

# Ottawa County Department of Human Services



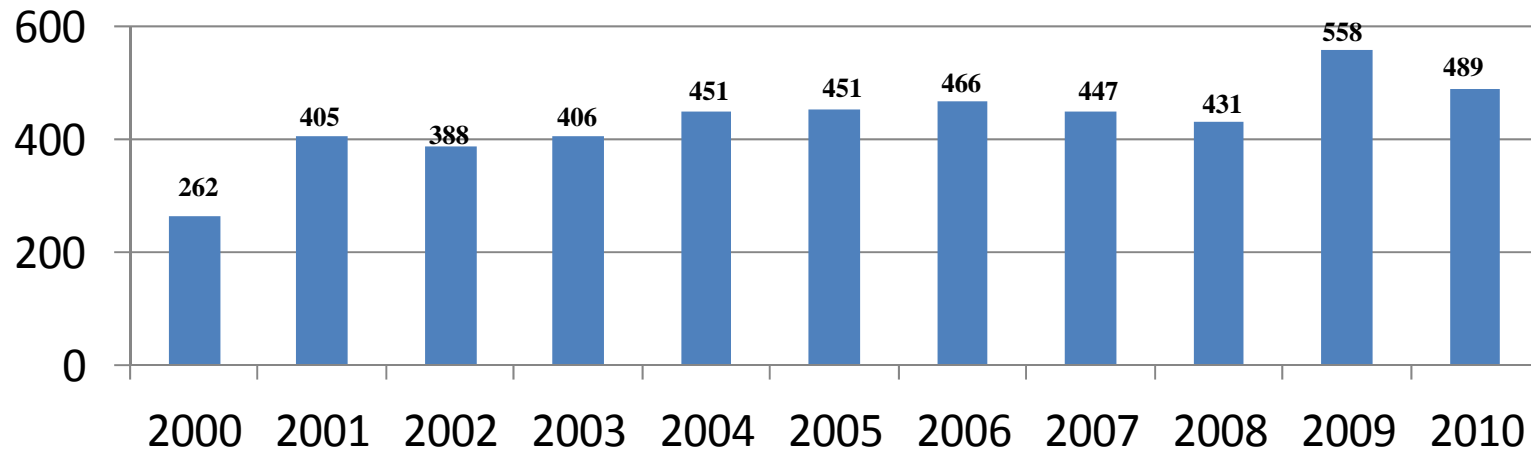
Annual Presentation to the  
Ottawa County Board of Commissioners  
May 10, 2011

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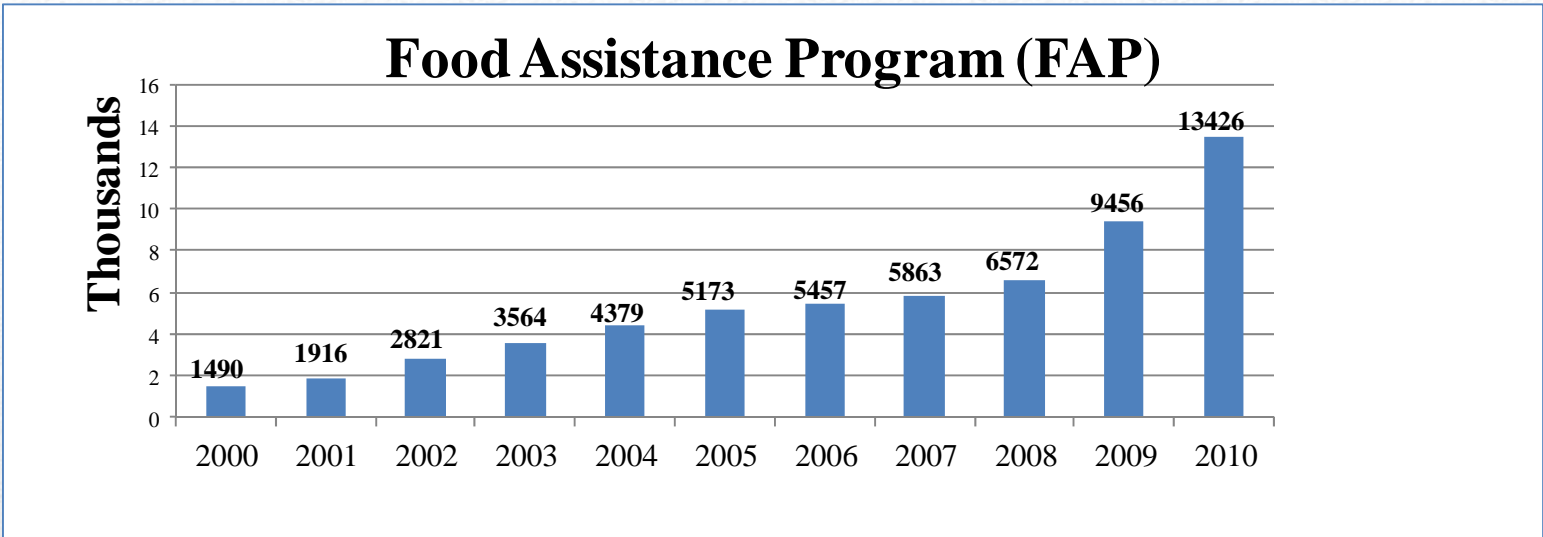
# Ottawa County DHS provides Cash Assistance

