

# **I Spy... A Program in the DC Budget!**

## **Brief Survey on Hard-to-Find Programs in the DC Budget**

### **Survey Results, March 18, 2008**

Each year, the District of Columbia government puts out a Mayor's proposed budget (in March) and a Congressional submission budget (in June). The budget books show proposed spending by agency and, in theory, highlight major changes from the prior year.

Unfortunately, the budget books often fail to show many programs that DC residents and advocates care most about. Many of the programs as understood by DC residents are actually part of larger agency budget categories and therefore do not show up as separate "line items" in the budget. This makes it hard to know if programs many of us care about are getting more, less or the same amount of money over time.

For the Fiscal Year 2009 budget, DC Action for Children, The Arc of the District of Columbia, and the DC Fiscal Policy Institute co-sponsored a survey on hard-to-find programs. The survey, which was sent to service providers and advocates, listed the main DC agencies serving low-income and other vulnerable populations. Under each agency, the survey asked respondents to identify programs that they care about but that are not shown as separate line items in the budget but are not.

The following information presents the results of the survey, which is laid out as follows:

- **Section 1:** For each selected agency, survey respondents were given a list of existing programs that could be listed in the budget but are not. Respondents were asked to identify whether they wanted to see that program listed. The survey results show the percentage that responded "yes."

In addition, survey respondents were asked to add any other existing programs that they would like to see highlighted in DC budget documents. The survey response summary for each selected agency includes an "Other" section that lists the suggested program additions.

- **Section 2:** A short section on existing programs that respondents would like to see highlighted in the budget, but for which the agency is unknown.
- **Section 3:** A section on suggestions from respondents that fall slightly outside of the survey purposes, largely suggestions for *new* programs that residents would like to see funded.
- **Section 4:** A section on the demographics of the survey respondents.

We are hopeful that these survey responses will inform policy makers and budget officials and will lead to a more transparent budget. In addition, we request that the Mayor and OBP do the following for the FY 2009 budget, to help DC residents better understand the funding for programs they care about the most:

- Provide funding information for FY 2007, FY 2008, and FY 2009 for each of the programs

listed. The table should list both local funding and gross funding (not including intra-District funding).

- For each program, provide at least one key output measure, such as caseloads, for the same years.

We are hopeful that separate tables could be prepared and released at the same time that the FY 2009 budget is released.

***DC Action for Children*** (DC ACT) is an independent, non-profit, multi-issue advocacy organization dedicated to improving conditions for children, youth and their families in the District of Columbia.

***The Arc of the District of Columbia, Inc.*** (The Arc of DC) is a private, non-profit membership organization which has provided advocacy and supports to improve the quality of life of District of Columbia residents with intellectual and developmental disabilities and their families since 1950.

***The DC Fiscal Policy Institute*** (DCFPI) conducts research and public education on budget and tax issues in the District of Columbia, with a particular emphasis on issues that affect low- and moderate-income residents.

For more information, contact:

Ed Lazere, Executive Director  
DC Fiscal Policy Institute  
(202) 408-1080 ♦ [lazere@dcfpi.org](mailto:lazere@dcfpi.org)

Susie Cambria, Deputy Director  
DC Action for Children  
(202) 234-9404 ♦ [scambria@dckids.org](mailto:scambria@dckids.org)

T.J. Sutcliffe, Director of Advocacy and Public Policy  
The Arc of the District of Columbia, Inc.  
(202) 636-2963 ♦ [tjsutcliffe@arcdc.net](mailto:tjsutcliffe@arcdc.net)

