

An aerial photograph of a town, likely Winchester, Vermont, during the autumn season. The image shows a dense residential area with numerous houses and buildings, many of which are surrounded by trees displaying vibrant fall colors in shades of yellow, orange, and red. The town is nestled in a valley, with rolling hills visible in the background under a clear blue sky with some light clouds. A large, dark teal rectangular box is overlaid on the lower half of the image, containing the title text.

ANNUAL REPORT

**WINCHESTER DEPARTMENT OF
SOCIAL SERVICES**

Fiscal Year 2022

INDEX

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mission & vision

WHO WE ARE

Welcome to the Winchester Department of Social Services Annual Report for fiscal year 2022.

The Winchester Department of Social Services promotes safety, stability and self-sufficiency to improve the quality of life of its residents by providing critical human services and maintaining strong community partnerships.

Leadership

ADMINISTRATIVE BOARD

Dan Hoffman, City Manager

WDSS DIRECTOR

Amber Dopkowski

SOCIAL SERVICES ADVISORY BOARD

Danielle Bostick, Chair

Bibianna Vazquez, Vice Chair

Nicholas Robb

Cheryl Beaudoin-Stehlin

Anita Schill

Jasmine Frye

Cindy Taylor

Lauren Carnill

SNAP

100%
Federal Funding

This program supplements the food budgets of low-income households to help assure a nutritionally adequate diet. Eligibility is determined by financial need and household size. Benefits are issued through Electronic Benefit Transfer (EBT).

	FY20	FY21	FY22
Applications	1,695	1,571	1,691
Unduplicated Recipient Count	4,649	4,801	5,048
Dollar amount issued	\$5.2M	\$7.7M	\$9.9M

MEDICAID

Makes direct payments to health care service providers for eligible individuals and families who are unable to pay for needed medical services. Medicaid pays for a variety of medical services, including prescription drugs, doctor visits, nursing facility care and hospital care.

48%
State Funding

52%
Federal Funding

	FY20	FY21	FY22
Applications	2,251	1,726	1,428
Unduplicated Recipient Count	8,836	9,284	10,340
Dollar amount issued	\$53.5M	\$60.3M	\$66.5M



100%

Federal Funding

ENERGY ASSISTANCE

Assists low-income households in meeting their immediate home energy needs.

- Fuel Assistance purchases home heating fuel.
- Crisis Assistance assists with an emergency heating need.
- Cooling Assistance assists with payment to operate or repair/replace cooling equipment.

	FY20*	FY21*	FY22*
Fuel	326	322	306
Crisis	32	18	21
Cooling	196	201	239
Total Expenditures	\$191,286	\$204,527	\$302,470

*Data has been updated to show case data instead of application data, which was used in previous annual reports.

Temporary Assistance
for Needy Families

TANF

TANF provides time-limited financial assistance and employment-related services to enable families with children to become self-supporting and promotes economic independence through participation in the VIEW Program.

62%

State Funding

38%

Federal Funding

	FY20	FY21	FY22
Applications	254	277	239
Unduplicated Recipient Count	307	335	332
Dollar amount issued	\$214,269	\$286,000	\$311,074

Virginia Initiative for
Education and Work

VIEW

VIEW offers employment-related activities, education, training, and needed support services to TANF recipients while providing the opportunity to achieve economic independence, opportunities, and work skills necessary for self-sufficiency.

15%

Local Funding

73%

State Funding

12%

Federal Funding

	FY20	FY21	FY22
Individuals Referred	41	37	28
Total Enrolled	46	56	57
# Involved in Work Activity (% of total)	8 (17%)	4 (7%)	2 (4%)
# Employed (% of total)	20 (43%)	11 (20%)	11 (20%)
Average Hourly Wage	\$11.60	\$15.04	\$12.63
Average Monthly Earnings	\$1,669	\$2,466	\$2,052
Supportive Services Expenditures	\$24,178	\$7,430	\$27,115



Child Protective Services

CPS

CPS investigates reports of child abuse and neglect and provides services to treat and prevent abuse and neglect.

	FY20	FY21	FY22
Intakes	723	742	843
Investigations	131	94	109
Founded Cases	34	34	34
Ongoing Cases	108	108	137
Family Assessments	390	238	303
Family Services Cases	16	16	9

CHILD CARE SERVICES

Provides funding to enhance the quality, affordability, and supply of child care available to families. Child care programs are child-centered, family-focused services that support the family goals of economic self-sufficiency and child development by providing substitute parental care, protection, guidance, and early childhood education.

25%
State Funding

75%
Federal Funding

	FY20	FY21	FY22
Households Served	83	48	77
Children Served	142	73	121
Total Childcare Subsidy Provided	\$439,938	\$379,128	\$517,656

Children's Services Act

CSA

Provides for the pooling of eight specific funding streams used to purchase services for at-risk youth (1993 Virginia Law). These funds are returned to the localities with a required state/local match and are managed by local interagency teams. The purpose of the Act is to provide high quality, child-centered, family-focused, cost-effective, community-based services to at-risk youth and their families.

45%
Local Funding

55%
State Funding

	FY20	FY21	FY22
Children Served	206	177	190
Total Expenditures	\$3,292,690	\$3,456,249	\$3,571,400



20%

Local Funding

80%

Federal Funding

ADULT SERVICES

Provides services to adults with disabilities age 18 or older and to adults age 60 or older. These services are designed to assist the adult in remaining in the least restrictive setting and functioning as independently as possible, to establish or strengthen appropriate family and social support systems and to support the adult in self-determination. Services may also be arranged for individuals in emergency situations who lack the capacity to consent to services.

	FY20	FY21	FY22
Adult Protective Investigations	91	107	94
Ongoing Cases	36	48	16
Companion Care	1	2	1
Guardianships	89	90	82
Auxiliary Grant (people served)	25	18	17
Auxiliary Grant Expenditures	\$118,070	\$133,137	\$149,605



ADOPTION SERVICES

57%
State Funding

43%
Federal Funding

Provides services and registries to bring together children and families for permanent placements. Winchester Social Services supports several adoption initiatives and issues that include recruiting prospective families, conducting home studies, partnering with the media to feature waiting children, and offering financial assistance and other services that provide stability for adoptive families.

	FY20	FY21	FY22
Adoptions Completed	21	8	24
Adoption Subsidy & Special Needs Adoption (# children/\$)	72/\$933,950	81/\$1,076,985	96/\$1,294,703

FOSTER CARE

Provides services to children and families when circumstances require a child to be removed from their home. Foster care provides a safe and stable environment until the issues causing placement outside the home are resolved. When a child cannot return home, another permanency option is found.

	FY20	FY21	FY22
Children in Foster Care	93	98	98



100%

Local Funding

GENERAL RELIEF

An optional, local program designed to provide emergency assistance that cannot be provided through other means. In Winchester, this provides burial assistance to those in need.

	FY20	FY21	FY22
Burials	12	19	25
Expenditures	\$8,100	\$11,050	\$15,200





Join our team!

CAREER & INTERNSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

Let's connect! Find us on [Handshake](#) and [LinkedIn](#).

Handshake



City of Winchester, VA Local Government



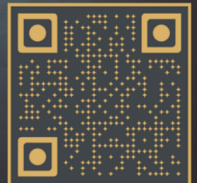
Silent night, C Sleeping right.

BABY SLEEPS
ALONE, APART,
ALWAYS.

Safe sleep practices can prevent
infant deaths. Learn more at
dss.virginia.gov/safe_sleep



Scan here





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