt. Hope Family Center.

The Ask

Restore the COPS program by including COPS language and restoring \$12.2 million appropriation in the SFY 2021 budget.

The Why:

- COPS is a critically important program to Monroe County that has supported 5,000 children and family members with evidence-based, prevention programs every year since 2005.
- Rochester, now more than ever, needs early prevention programs: COPS is the only way services can be provided without a case being opened by the LDSS on a family. Moreover, these services are provided in connection with the Rochester City School District, which needs the supports to help youth be successful.
- COPS is the only funding stream left that allows a County to use private match to draw down funds. The public/private match has been critically important and was recognized by the Governor when he created the Public Private Match Program in 2010 that was defunded last year.
- The result of combining the two programs will mean an overall reduction of funding in Monroe County and a prioritization for youth connected to the juvenile justice system to receive services. Monroe is one of (12?) counties that receives COPS because of our high need for preventive programming. Combining with STSJP will reduce and redistribute funds amongst all NYS counties.
- The current COPS structure is effective. COPS prevents out-of-home placement through whole-child and whole-family programs: afterschool, summer academic and social emotional learning, intensive academic support and service coordination, navigation and college/career development. We should be focused on preventing youth involvement with foster care or the juvenile justice systems, both of which cost a lot more in the long run.
- Combining COPS and the Supervision Treatment Services for Juveniles Program (STJSP) is bad policy and will only hurt our community. STJSP is a juvenile justice program that is meant to help youth involved with the juvenile justice system. Locally in Monroe County those funds are used by county probation.
- The state should be encouraging private investment into human and social services programs given the fiscal situation of the state. Loss of this program will have a direct impact on philanthropy in our community.



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COPS Successes - EnCompass

100% graduation • 100% grade promotion • 91% families achieve self-identified goals • 85% chronically absent students improved school attendance • 91% student job placement • partnership with 43 community-based organizations, schools and government • \$12 million in private-investment in 2017-2020

For Reference

SFY 21-22 Proposed to Combine COPS and STJSP – Aid to Localities – Page 265

Notwithstanding any inconsistent provision of law, the amount appropriated herein shall be available for state reimbursement to counties and the city of New York for eligible expenditures for the provision and administration of the supervision and treatment services for juveniles program and preventive services for youth at-risk of entering foster care. Eligible services may include, but are not limited to, group parenting skills education, community-wide education, school-based and therapeutic programs, supervision, and treatment programs, pursuant to a plan developed by the office of children and family services and approved by the director of the budget (14068) 16,400,000

SFY 20-21 – Aid to Localities – Enacted STJSP

DEPARTMENT OF FAMILY ASSISTANCE
OFFICE OF CHILDREN AND FAMILY SERVICES
AID TO LOCALITIES 2020-21

Notwithstanding any inconsistent provision of law, the amount appropriated herein shall be available under the supervision and treatment services for juveniles program for 62 percent state reimbursement to counties and the city of New York for eligible expenditures for the provision and administration of eligible supervision and treatment services for juveniles programs during the period of October 1, 2020 through September 30, 2021 that have been approved by the office of children and family services pursuant to a plan approved by the director of the budget; provided, however, if a municipality is unable to use all of its allocation for such program period within the required time frames, the municipality may apply to the office of children and family services for a waiver to permit the municipality to continue to have the funds available to it for an additional one-year program period for eligible expenditures. Within the amounts appropriated herein, state reimbursement shall be limited to the amount of such municipality's distribution. A portion of the funds appropriated herein may be used by the office to enter into contracts to provide statewide training and technical assistance and support to assist programs and municipalities to effectively implement the supervision and treatment services for juveniles program and assess impact. These funds, not to exceed \$500,000 in any program year, shall be exempt from the required county matching funds.

The office of children and family services shall not reimburse any claims unless they are submitted within 12 months of the calendar quarter in which the claimed services were delivered. These funds shall not be used to supplant other state and local funds (14068) 8,376,000

SFY 20-21 - Aid to Localities - Enacted COPS and COPS Set Aside

the amount appropriated herein shall be available to reimburse for 98 percent of 65 percent of eligible social services district expenditures that are claimed by March 31, 2021 for those community preventive services provided from October 1, 2019 through September 30, 2020 at a cost that does not exceed the cost that was in effect on October 1, 2008 and that a social services district can demonstrate had been approved by the office of children and family services on or before October 1, 2008; provided, however, that should insufficient funds be available to provide state reimbursement for 98 percent of 65 percent of such costs, reimbursement shall be made proportionally to each district based on the percentage of their total eligible claims to the amount appropriated; and, provided further, however, that if the amount appropriated exceeds the amount of funds necessary to reimburse 98 percent of 65 percent of the eligible social services district expenditures, the office may, to the extent funds are available, provide reimbursement for 98 percent of 65 percent of eligible social services district expenditures for new community preventive services programs approved by the office and only up to the amounts approved by the office. A local social

DEPARTMENT OF FAMILY ASSISTANCE
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services district seeking federal and/or state reimbursement for community preventive services provided on or after October 1, 2019 must submit claims that separately identify the costs of such services in a form and manner and at such times as are required by the department of family assistance and that information regarding outcome based measures that demonstrate quality of services provided and program effectiveness be submitted to the office of children and family services in a form and manner and at such times as required by the office. Of the amount appropriated herein, up to \$1,000,000 may be used to provide additional funding to an eligible program or programs with evaluation results that show program effectiveness and demonstrate private monetary support as determined by the office of children and family services and approved by the director of the budget (13999) 12,124,750