- Family Independence Program (FIP)
  - Food Assistance Program (FAP)
  - Child Development and Care (CDC)
  - State Disability Assistance (SDA)
  - State Emergency Relief (SER)
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## FIP Caseload



- The goal of the Family Independence Program (FIP) is to help families achieve self-support and independence, and to reduce dependence on public assistance. The Family Independence Program provides cash assistance to families with children and pregnant women who meet income and asset requirements. This cash assistance helps them pay for living expenses such as rent, heat, utilities, clothing, food and personal care items. FIP recipients may be assigned to the Jobs, Education, and Training (JET) program for assistance in finding a job or to develop needed job skills.
  - A typical FIP case is composed of one parent and two children. A family with other income can be eligible if their income is less than the family's needs by FIP standards. The FIP payment is the difference between the family's needs and their income, minus any work disregards. This program is funded by a combination of federal (TANF – Temporary Assistance to Needy Families) and state dollars.
  - **The average FIP payment per family in Ottawa County in FY 2010 was \$394 per month.**
  - **Ottawa County families received \$2,287,687 in total FIP payments during 2010.**
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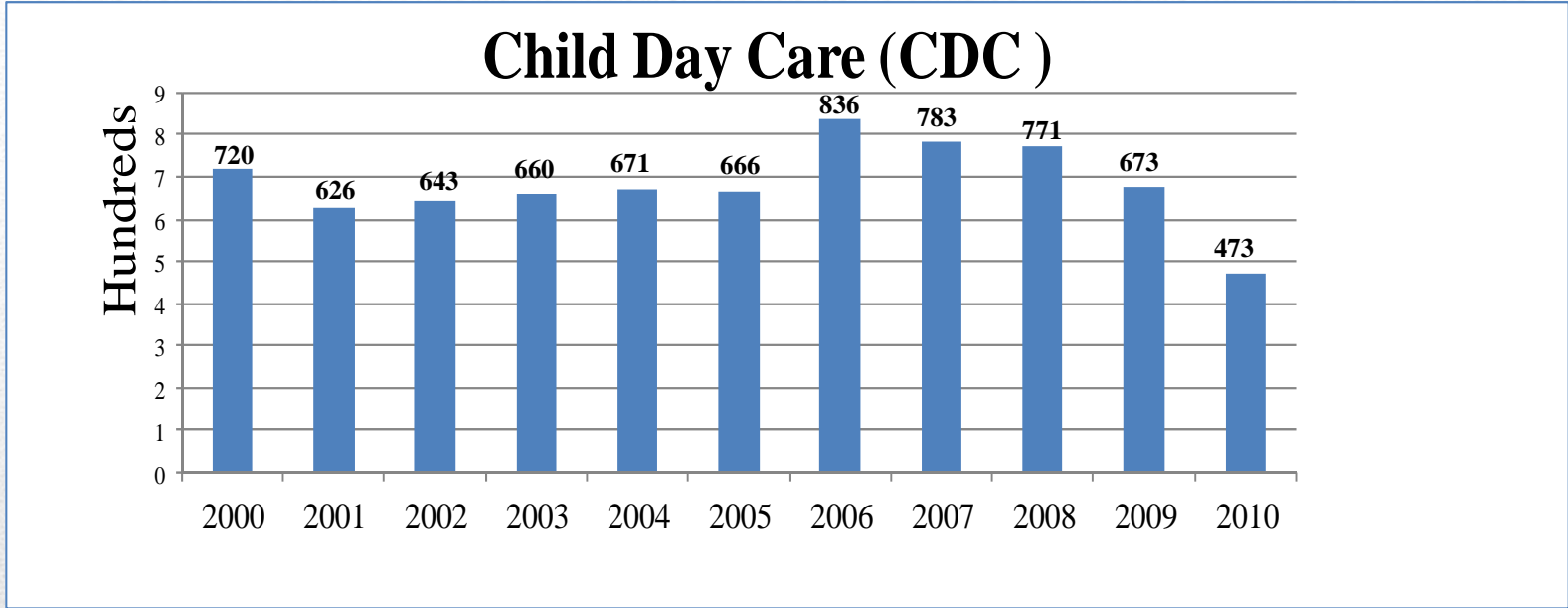


