

GENERAL ASSEMBLY’S “50 PERCENT BUDGET”

*CREATES \$9.2 BILLION FUNDING GAP,
FORCES MASSIVE CUTS IN FUNDAMENTAL STATE SERVICES*

DEPARTMENT OF CHILDREN AND FAMILY SERVICES

To close the General Assembly’s budget gap, DCFS must:

Cut community-provided services by \$388 million. These cuts include:

- Cutting payments by 50% to 23,000 families who adopt or serve as guardians for children in foster care **\$109 million**
- Cutting payments by 50% on average to foster parents caring for 14,000 children **\$54 million**
- Reducing services for youth with developmental disabilities, chronic mental illness and severe emotional disturbances **\$46 million**
- Tripling foster care caseloads from 15 children to 50 children **\$41 million**
- Eliminating daycare for 5,257 children **\$26 million**
- Eliminating adoption preservation services **\$6 million**
- Eliminating all foster care respite and support services **\$8 million**
- Eliminate all state funding for 36 Child Advocacy Centers that serve abused children **\$4 million**

Cutting these and other DCFS programs will eliminate necessary services to 16,000 children and their families.

Cut state-provided services by \$72 million. These cuts include:

- Closing 15 of 70 DCFS Field Offices **\$13 million**
- Tripling DCFS staff workers’ foster care caseloads from 15 children to 50 children **\$12 million**
- Nearly doubling DCFS investigative caseloads from 11 to 20 active cases per investigator **\$12 million**

These closings and other cutbacks will result in layoffs of 1,171 full-time state employees – 38 percent of the Department’s workforce.