

STRATEGY	Family Support (FS)
FUNDING	PSSF and NCC, allocation divided by SPA, and provided to 13 contracted agencies holding a total of 18 contracts.
TARGET POPULATION	Children and families in the community and who have open cases with the Department.
DESCRIPTION	<p>Family Support services are coordinated, multi-disciplinary, community-based services to promote the well-being of children and families. Family Support is designed to increase the strength and stability of families (including adoptive, foster and extended families), to increase parents' confidence and competence in their parenting abilities and afford children a stable and supportive family environment. These services are to prevent to the extent possible, the out-of-home placement of children by DCFS by providing parenting, family activities and assistance to families at risk.</p>
SERVICE ARRAY	<p><u>Emergency Basic Support Services:</u> These services assist families with daily life necessities, such as, vouchers to purchase clothing, utilities, food, furniture, household items, or school items, transportation services, housing assistance, and minor home/car/appliance repair and gasoline.</p> <p><u>Structured Parent-Child and/or Family-Centered Activities:</u> These are group activities to improve parent-child and/or family relationships. These activities are designed to teach families how to: spend quality time together, facilitate positive parent-child and family interaction, share, and interact with the community. These activities will also include recreational and social activities such as field trips, parent-child or family dinners, recreational activities, holiday gatherings, etc.</p> <p><u>Employment Services:</u> These services are designed to improve a family's ability to obtain employment to meet their basic needs. These services include, but are not limited to, remedial education, career and vocational counseling, employment preparation and job training, and assistance with finding employment.</p> <p><u>Health, Parenting, and/or Other Education Programs:</u> These are services to help families attain and maintain optimal functioning and family health including, but not limited to, parenting skills, problem solving and communication skills, coping with stress, family literacy, household management and budgeting, and meal planning and food preparation.</p> <p><u>Case Management Services:</u> These services include determining which service is needed and available to address the families needs, developing in partnership with the family a written individualized service plan, conducting ongoing case reviews, documenting the family's progress, and providing follow-up services, when appropriate.</p> <p><u>Linkage Services:</u> These are services, which include, but are not limited to, connecting families to the following: alcohol and substance abuse treatment services; childcare services; domestic violence services; health care services; housing services; mental health services; Regional Center services; and special education services.</p>