Michigan renamed its former Food Stamp program the Food Assistance Program (FAP) in 2001 when the Electronic Benefits Transfer (EBT) program eliminated paper food stamp coupons and paper checks by using an on-line system. Benefits are now electronically transferred to an account accessible by a client’s debit card. This debit card is called the Michigan Bridge Card.

The Food Assistance Program provides financial assistance to increase the food purchasing power of low-income households. Effective October 1, 2010, a household of 4 with a monthly net income of \$2,223 or less, qualified for benefits. (The maximum monthly FAP benefit for a family of four is \$668 with zero income; the minimum is \$2. FAP benefits decrease as income increases. This is a federally funded program, but administrative costs are shared equally between the Federal and State Governments.

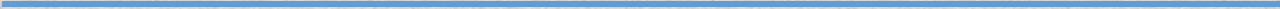
**In 2010, monthly FAP benefits averaged \$122 per person in Ottawa County. Ottawa County citizens received \$41,583,807 in FAP benefits during 2010.**



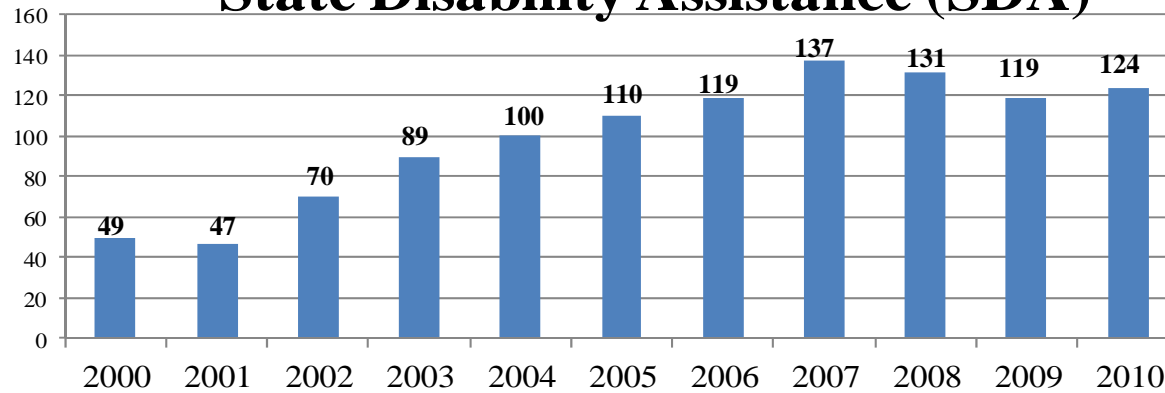


The Child Day Care program provides funding for all or a portion of child day care expenses when the parent, legal guardian, or other caretaker is unavailable to provide child care due to employment, attending high school, GED, or training classes; and/or a health/social condition for which treatment is being received. This program provides payments for children up to age 13. (Note: Children ages 13-18 may receive child care under certain circumstances.)

