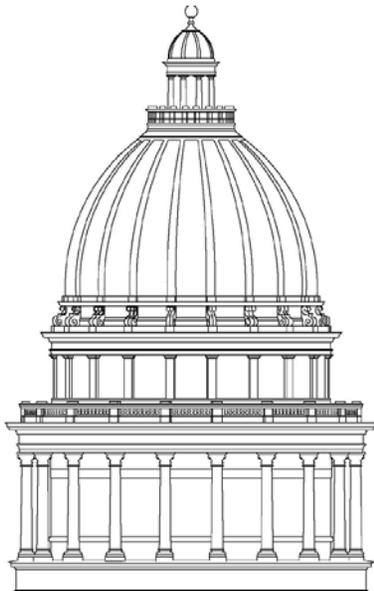


# A Performance Audit of Utah's Temporary Assistance for Needy Families



A Report by the  
Office of the Utah Legislative  
Auditor General

# TANF Funding Is Flexible But Must Meet Federal Requirements

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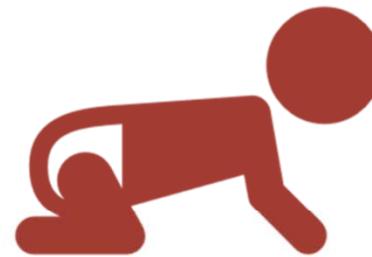
“State’s have broad discretion to use TANF funds to meet at least one of the four specified ‘TANF’ objectives”



1. Help children stay in their homes



2. Promote work, job preparation, and marriage



3. Reduce out-of-wedlock-pregnancies



4. Encourage two-parent families

**FOR MORE INFORMATION**

See Chapter I, page 1

# Most Funding for Needy Families is Federal

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**\$75.4 M Federal TANF Award**



**\$24.7 M MOE**

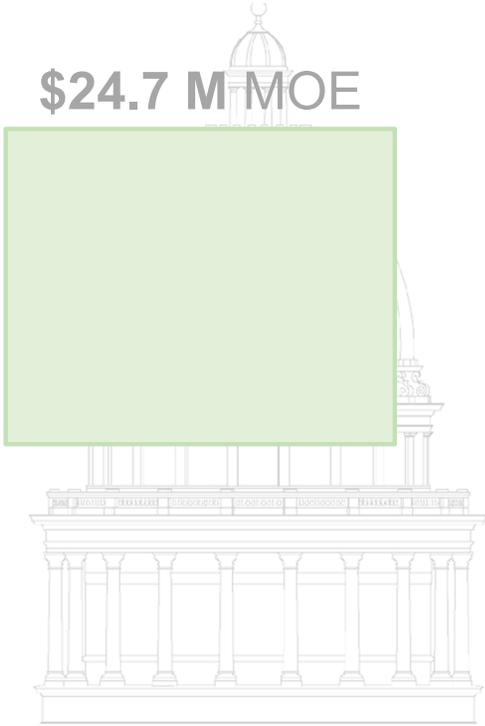
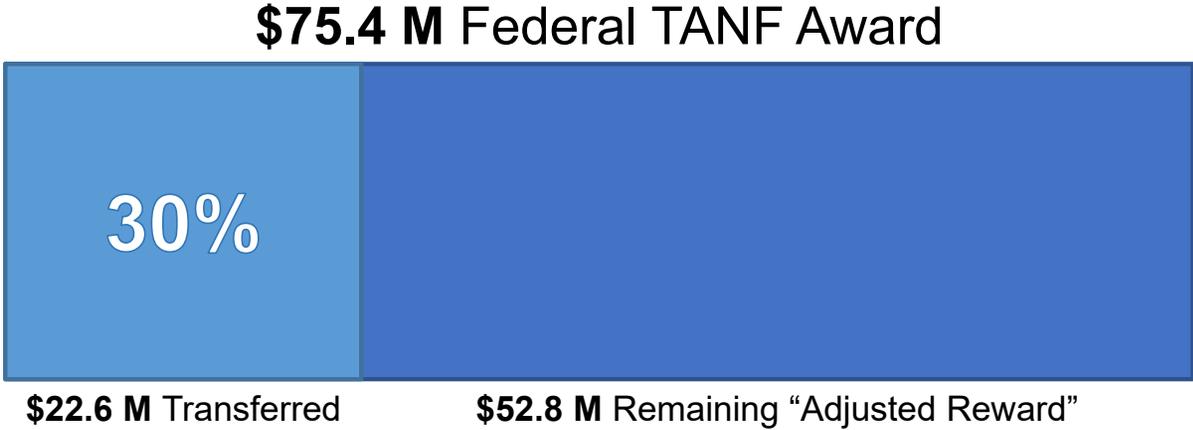


**FOR MORE INFORMATION**

**See Chapter I, page 2**

# Some Federal Funds Are Transferred to Other Programs

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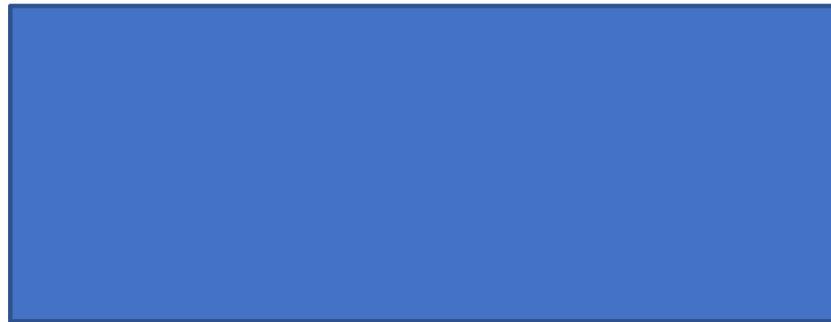
**FOR MORE INFORMATION**

**See Chapter I, page 3**

# Remaining Funds After Transfers

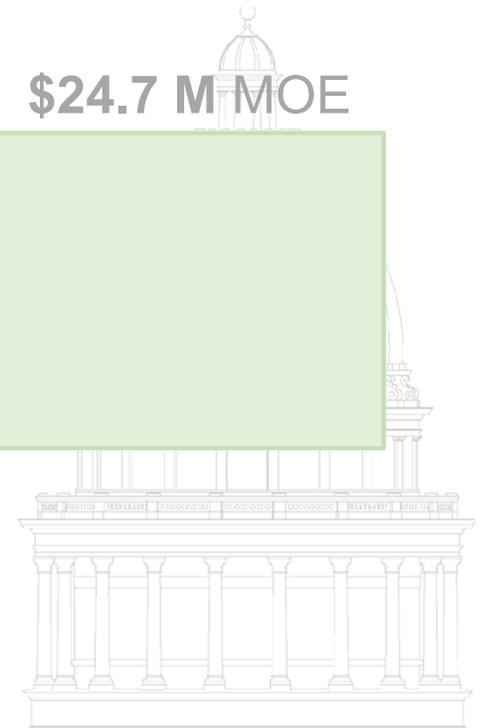
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**\$52.8 M Federal Funds**



“Adjusted Reward”

