

utah department of  
human services

# Homefront

Donations helping  
children through the  
trauma of moving

DECEMBER 2016

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# Years of Service Awards



30 Years

Arthur Hobbs

25 Years

Joseph Gonzalez

Don Moss

20 Years

Patrick Burton

Diana Fuchs

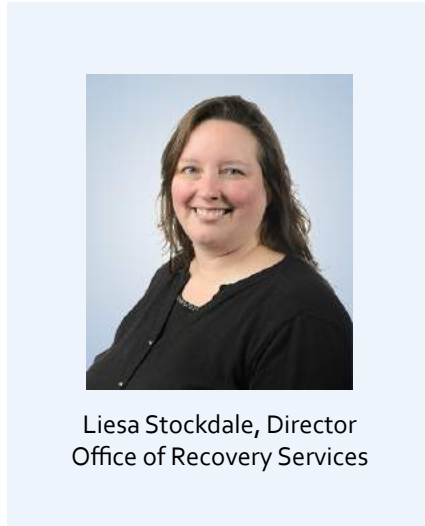
Karen Lester

Delma Martinez

Theresa Oram

Cherilyn Webster

Stephanie  
Younger-Stuart



Liesa Stockdale, Director  
Office of Recovery Services

Leadership Message:

# People & Culture

## Our Best Work Comes from a Better Understanding

Every action we take as DHS employees affects a person's relationships, physical and emotional health, and/or financial well-being. We each owe it to our customers to be personally invested in our profession-related education so we know how to balance conflicting demands and take the right steps in each situation.

Obtaining profession-related education can take many different forms beyond formal schooling. You can attend professional conferences, follow national organizations related to your specialties, read internal policies and procedures before taking action, study the underlying statutes that govern our work, or participate in cross-divisional trainings for better understanding of how our work is connected.

To help employees at the **Office of Recovery Services (ORS)** understand local and federal procedures surrounding child support, ORS has set a target within the **DHS FY17 Strategic Plan** to complete 100 percent of IV-D ORSIS training modules. This means that

by January 2017, nearly 150 training modules covering all of the basics for the **Office of Recovery Services Information System (ORSIS)** will be created and completed by all ORS employees. More trainings will be added in the future until a complete training library is available for all major ORS procedures, increasing opportunities for profession-related education and optimizing our ability to offer only the best services to Utah families and individuals that we serve.

**Have a story idea or feedback on DHS Homefront?**

Contact the editor, Allie Jurkatis  
[ajurkatis@utah.gov](mailto:ajurkatis@utah.gov)



PREVENTION



SELF-RELIANCE



PARTNERSHIP



OPERATIONAL EXCELLENCE



PEOPLE & CULTURE



# Donations Make Holidays Bright for DHS Clients




**THE GIFT OF KINDNESS**

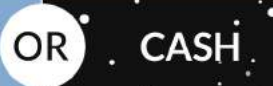


This holiday season, please help adults cared for by the Utah Office of Public Guardian who are unable to make basic life decisions for themselves. Most live in nursing homes or group homes.

Most have no family in their lives.



**TWO WAYS TO GIVE**

 **OR** 

Donations will be used by guardians to purchase gifts and living supplies for these individuals.

**Please mail or deliver your gift card or check to:**  
Office of Public Guardian  
195 N. 1950 W. Salt Lake City, UT 84116  
(Please include a return email or physical address to mail a receipt)

Questions? Please call 801-538-8255  
or email [utahopg@utah.gov](mailto:utahopg@utah.gov)



The holidays are here and DHS entities are hosting the following donation opportunities to benefit clients in need. These are open to your voluntary participation and to public participation as well:

## Duffel Bags for Children in Foster Care Child and Family Services

Donations of collapsible, easy-to-store, new-with-tags large backpacks and duffel bags are needed for children who must be relocated from their home or foster home. Caseworkers will put these donations in cars to have ready to give to the children to respectfully transport their things, rather than using a garbage or grocery bag.