# “I Spy” Budget Programs Survey Results, March 2008

## Section 1: Hard-to-Find Programs, by Agency

Answer Options	Response Percent	Response Count
<b>Child and Family Services Agency (CFSA)</b>		
Clothing and furniture vouchers	61.5%	32
Flexible funds	57.7%	30
Housing	40.4%	21
Keys for Life	30.8%	16
Medical services	28.8%	15
Mental health services	26.9%	14
Mentoring and tutoring	25.0%	13
Non-Medicaid mental health services provided by CFSA contractors	21.2%	11
Tuition contracts with Maryland schools	11.5%	6
Other:		
Emancipation funds		
Housing support for emancipating youth		
Collaboratives		
Childcare funding, professional development and training		
Intensive therapeutic foster care		
Respite		
Independent living programs		
Family Team Meetings		
Quality Service Reviews		
<i>answered question</i>		<b>52</b>
<i>skipped question</i>		<b>10</b>
<b>Department of Employment Services (DOES)</b>		
Ex-offender program	64.6%	31
In-school youth	50.0%	24
Out-of-school youth	47.9%	23
Re-entry Service Center	45.8%	22
Summer Youth Employment Program	41.7%	20
Other:		
Transitional Employment Program		
TEP for Ex-Offenders		
TEP for Others with Employment Barriers		
Mayor's Youth Leadership Institute		
Youth Employment Services Initiative		
One-Stop Operations		
Training Vouchers		
Other One-Stop costs		
Apprenticeships		
Pre-Apprenticeships		
Adult Employment		
Youth transition (IDEA)		
Displaced Workers		
<i>answered question</i>		<b>48</b>
<i>skipped question</i>		<b>14</b>

## “I Spy” Budget Programs Survey Results, March 2008

Answer Options	Response Percent	Response Count
<b>Department of Health (DOH)</b>		
Adult Dental Benefit	59.2%	29
Detox (APRA)	40.8%	20
Health Care Ombudsman	40.8%	20
Health Professional Loan Repayment Program	38.8%	19
Medicaid Transportation	36.7%	18
Medicaid waivers (by waiver)	32.7%	16
Medical Homes DC	32.7%	16
Oral Health School Program	24.5%	12
School Nurse Program	20.4%	10
Youth Prevention Programs (APRA)	18.4%	9
Other:     HOPWA, other housing for people with HIV/AIDS		
Outreach and other services for people with HIV/AIDS		
DC Healthy Start		
<i>answered question</i>		<b>49</b>
<i>skipped question</i>		<b>13</b>
<b>Department of Housing and Community Development (DHCD)</b>		
Home Again	77.4%	24
Multi-Family Rehabilitation	74.2%	23
Other:     Tenant Purchase (from all funding sources)		
New Communities (non-capital)		
<i>answered question</i>		<b>31</b>
<i>skipped question</i>		<b>31</b>

## “I Spy” Budget Programs Survey Results, March 2008

Answer Options	Response Percent	Response Count
<b>Department of Human Services (DHS)</b>		
After School for All Program	60.0%	30
Burial Assistance	54.0%	27
Child care (moving to OSSE in 2008)	52.0%	26
Emergency Rental Assistance Program	46.0%	23
Fatherhood Initiative	44.0%	22
Food Stamps	40.0%	20
General Public Assistance for Children	40.0%	20
Homeless Services	36.0%	18
Interim Disability Assistance	34.0%	17
Medicaid / Alliance eligibility	30.0%	15
TANF cash assistance	26.0%	13
TANF employment services	24.0%	12
TANF services - Other	20.0%	10
Other: Homeless Services: There should be a greater breakdown of services, including: Homeless No More operating funds, A “Community Partnership” activity, administrative costs and funds spent/distributed for services Other funds, by type: transitional housing, permanent housing, supportive services, etc. Homeless No More funds, capital dollars Child care: There should be a greater breakdown of services, including: Care for special needs children Infant care Child care centers by level (GOLD, SILVER & BRONZE) Home-based Child Care Funds to ensure that providers meet new licensing regulations		
<i>answered question</i>		<b>50</b>
<i>skipped question</i>		<b>12</b>
<b>Department of Mental Health (DMH)</b>		
Bridge Subsidy Program	61.9%	26
Crisis Beds	61.9%	26
Day Programs	59.5%	25
Homeless Outreach	54.8%	23
Jail Diversion	54.8%	23
Mental Health Rehabilitation Services (MHRS): Local / federal Medicaid dollars, and local dollars (for non-Medicaid services)	45.2%	19
Programs for people with co-occurring substance abuse disorder	42.9%	18
School Mental Health Program	35.7%	15
Other: Services for children and youth by the kind of "program".		
<i>answered question</i>		<b>42</b>
<i>skipped question</i>		<b>20</b>