**\$24.7 M MOE**

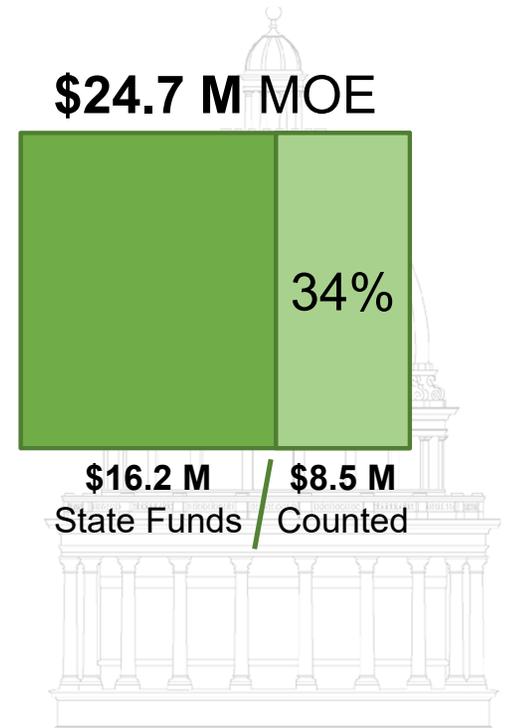


**FOR MORE INFORMATION**

**See Chapter I, page 3**

# States are Required to Contribute Their Own Funds

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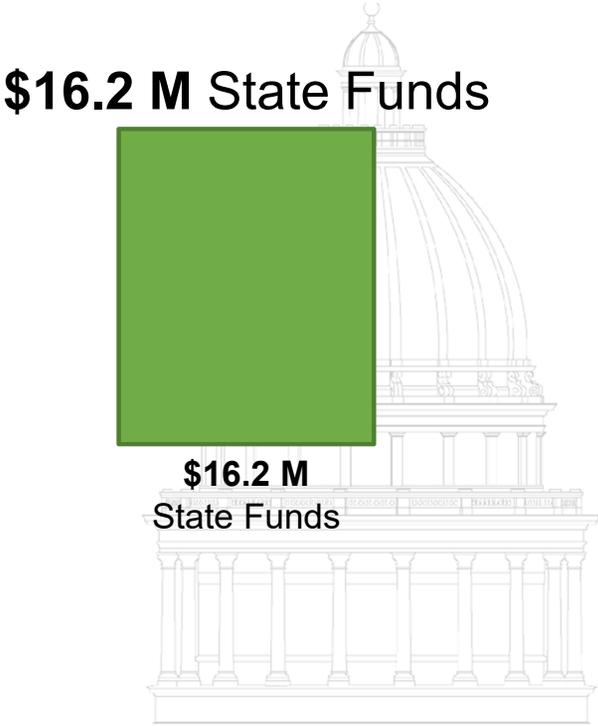
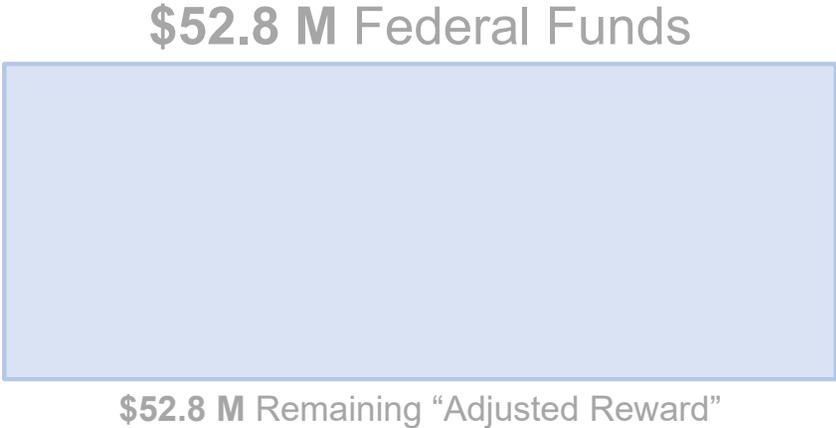


**FOR MORE INFORMATION**

**See Chapter I, page 3**

# Remaining State Funding After Counted Expenditures

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**FOR MORE INFORMATION**

**See Chapter I, page 3**

# State Fiscal Year 2017: DWS TANF Budget

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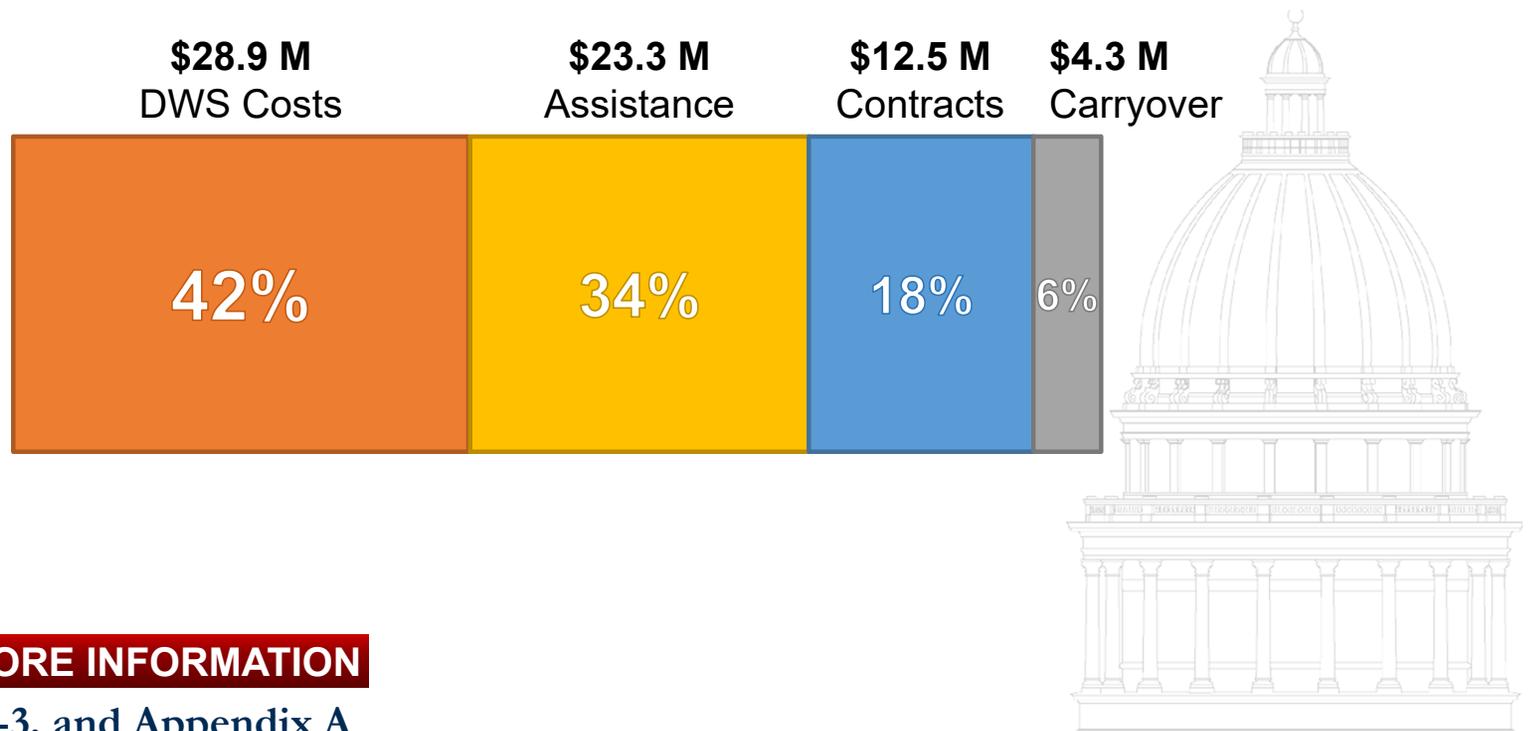
**FOR MORE INFORMATION**

See Chapter I, pages 2-3, and Appendix A

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# State Fiscal Year 2017: TANF Expenditures

