

## **TANF and Block Grants**

**Temporary Assistance for Needy Families  
Social Services Block Grant  
Mental Health Block Grant**

# Temporary Assistance for Needy Families

## DESCRIPTION

Federal welfare reform legislation enacted in 1996 replaced the Aid to Families with Dependent Children (AFDC) entitlement program with the Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) block grant. Unlike AFDC with its strict requirements for using funds, TANF provides states with a flexible funding source to use in helping needy families achieve self-sufficiency.

## WHO IS HELPED

TANF funds can be used to:

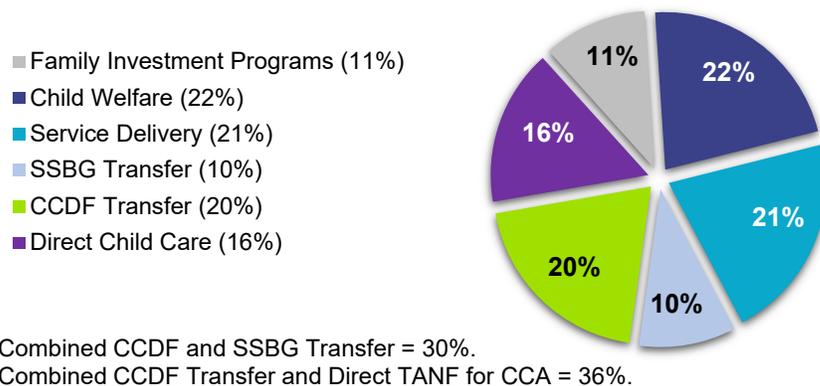
- Assist needy families so that children can be cared for in their own homes or in the homes of relatives.
- Reduce the dependence of needy parents on government benefits by promoting job preparation, work, and marriage.
- Prevent and reduce the incidence of out-of-wedlock pregnancies and establish annual goals for preventing and reducing the incidence of these pregnancies.
- Encourage the formation and maintenance of two-parent families.

States may also transfer up to a combined total of 30 percent of annual TANF funds to the Child Care Development Fund (CCDF) and the Social Services Block Grant (SSBG) for use under those programs.

## COST OF SERVICES & FUNDING SOURCES

TANF funds are 100 percent federal.

Utilization of TANF by Program SFY20



Current federal funding and authorization for TANF expires November 30, 2020. The last true reauthorization of TANF was under the Deficit Reduction Act of 2005. Since then, authority and funding have continued under a number of continuing resolutions and similar legislation with no major policy changes.

# Social Services Block Grant

## DESCRIPTION

Social Services Block Grant (SSBG) funded programs assist individuals or families to become less dependent on others for financial support or personal care; protect vulnerable children and/or adults; preserve or reunite families; support transition to independence; and avoid unnecessary or premature institutionalization.

## WHO IS HELPED

Iowa's intended use plan<sup>1</sup> for the state's SSBG allocation advances the following SSBG goals on behalf of Iowans:

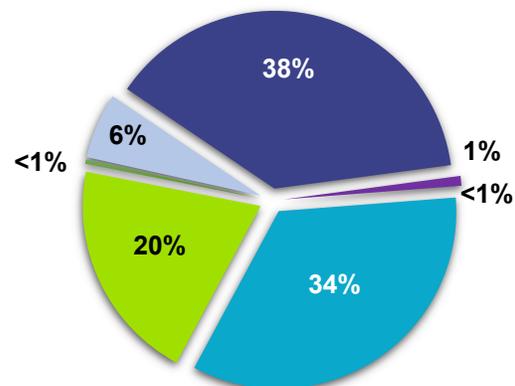
- Achieving or maintaining economic self-support to prevent, reduce, or eliminate dependency.
- Achieving or maintaining self-sufficiency, including reduction or prevention of dependency.
- Preventing or remedying neglect, abuse, or exploitation of children and adults unable to protect their own interests, or preserving, rehabilitating or reuniting families.
- Preventing or reducing inappropriate institutional care by providing community-based care, home-based care, or other forms of less intensive care.
- Securing referral or admission for institutional care when other forms of care are not appropriate or providing services to individuals in institutions.