## “I Spy” Budget Programs Survey Results, March 2008

Answer Options	Response Percent	Response Count
<b>Department of Parks and Recreation (DPR)</b>		
After-school programs	87.2%	34
Summer services (by type)	76.9%	30
Other:     What new Recreation Centers are in the works? Staff trainings on effective HIV-prevention interventions, LGBT youth issues & HIV sensitivity issues. Construction/Capital Improvements Contracting/Designing Child care programs		
	<i>answered question</i>	<b>39</b>
	<i>skipped question</i>	<b>23</b>
<b>Department of Youth Rehabilitation Services (DYRS)</b>		
Aftercare	93.1%	27
Detention	65.5%	19
Committed	62.1%	18
Other:     Real education support for the many youth with IEPs and wrap-around and educational support for them and their families Prevention education sessions on comprehensive sexual health, STI prevention, and HIV stigma with youth in DYRS system Tracking program for youth in trouble and in-out school job placement		
	<i>answered question</i>	<b>29</b>
	<i>skipped question</i>	<b>33</b>
<b>Department on Disability Services (DDS)</b>		
Case management (by administration)	85.7%	30
Housing (local rent payments)	68.6%	24
Medicaid waiver program	60.0%	21
Other:     Learning Disabilities Diagnostic Testing		
	<i>answered question</i>	<b>35</b>
	<i>skipped question</i>	<b>27</b>
<b>District of Columbia Housing Authority (DCHA)</b>		
Other:     Federal Housing Choice Vouchers Public Housing Local Rent Supplement DC Subsidy to DCHA other than Local Rent Supplement		
	<i>answered question</i>	n/a
	<i>skipped question</i>	n/a

## “I Spy” Budget Programs Survey Results, March 2008

Answer Options	Response Percent	Response Count
<b>District of Columbia Public Schools (DCPS)</b>		
Art and music	62.2%	28
Central offices and services	60.0%	27
ESL/Bilingual education	60.0%	27
Facilities maintenance	55.6%	25
Instructional technology	51.1%	23
Professional development	51.1%	23
School libraries/media centers	51.1%	23
Special education outside DCPS	48.9%	22
Special education within DCPS	37.8%	17
Truancy and dropout	33.3%	15
Vocational education	31.1%	14
Other: Social work and mental health services		
Physical education and health		
Homeless children's services		
Pre-school and pre-kindergarten		
	<i>answered question</i>	<b>45</b>
	<i>skipped question</i>	<b>17</b>
<b>Office of the State Superintendent of Education (OSSE)</b>		
Child care	65.1 %	28
Child nutrition programs	60.5%	26
Literacy programs	48.8%	21
Student data warehouse	32.6%	14
Other: Adult education for adults with disabilities		
	<i>answered question</i>	<b>43</b>
	<i>skipped question</i>	<b>19</b>

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### **Section 2: Other programs not listed, but agency is unknown or not included in main survey**

- Domestic Violence prevention/treatment for teens in emerging relationships.
- Leadership Training for youth 16-21
- Office of Tax and Revenue--DC EITC Campaign
- DMPED--Opportunity Accounts (IDA Funding)
- Literacy Services at DC Public Library
- Funding from various departments (DMH, DCPS, DYRS, CFSA, HSCSN etc), for out of state residential services for youth.
- Local Rent Subsidy Program with DCHA
- School Health Program – it is not clear if this is in DOH or DCPS.
- The Homeless Services liaison in DCPS. It is my understanding there is only one staff person serving as a liaison between the 7,000 children/year in DC that are homeless and DCPS.
- A good children's budget that can separate prevention from intervention services.
- Inclusionary Zoning, DMPED's NCRC/AWC budget
- Services for abused & neglected children which are required under the law: i.e. Guardians ad Litem; Court Appointed Special Advocates, both provided under federal and local city council laws.
- Funds for Preservation of Historic Buildings
- Funds for Facilities accessibility
- Office of Deputy Mayor for Planning and Economic Development--Consulting, Contracting, Human Capital in New Communities Initiative

### **Section 3: Additional comments**

The following additional comments, listed by agency, are responses which:

1. Appear to describe programs which do not yet exist, but that survey respondents would like to see created and funded in the budget;
2. Discuss real services, but ones which, to the best of our knowledge, cannot be identified as line items in the current budget structure, often because they track across multiple programs and/or agencies; and/or
3. Describe programs which are already included in the budget and can be found in the budget.