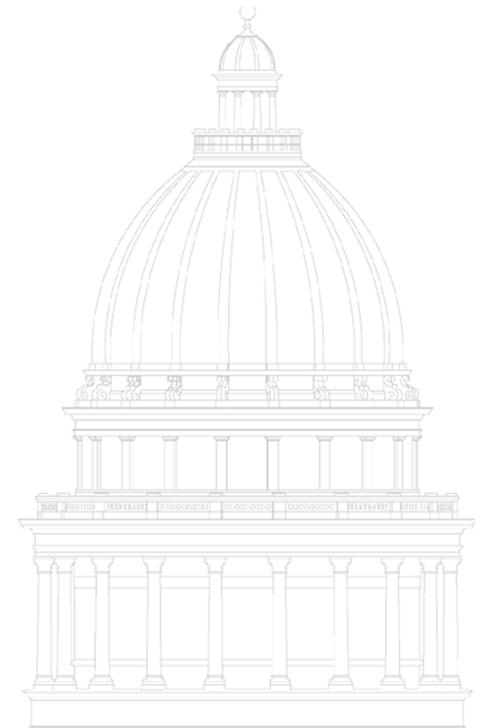
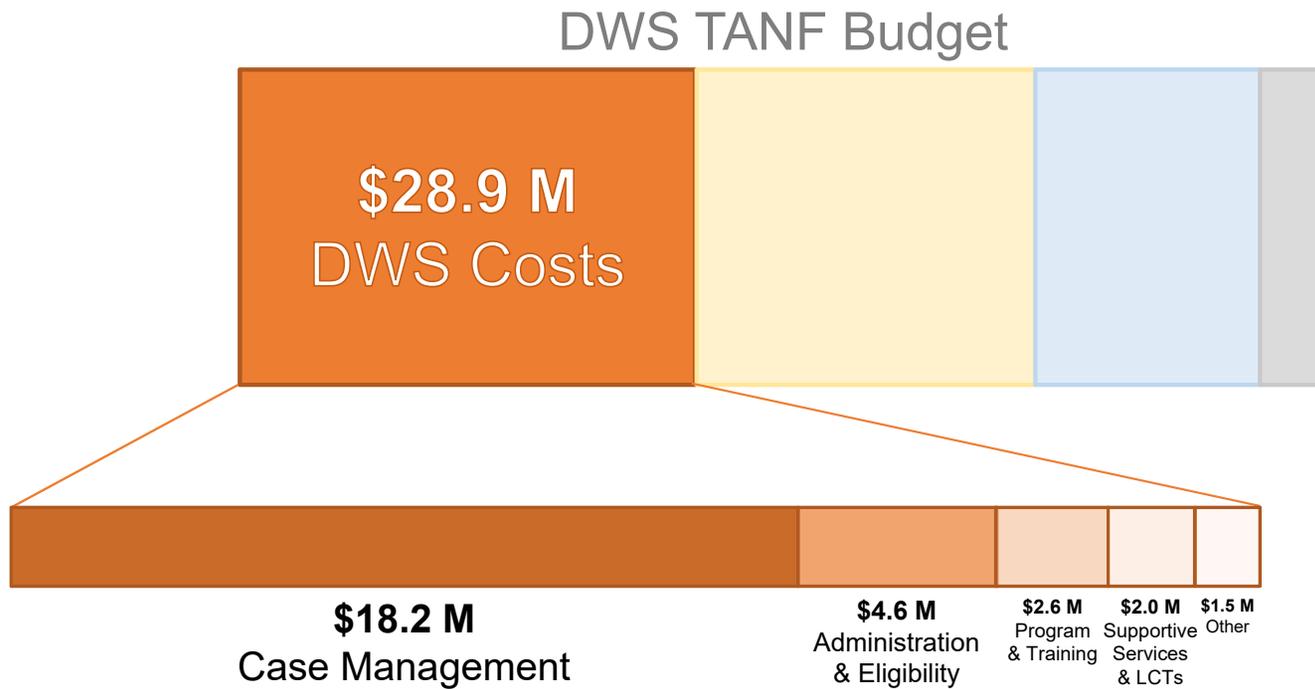
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**FOR MORE INFORMATION**

See Chapter I, pages 2-3, and Appendix A

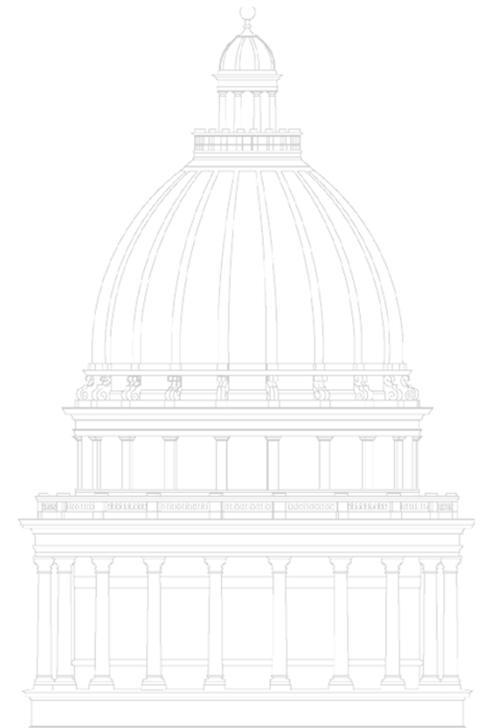
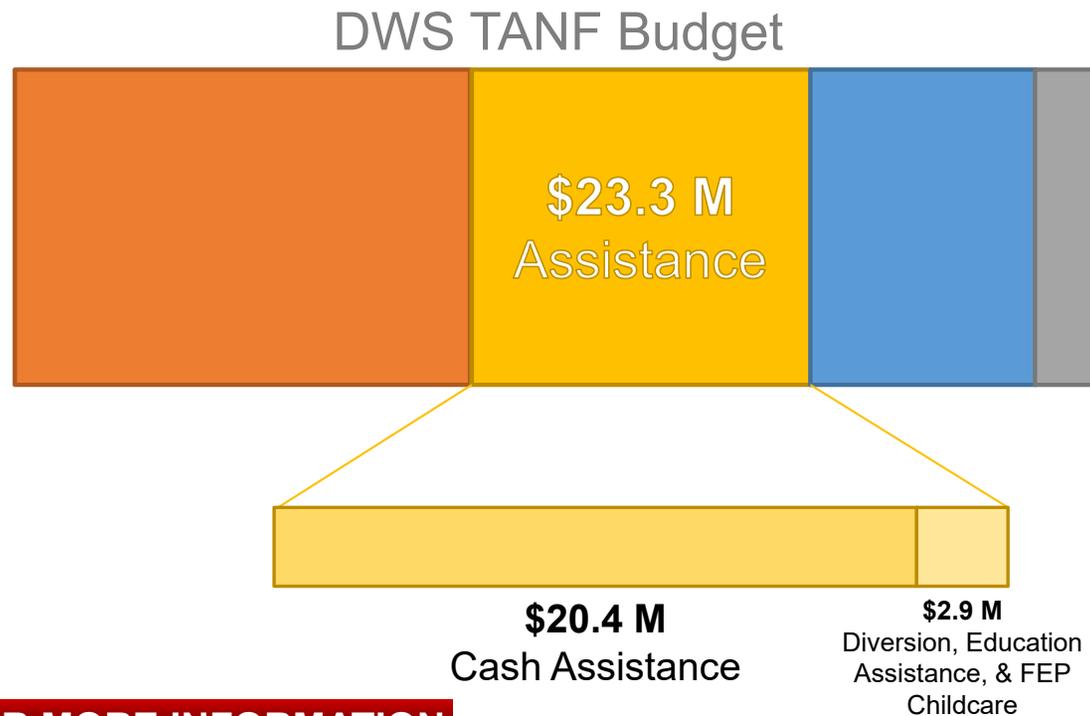
# DWS Costs Is the Largest Spending Category



