



# Oregon Department of Human Services

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**Seniors and People with Disabilities  
Children, Adults and Families**



## The Challenge Ahead

Over the past several years the Oregon Department of Human Services has been on the front lines of our state's economic crisis. Double-digit unemployment means more families than ever before need assistance to stay stable. There are greater demands on state resources for seniors and people with disabilities.

Through it all, DHS partners and staff rose to the challenge. As we look to the future, our goals remain clear:

- People are safe and living as independently as possible.
- People are able to support themselves and their families through stable, competitive wage employment.
- Children and youth are safe, well and connected to their families, communities and cultural identities.
- Clients and partners are engaged in meaningful collaboration.
- Services are culturally and linguistically specific and responsive.

Budgeting for the years ahead will be challenging. The demand for services is predicted to remain high because of the economy and demographic changes. This report shows the funding DHS receives and how those funds are allocated for Oregon's families and most vulnerable citizens.

DHS is changing to meet the challenges we continue to face. By working in partnership with the new Oregon Health Authority, we will find unique ways to help Oregonians stay safe, healthy and independent. And the changes we are making now will ensure that — as new challenges arise — DHS will be prepared to help Oregonians continue to build strong, stable lives.



## Fast Facts — DHS in Oregon



**67,000** reports of suspected child abuse or neglect are received by Child Protective Services each year.

**690,000** people receive monthly food benefits through the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (formerly Food Stamps).

**8,466** children are in foster care on any given day. The average length of time in foster care is 15 months.

**10,000** low-income working families receive monthly support from the Employment Related Day Care program so parents can stay on the job.

**320,000** seniors and people with disabilities receive services each year through area agencies on aging and state field offices of Seniors and People with Disabilities.

**18,000** adults and children with developmental disabilities receive assistance through Seniors and People with Disabilities programs each year.

**28,000** calls about abuse or neglect are received by Seniors and People with Disabilities staff each year.

**6,000** long-term care facilities, community-based care facilities and agencies are licensed, certified, regulated and monitored by Seniors and People with Disabilities.

“ **Oregon is a state with strong communities and solid values, values that include protecting our children. Creating a strong and healthy foster care system and recruiting quality foster parents are investments in Oregon's children. Every child deserves the opportunity to be loved and lead a successful life.** ”

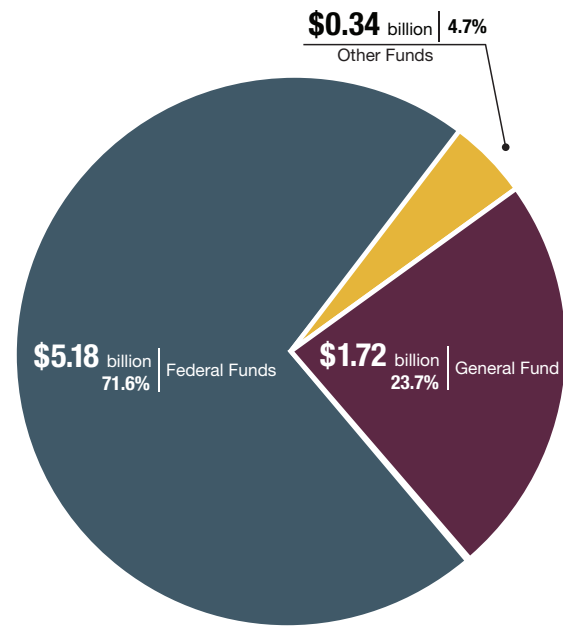
— *Pamela B., former foster child and advocate*

