

a **CLOSER** **LOOK** at the *2015-17 State Budget*



DCF

- Restructures the Bureau of Milwaukee Child Welfare (MCW) into a division of DCF
 - Provides 12 new positions to MCW
 - Provides \$500,000 annually for enhanced employee retention initiatives at MCW. Funding is held in the JFC supplemental appropriation to be released with JCOER approval.
- Increases domestic abuse grants by \$5 million GPR to enhance and expand services for domestic violence victims and their children. Total state and federal investment in these grants is \$23 million over the biennium.
- Provides an additional \$2 million in funding for services for victims of sex trafficking and expands the program statewide. Currently, funding only goes to victims in Milwaukee.
- Expands funding for grants to support efforts to increase adult literacy. Funding would be aimed at helping low income individuals learn to read.
- Increases funding by \$1 million to provide civil legal services to low-income families involved in cases of domestic abuse, sexual abuse and other restraining orders and injunctions.
- Provides additional resources to the Boys and Girls Club for the improvement of social, academic and employment skills for the state's youth.
- Reforms child support procedures to allow staff to prioritize their time to enforce collectable child support and maintenance orders.
- Limits the time participants can be on W-2 to 48 months to encourage individuals to move into full-time family-supporting employment
 - The average time an individual is currently on W-2 is 22 months
- Requires screening for drug use for the Wisconsin Works, BadgerCare Plus, FoodShare and Unemployment programs. Individuals that fail the screening process would be required to take a drug test, and if positive, enter treatment in order to remain eligible for the four programs.

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- Transfers juvenile delinquency-related services from the Department of Corrections to DCF to better assist at-risk youths before they are in danger of entering the corrections system.
- Expands the Transitional Jobs program to other areas of the state and increases funding by \$3 million. The program is aimed at providing low-income adults that are not eligible for W-2 or unemployment with income, skills development and a chance to develop a positive work history.