**FOR MORE INFORMATION**

**See Chapter I, page 3-4**

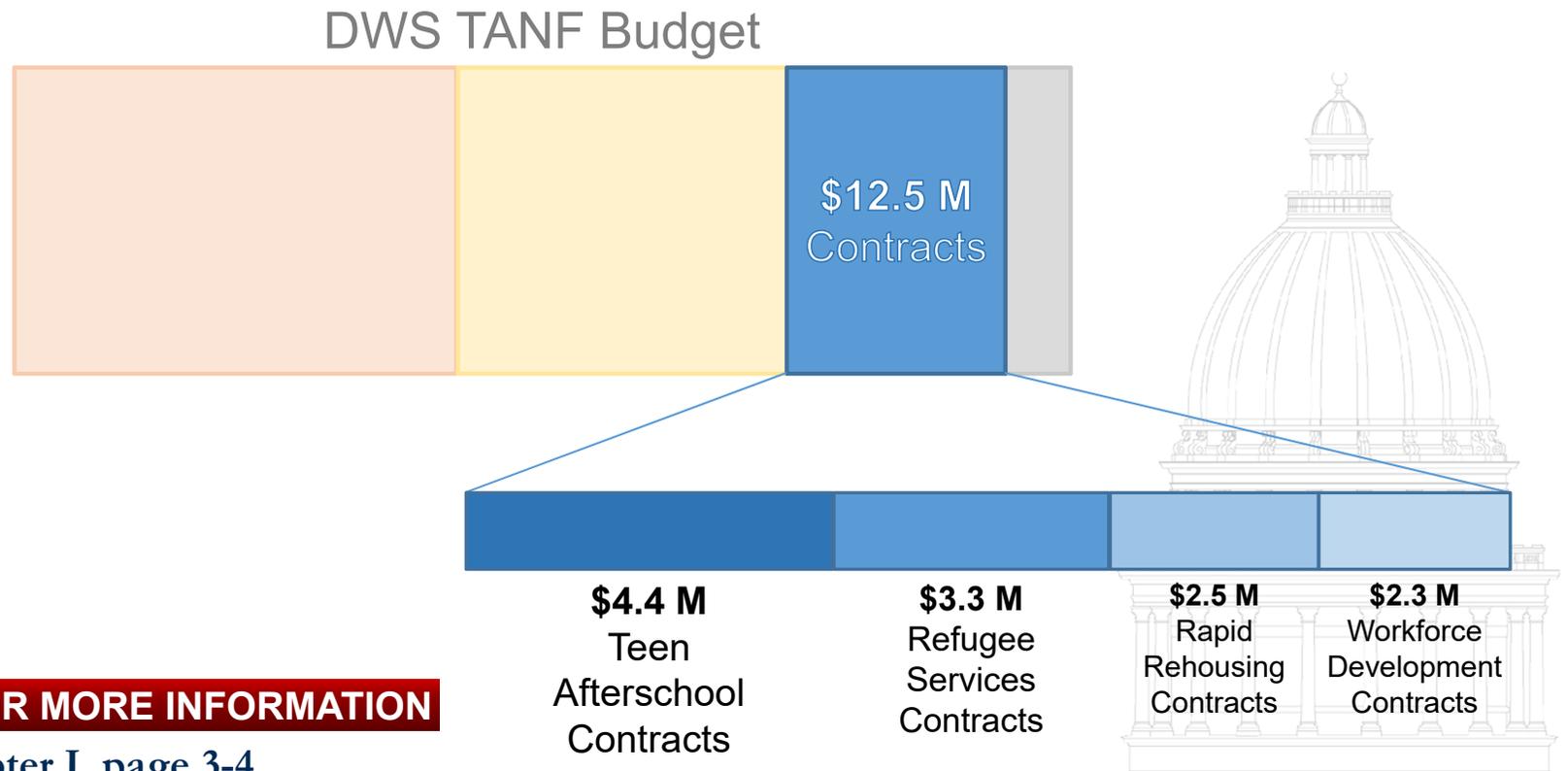
# Assistance Is the Second Largest Spending Category



**FOR MORE INFORMATION**

See Chapter I, page 3

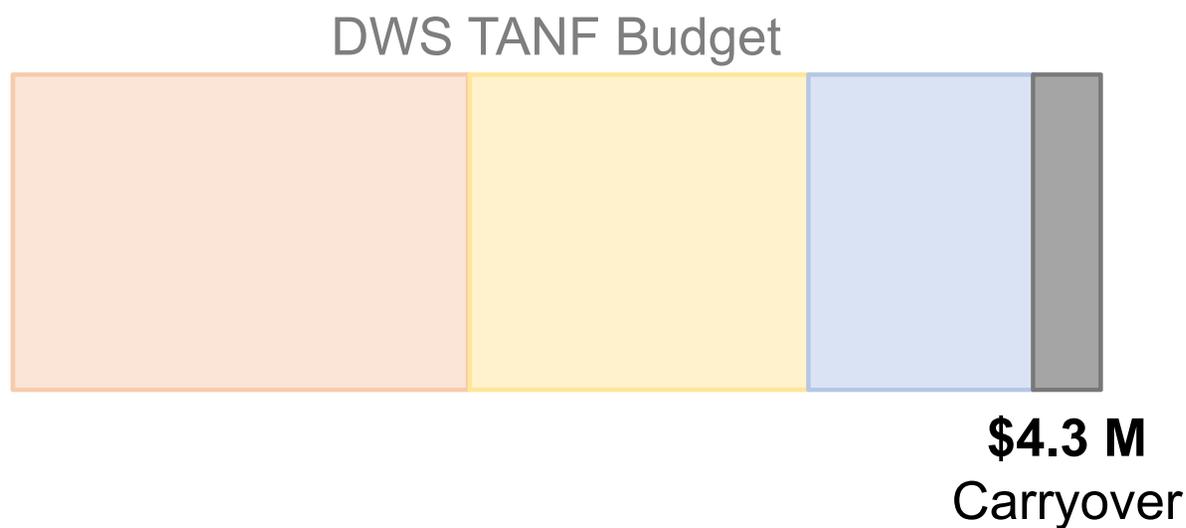
# Contracts Comprise A Small Portion of TANF Spending



**FOR MORE INFORMATION**

See Chapter I, page 3-4

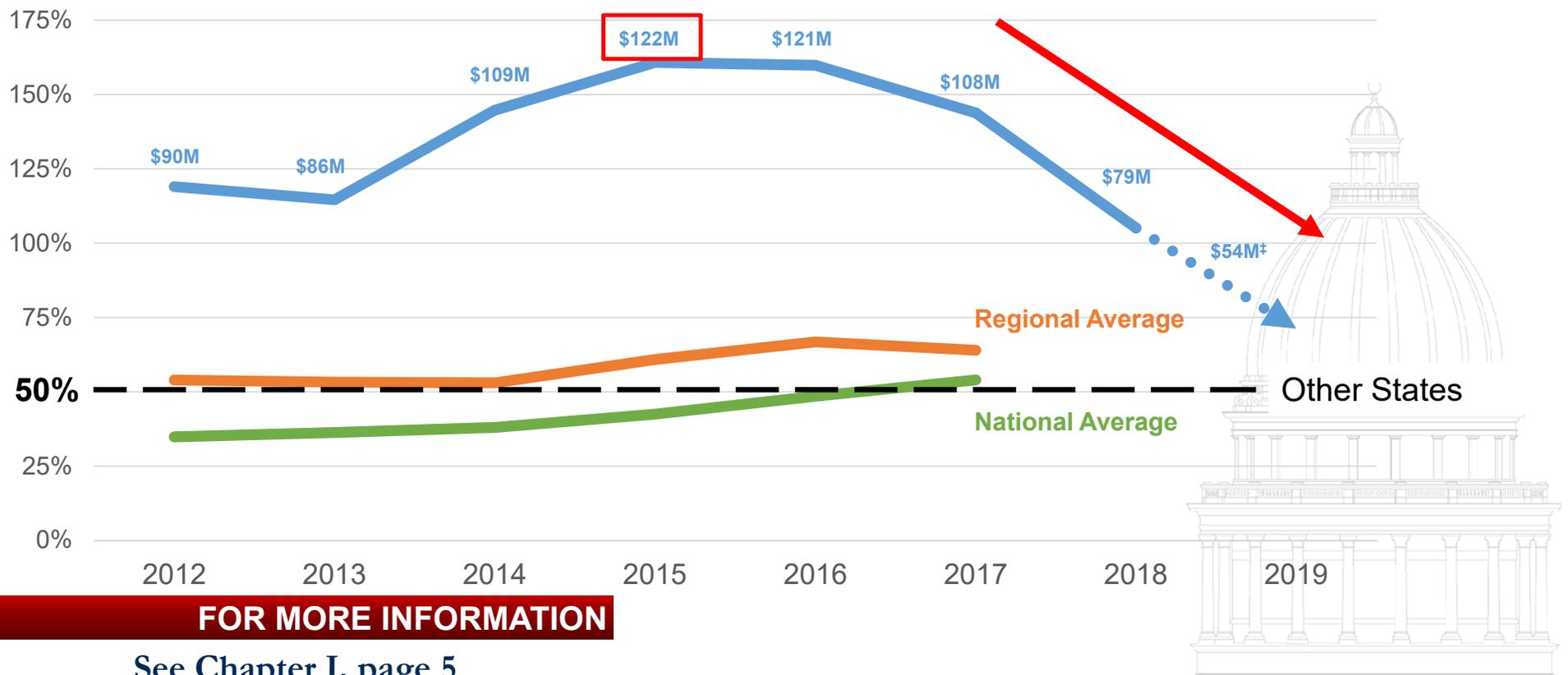
# DWS Carried Over Six Percent of its Budget