**Ottawa County provided CDC payments to an average of 473 families per month during 2010. The average monthly child care payment per family was \$495 per month. Total Child Day Care payments for FY 2010 in Ottawa County was \$2,821,817.**



## State Disability Assistance (SDA)



The State Disability Assistance Program is a cash assistance program for disabled individuals without dependent children. To be eligible for this program, the individual must be disabled and unable to work for at least 90 days due to a physical or mental disability, be enrolled in special education classes or be a caretaker for an individual who is disabled for at least 90 days and unable to care for themselves as verified by a medical provider. A typical SDA grant for an individual with no money is \$269 a month.

**In 2010, Ottawa County DHS averaged 124 recipients a month.**

**Total funds spent on SDA in Ottawa County for 2010 was \$355,251.**

# State Emergency Relief (SER)

The State Emergency Relief Program provides limited financial assistance to individuals/families facing emergencies that threaten their health or safety. Covered services include rent payments to avoid homelessness, house payments and property-tax payments when foreclosures or tax sales are imminent, home repairs and utility assistance to shut-offs or to restore service. State Emergency relief is funded both by state and federal funds. Expenses for last year include the following:

➤ Rental Assistance	\$67,988
➤ Home Ownership (mortgage foreclosures, tax sales)	\$14,454
➤ Utilities (water & Sewer Shut-offs) & Deposits	\$ 9,029
➤ Burial Assistance	\$27,481
➤ Heat Assistance	\$518,232
➤ Electric Assistance	\$759,743
➤ Furnace Repair and Replacement	\$37,174
<b>➤ Total SER payments for 2010</b>	<b>\$1,434,101</b>

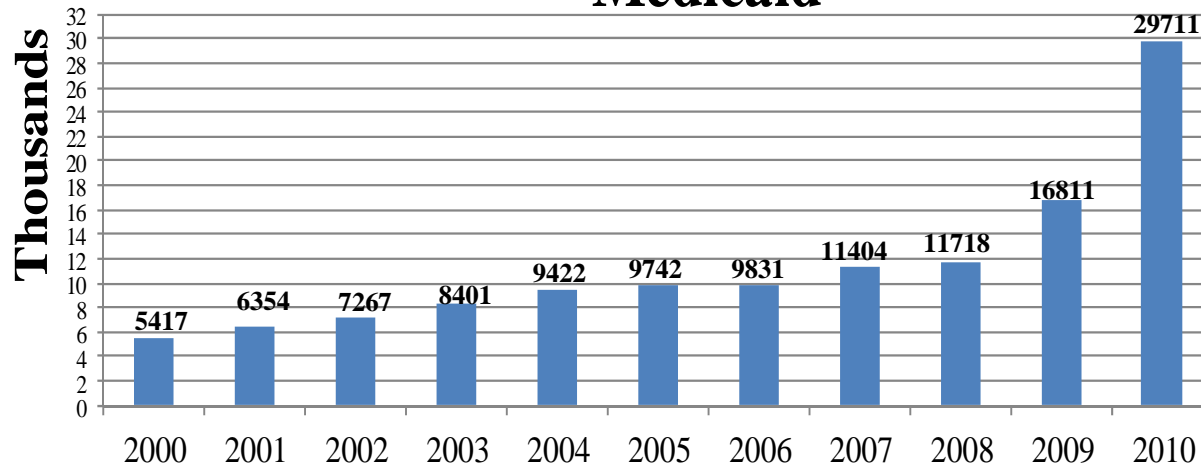
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# Cash into Ottawa County through DHS programs (FY '10)

➤ Family Independence Program (FIP)	\$ 2,287,687
➤ Food Assistance Program (FAP)	\$41,583,807
➤ Child Day Care Program (CDC)	\$ 2,821,817
➤ State Emergency Relief (SER)	\$ 1,434,101
➤ State Disability Assistance (SDA)	\$ 355,251
➤ <b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$48,482,663</b>

