

To Our Partners and Friends:

The Annual Report for Fiscal Year 2009 highlights the accomplishments of the staff in the programs that provide services to Talbot County citizens. These programs serve individuals and families; from birth to the end stages of life. Within the Department's core mission, the vulnerable are protected, those in economic need are supported, and families are strengthened.

Staff at the Department are the backbone of the services and programs available to the citizens in Talbot County. Their steadfast commitment to customer service, best practices, and quality improvement are evident in the outcomes achieved for this year. To this end, along with the Advisory Board, I acknowledge their day to day diligent efforts.

We value the support from the many agencies, fraternal organizations, foundations, and faith groups who join us in our mission. With your continued support, we will provide for those in economic need and provide safety for children and vulnerable adults.

Yours in service,

April A. Sharp, LCSW-C
Director

We will assist people in economic need, protect children and vulnerable adults, and promote the safety and well-being of the citizens of Talbot County.

Board of Directors:

James Slattery, Chair
Daniel P. McDermott, Vice-Chair
Corey Pack, County Council
Della Andrew
Pamela Clay
Walter Cuttler
Morris A. Osborn, M.D.
Frederic Petze
Deborah Short
Fredia Wadley, M.D.



NATIONAL CHILDREN'S ALLIANCE

ACCREDITED MEMBER



COMMUNITY - RESPECT - JUSTICE

**Talbot County
Department of Social Services**

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Annual Report Fiscal Year 2009



April A. Sharp, Director



Martin O'Malley, Governor
Anthony Brown, Lt. Governor
Brenda Donald, Secretary

Outcomes

Completed **173** Child Protective Services (CPS) investigations.

Maintained no recurrence of maltreatment within six months in **100%** of children with a substantiated report of abuse or neglect.

Decreased number of children in foster care by **17%**.

Seventy-six percent of children in care were maintained in family settings.

Finalized the adoption of **10** children, exceeding the goal set by DHR for fiscal year 2009.

Provided Adult Protective Services, Social Services to Adults or In-Home Aide Services to approximately **39** adults each month.

Maintained that **100%** of adults who were victims of abuse were not maltreated within six months of the investigation.

Maintained **100%** payment accuracy for Food Stamp and Temporary Cash Assistance cases.

Placed **39** Temporary Cash Assistance recipients in jobs within the community.

Received Child Support payments in **100.9%** of cases; **78.05%** of cases received payment on arrears.

Served **75** fathers and parents through the Fatherhood Programs, exceeding goal by **50%**; **57%** obtained employment, which also exceeded the goal set by DHR for fiscal year 2009.

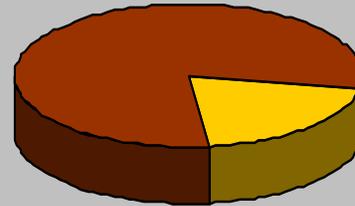
Provided **3,560** hours in staff training opportunities in skill building, policy and procedure, and leadership.

Increased agency volunteers by **64%**, from **14** to **23**, who contributed **2,664** hours of assistance to customers and agency programs.

Financial Data

**Talbot County
Department of Social Services
Operating Funds
Fiscal Year 2009**

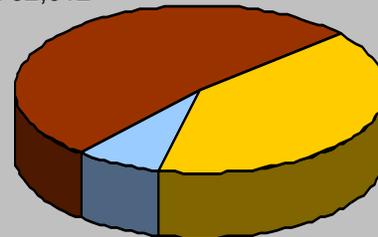
Operations
\$4,045,540



Grants/Local
Funds/Special Funds
\$1,035,623

**Talbot County
Department of Social Services
Public Assistance Funds
Fiscal Year 2009**

Food Stamps
\$2,732,612



Temporary
Cash
Assistance
\$386,780

Foster Care
\$2,072,031

Partnerships

Implemented the Family Centered Practice Model utilizing Family Involvement Meetings to engage families in planning for services for the care and safety of their children.

Hosted Back to School Resource Fair, distributing 400 bookbags with school supplies to children and providing resource information to their parents or caregivers.

Participated in the 10th Annual Multi-Cultural Festival with our 2nd Annual Party-in-the-Park Foster Care Recruitment and Retention Event.

Held Mid-Shore Employer Information Forum on behalf of Department of Human Resources, Child Support Enforcement Administration for the five Mid-Shore counties.

Continued Workforce Development Initiatives with the Department of Labor and Licensing, the Regulation and Workforce Investment Board, and the Maryland RISE Program.

Maintained partnership with Shore Health System and continued Talbot County Children's Advocacy Center's Multi-Disciplinary Team response to reports of suspected child abuse and neglect.

Enhanced Child Support outcomes through enriched Fatherhood Programs that work collaboratively with local employers, colleges, agencies, and correctional facilities.

Reviewed and assessed availability of resources in Adult Public Guardianship Review Board and Adult Protective Services Multi-Disciplinary Team meetings.