

Health and Human Services

The Focus on Florida's Future Budget further strengthens Governor DeSantis' commitment to providing support to Floridians struggling with behavioral health and substance use issues, seniors and their caregivers, those with unique abilities and survivors of human trafficking. The budget also increases support for foster and adoptive families with the goal of supporting new families and providing the assistance that adoptive children need to transition into adulthood and reach their goals.

Bolstering Cancer Research

The Focus on Florida's Future Budget provides more than **\$232 million** in funding for cancer research, including **\$60 million**, a 200 percent increase of **\$40 million**, for the Florida Cancer Innovation Fund that supports groundbreaking cancer research stemming from emerging ideas, trends, and promising practices that can serve as a catalyst for further exploration. The budget also continues **\$127.5 million** for the Casey DeSantis Cancer Research Program.

Supporting Women and Children

The Focus on Florida's Future Budget includes increased funding of **\$447.1 million** to support the care of pregnant women and children. This funding supports the Florida KidCare Program, helps improve access to obstetric care for pregnant women, and supports care for seriously ill children and babies. Additional funds are provided to improve access and coordination for behavioral health services for children and to support quality improvement initiatives for children birth to 36 months who have a developmental delay.

Behavioral Health

The Focus on Florida's Future Budget provides more than **\$294.6 million** in funding to support behavioral health services. These additional resources will improve access to mobile response services, as well as support collaboration between primary care and behavioral health providers, both of which will support crisis diversion and avoid high-cost acute care.

Battling the Opioid Crisis

Florida continues to support care and recovery for individuals who are struggling with opioid use disorders through the provision of services and supports. This includes more than **\$153 million** from the nationwide Opioid Settlement Agreement to continue support for the Office of Opioid Recovery, an accredited Graduate Medical Education program to increase the number of psychiatric residents and for other initiatives that support education, treatment, and prevention for individuals with substance use disorders.

The Focus on Florida's Future Budget includes **\$31.8 million** to continue and expand the Coordinated Opioid Recovery (CORE) Network, which provides rescue response to support immediate treatment, stabilization, and assessment of the patient to determine

the best course of treatment, and to provide long-term treatment and wrap around support.

Child Welfare

The Focus on Florida's Future Budget includes more than **\$103.5 million** to support those served by the child welfare system. This funding supports foster parents and caregivers and expand access to post-adoption supports to young adults adopted from the dependency system. This includes **\$25 million** to continue the modernization of the Florida Safe Families Network (FSFN) system.

The Focus on Florida's Future Budget includes **\$9.8 million** to expand adoption incentives to groups that include state employees, school district personnel, and law enforcement officers. Additional funds will provide adoption incentives to health care practitioners and employees of local tax collectors to help more children in foster care find their forever home. The one-time incentive amounts will be increased from **\$5,000 to \$10,000 and \$10,000 to \$25,000**.

Human Trafficking

The Focus on Florida's Future Budget includes an increase of **\$6 million**, for a total of **\$11.3 million**, to provide additional services for victims of human trafficking. The funds will support housing for additional survivors to support their recovery and support increased staffing to enhance prevention services.

Putting Seniors First

The Focus on Florida's Future Budget includes an increase of **\$6 million**, for a total of **\$69.2 million**, to serve seniors as part of the Alzheimer's Disease Initiative (ADI). This further strengthens Florida's position as a national leader in the provision of care for those with the disease and their families. ADI provides support for caregivers and individuals diagnosed or suspected of having Alzheimer's disease or other related memory disorders that interfere with daily living activities. The budget provides more than **\$2 million** in additional funding for the Florida Alzheimer's Center of Excellence (FACE). This initiative supports a person-centered, holistic care model focused on community support and equips the medical system to provide early diagnoses, quality care management, and linkages to community services for persons living with dementia and their primary caregiver.

Additionally, an increase of **\$15 million** is provided, for a total of **\$119 million**, to serve additional seniors through the Community Care for the Elderly Program and the Home Care for the Elderly Program. Funding will provide support for seniors at risk for out of home placement. These services and supports include adult day care, respite for caregivers, home delivered meals, and minor home modifications allowing them to continue to live in their homes.

Floridians with Unique Abilities

The Focus on Florida's Future Budget provides more than **\$127.4 million** in funding to allow additional individuals with unique abilities to be provided necessary services

through the Home and Community Based Services Waiver, as well as through a newly established pilot project. In addition, **\$800,000** is provided to support the planning of implementation of a new waiver aimed at providing targeted services for adults with unique abilities that are entering adulthood.

Veterans

The Focus on Florida's Future Budget invests an additional **\$8.9 million** to support equipment and capital improvements for the State Veterans' Nursing Homes. The budget also includes **\$102 million** to begin the construction of the ninth State Veterans' Nursing Home in Collier County upon federal grant approval. Once this new nursing home is complete, Florida will have the most state-funded veterans' nursing homes in the nation.

The Focus on Florida's Future Budget also continues a **\$2 million** investment to assist veterans in securing meaningful skills-based employment, provide employers a skilled talent pipeline, and to assist veterans in creating and operating a small business.