Arizona Department of Economic Security Overview

Leslie Cohen, JD, Director Sonoran University Center on Disabilities, Vice Chair Community Outreach and Engagement
Sonoran UCEDD

- Bridge between university and community
- Engaged in disability related research, education, policy development, model programs, and information dissemination
AZ DES Purpose

• Temporary assistance for those in need

• Care for the vulnerable
DES PROGRAM AREAS

Caring for the Vulnerable
• Developmental Disabilities
• Aging and Adult Services

Temporary Assistance for those in Need
• Basic Needs Benefits and Assistance
• Employment & Rehabilitation Services
• Community Services
• Child Support Services

Note data contained in PowerPoint from AZ Des Overview PPT(2016)
DES does not cover:

- Department of Child Safety (Child Protective Services) stand alone agency since 2014.
- Behavioral health services are part of AHCCCS (administered by RBHA)
- Health Care Services Medicaid (AHCCCS) – DES only handles eligibility
FY 16 Total Funds by Source & By General Fund Amounts

DES Overview PPT 2015
Division of Developmental Disabilities (Eligibility)

- Arizona Early Intervention Program (AzEIP) – birth to 3 yrs who exhibit developmental delays

- ALTCS DD – one of four conditions (epilepsy, cognitive disability, autism or cerebral palsy) impacts 3 major live activities and financial requirements.

- State Only DD – not meeting ALTCS eligibility.

- Serves: over 30,000 Arizonans Statewide
Division of Developmental Disabilities (Services)

• AzEIP – research demonstrates that the earlier therapies and interventions are implemented for a child with developmental delays the more likely to achieve positive long term outcomes.

• In 2015, almost 6000 children in AZ received team based intervention in the community.
Division of Developmental Disabilities (Services)

- ALTCS DD: majority of individuals on DDD are ALTCS eligible and receive services based on individual needs including habilitation, therapies, day programming, in home services, and employment supports.

- ALTCS State Only: limited funding since 2009. Approx. 2500 individuals receive more limited services.

Arizona a leader in community living: 87% live in own home (instead of institution)
Division of Developmental Disabilities (Possible Issues)

• Rate hike requests for service providers due to increase in State minimum wage.

• Looking at Arizona State Training Program at Coolidge long-term closure.
Aging and Adult

Adult Protective Services

- Vulnerable adult (people 18 years of age and older) who are the victims of neglect, abuse or exploitation.

- Hotline and investigations

FY 2015, 13,793 reports resulted in investigations
Aging and Adult

• Independent Living Support Services

• Senior Community Services

• Employment
Basic Needs and Benefits Assistance

- **Eligibility Determinations** (areas where DES determines client eligibility but does not provide the actual services, supports, or benefits)
  - Medicaid/AHCCCS – 1.5 million on program
  - Social Security Disability—88,000 applications processed