



Budget

The Governor's proposed budget includes a 2% COLA for providers but no other increases. OPM received the rate study results by February 1, but the proposed budget was completed in January.

The Commissioner referred to the rate study in his testimony to Appropriations on 2/15 and a few questions were raised. Myra Watnick testified at that evening's public hearing. At the Appropriations subcommittee meeting on 2/21 no questions were asked about the study, although CCPA had sent a list of questions to members of the subcommittee. The action at this point is all in the Health and Hospital Subcommittee on Appropriations.

FY06 Expenditures (incurred) for contracted programs

	<i>Net invoices (insurance subtracted)</i>	<i>Includes Supplemental payments of:</i>	<i>Insurance Revenue</i>
July	\$ 2,056,254	\$ 99,440	\$ 219,384
August	\$ 2,066,765	\$113,139	\$ 250,244
September	\$ 2,110,244	\$126,386	\$ 204,303
October	\$ 2,135,124	\$128,852	\$ 267,248
November	\$ 2,325,259	\$122,268	\$ 256,301
December	\$ 2,102,890	\$104,233	\$ 205,474
Total	\$12,797,175	\$691,318	\$1,402,954

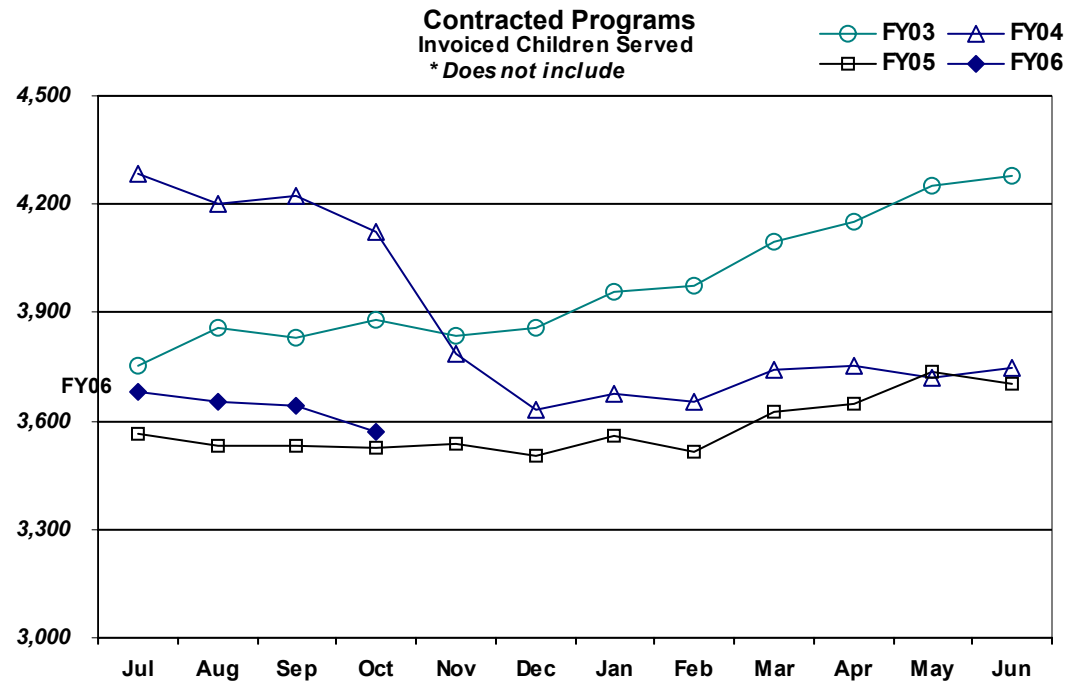
Parent Fees-FY06

	<i>Gross</i>	<i>Net (collection costs and fees subtracted)</i>
July	\$62,351	\$55,598
August	\$57,415	\$50,737
September	\$54,860	\$48,050
October	\$59,880	\$52,997
November	\$60,165	\$53,329
December	\$56,445	\$50,135
January	\$57,933	\$51,416
February	\$66,160	\$59,717

Legislative

Senate Bill 201 was heard in the Select Committee on Children on February 23rd. The primary intent of the bill is to greatly broaden Birth to Three eligibility to include children with mild delays and children who are at-risk. We don't know how successful it will be when it goes to Public Health and Appropriations, but for the providers that basically testified against the bill because it also included credentialing language, the Commission on Children's comment was that they should be "ashamed of themselves".