## The Forgotten Patient Project Utah State Hospital

The Forgotten Patient Project provides gifts to **Utah State Hospital** patients. Without donations, these individuals would not receive anything due to a lack of family or because of other difficult circumstances.


## Cash for Personal Care Needs Office of Public Guardian

Each year around the holidays, many individuals **OPG** serves are in need of items like clothing, bedding and personal care supplies. With no family to provide for their needs, individuals can help by donating cash or a gift card, which Guardians use to purchase needed items and ensure all individuals receive a gift for the holidays.

For more information on each of these efforts, [click here](#).



# Legislative Changes You Need to Know

Changes in Utah's lawmakers as a result of the recent election may impact DHS-related legislation in the upcoming 2017 Legislative Session. Noteworthy elected officials with a DHS impact include: 

## Executive Appropriations Committee

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### *Position Changes*

Sen. Jerry Stevenson, Layton, senate chair  
*replacing Sen. Lyle Hillyard*

## Social Services Appropriations Subcommittee

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### *New Legislators*

Senate Pres. Wayne Niederhauser, Sandy  
*formerly served on the Executive Office and Criminal Justice Appropriations Committee*

Sen. Kevin Van Tassel, Vernal

Sen. Daniel Hemmert, Orem

Rep. Carl Albrecht, Richfield

Rep. Rebecca Edwards, North Salt Lake

Rep. Michael Kennedy, Alpine

Rep. Christine Watkins, Logan

Clare Tobin Lence, Salt Lake, fiscal analyst  
*replacing Stephen Jardine, who retired*

Hector Zumaeta Santiago, Salt Lake City, staff economist

### *No longer on committee*

Sen. Lincoln Fillmore, South Jordan

Sen. Mark Madsen, Saratoga Springs

Sen. Diedre Henderson, Spanish Fork

Rep. Melvin Brown, Coalville

Rep. Earl Tanner, West Jordan

Rep. Robert Spendlove, Sandy

Rep. Brad Daw, Orem

### *Position Changes*

Rep. Ray Ward, Bountiful, vice chair  
*replacing Rep. Ed Redd, who still serves on the committee, but not in this position*

