

# PRINCE WILLIAM COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES

Annual Report  
July 1, 2003—June 30, 2004



**MISSION:** *To strengthen the social and economic well-being of Prince William County by helping families and individuals move toward self-sufficiency through employment while meeting their basic needs; by protecting children and vulnerable adults from abuse and neglect; by developing programs and facilities which hold juveniles accountable for delinquent behavior and offer them opportunities for reform; and by encouraging the development of adequate community resources.*

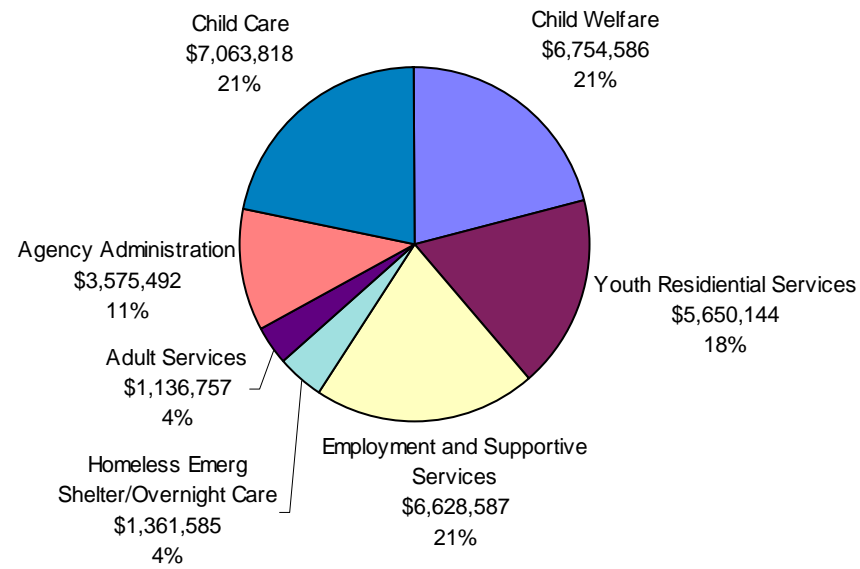


Prince William County  
Department of Social Services  
7987 Ashton Avenue, Suite 200  
Manassas, VA 20109  
(703) 792-7500  
[www.pwcgov.org/dss](http://www.pwcgov.org/dss)

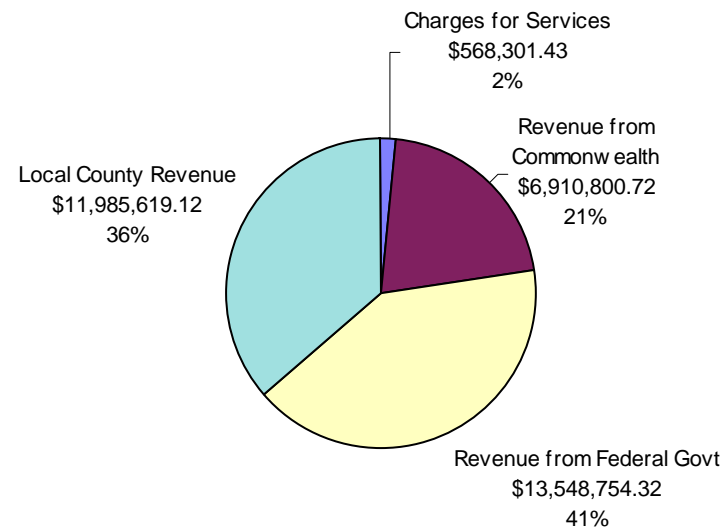
## Board of Social Services

Barbara J. DeChene, Chairman  
*Woodbridge District*  
Nancy H. West, Vice-Chairman  
*Dumfries District*  
Suzanne Elton  
*Gainesville District*  
Margaret G. Covington  
*At-Large*  
Michael C. May  
*Brentsville District*  
Kevin Raymond  
*Neabsco District*  
Nancy Schiffman  
*Occogan District*  
Betty L. Vanegas  
*Coles District*

**FY 2004 Expenditures**



**FY 2004 Revenues**



**Total Expenditure Budget: \$33,301,763**

**Board of Social Services' and Director's Message**

Leadership transition was a continuing theme for the Department this year, with newly-appointed members Suzanne Elton, Michael May, Nancy Schiffman and Betty Vanegas joining the Board. At the staff level, Dennis McFeeley was promoted to chief of the Benefits, Employment and Child Care Division, where he joined Residential Services director Wayne Maffett and Family and Children's chief Laurie Wilson as leaders of our three service delivery divisions.

Successful community partnerships highlighted the year at the service delivery level, as illustrated by the Earned Income Tax Credit campaign and the Family Group Decision Making initiative described later in this report. In both these efforts, a partnership of Prince William area human services agencies is engaging with families to help them make maximum use of their own abilities to achieve family economic success and safe and healthy family environments.

The Department's most important asset continues to be its talented and dedicated staff. We thank the Board of County Supervisors and all citizens of Prince William County for their ongoing strong support of our work on behalf of the County's children, families and adults.