#### Child and Family Services Administration (CFSA)

- Recreation centers/programs for pre-adolescents and teens.
- Environmental Ed Programs
- Cannot stress enough the importance of the DPR services that also help to incorporate 'life-skills' in the normal development of children, teenagers and young adults.
- Should be included in school and carried on after school; teaching sportsmanship/civics helps round out youth development for life.
- Many more options for people with disabilities of all ages in separate and inclusive programs in which there are accommodations.
- Parks and recreation field trips for inner city children and DCPS

#### Department of Employment Services (DOES)

- Employment training for youth entering the workforce for the first time.
- Additional childcare service training
- Employment for individuals receiving SSI
- Employability development for under achievers or abused/neglected children to lift them to equal opportunities
- More support and outreach to DC residents with disabilities, perhaps through partnerships with disability agencies
- "A program like Florida has that mandates 10% of new State hires come from TANF or SSI recipients trying to re-enter the workforce."
- Accountability for the summer jobs program - a jobs program is meant to be just that - a job, not another failed DCPS/DOES babysitting venture.
- "underemployee training program for trades"
- Skill assessments
- Referrals for various programs that enable displaced workers/college bound people & students

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### Department of Health (DOH)

- Outreach and education, particularly regarding affirmative requirement of state medicaid to inform families of breadth of services available under EPSDT, and notice regarding fair hearings
- immunization programs? health insurance outreach?
- Prevention services across programs and activities.
- Takeback program of needles/sharps (e.g. diabetics' hardware) ... if warranted.
- After school training AND recreational activities for students of all ages.
- In-school STI (chlamydia & gonorhea) screenings available through school nurses & community vendors
- We need real discussion about medical homes for children and youth in the District - not additional dollars for clinic bricks and mortar - when it comes to children in the District we can not assume that if we "build it they will come."
- T/A for New Child Care Licensing Regulations
- (1) health coverage for all family child care professionals
- (2) administering medication to children
- (3) pharmacology

### Department of Housing and Community Development (DHCD)

- Section 8 vouchers for emancipating foster youth
- Elderly home loans
- Substance abuse recovery community support longer term.
- More vouchers and low-income, moderately priced homes
- D.C. has a scarcity of accessible housing for the disabled. Critical need to fund ASAP!
- Housing Production Trust Fund, HOME, CDBG, Home Purchase Assistance Program
- Housing programs for individuals with disabilities - not just group homes, but real programs that empower individuals to reach their full potential for independence and self-sufficiency! Disability means more than mental retardation/developmental disability - we can no longer afford to continue to fund failed MR/DD programs while we ignore the largest segment of the disabled population - those with chronic illness and physical disabilities.
- housing for the homeless and domestic violence

### Department of Human Services (DHS)

- After school recreation program
- Personal Care Attendant
- More Adult Education with the employment services

### Department of Mental Health (DMH)

- Residential treatment for DC children (ages 5-12) in the DC area to prevent shipping these children across the country;
- Co-occurring mental health and developmental disability and wrap program to divert youth from RTCs
- Evening/Saturday Programs
- Housing support for stable living situations

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- (1) pre-k mental health programs and diagnosis
- (2) mental health education in dealing with single stressed mothers

### Department of Parks and Recreation (DPR)

- Recreation centers/programs for pre-adolescents and teens.
- Environmental Ed Programs
- Cannot stress enough the importance of the DPR services that also help to incorporate 'life-skills' in the normal development of children, teenagers and young adults.
- Should be included in school and carried on after school; teaching sportsmanship/civics helps round out youth development for life
- Many more options for people with disabilities of all ages in separate and inclusive programs in which there are accommodations
- Parks and recreation field trips for inner city children and DCPS