## COST OF SERVICES & FUNDING SOURCES

The SSBG Program is funded entirely through the federal allocation. Iowa receives a projected allocation based on the most recent U.S. Census.

### SFY21 Projected Use of SSBG Funds, by Program

- Case Management (38%)
- Protective Services-Adult (1%)
- Foster Care - Adults (< 1%)
- Home - Based Services (34%)
- Indep/Transitional Living Services (20%)
- Other - Volunteers (< 1%)
- Administrative Costs (6%)



<sup>1</sup> The 2021 SSBG Pre-Expenditure Report (intended use plan) is available on the DHS website, About DHS, under Reports: <https://dhs.iowa.gov/reports/social-services-block-grant>

# Mental Health Block Grant

## DESCRIPTION

The Mental Health Block Grant (MHBG) is a federal formula grant awarded to each state based on a combination of population and other economic factors. The MHBG is administered by the U.S. Dept. of Health and Human Services, Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) and is managed by the DHS, Division of Mental Health and Disability Services.

The MHBG is required by federal statute to provide comprehensive, community-based mental health services to adults with a serious mental illness and children with a serious emotional disturbance and to monitor progress in implementing a comprehensive, community-based mental health system. States are allowed to set aside up to 5 percent of the annual allocation for administrative costs. States are also required to set aside 10 percent of the annual allocation to provide evidence-based practices for early interventions to address early, serious mental illness (ESMI).

## WHO IS HELPED

Current Iowa law requires that 95 percent of the MHBG be used for eligible community mental health services to carry out the plan submitted to, and approved by, SAMHSA. The legislation requires that providers use the MHBG funds for staff training or services to adults with a serious mental illness and children with a serious emotional disturbance. Of the 95 percent of the MHBG allocated to eligible providers, 70 percent is currently required to be distributed to accredited community mental health centers (CMHC).

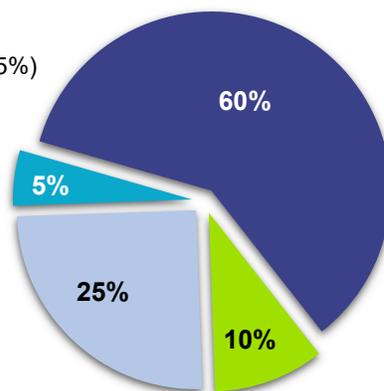
## COST OF SERVICES & FUNDING SOURCES

The MHBG is funded entirely through the federal allocation.

- The FFY20 MHBG allocation is \$5,271,887.
- The FFY20 allocation includes a decrease of \$105,725 from the FFY19 allocation of \$5,377,612.
- In the most recent fiscal year (FY20), DHS had 30 contracts with a total of \$4,649,978 committed to those contracts.
- The state has two years to expend each year's MHBG allocation.
- The estimated FFY21 allocation is \$5,271,887.

### Projected Distribution of MHBG Funds in SFY21-22

- To CMHCs (60%)
- To CMHCs for ESMI-FEP (10%)
- Other Mental Health Providers (25%)
- Administration (5%)



