



2014-15 human services budget reinvests in Minnesotans

Gov. Mark Dayton's 2014-15 budget proposal outlines an aggressive agenda for human services, with reinvestments that put the needs of Minnesotans at the forefront and that build on accomplishments of the past two years. Human services proposals are centered on six key initiatives:

Affordable Care Act implementation

The governor's budget leverages federal health reform to build on the best of Minnesota's publicly funded health care system, creating a unified program that will serve as the next generation of MinnesotaCare. All told, the changes would provide health coverage to an additional 145,000 Minnesotans within existing resources. (*Budget neutral and \$300 million set aside for improved MinnesotaCare*)

Reform 2020

An array of proposals this session advance this comprehensive restructuring of the long-term care system for the elderly and people with disabilities. These changes are designed to expand consumer choice as well as consumer protections, improve outcomes, and meet the challenges of rising health care costs with a growing aging population. (*\$18.81 million net savings*)

Safe and healthy development of children

The governor's budget funds strategies proven to work for children, including a \$20 million investment to increase access to quality child care for children with high needs, supporting permanent homes through a program called Northstar Care for Children, doubling access to school-based mental health services, and expanding the successful Parent Support Outreach Program statewide. (*\$48.2 million investments*)

Behavioral health continuum of care

This initiative addresses gaps in our behavioral health continuum of care, especially for children and adults with complex needs. It shifts emphasis from an acute care model to one that emphasizes public health approaches and chronic disability management. This includes prevention, early intervention and care coordination. (*\$3.40 million net savings after redirecting \$9.2 million to new investments*)

Transition to the community

These proposals create tools that will help more Minnesotans with serious mental illnesses move from Anoka-Metro Regional Treatment Center and the Minnesota Security Hospital to community settings. This includes new incentives for counties to support community placements as well as new community-based supports that will help people be successful. (*\$6.0 million redirected plus \$8.18 new investment*)

Program integrity

Proposals expand the department's capacity to prevent and combat fraud by increasing resources devoted to program integrity for Medical Assistance and the Child Care Assistance Program, as well as

the internal audits office. This work builds on creation of the Office of Inspector General and efforts of the Compliance Office to ensure the public can have confidence in the management of DHS programs. *(\$65.90) million net savings*

Other key proposals

- **Smart health purchasing**, including capturing savings from lower than projected contract costs with managed care organizations.
- **Paying for quality**, including incentives for improving nursing homes, home and community-based services and for child care (as rated by the ParentAware system).
- **Infrastructure improvements**, including development of a county performance management system, and invest in modernization of our computer systems to better serve clients.
- **Disparities reduction**, including a number of investments that help reduce disparities in outcomes among clients of diverse racial backgrounds, such as increased access to higher quality child care, mental health services and grants to tribal partners to enhance capacity to deliver services.

Related information:

- Minnesota Management & Budget website: <http://www.mmb.state.mn.us/>
- Minnesota Department of Human Services website: <http://mn.gov/dhs/media/fact-sheets/index.jsp>

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