

AGENCY SUMMARY

DEPARTMENT OF FAMILY SERVICES (DFS)

Agency Links:

Department of Family Services (DFS): [Website](#)
DFS: [FY 2024 Approved Operating Budget](#)
DFS: [FY 2024 Budget Review Report](#)
DFS: [FY 2025 Budget Review Report](#)

Budget & Policy Analyst: David Noto



Leadership

Elana Belon-Butler, Director

Core Services

- Information and referral assistance
- Intervention services
- Case management services
- Home and community-based services
- Community outreach and advocacy
- Provision of senior meals and food security education

BACKGROUND

Pursuant to the Schedule of Legislation, [Section 8](#) of the County Charter, the Department of Family Services was established. It provides that the Department will be headed by the Director of Family Services, who shall be responsible for developing, conducting, and administering a comprehensive Countywide program to serve the needs of families residing in Prince George's County, including a special focus on the needs of senior citizens, women, children and youth, and persons with disabilities.

The Department seeks to improve the quality of life and overall well-being of the communities by providing information, assistance, and referrals, as well as promoting and developing high-quality, innovative programs that educate, empower, respect choice, and preserve dignity. The department is responsible for aiding the County's children, victims of domestic violence, people with intellectual and developmental disabilities, veterans, and seniors.

Organizational Structure

- Aging and Disability Services Division
- Child, Youth, and Families Division
- Domestic Violence/ Human Trafficking Division
- Office of Veteran Affairs

FY 2024 Top Priorities

- Increase the percentage of individuals linked to care through information assistance and referral services.
- Increase the number of individuals and families who have access to nutritious meals and childhood hunger programs in an effort to enhance food security.
- Reduce the percentage of at-risk older adults entering long-term care facilities after one year of receiving community-based services.
- Increase access to intervention programs and services for at-risk youth and families via the administration of disconnected youth, childhood hunger, and home visiting programs.
- Increase supportive services to victims of domestic violence and human trafficking and assist domestic violence survivors with resources that promote self-sufficiency.
- Enhance communications and outreach to the over 100,000 veterans and family members in Prince George's County, to ensure that all eligible Prince Georgians receive information on services and benefits available to them.

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Operating Budgetary Resources - Below is the 5-year overview of resources allocated to the Department of Family Services from FY 2020-2024.

