



**Children's Impact Analysis**  
**Fiscal Year 2008 Executive Budget for New York City**  
**Total Number of Children in New York City = 1.9 million**  
**May 2007**

**Child Welfare**

Agency and Program Description	Proposed Budget FY 2008	Proposed Change + (-)	Impact	Recommendation
<p><b>Administration for Children's Services (ACS)</b>            ACS's mission is to ensure the safety, permanency and well-being of New York City's children/youth and to strengthen and support families. ACS is required to investigate all reports of abuse or neglect and does this through its child protective staff. ACS addresses the needs of children at risk and provides support to families through administering, overseeing, monitoring and contracting for child welfare services, including preventive, foster care, adoption and independent living services. ACS also administers the Head Start and subsidized child care program for New York City. Child welfare is addressed in this chart.</p>	<p><u>\$2.73 billion</u>            \$865.9 million city            \$663.5 million state            \$1.2 billion federal            \$3.5 million federal CD            \$392,000 Intra-city Transfer</p>	<p><u>\$(63.4 million)</u>            \$39.5 million city            \$10.3 million state            \$(113.0) million federal            (\$.2 million) federal CD            \$0 Intra-city Transfer</p>	<p>The FY08 Executive Budget proposes to fund ACS at \$2.7 billion, of which \$865 million are city funds. A discussion of proposed budget actions in the area of child welfare services is provided below.</p>	

Stephanie Gendell, Senior Policy Associate for Child Care and Child Welfare Services

Citizens' Committee for Children of New York Inc., 105 East 22<sup>nd</sup> Street NY, NY 10010 Phone: (212)673-1800 x 17 Email: sgendell@ccnnewyork.org

## Child Welfare

Agency and Program Description	Proposed Budget FY 2008	Proposed Change + (-)	Impact	Recommendation
<p><b>Child Welfare Services</b>            Child welfare services at ACS focus on keeping children safe and strengthening families. This is done through 5 child welfare components: a) Child Protective Services; b) Preventive Services; c) Foster Care Services; d) Adoption Services and e) Independent Living Services (which are included within foster care services). The budget totals for child welfare services include \$185 million agency administration costs.</p>	<p><u>\$1.84 billion</u>            \$613.5 million city            \$640.3 million state            \$581.5 million federal</p>	<p><u>\$127 million</u>            \$58.6 million city            \$ 39.9 million state            \$23.8 million federal</p>	<p>The FY08 Executive Budget proposes to fund child welfare services at \$1.8 billion, of which \$613 million are city funds. Detail on the program areas that make up child welfare, protective services, preventive services, foster care services and adoption services, are provided below.</p> <p>Fiscal Year 2007 to date, there are 16,645 children in foster care, of whom 5,369 have a goal of adoption. In addition, 29,046 children from 12,625 families were receiving purchased preventive services.</p>	
<p><b>Protective Services</b>            ACS Child Protective Services investigates reports of abuse and neglect, refers families to services that can keep children safely at home and removes unsafe children from their homes, placing them in foster care.</p> <p>As a result of increased media attention due to high profile tragedies and an enhanced media campaign aimed at protecting children, reports of abuse and neglect have continued to increase.</p>	<p><u>\$254.6 million</u>            \$52.5 million city            \$69.3 million state            \$132.7 million federal</p>	<p><u>\$25.7 million</u>            \$5.3 million city            \$12.4 million state            \$7.9 million federal</p>	<p>The FY08 Executive Budget proposes to add \$25.7 million, of which \$5.3 million are city funds, for child protective services.</p> <p>In Calendar Year 2006 ACS investigated 68,192 reports involving approximately 89,000 children, a 30.4% increase from Calendar Year 2005. The FY08 Executive Budget proposes to continue to address this with the additional funding. The specific additions to child protective services are discussed below.</p> <p>There is uncapped 65/35 State reimbursement for the non-federal share of all city tax levy spent on protective services.</p>	