**FOR MORE INFORMATION**

**See Chapter I, page 3-4**

# An Appropriate Carryover Balance Needs to Be Determined



**FOR MORE INFORMATION**

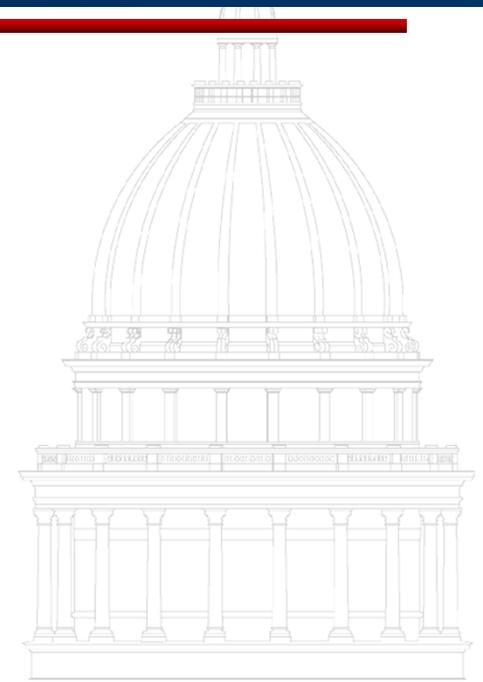
See Chapter I, page 5

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# Chapter II

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## Case Management Needs Enhanced Performance Metrics



# DWS Spends Significantly on Case Management

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**\$52.8 Million Adjusted Federal Award**



(\$18.2 Million)

**Two Times the  
National Average**

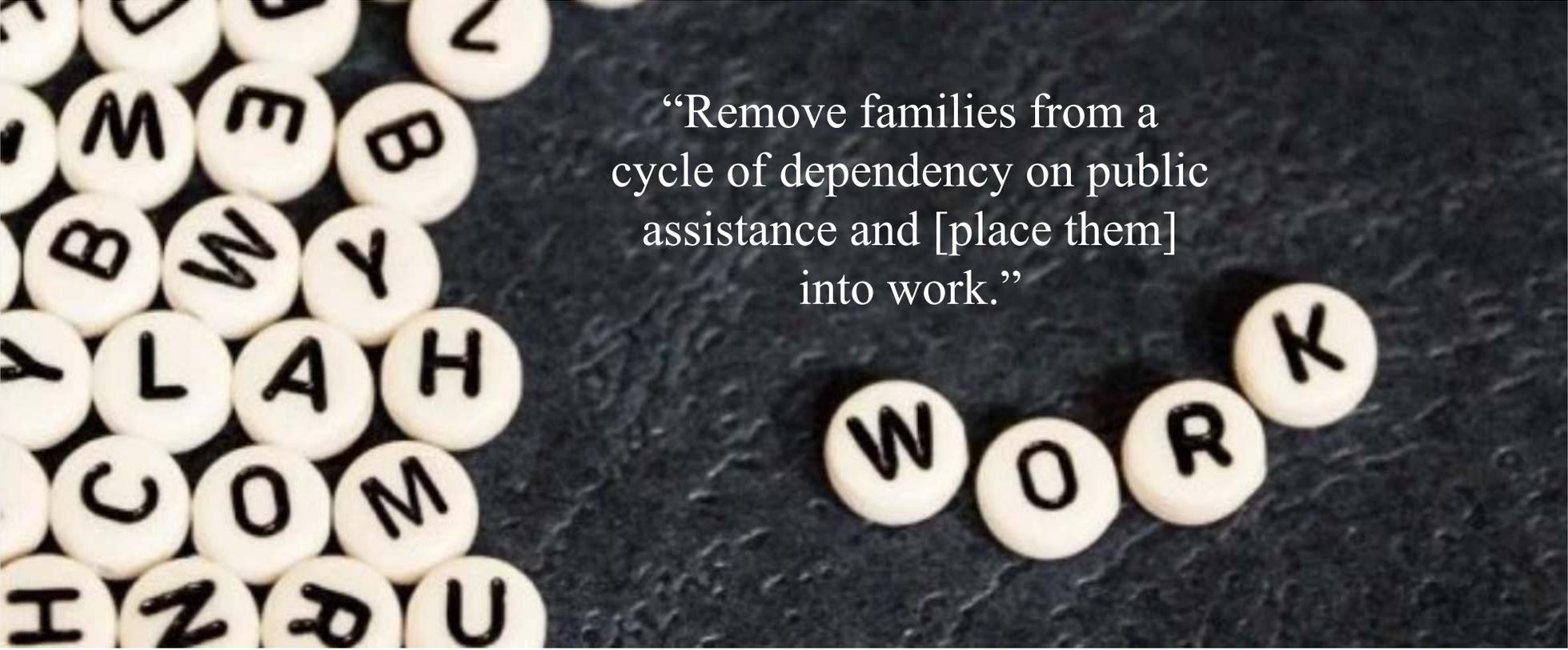
Utah Spends A Higher Percentage  
of its TANF Funding  
On Core Activities  
Than Many Other States

**FOR MORE INFORMATION**

See Chapter II, page 8

# Current Performance Metric Does Not Go Far Enough to Measure Family Self-Sufficiency Goal

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“Remove families from a cycle of dependency on public assistance and [place them] into work.”