## Executive Offices and Criminal Justice Appropriations Subcommittee

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### *New Legislators*

Rep. Bruce Cutler, Murray, vice chair

Rep. Jim Dunnigan, Taylorsville

Rep. Tim Quinn, Heber City

Rep. Logan Wilde, Croydon

Alexander R. Wilson, Sandy, fiscal analyst

### *No longer on committee*

Sen. Wayne Niederhauser, Sandy

Rep. Sophia DiCaro, West Valley City

Rep. Keven Stratton, Orem

Rep. Rich Cunningham, South Jordan


Rep. Curt Oda, Clearfield

# How Early Mental Health Treatment Reduces Cycles of Poverty

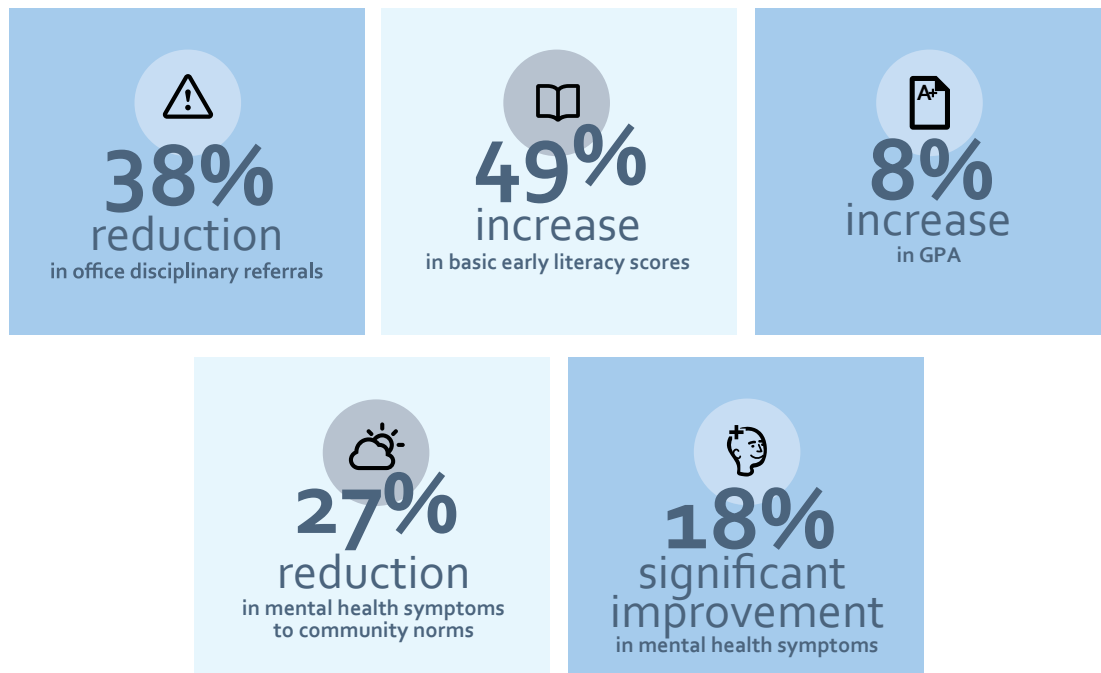
Early childhood education is one of the state's key focus areas in overcoming intergenerational poverty. If a child is manifesting behavioral health challenges that go untreated, academic learning and development is hindered. These children are more likely to live in poverty as adults.

The governor and Utah State Legislature funded \$1.5 million in fiscal year 2016 dedicated to **School-Based Behavioral Health (SBBH)** programs. SBBH services, provided by licensed mental health professionals, vary by school and may include individual, family and group therapy, parent education, social skills groups and peer support. This investment reaches 39% percent of schools with socioeconomic factors

that present a higher risk for intergenerational poverty and 23% percent of all schools in Utah.

SBBH helps young people develop skills to deal with the personal challenges that impede their learning and academic performance. The significant reduction in disciplinary referrals results in decreased classroom interruptions, which improves the learning environment for all students in the class. Services are provided in a familiar environment for the youth and their family and prevent barriers of transportation, cost of services and time away from school for the child and work for the parent. Outcomes for children and youth who access SBBH services show decreases in mental health symptoms and increases in academic success. 