2009-2011

# Department of Human Services

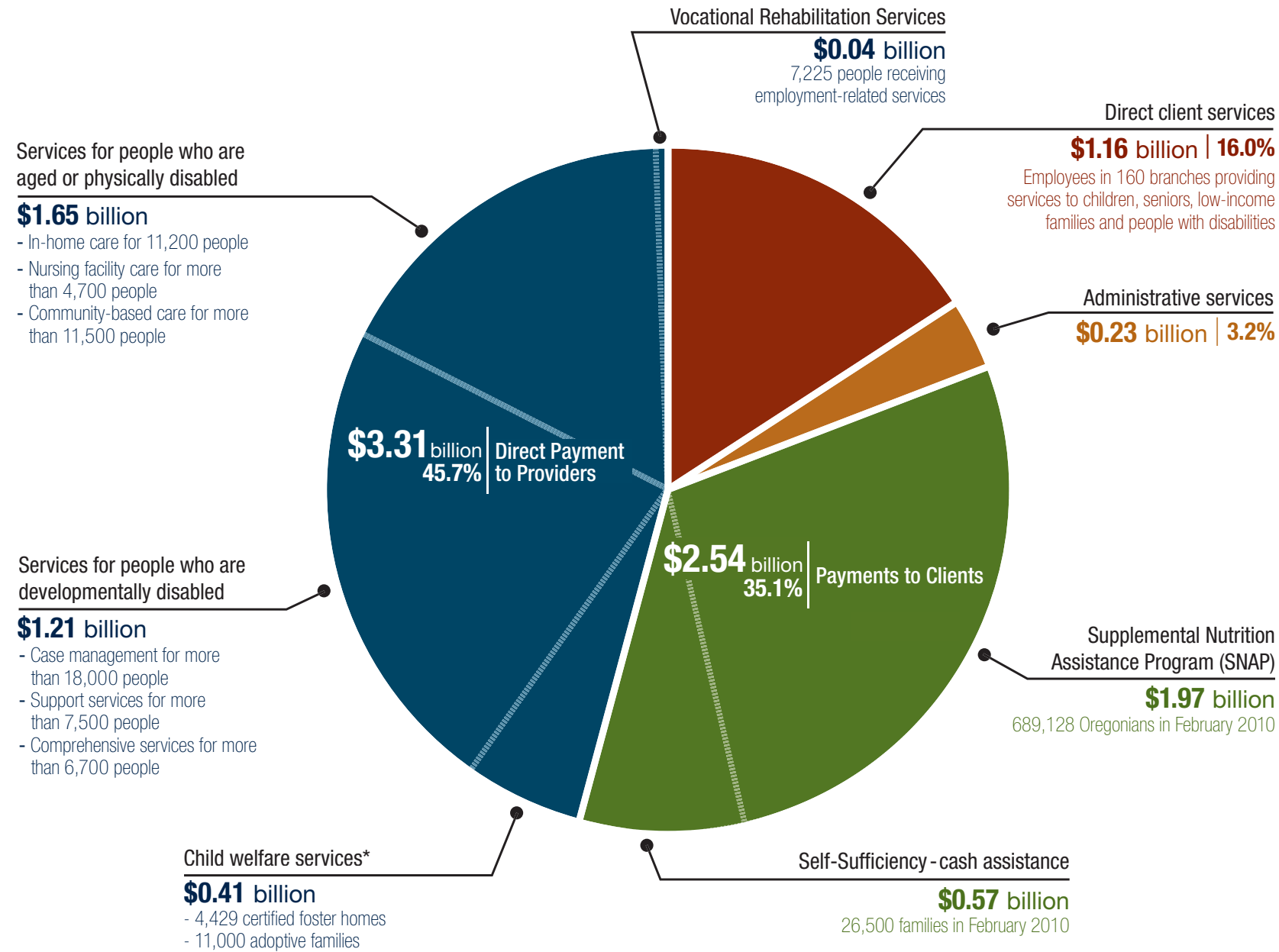
Legislatively approved projected budget

Total budget \$7.24 billion



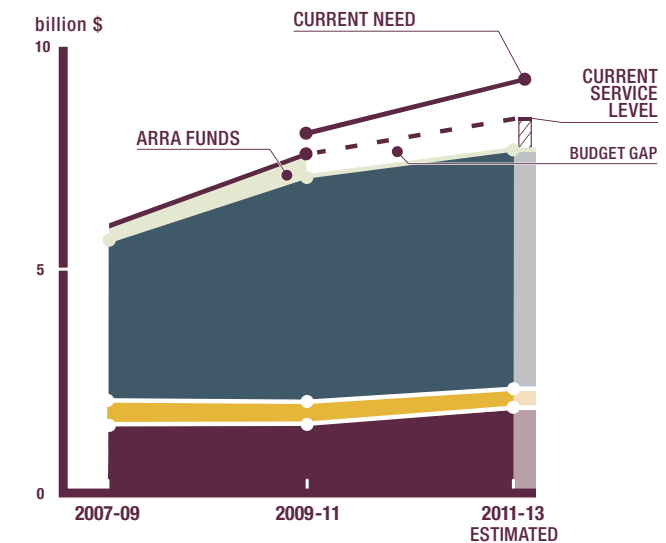
## DHS funding sources

More than 70 percent of the DHS budget comes from federal funding, most of which goes toward Medicaid and Self-Sufficiency programs. Most of the DHS General Fund is used to leverage these federal funds through federal programs that match state funds or to continue federal funding that requires a minimum investment of state funds. Nursing Facility Provider Tax and the Child Care and Development funding for day care services comprise most of the Other Funds in DHS.