Enrollment – FY03 - FY06



All Programs

Data from data system

Data from invoices

	<i>New Referrals</i>	<i>Eligible Children</i>	<i>Children Served</i>
July, 2004	568	4,594	4,186
August	527	4,573	4,145
September	712	4,536	4,149
October	696	4,530	4,154
November	663	4,522	4,146
December	538	4,533	4,114
January	749	4,565	4,195
February	721	4,556	4,155
March	821	4,667	4,266
April	667	4,742	4,241
May	660	4,712	4,365
June	684	4,777	4,354
July, 2005	533	4,744	4,206
August	615	4,660	4,152
September	665	4,521	4,136
October	603	4,536	4,050
November	643	4,476	4,015
December	538	4,409	3,875
January	736	4,382	Not yet Available

As of 2/24/06 there were 168 families from the North and West regions that had been waiting at least two days at Infoline for assignment to programs for initial evaluations. There was one from 12/20 in the North Region. All others were from February.

IDEA

State Performance Plan

So far, we've heard that our plan was complete. No other feedback yet.

OSEP Data Verification Visit

OSEP is planning a visit to Connecticut Part C and Part B on June 5th. Typically they try to conduct at least a conference call with the Focused Monitoring Stakeholders group prior to the visit.

Dispute Resolution Activity FY06

Hearings

1 held October 3, 6, and 7. Family Junction. Issue: A parent requested that the Birth to Three System provide (as payer of last resort) a myoelectric prosthetic arm for a child born with only one arm. The hearing officer ruled in favor of the parent. The full decision is posted on the Birth to Three website and was issued within the 30-day timeframe.

Mediations

1 held 8/1/05. CREC. Issue: A parent of a child on the autistic spectrum would like the program to pay for her child to attend a child care center two mornings/week, \$150/month in order to increase his social interaction skills. No agreement reached.

Complaints

Two formal written complaints were received from families in the South Region and are under investigation. One (received 2/3) alleges lack of written prior notice for an evaluation/assessment and the other (received 2/9) alleges a violation of confidentiality by a subcontracted speech pathologist

Quality Assurance

Five programs were selected to receive on-site monitoring in the second half of FY06 those are:

Child Find (% of IFSP meetings held within 45 days of referral to Infoline)
Early Connections West – Medium program. Scheduled for March.

Service Delivery (timely services)
Rehab Associates – Large program. Scheduled for May

Transition (% of transition conferences held on time)
East Hartford – Small Program (visit made in early February).
SARAH – Medium program. Scheduled for April
ARC Greenwich – Large program. Scheduled for June

Personnel Changes

Tammy Garris accepted the job of Lifespan Coordinator in DMR Central Office and Pietro Rosato has transferred to the West Region's business office. Given these changes along with the fact that the DMR Regional Directors have decided that they no longer have the need or desire to have Birth to Three administered through the regions, we are beginning to implement a plan to centralize the Birth to Three administration, as was tentatively announced at the December ICC meeting.

Service and Support. Effective immediately, we have created the Birth to Three Service and Support Office in Wallingford to handle all calls from providers and families. For the remainder of the fiscal year, Lynn Johnson and Tom Coakley will be working there with the support of two secretaries. We have requested a toll-free number for that office but that will take a few weeks to accomplish.

Fiscal & Contracting. The regional fiscal coordinators will finish out the fiscal year paying invoices on the FY06 contracts. All FY07 contracts will be written by Central Office. Each program will only have one contract with DMR and programs will no longer need to pay attention to regional boundaries if they wish to serve towns from more than one DMR Region. A Fiscal Unit will be created in Central Office consisting of Pietro's refilled position, one fiscal coordinator, and a financial clerk. They will handle all payment issues for both providers and families.

Best Practice. We would like to add something called a "Best Practice" unit which will consist of two staff who will need to keep current with all evidence-based practices and be responsible for the procedures, training, and technical assistance. Currently Deb Resnick will finish the fiscal year in charge of training.

Data System. In addition to Sandy, we would like to add a researcher/statistician to be responsible for all data reports – both those that are produced monthly, those that are produced for the annual performance report to OSEP and the annual report for the ICC as well as all the many ad hoc data requests that are received daily from providers, legislators, commissioners, and others. This individual might also be able to provide back-up support to Sandy for handling data system questions and technical support.

Public Awareness/Child Find. We will have one individual in charge of public awareness/child find. Eileen McMurrer will continue in this role for this fiscal year.

ICC Support. We would like to create a part-time position to be responsible for staffing and supporting the ICC. We would like to discuss this with the ICC Executive Staff. Currently, Eileen McMurrer will continue to staff the ICC.

Quality Assurance. Alice Ridgway will continue as the Quality Assurance Manager and credentialing will become part of the Quality Assurance unit. We may add a part-time position.

In terms of office space, we are negotiating to co-locate the "Service and Support" office with Infoline in Rocky Hill (it will be several months before a sublease can be worked out) and the other positions will be assigned to central office in Hartford where additional offices will be built.