### Department on Disability Services (DDS)

- employment, service coordination (not case management), continuing education for adults with disabilities (perhaps with OSSE)
- DDC - RSA has quietly assumed the lions share of the responsibility for providing transition services for youth with disabilities as they exit DCPS and move toward their future. Not surprisingly, DCPS fails these students year after year - yet they continue to receive funding for services that are never provided - and they are provided, they are inappropriate and inadequate. Despite mounting fiscal challenges and a very limited window of opportunity to provide services prior to these students exiting DCPS, RSA's Transition Services Unit, under the leadership of Darlene Gripper and Marilyn Riley has become a national leader in transition services for this population. Funding should be cut from Special Education Transition Services and diverted to this program - they are already doing the work - just without the resources or recognition!
- rehabilitation program for disabled persons

### DC Public Schools (DCPS)

- Clinical support of educational programs
- Saturday School, Principal's discretionary budget
- Environmental Education: Area watersheds, Chesapeake Bay issues, Pollution, Invasive Plants, Restoration, Global climate change, Advocacy!!!!
- Environmental Education
- Environmentally-Integrated Curriculum -- makes classroom lessons relevant by basing projects on real, tangible, community issues. Students become agents of change once they understand WHY the information gives them power to participate. And DAMN IT, WHY NOT?
- Transition services for youth with disabilities
- Support for youth with disabilities in transition
- out of state tuition for students placed in Maryland (or other) schools by CFSA, broken down by geographic location, general ed vs special ed,
- transportation costs for homeless students to attend school of origin

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- student HIV/STI prevention education
- Facilities operations (i.e., utilities costs and management cost for excess space)
- DCPS is moving toward eliminating costly out-of-district placements for special education students - with a plan to moving these students into local DCPS based programs. Let's all be honest - there are none! The programs that do exist are failing at even the basic benchmarks and should be closed immediately! The once successful program at the St. Colletta School has even been reduced to an inadequate excuse for expensive daycare since their move into yet another expensive - publically funded facility - just so we could say we have DC-Based programs - wake up people - we don't!
- pre-k \$ number of children served
- "(1) in house cooking of nutritional meals for children
- (2) all DCPS high schools offer half day learn and work programs
- (3) learn through exposure field trip program"

### **Office of the State Superintendent of Education (OSSE)**

- Adult literacy programs
- Environmental Education: Area watersheds, Chesapeake Bay issues, Pollution, Invasive Plants, Restoration, Global climate change, Advocacy!!!!
- development of new initiatives
- Is there a child nutrition program in the District? Is that the same program that takes responsibility for removing the vending machines for schools? I guess none of our leaders have the time to visit our schools - or else they would see that despite their attempts - DCPS has chosen to ignore the law and continue to reap the benefits of selling our children's health and well-being to soda, junk food and candy bar makers.

## “I Spy” Budget Programs Survey Results, March 2008

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### Section 4: Survey Respondent Demographics.

**Question 1. If you are filling this survey out in a professional role, how would you best describe the organization you represent (check only one):**

Answer Options	Response Percent	Response Count
Nonprofit service provider	50.9%	28
Advocacy organization	20.0%	11
Civic organization / ANC	9.1%	5
Legal services organization	9.1 %	5
DC government	3.6%	2
Other organization	3.6%	2
Coalition	1.8%	1
Labor organization	1.8%	1
<i>total</i>		<b>55</b>

**Question 2. Are you a DC resident?**

Answer Options	Response Percent	Response Count
Yes	74.2%	46
No	25.8%	16
<i>total</i>		<b>62</b>

**Question 3. What Ward do you live in?**

Answer Options	Response Percent	Response Count
Ward 3	21.7%	10
Ward 1	15.2%	7
Ward 5	15.2%	7
Ward 4	13.0%	6
Ward 8	10.9%	5
Ward 2	8.7%	4
Ward 6	8.7%	4
Ward 7	6.5%	3
<i>answered question</i>		<b>46</b>
<i>skipped question</i>		<b>16</b>