# Current Performance Metric Does Not Go Far Enough to Measure Family Self-Sufficiency Goal

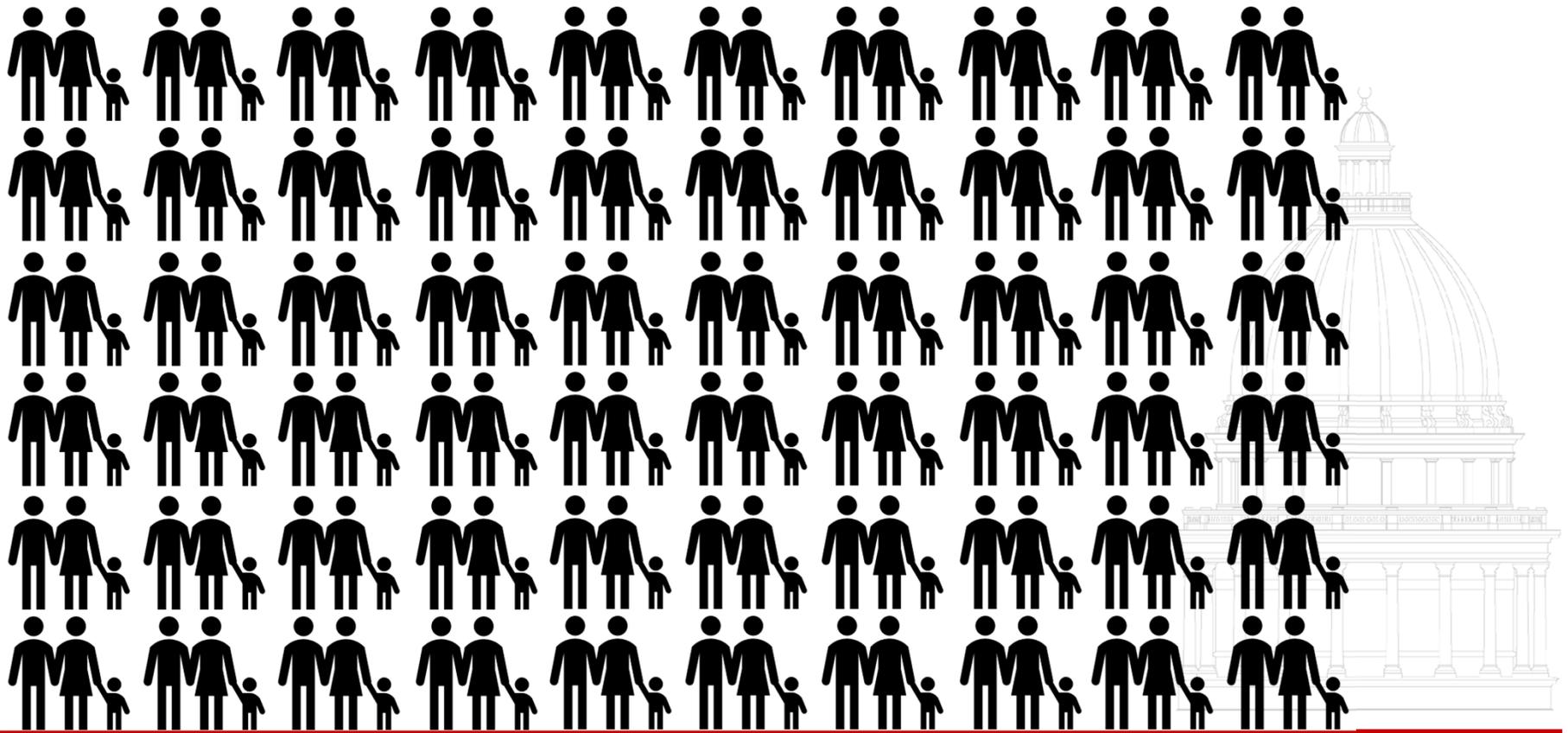


**FOR MORE INFORMATION**

See Chapter II, page 9-10

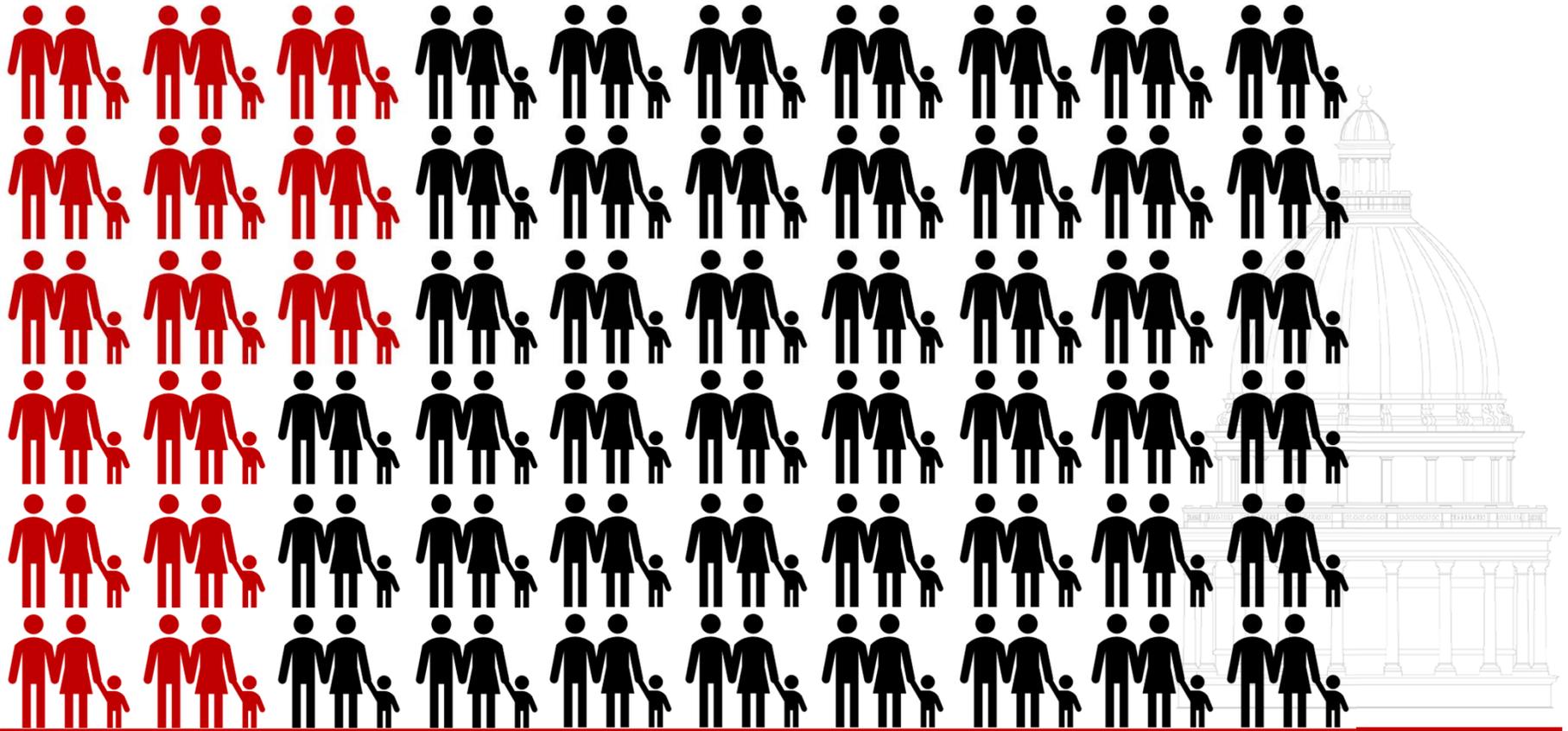
# Current Performance Metric Does Not Go Far Enough to Measure Family Self-Sufficiency Goal