## Results from fiscal year 2016 of the 2,439 children served in SBBH include:





STATE



OF



THE



AGENCY

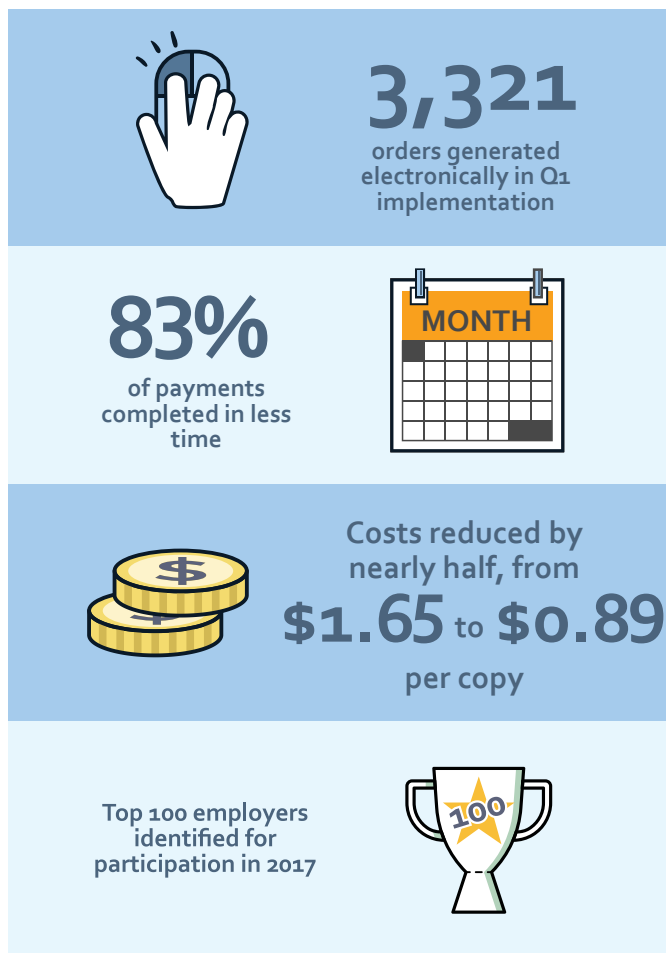
coming

**Jan. 18, 2017**



# ORS Tech Speeds Up Child Support Payments

The **Income Withholding Order (IWO)** is a primary tool used between **Office of Recovery Services (ORS)** and employers to obtain regular child support. In the past the process consisted of paper documents, each several pages long, that incurred printing and postal expenses. By joining a national project to make this process paperless, **ORS** is already seeing results helping families receive payments sooner and avoiding arrear accrual for paying parents. They plan to create an outreach program to increase the employer enrollment in the **Electronic Income Withholding Order program** during 2017.



*Feedback given by you and your peers in DHS focus groups revealed a common desire to know more about the services and programs offered by other DHS Divisions and Offices. This increases understanding of DHS as a whole can help all within our department work together to provide more efficient and integrated care.*



# Around DHS

The **Office of Fiscal Operations** hosted fiscal and contract staff from all areas of DHS to further professional development and learning at the **Conference for Fiscal Officers**. Staff learned where they fit in the DHS Model of Care strategic framework and tools for increasing excellence and partnership in their roles.



## “You Are an Essential Piece of the Puzzle”

Department of Human Services  
Conference for Fiscal Officers

Public and private providers gathered at the **Utah Trauma Academy**, hosted in partnership with the **Office of Victims of Crime** at the **Department of Justice** and the **Center of Excellence for Trauma Informed Care**, to gain a better understanding of trauma and how it can affect individuals. Focus areas included cultural awareness, peer-based empowerment, safety and neurosequential and trauma-informed models.



## In the News



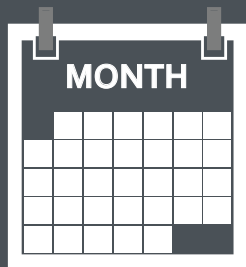
- [Surgeon general focuses on addiction epidemic, calls it 'moral test' for U.S.](#)
- [Utah Division of Juvenile Justice Uses Trauma-Informed Approach for Youth, Families and Staff](#)
- [Utah DCFS and state hospital seeking support for forgotten foster children, adults](#)





Brighten the holidays by making your health and safety a priority. Take steps to keep you and your loved ones safe and healthy—and ready to enjoy the holidays.

1. Wash hands often to help prevent the spread of germs.
2. Give yourself a break if you feel stressed out, overwhelmed and out of control.
3. Don't drink and drive or let others drink and drive.
4. Monitor children. Keep potentially dangerous toys, food, drinks, household items and other objects out of children's reach.
5. Practice fire safety. Most residential fires occur during the winter months, so don't leave fireplaces, space heaters, cooking food, or candles unattended.



## January Calendar

National mentoring month

Jan. 1 — New Year's Day

Jan. 2 — New Year's day observed

Jan. 4 — Governor Herbert Inauguration

Jan. 18 — DHS State of the Agency

Jan. 16 — Martin Luther King Jr. Day

Jan. 20 — Presidential Inauguration

Jan. 23 — First day of the legislative session

Jan. 25 — Utah State of the State

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