

VETERANS CHILD WELFARE SERVICE OFFICE

Enabling Laws

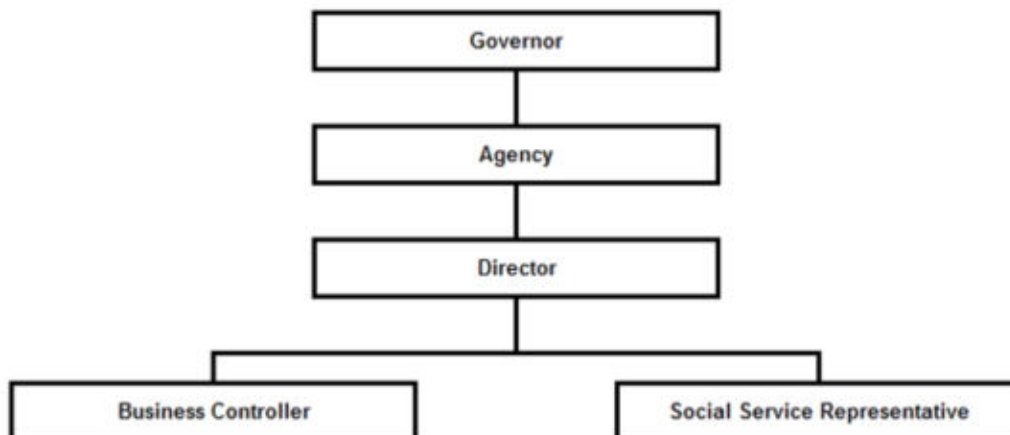
Act 525 of 2007
A.C.A. §20-81-101

History and Organization

The American Legion Child Welfare Division originated as a unit of the American Legion in 1923 to provide aid to the needy children of hospitalized and deceased veterans. Funds were provided through the American Legion Posts and Auxiliary Units.

Act 189 of 1969 changed the name of the Agency to the Arkansas Veterans Child Welfare Service Office. The Agency was put under the supervision of a Director appointed by the Governor upon written recommendation by the governing body of the American Legion Department of Arkansas. The Agency was delegated the responsibility of establishing temporary and interim welfare assistance for the minor age children of hospitalized and recently deceased Honorably Discharged Veterans who reside in Arkansas.

Act 100 of 1997 allowed our Agency to assist children of Honorably Discharged Arkansas Veterans who are deceased, hospitalized or medically incapacitated. Funds for the Agency are procured by funded appropriation from the State of Arkansas and from the American Legion Posts and Auxiliary Units through memorials, donations and contributions received throughout the year.



Agency Commentary

The Veterans Child Welfare Service Office is delegated the responsibility of providing temporary assistance to the minor age children of Honorably Discharged Veterans if recently deceased, hospitalized or medically incapacitated. Funding for this Agency consists of general revenue funding. The Agency consists of three (3) positions: Veterans Child Welfare Director, Business Operations Specialist, and Fiscal Support Specialist.

The Agency's biennial Change Level request includes an increase in appropriation and general revenue funding of \$200 each year of the biennium in Operating Expenses due to increases from the Department of Information Systems (DIS) related to remote access and E-Mail costs.

Audit Findings

DIVISION OF LEGISLATIVE AUDIT
AUDIT OF :
ARKANSAS VETERANS CHILD WELFARE SERVICE

FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2006

Findings	Recommendations
None	None

Employment Summary

	Male	Female	Total	%
White Employees	1	1	2	100 %
Black Employees	0	0	0	0 %
Other Racial Minorities	0	0	0	0 %
Total Minorities			0	0 %
Total Employees			2	100 %

Publications

A.C.A. 25-1-204

Name	Statutory Authorization	Required for		# of Copies	Reason(s) for Continued Publication and Distribution
		Governor	General Assembly		
None	NA	N	N	0	NA

Agency Position Usage Report

FY2006 - 2007						FY2007 - 2008						FY2008 - 2009					
Authorized in Act	Budgeted			Unbudgeted	% of Authorized Unused	Authorized in Act	Budgeted			Unbudgeted	% of Authorized Unused	Authorized in Act	Budgeted			Unbudgeted	% of Authorized Unused
	Filled	Unfilled	Total	Total			Filled	Unfilled	Total	Total			Filled	Unfilled	Total	Total	
3	2	1	3	0	33.33 %	3	2	1	3	0	33.33 %	3	2	1	3	0	33.33 %