## Child Welfare

Agency and Program Description	Proposed Budget FY 2008	Proposed Change + (-)	Impact	Recommendation
<b>Additional Child Protective Staff</b>	<u>\$30 million</u> \$13.5 million city \$11.7 million state \$4.8 million federal	<u>\$30 million</u> \$13.5 million city \$11.7 million state \$4.8 million federal	The FY08 Executive Budget proposes to add \$30 million of which \$13.5 million are city funds, to support 592 new staff in the Division of Child Protection. ACS will maintain 1,353 child protective specialists to investigate allegations of abuse and neglect. This will help maintain lower caseloads for child protective caseworkers.	<b>Support the Mayor's FY08 Executive Budget Proposal.</b>
<b>Additional Family Court Legal Services Attorneys</b>	<u>\$4.64 million</u> \$2.1 million city \$1.8 million state \$742,000 federal	<u>\$ 4.64 million</u> \$2.1 million city \$1.8 million state \$742,000 federal	The FY08 Executive Budget proposes to add an additional \$4.6 million of which \$2.1 million are city funds, to support the 65 additional attorneys hired to reduce caseloads and improve case practice in Family Court. This would raise the total of number of case-carrying family court attorneys to 235.	<b>Support the Mayor's FY08 Executive Budget Proposal.</b>
<b>Child Protective Field Office Support</b>	<u>\$5.6 million</u> \$2.5 million city \$2.2 million state \$900,000 federal	<u>\$5.6 million</u> \$2.5 million city \$2.2 million state \$900,000 federal	The FY08 Executive Budget proposes to add \$5.6 million of which \$653,000 are city funds, for increased support for field office operations, including funding for transportation, translation services and mobile phones.	<b>Support the Mayor's FY08 Executive Budget Proposal.</b>
<b>Take Good Care of Your Baby Campaign</b>	<u>\$1.5 million</u> \$653,000 city \$565,000 state \$232,000 federal	<u>\$1.5 million</u> \$653,000 city \$565,000 state \$232,000 federal	The FY08 Executive Budget proposes to add \$1.5 million in total funds to support the expansion of the "Take Good Care of Your Baby" public service campaign. This effort places targeted ads on subways to highlight child safety issues, including reporting child abuse through the 311 system, and to recruit adoptive and foster parents.	<b>Support the Mayor's FY08 Executive Budget Proposal.</b>
<b>Preventive Services</b> Preventive services strengthen and support families while keeping children safe. They are provided directly by ACS and through contract with approximately 200 neighborhood based preventive service programs.	<u>\$235.6 million</u> \$77.1 million city \$110.6 million state \$47.4 million federal \$.4 million I/C	<u>\$10.2 million</u> \$3.3 million city \$4.1 million state \$2.8million federal \$0 million I/C	The FY08 Executive Budget proposes to add \$10.2 million, of which \$3.3 million are city funds, to preventive services. The specific budget additions are described below.  ACS has been serving approximately 28,000 children through preventive services. In FY07, ACS's contracted slots could only serve 13,800 families, leaving many programs fully utilized and unable to serve additional families needing support.  There is uncapped 65/35 State reimbursement for the non-federal share of all city tax levy spent on preventive services.	

## Child Welfare

Agency and Program Description	Proposed Budget FY 2008	Proposed Change + (-)	Impact	Recommendation
<b>Increase Preventive Service Slots</b>	<u>\$6.8 million</u> \$2.4 million city \$4.6 million) state \$0 federal	<u>\$6.8 million</u> \$2.4 million city \$4.6 million) state \$0 federal	The FY08 Executive Budget proposes to add a total of \$6.8 million funds, of which \$2.4 million are city funds, to support phasing in 1000 additional slots for preventive services- to serve 1000 more families. This will ensure that services are available for the increasing number of families and children requiring support. This is a one year allocation for FY08.	<b>Support the Mayor's FY08 Executive Budget Proposal.</b>
<b>CONNECT</b>	<u>\$0</u> \$0 city \$0 state \$0 federal	<u>(\$1.2 million)</u> (\$1.2 million) city \$0 state \$0 federal	The FY08 Executive Budget proposes to cut \$1.2 million from Project CONNECT. Dedicated to the prevention and elimination of family and gender violence, CONNECT enables at-risk families to access services at local CBO's.  In FY07 the City Council restored \$1.2 million for the CONNECT Domestic Violence Program. This program was first funded by the City Council in FY02.	<b>Restore \$1.2 million for CONNECT domestic violence program.</b>
<b>Child Safety Initiative</b>	<u>\$0</u> \$0 city \$0 state \$0 federal	<u>(\$12 million)</u> (\$4.2 million) city (\$7.8 million) state \$0 federal	The FY08 Executive Budget proposes to cut the City Council's FY07 Child Safety Initiative, which added \$4.2 million in city tax funds to reduce general preventive service caseworker caseloads from 15 families to 1 caseworker down to 12 to 1. The State provides uncapped 65/35 reimbursement for all preventive services, bringing the total amount spent on this initiative in FY07 to \$12 million.  The \$12 million in FY07 was not enough money to reduce caseloads at all preventive programs nor to hire supervisors for new workers. This would cost \$6.7 million in city funds. Maintaining lower caseloads for preventive service workers, and maintaining the 5 to 1 supervisory ratio is critical for keeping at-risk children safe at home with their families.	<b>Restore \$4.2 million to maintain 12 to 1 caseload ratio in General Preventive Service Programs. Add \$2.5 million to lower caseloads the other preventive service programs and hire supervisors.</b>