\*Child welfare services include child safety, foster care, substitute care and residential care.

## Looking to the future



FUNDING SOURCES  
 FEDERAL FUNDS OTHER FUNDS GENERAL FUNDS

## Funding gap

The 2009-11 Department of Human Services budget includes \$556.3 million of federal stimulus funds (American Recovery and Reinvestment Act) that filled the gap between the cost of unprecedented demand for services and the available level of funding for 2009-11. In the 2011-13 budget cycle, DHS will face a larger budget gap caused by the discontinuation of about 60 percent of the ARRA funding and the continued unprecedented demand for services. However, the current service level does not meet the full need for Oregon's human service programs, which makes the unfunded gap even larger.

96.8 percent of the DHS budget goes directly into local communities — to clients, doctors, counselors, community-based providers and front-line staff such as caseworkers.

## Children, Adults and Families



**C**hildren, Adults and Families programs (CAF) work in Oregon communities to help protect children, keep families stable, and provide training and assistance for people to live safe, independent lives. Here are some of the important highlights from the past two years.

**Child welfare**—There has been a strong emphasis on keeping children with their families whenever possible, and the agency has had some important successes. Foster care placement has been reduced by 20 percent. CAF also is focusing on eliminating the over-representation of children of color in foster care.

**Self-sufficiency**—Even in the face of a caseload increase of more than 43 percent brought on by Oregon's economy, CAF employees worked to effectively and efficiently meet the basic economic needs of eligible Oregonians. Most notably, staff implemented a new intake model that resulted in more

than 90 percent of clients getting their state benefits the same day they apply. DHS field staff also accept and process hundreds of applications each month for programs such as the Oregon Health Plan and Healthy Kids, ensuring that low-income Oregonians get the health care they need.

**Employment-vocational rehabilitation**—CAF programs reduce barriers to employment through job training, placement and child care assistance. CAF also provides temporary supports to help families and people with disabilities achieve economic security while they work toward meeting their employment goals.

“Everyone was so nice and so helpful. I couldn't believe it when I came in and they asked if I wanted to meet with someone the same day. I expected to wait weeks.”

— *Tod K., unemployed computer programmer after receiving SNAP benefits for the first time*

## Seniors and People with Disabilities

**O**regon leads the nation in developing community living options for seniors and people with disabilities.

In partnership with community organizations, the Seniors and People with Disabilities (SPD) staff provide, coordinate and regulate services for the state's most vulnerable citizens: seniors and people with physical and developmental disabilities.

Each year SPD helps more than 320,000 clients access resources. SPD staff facilitate independence by making disability determinations for clients applying for Supplemental Security Income or Social Security Disability Insurance Benefits based on physical and/or mental disabilities.

Each month SPD staff process hundreds of applications for medical assistance, Medicare premium assistance and community-based care.

SPD leverages federal and state dollars to help clients overcome obstacles to living independently. Many clients prefer to live and receive services in their homes or community settings, and those options are often the most appropriate and economical. For example, funding 24-hour in-home care services keeps certain clients from entering nursing facilities. Something as simple as teaching family members how to transfer a person from a wheelchair to a bed can be the difference between living at home and living in a 24-hour care setting.

“Sometimes you feel kind of forgotten. But I don't. Deb has been my caseworker for 15 years. I think it's great we have people who are so caring.”

— *Joan H., Estacada*

*By the end of 2010, approximately 13 percent of Oregon's population will be 65 years of age or older.*

**By 2030, 20 percent of Oregon's population will be 65 years old or older.**





# DHS People and Partners



**T**he Department of Human Services is part of every local community. DHS recruits and trains staff to provide for the unique needs of people of varied geographic regions, ethnicity, gender, age, disability status and education. But DHS employees don't do it alone. Employees at 160 branch offices work with local and tribal governments, state and federal agencies, and community groups and individuals.

Business owners, community groups and individuals can be part of the DHS team on a part- or full-time basis. Adults and children need foster homes. Clients moving toward self-sufficiency need training and job opportunities. And there are many opportunities for those willing to provide client transportation, child care, office assistance, tutoring, mentoring and more.

## Get involved!

Join DHS, OHA and our other individual and community partners to help families in your community. Call the statewide volunteer program manager at 503-945-8994 or visit us online at [www.oregon.gov/DHS/volunteer](http://www.oregon.gov/DHS/volunteer).

### CONTACT INFORMATION

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[www.oregon.gov/dhs](http://www.oregon.gov/dhs)