A. Keith Sykes  
Director



Barbara J. DeChene  
Chairman

**Department and Staff Highlights**

- Jayne Frelin and Emmett Smith received the Detention Services Worker of the Year award presented by the National Juvenile Detention Association.
- Monica Conrad, Lisa Tatum, Betty Masten, Shelby Holley, Toni Aikens, Kerry Hickey, Damian Lane, Mohamed Khasse and Elba Torres received certification as Workforce Development Professionals by the Northern Virginia Workforce Development Board.
- Gail Carter received the County Executive award for providing superior service to a customer in especially difficult circumstances.
- County Employee of the Month award presented to Earned Income Tax Credit Volunteer Team which included Kay Ackerman, Mary Barrino-Smith, Eileen Bettis, Almuida Bennett, Geeta Bhargava, Conrad Burgess, Debbie Burroughs, Monica Conrad, Ana Escobar, Glenda Hottle, Alethea Jackson, Pat Johanson, Caleb Mata, Troy-Ann Patterson, Angela Perlaza, Brenda Rarick, Leslie Smith.
- National Association of Counties 2004 Achievement award was presented to the Residential Services Division for the Operation Decoration Program.
- Group Home for Girls scored 99% on a performance audit conducted by the Virginia Department of Juvenile Justice.
- Department ranked second out of 131 local departments (first among agencies with more than 200 monthly cases) for overall performance in the Virginia Initiative for Employment not Welfare program.

**Annual Program Highlights and Accomplishments**

**Economic Assistance Activities:** Financial and medical assistance is provided to eligible County residents for benefits under Temporary Assistance to Needy Families (TANF), Food Stamps (FS), Medicaid, Virginia Employment Not Welfare (VIEW), Child Care and Energy Assistance. The Department also provides employment and supportive services for job seekers and employers.



• TANF applications processed	1,791	• Medicaid applications processed	4,683	• Child Care cases served	970
• TANF cases under care avg. monthly	1,217	• Medicaid cases under care avg. monthly	13,216	• Child Care cases avg. monthly	610
• TANF benefits issued	\$4,344,237	• Medicaid benefits issued (FY04 not avail.)	\$75,561,718-FY03	• Children served avg. monthly	1,163
• FS applications processed	5,733	• VIEW total cases	1,099	• Child Care payments	\$6,339,142
• FS cases under care avg. monthly	4,030	• VIEW customers employed	813	• Families on waiting list as of 6/30/04	502
• FS benefits issued	\$9,171,825	• VIEW avg. monthly earnings	\$1,289	• One Stop Career Centers customers served	13,929
		• Energy Assistance applications processed	1,263		
		• Energy Assistance benefits issued	\$165,382		

**Families and Children and Adult Services:** Families and Children and Adult Services include the program areas of Child Protective Services (CPS), Adult Protective Services (APS), Foster Care (FC), Adoption, Family Treatment, and FC Prevention.



• CPS referrals	3,447	• Children served in DSS Foster Care	202
• CPS investigations completed	1,150	• Average monthly in foster care	143
• CPS founded	227	• Foster Children placed in Adoptive Homes	9
• CPS Families in Need of Services	488	• Foster Homes	93
• APS referrals	420	• Families receiving prevention services	410
• APS investigations completed	207	• Families served in Family Treatment per month	128
• APS founded	125	• Custody Home Studies	315



- Department joined in state supported pilot programs for: (1) Structured Decision Making, used to improve the assessment of risk for harm to children and to determine the response priority; (2) Concurrent Planning, used to reduce the time children remain in foster care; and (3) PRIDE (Parent Resource for Information, Development, and Education), a 27 hour pre-service curriculum for foster parents and adoptive parents.

**Youth and Residential Services:** Services are provided to youth involved with the juvenile court system.

• Juvenile Detention Center—total served	667	• Molinari Juvenile Shelter (MJS) — total served	215
• Juvenile Detention Center—avg. daily population	39	• MJS— did not re-offend while in program	100%
• Outreach to Detention—total served	287	• Group Home for Boys (GHB) — total served	34
• Outreach to Detention—did not re-offend while in program	97%	• Group Home for Girls (GHG) — total served	29
• Electronic Monitoring—total served	55	• Homeless Prevention Center—total families served	408
• Electronic Monitoring— # re-offended while in program	2	• Winter Shelter—total adult men & women served	182
• Day Reporting Center—total served	61		
• Long term sentencing option, which provides the Court with a local secure detention alternative to a State juvenile correctional facility for male offenders, began July, 2003 in the Juvenile Detention Center.			

**Local Initiatives**

**Family Group Decision Making:** The Department's 2003 community review of Child Protective Services investigations produced a recommendation for greater emphasis on community-based partnerships in services to Prince William families and children. This year, participants in the 2003 community group identified Family Group Decision Making (FGDM) as a priority need and began working to implement it. Recognized as a best practice at both the national and state levels, FGDM gives families an active partnership role with professionals in identifying barriers to child safety and healthy family functioning and in making and implementing plans to correct these conditions. FGDM helps to increase the number of at-risk youth who can be served in their own homes and in the local community.

**Family Economic Success:** In its initial year, the Prince William Area Partnership for Family Economic Success focused on ensuring that lower income working families received the Earned Income Tax Credits (EITC) for which they were eligible. Volunteer tax preparers served 590 families, 202 of whom received Earned Income Tax Credits totaling \$320,186. Participating families also saved an estimated \$88,500 in tax preparation costs, for a total community benefit of \$408,686. The Partnership already is working to build on the first year's enthusiasm and lessons learned to substantially increase both participants and tax credits in 2005.