## Child Welfare

Agency and Program Description	Proposed Budget FY 2008	Proposed Change + (-)	Impact	Recommendation
<p><b>Foster Care</b> When ACS and the Family Court find children to be unsafe in their homes, the children are placed in foster care. Foster care includes kinship care with relatives, non-relative foster homes, or in congregate care (e.g. group homes and residential treatment centers).</p> <p>ACS contracts with 44 foster care agencies that provide services to the children and their families so as to safely and expeditiously reunify children with their families, or when reunification is not possible, to achieve permanency through adoption, custody or another permanency plan.</p>	<p><u>\$782.3 million</u> \$376.9 million city \$255.8 million state \$149.5 million federal</p>	<p><u>\$(3.7 million)</u> \$(25.8 million) city \$5.1 million state \$24.5 million federal</p>	<p>The FY08 Executive Budget proposes to reduce foster care spending by \$25.8 million in city funds, much of which is due to a Program to Eliminate the Gap that will enhance ACS's claiming for federal funds.</p> <p>There are almost 17,000 children in foster care (16,688 in December 2006), a number that has begun to increase in response to the increased number of reports.</p> <p>The State funds foster care through a limited block grant that reimburses 50% of the non-federal share for foster care expenses, until the City reaches the limit in the block grant. The Budget anticipates City foster care savings in CFY08 due to increased federal Title IV-E claiming.</p> <p>The foster care total includes funding for independent living services used to prepare all youth 14 and over for adulthood. The Federal Chafee Law provides funds to States for these services. The required state match is split 65/35 between the State and the City.</p>	
<p><b>Foster Care Re-estimate</b></p>	<p><u>\$39.9 million</u> \$19.2 million city \$4.3 million state \$16.4 million federal</p>	<p><u>\$39.9 million</u> \$19.2 million city \$4.3 million state \$16.4 million federal</p>	<p>The FY08 Executive Budget proposes to add \$39 million of which \$19 million are city funds, to support the foster care re-estimate as there are more children in foster care than had been anticipated. This re-estimate supports an increase in the foster care census to 16,843 by June 2007.</p>	<p><b>Support the Mayor's FY08 Executive Budget Proposal.</b></p>

## Child Welfare

Agency and Program Description	Proposed Budget FY 2008	Proposed Change + (-)	Impact	Recommendation
<b>Foster Care and Adoption Rate Increase</b>	<u>\$ 30.6million</u> \$17.5 million city \$4 million state \$9.1 million federal	<u>\$ 30.6million</u> \$17.5 million city \$4 million state \$9.1 million federal	The FY08 Executive Budget proposes to add \$30.6 million, of which \$17.5 million are city funds to support increased rates for foster and adoptive parents. \$10.2 million supports increases in adoptions stipends for 34,000 children in adoptive homes and \$20.4 million supports 16,843 foster children by June 2007. This funding also provides support for the 2.8% cost of living increase implemented in the State 06-07 Budget.	<b>Support the Mayor's FY08 Executive Budget Proposal.</b>
<b>CEO: IDA for Foster Teens</b>	<u>\$274,000</u> \$206,000 city \$48,000 state \$20,000 federal	<u>\$274,000</u> \$206,000 city \$48,000 state \$20,000 federal	The FY08 Executive Budget proposes to add \$274,000, \$206,00 of which are city funds, to support the CEO Individual Development Accounts (IDA) Initiative for foster youth. This program will serve youth in foster care by matching their savings with city and private funds- these funds can be used for eligible expenses that meet housing, education or employment needs.	<b>Support the Mayor's FY08 Executive Budget Proposal.</b>
<b>Adoption</b> When children cannot return safely to their families, ACS and foster care agencies seek to achieve permanency through adoption. Children in foster care may be freed for adoption if parental rights have been terminated.	<u>\$381.7 million</u> \$51.0 million city \$ 150.3 million state \$ 180.4 million federal	<u>\$(2.8 million)</u> \$(100,000) city \$ (600,000) state \$(2.2million) federal	The FY08 Executive Budget proposes to reduce Adoption Services by \$2.8 million.  Adoption expenses include the services to free children for adoption, administrative adoption costs and the adoption subsidy adoptive parents receive.  There is uncapped 65/35 State reimbursement for the non-federal share of all city tax levy spent on adoption services.  The aforementioned foster care and adoption rate increase provides an additional \$10.2 million to support the rate increases in adoption stipends for 34,000 children.	<b>Support the Mayor's FY08 Executive Budget Proposal.</b>