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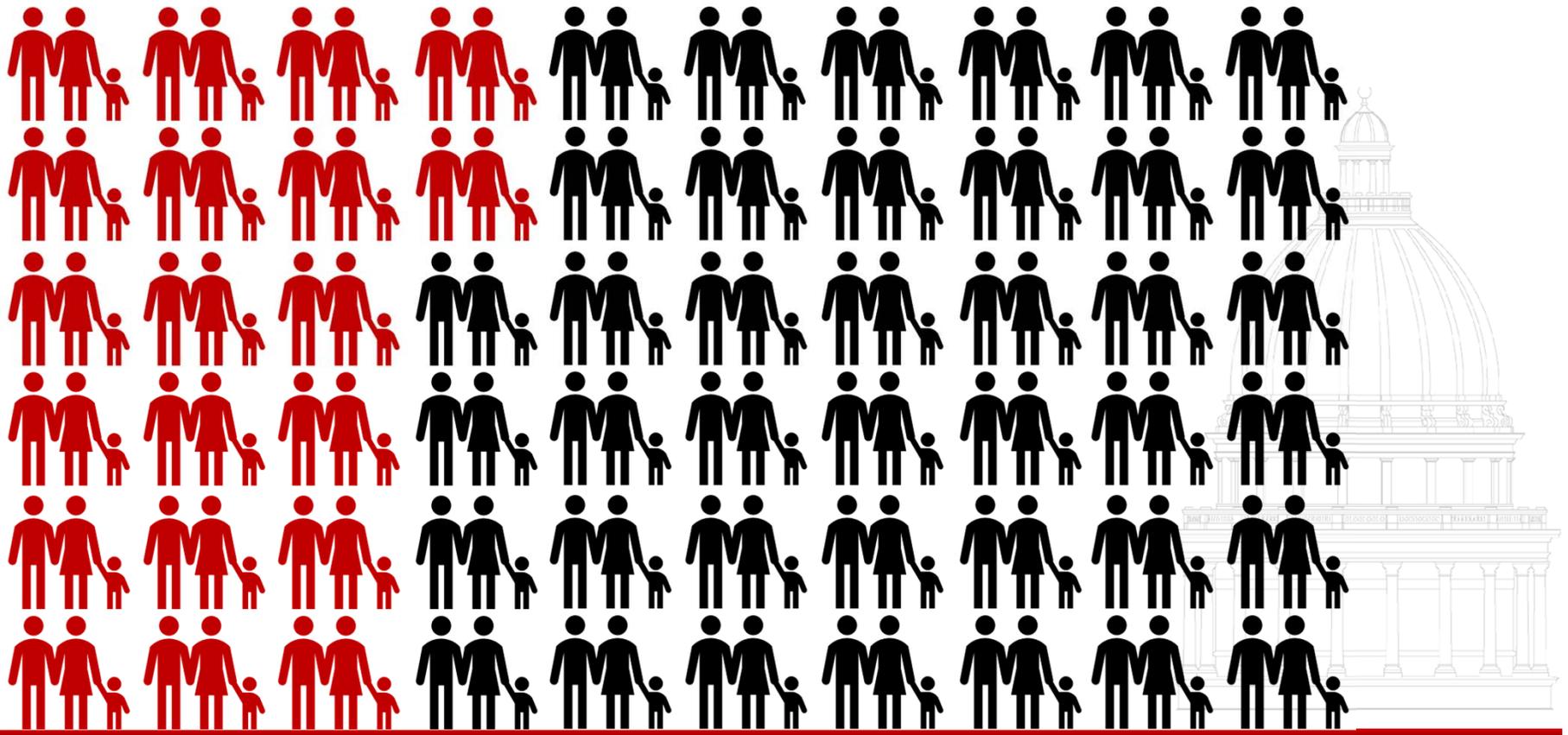
# Current Performance Metric Does Not Go Far Enough to Measure Family Self-Sufficiency Goal

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# Current Performance Metric Does Not Go Far Enough to Measure Family Self-Sufficiency Goal

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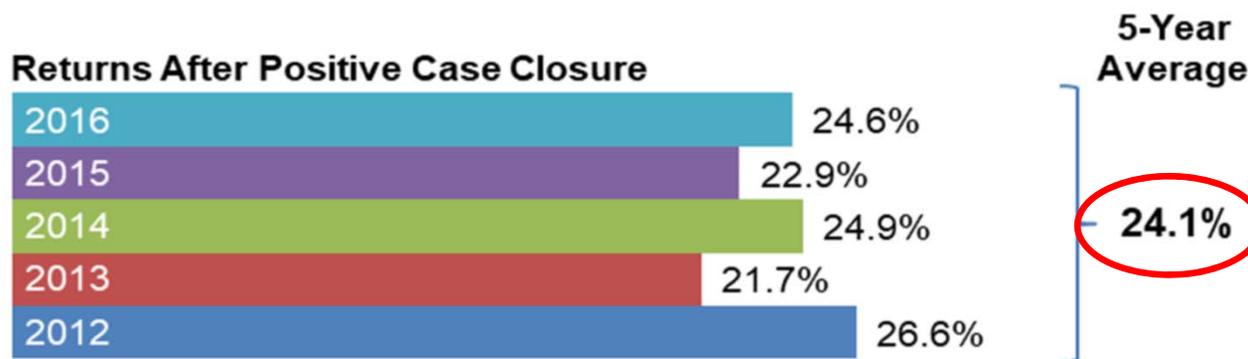
# Current Performance Metric Does Not Go Far Enough to Measure Family Self-Sufficiency Goal

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# Families Return to State Assistance at the Same Rate for Both Positive and Negative Closures

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# Other States Use More Meaningful Outcome Metrics

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## Oregon

- Percent employed at exit
- Number employed after exit at 6 months & 1 year
- Median wage at 6 months after exit



## Washington

- Number employed at 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, and 3<sup>rd</sup> quarters after exit
- Percent that return to assistance after one year of exit



## Minnesota

- Number off cash assistance or working at least 30 hours/week three years after establishing eligibility for services

**FOR MORE INFORMATION**

See Chapter II, page 12-13

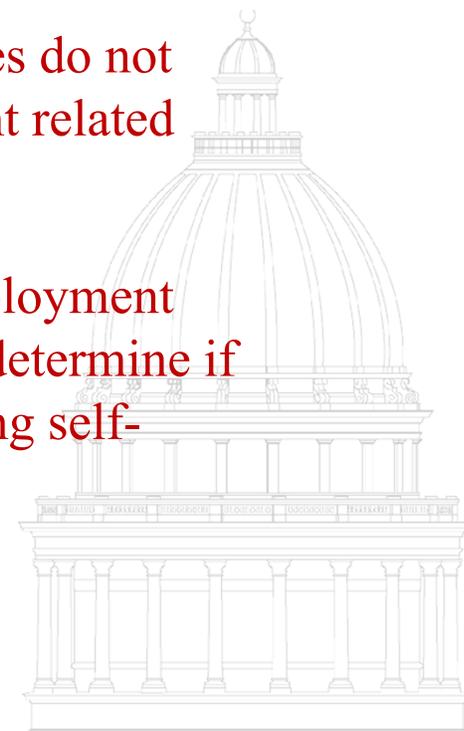
# DWS Is Well-Positioned to Study and Track More Meaningful Outcome Metrics

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Positive case closures do not measure employment related outcomes

Measuring post-employment outcomes will help determine if families are becoming self-sufficient.