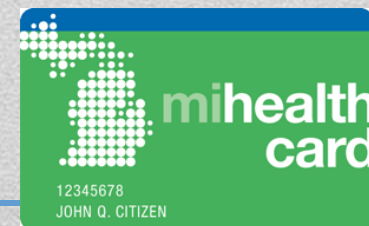
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## Medicaid



Medicaid provides necessary health care services to cash and SSI recipients and other low-income, medically-needy persons who are; under the age of 21; pregnant; disabled; blind; or age 65 and older. Although Medicaid in Michigan is administered by the Michigan Department of Community Health, Medicaid eligibility is determined by DHS according to an individual's or family's income and assets. There are over 30 different Medicaid categories in Michigan to help low-income families and individuals access the medical care they need. Eligible clients receive a MI-Health Card, which verifies Medicaid eligibility for medical providers. This is a federal and state funded program.

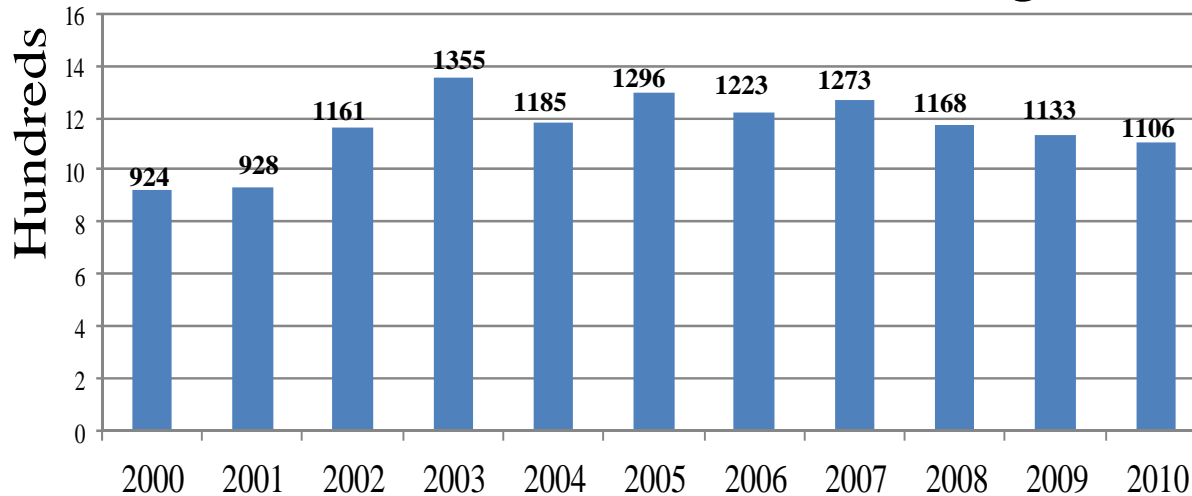
**At the end of 2010, Ottawa County had 29,711 individuals active for Medicaid.**