Analysis of Budget Request

Appropriation: 064 - Vet Child Welfare Operations

Funding Sources: HUA - Miscellaneous Agencies Fund

The Veterans Child Welfare Service offers temporary financial assistance to the minor children of recently deceased, hospitalized or medically incapacitated veterans with limited or no income, until a more permanent source of income is established. Veterans and their families are eligible for assistance for up to three months with rent or house payments and utilities. The Staff also counsels with families and refers them to other agencies for further assistance. The program is also subsidized by the American Legion and its Auxiliary.

This appropriation is funded from general revenue.

Base Level salaries for classified positions reflect the recommendations of the Pay Plan Study and unclassified positions reflect similar adjustments in line item salaries. A 2.3% Cost of Living Allowance is reflected in the second year of the biennium. The Base Level request for Regular Salaries may include board member Stipend payments and Career Service payments for eligible employees. Personal Services Matching includes a \$75 increase in the monthly contribution for State employee's health insurance for a total State match per budgeted employee of \$425.

The Agency's Base Level request is appropriation and general revenue funding in the amount of \$182,290 in FY2010 and \$184,341 in FY2011 with three (3) regular positions.

The Agency's Change Level request includes an increase in appropriation and general revenue funding in the amount of \$200 each year of the biennium for the Operating Expenses line item for network services expenses due to increased rates by the Department of Information Systems (DIS) associated with E-mail and remote access.

The Executive Recommendation provides for the Agency Request with the additional general revenue funding.

Appropriation Summary

Appropriation: 064 - Vet Child Welfare Operations
Funding Sources: HUA - Miscellaneous Agencies Fund

Historical Data

Agency Request and Executive Recommendation

Commitment Item		2007-2008	2008-2009	2008-2009	2009-2010			2010-2011		
		Actual	Budget	Authorized	Base Level	Agency	Executive	Base Level	Agency	Executive
Regular Salaries	5010000	71,934	95,775	95,348	101,021	101,021	101,021	102,748	102,748	102,748
#Positions		2	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3
Personal Services Matching	5010003	27,393	30,472	31,907	34,211	34,211	34,211	34,535	34,535	34,535
Operating Expenses	5020002	2,093	2,312	2,312	2,312	2,512	2,512	2,312	2,512	2,512
Conference & Travel Expenses	5050009	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Professional Fees	5060010	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Data Processing	5090012	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Grants and Aid	5100004	31,534	44,746	44,746	44,746	44,746	44,746	44,746	44,746	44,746
Capital Outlay	5120011	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total		132,954	173,305	174,313	182,290	182,490	182,490	184,341	184,541	184,541
Funding Sources										
General Revenue	4000010	132,954	173,305		182,290	182,490	182,490	184,341	184,541	184,541
Total Funding		132,954	173,305		182,290	182,490	182,490	184,341	184,541	184,541
Excess Appropriation/(Funding)		0	0		0	0	0	0	0	0
Grand Total		132,954	173,305		182,290	182,490	182,490	184,341	184,541	184,541

The FY09 Budget amount in Regular Salaries exceeds the authorized amount due to salary adjustments during the 2007-2009 biennium.

Change Level by Appropriation

Appropriation: 064 - Vet Child Welfare Operations

Funding Sources: HUA - Miscellaneous Agencies Fund

Agency Request

Change Level		2009-2010	Pos	Cumulative	% of BL	2010-2011	Pos	Cumulative	% of BL
BL	Base Level	182,290	3	182,290	100.0	184,341	3	184,341	100.0
C08	Technology	200	0	182,490	100.1	200	0	184,541	100.1

Executive Recommendation

Change Level		2009-2010	Pos	Cumulative	% of BL	2010-2011	Pos	Cumulative	% of BL
BL	Base Level	182,290	3	182,290	100.0	184,341	3	184,341	100.0
C08	Technology	200	0	182,490	100.1	200	0	184,541	100.1

Justification

C08	The Agency requests an increase in appropriation and general revenue funding in the amount of \$200 in each year to cover increases from the Department of Information Systems (DIS) related to remote access and E-Mail costs. This request is included in the Agency's approved IT Plan under IT Support Costs-State Network Connectivity.
-----	--