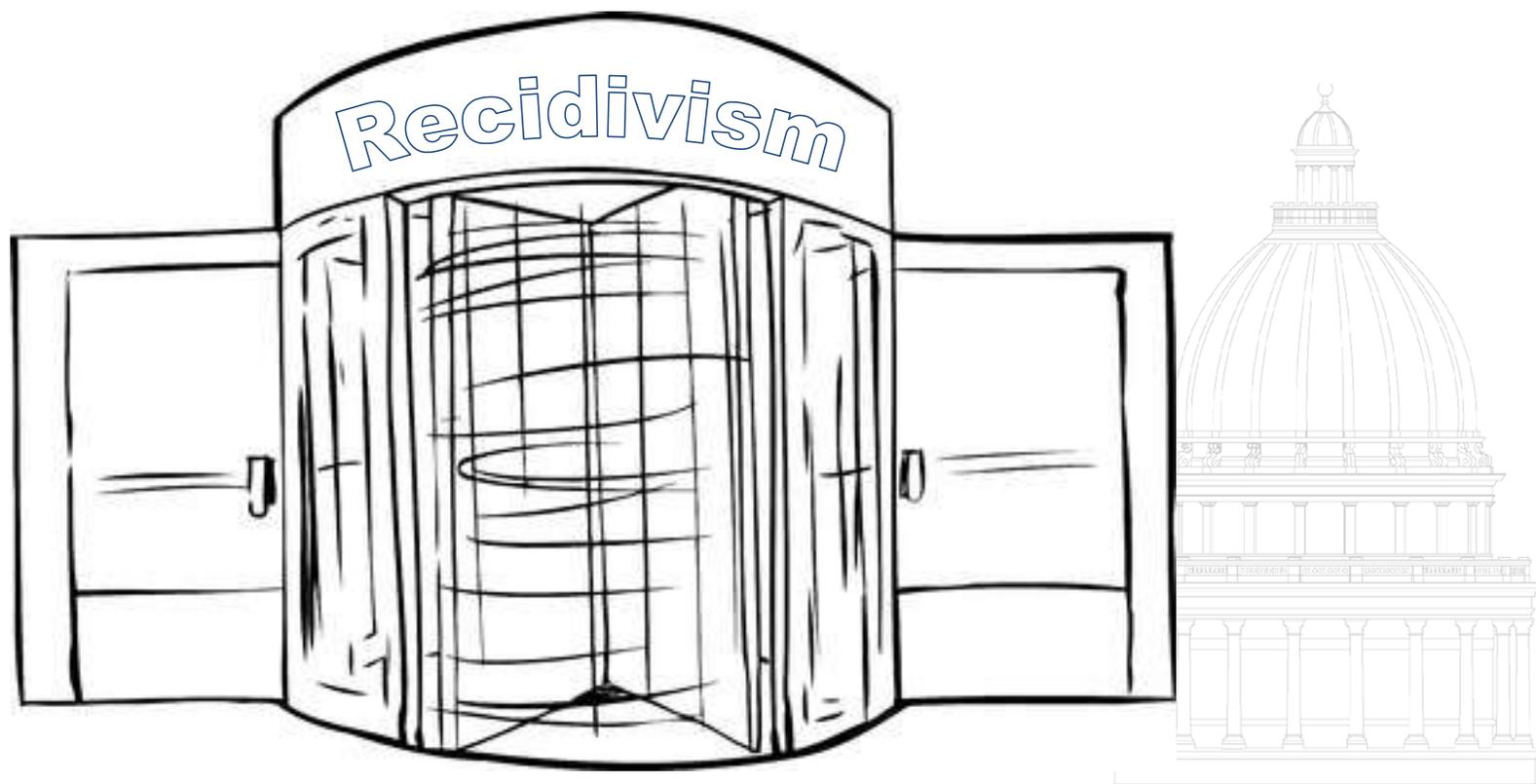


**FOR MORE INFORMATION**

See Chapter II, page 16

# DWS Is Well-Positioned to Study and Track More Meaningful Outcome Metrics

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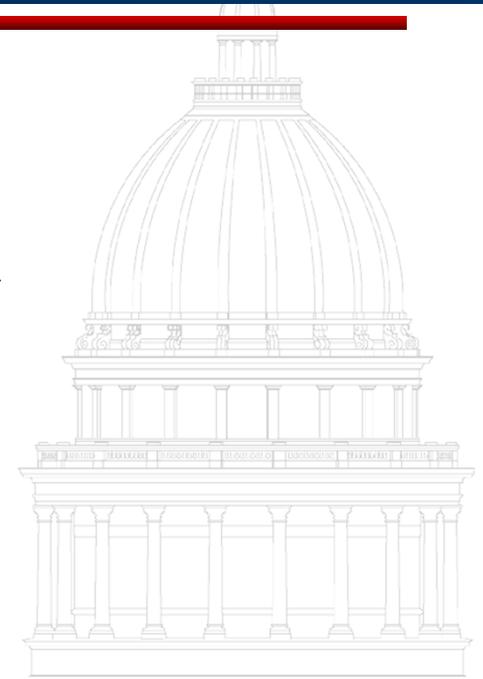


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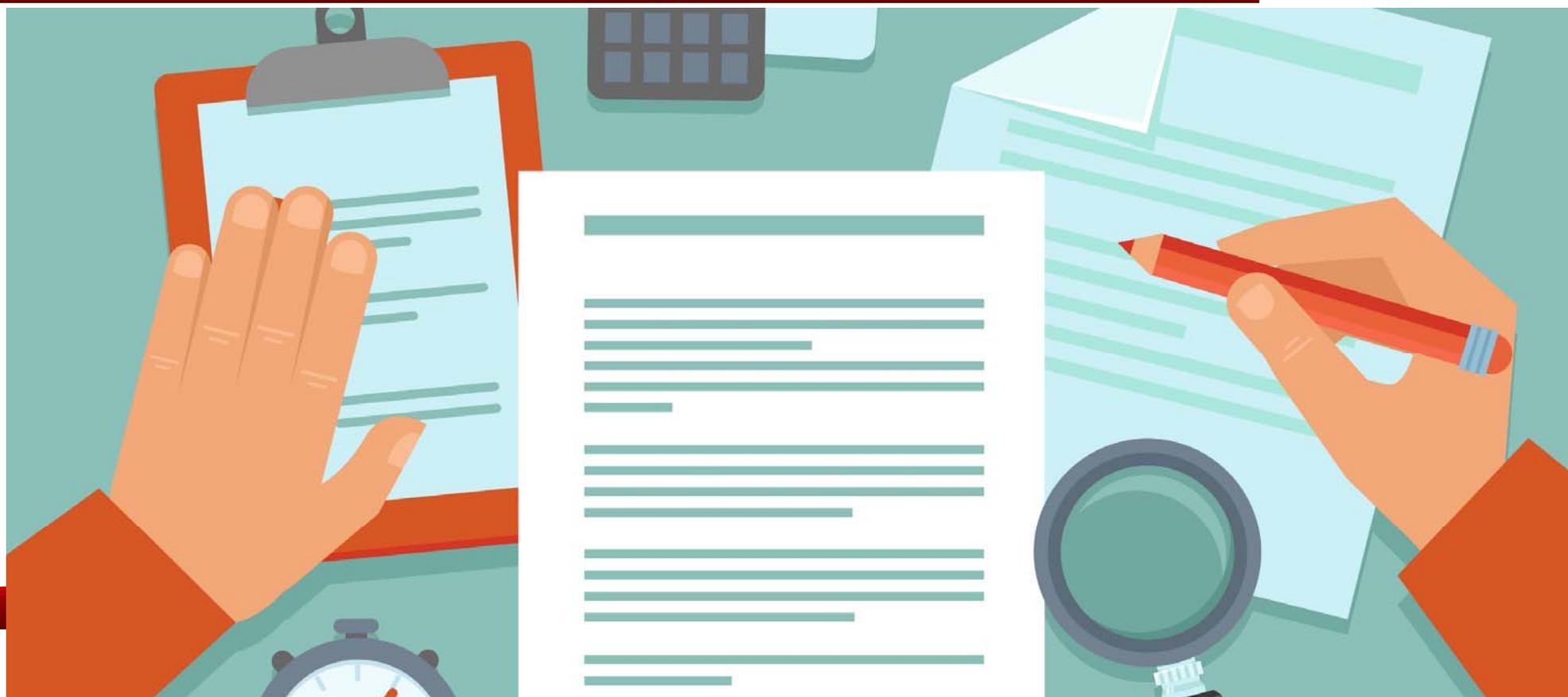
# Chapter III

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## TANF Program Contracts Need Enhanced Oversight



# TANF Program Contracts Lack Essential Oversight Elements



# Process for Selecting TANF Program Contracts And Allocating Resources Is Questionable



# Process for Selecting TANF Program Contracts And Allocating Resources Is Questionable



**Teen Afterschool**  
\$4.4 Million • 76 Contracts

**Low Participation Rates  
Raise Concerns About Impact**

**Refugee Services**  
\$3.3 Million • 12 Contracts



Case management, English language classes, employment training, and basic technology training, focused on aiding effective refugee integration



**Rapid Rehousing**  
\$2.5 Million • 10 Contracts

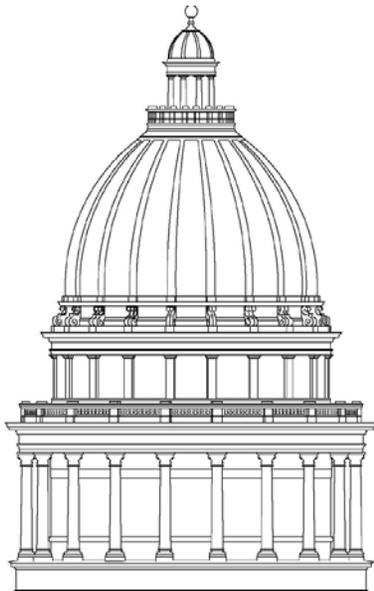
**Spending Is Far Less Despite  
Strong Demand for Housing Assistance**

**Relationship Skills**  
\$1.2 Million • 1 Contract



Workshops focused on building healthy relationships through skills, communication strategies, and counseling or mediation services

# A Performance Audit of Utah's Temporary Assistance for Needy Families



A Report by the  
Office of the Utah Legislative  
Auditor General

Thank You