



Children's Action Alliance

A Voice for Arizona's Children since 1988

Legislative Leadership's Budget will Hurt Children and Families

June 11, 2009

- Does away with health care coverage for 9,000 parents
- Cuts KidsCare by making fewer children qualified when they apply; over time, 25,000 more children will be uninsured
- Prevents CPS from being able to investigate 100% of reports of abuse or neglect
- Cuts services that protect children and move abuse and neglected children to safe, permanent homes
- Cuts child abuse prevention programs, services that strengthen families, and substance abuse treatment for parents and guardians
- Eliminates \$10 million for *Healthy Families*, a child abuse prevention program that helps 3,500 families a year
- Cuts the monthly stipend for the 400 youth who grew up in foster care and are transitioning to adulthood, working and/or going to school
- Continues to turn qualified families away from child care assistance and places them on a waiting list, creating problems for working parents and risking children being placed in unqualified care. As of June 5th, 3,690 children were turned away.
- Requires TANF cash benefit recipients to submit to drug testing under certain circumstances; terminates benefits for the entire family when a parent tests positive, but provides no substance abuse treatment or other help for the family
- Continues cuts to food banks, domestic violence shelters, homeless shelters and short-term crisis programs
- Continues cuts for children in need of behavioral health services who do not meet federal eligibility requirements
- Continues cuts to the Children's Rehabilitative Services program that provides specialized services to 2,700 children with life-altering and life-threatening medical conditions; families will have to pay full cost for treatment – even if they are uninsured or if their insurance doesn't cover it
- Cuts basic cash assistance to children living in extremely poor families, including more than 9,500 grandparents raising their grandkids and 27,000 poor mothers

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