## Glossary

<b>Acronym</b>	<b>Definition</b>
ACA	Affordable Care Act of 2010
ACFS	Division of Adult, Child, & Family Services
AEA-LEA	Area Education Agencies-Local Education Agencies
AFCARS	Adoption and Foster Care Analysis and Reporting System
AFDC	Aid to Families with Dependent Children
BI	Brain Injury
BSTS	Boys State Training School (Eldora)
CAH	Children at Home
CBC	Community-Based Corrections
CBCAP	Community-Based Child Abuse Prevention
CCA	Child Care Assistance
CCDBG	Child Care Development Block Grant (Federal)
CCDF	Child Care Development Fund (Federal)
CCUSO	Civil Commitment Unit for Sex Offenders
CHIP	Children's Health Insurance Program (aka, Hawki, SCHIP, and Title XXI)
COVID19	Novel Coronavirus Disease of 2019
CMHC	Community Mental Health Centers
CMHI	Cherokee Mental Health Institute
CMS	Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services
CSFP	Commodity Supplemental Foods Program
CSRU	Child Support Recovery Unit
DD	Developmental Disability
DolT	Division of Information & Technology
DR	Differential Response
E & T	Education & Training program (FA)
EBT	Electronic Benefits Transfer (used by Food Assistance recipients)
ECI	Early Childhood Iowa
EITC	Earned Income Tax Credit
ELIAS	Eligibility Integrated Application Solution
ESMI	Early, Serious Mental Illness
EVT	Education Training Voucher program (FA)
FA	Food Assistance (formerly Food Stamps; Federal program name changed to Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program)
FACS	Family and Children Services (FACS) system
FaDSS	Family Development and Self-Sufficiency
FCS	Family-Centered Services
FFL	Federal Poverty Level
FFP	Federal Financial Participation (federal matching rate)
FFS	Fee-For-Service
FIP	Family Investment Program (formerly AFDC) - Iowa's TANF program
FMAP	Family Medical Assistance Program - a Medicaid coverage group
FNS	Food and Nutrition Services (under USDA)
FOIA	Freedom of Information Act (requests for information)
FPL	Federal Poverty Level
FQHC	Federally Qualified Health Care
FSS	Family Support Subsidy

FSSG	Family Self-Sufficiency Grants
GRC	Glenwood Resource Center
Hawki	Healthy And Well Kids in Iowa Program - Iowa's CHIP program
HCBS	Home and Community Based Services
ICAPP	Iowa Child Abuse Prevention Program
ICF/ID	Intermediate Care Facility for Individuals with Intellectual Disabilities (formerly ICF/MR)
ID	Intellectual Disabilities Waiver (formerly known as Mental Retardation Waiver)
IDE	Iowa Department of Education
IDPH	Iowa Department of Public Health
IHAWP	Iowa Health and Wellness Plan
IME	Iowa Medicaid Enterprise
IMHI	Independence Mental Health Institute
IV-B	Title 4-B - Federal Funding for Child Welfare Services
IV-E	Title 4-E - Federal Funding for FIP Foster Care & Adoption Subsidy
IWD	Iowa Workforce Development
LUPA	Low Utilization Payment Adjustment
MCO	Managed Care Organization(s)
MEME	Modernizing the Exchange of information within the Medicaid Enterprise
MHBG	Mental Health Block Grant (Federal)
MHDS	Division of Mental Health & Disability Services
MHI	Mental Health Institute
MI	Mental Illness
MMIS	Medicaid Management Information System
MOE	Maintenance of Effort
NF	Nursing Facilities
PA	Prior Authorization
PAL	Preparation for Adult Living
PCA	Provider Cost Audit
PJ	Promise JOBS
PI	Program Integrity
POS	Pharmacy Point of Sale
QRTP	Qualified Residential Treatment Program
RCF	Residential Care Facility
RWS	Release with Supervision
SAMHSA	Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (Federal)
SED	Seriously Emotionally Disturbed
SFY	State Fiscal Year (July 1 to June 30)
SMME	Supplement for Medicare and Medicaid Eligible
SNAP	Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (Federal program; formerly Food Stamps)
SSA	State Supplementary Assistance
SSBG	Social Services Block Grant (Federal - formerly Title XX)
SSI	Supplementary Security Income (Federal)
TANF	Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (Federal block grant)
TEFAP	Emergency Food Assistance Program
TRP	Transitional Release Program
TOP	Treatment Outcome Package
WRC	Woodward Resource Center
XIX	Title 19 of the Social Security Act that authorizes and stipulates requirements for the Medicaid program