# Ottawa County DHS provides Individual and Family Services

- Protective Services for Children
  - Foster Care & Foster Home Licensing
  - Prevention Services
  - Adult Protective Services
  - Adult Independent Living Services
  - Adult Community Placement Services
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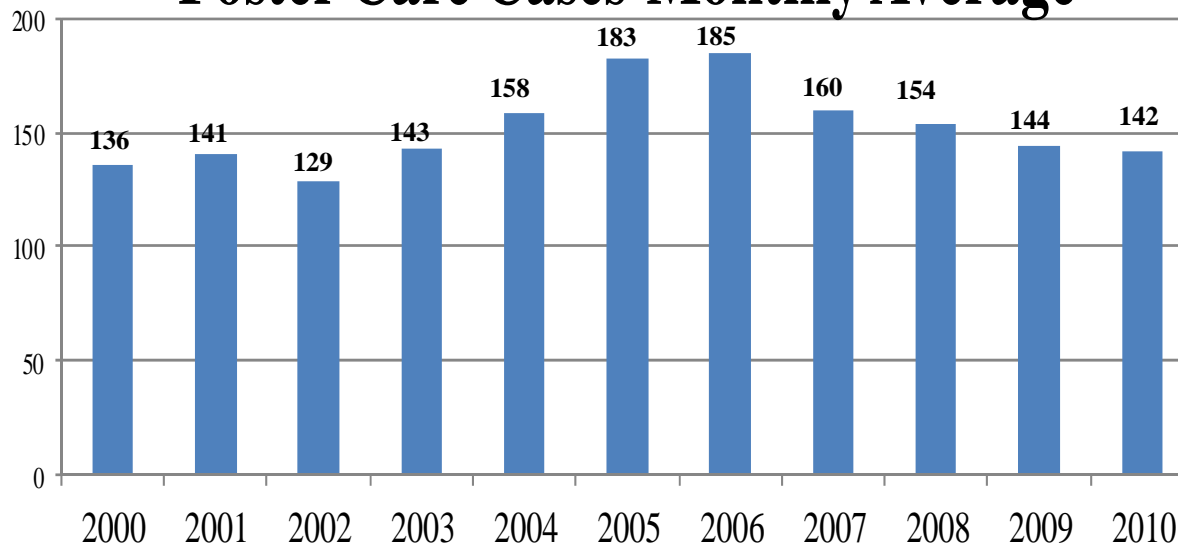
## Children's Protective Services Investigations



Children's Protective Services investigates or remedies abuse, neglect or exploitation of children under the age of 18 when the alleged perpetrator is a parent, legal guardian or an adult who is responsible for the child's health or welfare. Anyone may make a complaint if abuse or neglect is suspected. DHS has only investigative authority, enforcement authority is with the police and the courts. Services do not apply to the unborn.

**In FY 2010, Ottawa County DHS received 2,783 CPS referrals. Of that number, 1,106 (40%) were assigned for abuse/neglect investigations. From the completed investigations, 71 children were removed and placed in out-of-home care and 102 children were kept in the home under court jurisdiction so that services could be provided.**

## Foster Care Cases-Monthly Average



The Children's Foster Care staff provides placement, supervision and monitoring services for children in foster care who cannot remain in their own homes due to abuse or neglect. A primary goal of the foster care staff is to reunite children with their families. If this is not possible, workers will petition the courts to have parental rights terminated and adoption may become the goal. Funding is provided by a combination of federal, state and/or county appropriations depending on the family's eligibility.

