



**HOUSING ASSISTANCE PROGRAM  
DIVISION OF CHILDREN, YOUTH AND FAMILIES  
STATE FISCAL YEAR 2010**

A.R.S. § 46-139(E) requires the Arizona Department of Economic Security (DES) to make the following information regarding the Housing Assistance Program available to the public upon request and available on the Department's website:

- The number of children and families, by district, receiving services through this program during the previous fiscal year.
- The total amount of monies spent on the program by district.
- A programmatic and fiscal evaluation of the effectiveness of this program which includes the amount of monies saved by reducing foster care expenditures.

To be eligible for the Housing Assistance Program, the following criteria must be met:

- At least one child is a participant in an open Child Protective Services case;
- Housing assistance is needed to expedite a permanent placement for the child;
- Lack of safe and adequate housing is a significant barrier to family preservation, family reunification or achievement of the permanency plan for at least one child;
- Family income, including entitlements, is insufficient to cover housing expenses;
- The family is willing to develop and participate in a time-oriented plan to maintain housing obtained through this program;
- The family has not previously received housing assistance from this program;
- All other sources of assistance, including the Short Term Crisis Services program (STCS), have been fully explored and used before considering this program; and
- The child's parent, guardian, or custodian is a U.S. citizen or is otherwise lawfully present in the United States.

### **NUMBER SERVED**

In SFY 2010, the Housing Assistance Program served 511 children in 206 families statewide.

<b>DISTRICT(Counties)</b>	<b>NUMBER OF CHILDREN</b>	<b>NUMBER OF FAMILIES</b>
<b>1 (Maricopa)</b>	228	96
<b>2 (Pima)</b>	159	59
<b>3 (Yavapai, Coconino, Navajo, Apache)</b>	79	36
<b>4 (La Paz, Mohave, Yuma)</b>	22	8
<b>5 (Pinal, Gila)</b>	7	2
<b>6 (Graham, Greenlee, Cochise, Santa Cruz)</b>	16	5
<b>STATEWIDE TOTAL</b>	511	206

### **Cost of Service**

The total amount expended statewide for the Housing Assistance Program in SFY 2010 was \$193,176.89.

During SFY 2010, the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) awarded Family Unification Program (FUP) housing grants to three (3) Arizona communities. The FUP housing grants were made available to families in open Child Protective Services cases. A total of 148 families were able to utilize the FUP as a resource to address their housing needs. The availability of federal FUP housing grants for these families resulted in a reduction in the use of the Housing Assistance Program during SFY 2010 as compared to previous reporting years.

Due to budget shortfalls during SFY 2010, the maximum amount of Housing Assistance allowable to a family in the program was temporarily reduced from a maximum of \$1,800 to a maximum of \$900 from March 2010 through June 2010.

<b>DISTRICT (Counties)</b>	<b>TOTAL MONIES EXPENDED</b>
<b>1 (Maricopa)</b>	\$95,936.42
<b>2 (Pima)</b>	\$52,790.36
<b>3 (Yavapai, Coconino, Navajo, Apache)</b>	\$30,859.92
<b>4 (La Paz, Mohave, Yuma)</b>	\$8,299.06
<b>5 (Pinal, Gila)</b>	\$1,625.13
<b>6 (Graham, Greenlee, Cochise, Santa Cruz)</b>	\$3,666.00
<b>STATEWIDE TOTAL</b>	<b>\$193,176.89</b>

### **Results of Service**

The Housing Assistance Program improves the ability of the DES to ensure safety, permanency, and well-being for children who are the subject of a Child Protective Services (CPS) report and investigation, or participants in an ongoing services case.

Benefits from the Housing Assistance Program provide families who have open CPS cases with housing and utility assistance in order to provide for health, safety, and shelter needs, when assistance is not available through other programs.

The Housing Assistance Program is available for families whose lack of safe and adequate housing is a significant barrier to family preservation or family reunification.

An estimated \$2,167,800 would have been expended by DES to pay for foster care maintenance, if the 511 children who benefited from the Housing Assistance Program during SFY 2010 had entered or remained in foster care for the length of time housing assistance was provided to each family. Based on the SFY 2010 Housing Assistance Program expenditures of \$193,176.89, there is potential cost avoidance of \$1,974,600.