
ORGANIZATION AND FUNCTION OF STATE AGENCY

Function of the Office of Vermont Health Access is addresses in Attachment 1.2-B.

The Department for Children and Families is one of the major components of the Agency of Human Services. Within the Department, the Economic Services Division encompasses the functions regarding Medicaid eligibility that formerly resided in the Department of Prevention, Assistance, Transition, and Health Access (formerly the Department of Social Welfare). The Department's principal functions and structure are outlined below:

Child Development

Responsible for assuring a statewide system that promotes and supports safe, accessible, quality child care for Vermont families. Responsible for administering TANF Grants to Community Agencies. Children's Upstream Services, Child Care Services, licensing, workforce development, commodities, Children's Health Programs, Parent Child Centers, Success by Six, and Head Start programs.

Child Support

Responsible for helping Vermonters establish and enforce child support court orders, locating missing parents, and ensuring the steady flow of economic support to Vermont children.

Child Welfare & Youth Justice

Responsible for promoting social, emotional, and physical well being and safety of Vermont's children and families. Responsible for providing protective, developmental, therapeutic, probation, and support services for children and families in partnership with schools, businesses, community leaders, service providers, families, and youth statewide.

Disability Determinations

Responsible for processing and evaluating disability claims. Responsible for developing medical evidence and rendering the initial determination on whether or not a claimant is or blind under the law.

Economic Services

Responsible for the monitoring, evaluation, and operation of the Reach Up/TANF, Fuel Assistance, Food and Nutrition, General and Emergency Assistance, Essential Person, Aid to the Aged, Blind, and Disabled, and Health Care Assistance programs as it pertains to eligibility determination. Responsible for reviewing and analyzing proposed, pending and finalized Federal and State legislation to assure compliance in all assistance programs.

Responsible for developing, analyzing, and interpreting rules and regulations for these programs, collecting data specific to the operation of these programs and evaluating the effects and attributes of given programs in relation to department or Agency goals and objectives.

Economic Opportunity

Responsible for increasing the self-sufficiency of Vermonters and strengthening Vermont communities by connecting communities to governmental and private resources to eliminate poverty through weatherization services, support for community-based organizations engaged anti-poverty efforts, and food and nutrition services, including nutrition education, commodity food distribution, and farmer's market food coupon distribution.

Field Services

Responsible for ensuring accountability in each geographic region of the state to ensure optimal functioning, responsible for working closely with community partnerships, private and state program managers, and individuals and families served by the agency.

Within the Agency of Human Services, the Department of Aging and Independent Living (formerly the Department of Aging and Disabilities) assists older persons, children and adults with disabilities to live as independently as possible. The Department's principal functions and structure are as follows:

Licensing & Protection

Responsible for protecting vulnerable Vermonters through licensing health care providers, and investigating complaints and allegations of abuse, neglect and exploitation.

Advocacy & Independent Living

Responsible for helping elders and adults with disabilities to live as independently as possible in the community.

Blind & Visually Impaired

Responsible for helping Vermonters with blindness or visual impairment work and live independently.

Developmental Services

Responsible for helping children and adults with developmental disabilities and children with health impairments and/or physical disabilities to live as independently as possible within their family, home and community.