**In 2010, Ottawa County DHS averaged 142 children in foster care.**

**In Feb, 2011 there were 159 children in foster care.**

**Of that number 60% were supervised by private agency staff and 40% by DHS staff.**

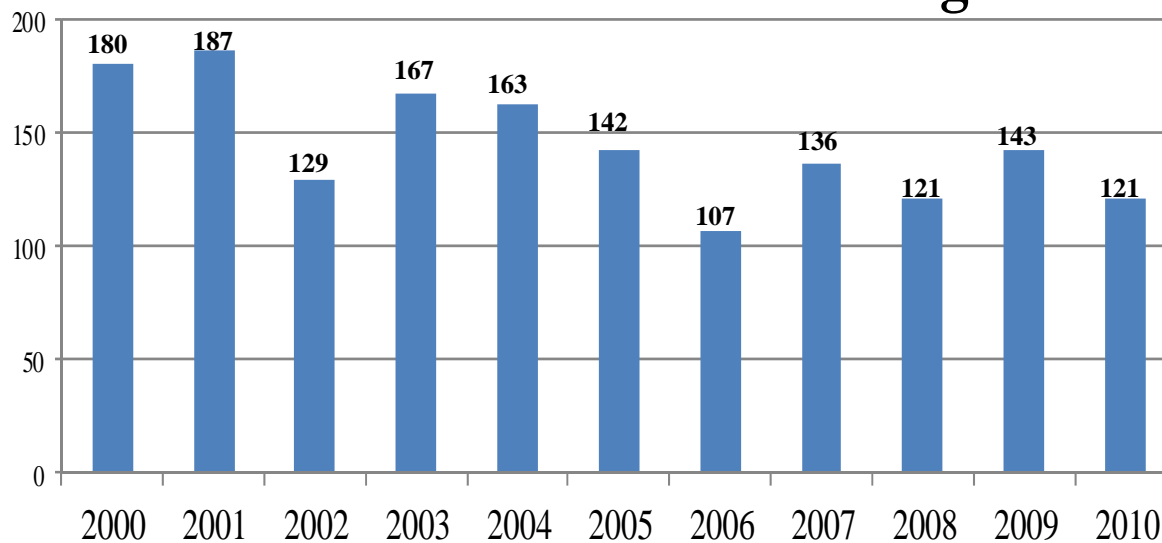
# Prevention Services

Prevention Services are family-based services which connect the family with community resources to prevent child abuse and neglect. Ottawa County DHS provides these services directly by a Prevention caseworker that works half-time, by collaborating with community resources and by purchasing the following prevention services:

➤ Families First	\$294,416
➤ Counseling	\$207,138
➤ Family Mentoring	\$150,000
➤ Emergency Shelter	\$ 45,000
➤ Adoption Promotion & Support	\$ 16,000

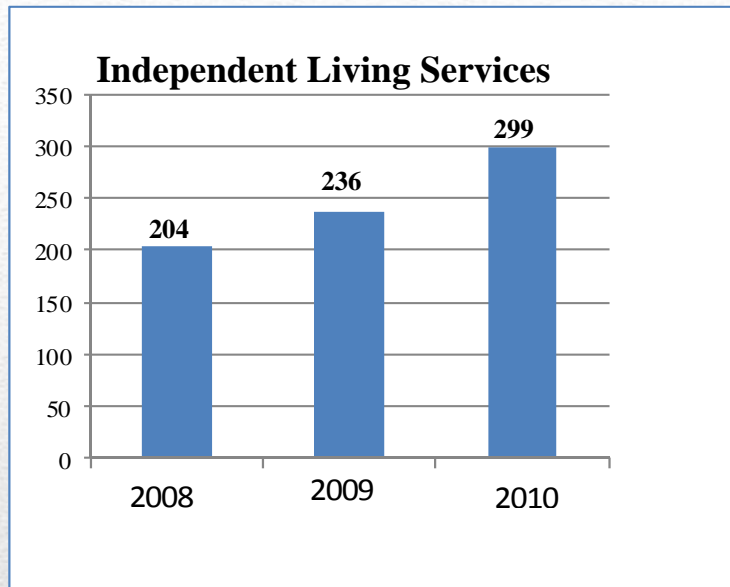
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## Adult Protective Services Investigations



Adult Protective Services is a critical program that requires extensive coordination with, and support from, mental health, public health and law enforcement agencies; the probate courts; the aging network, and the general public. Program staff investigate allegations of abuse, neglect or exploitation and provide protection to vulnerable adults.

The goal of the Adult Protective Services Program is to assist those persons 18 years or older who have been abused, neglected, or exploited and who are vulnerable and unable to take the necessary steps to correct their situation.



Adult Independent Living Services provides case management, home-help services, and supported services to enable individuals to remain in their own homes as an alternative to nursing home or institutional placement.

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# Number of families receiving services from Ottawa County DHS on a monthly basis

## Financial Assistance Cases

FIP (Cash Assistance)	489
Food Assistance	13,426
Day Care	473
State Disability Assistance	124
Medicaid	29,711
<u>State Emergency Relief</u>	<u>409</u>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>44,632</b>

## Services Cases

Children's Protective Services	92
Foster Care	142
Adult Protective Services	121
<u>Independent Living Services</u>	<u>299</u>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>654</b>



# Department of Human Services

## Department of Human Services Board

- Gary DeWitt .....Chairperson  
Frances Gamez .....Vice-Chairperson  
Gail Ringelberg .....Member

## Administration

- Michelle Martin .....Acting Director  
Nathan Bishop .....Acting Program Manager  
Janice DeVries ..... Department Manager

## Office Location

12185 James Street – Suite 200  
Holland, MI 49424

## Mission

The Ottawa County Department of Human Services assists children, families and vulnerable adults to be safe, stable and self-supporting.

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