

## **Legislative Highlights for the 2005-2006 Legislative Session**

### **Substantive Legislative Highlights:**

CS/CS/SB 114 and 444 Drug Court Bill -- Allows substance abuse assessments and evaluation upon showing of good cause in conjunction with dependency cases. The bill finally passed after four years.

CS/HB 527 -- Would have created a Statewide Office for Suicide Prevention. The bill died in Senate messages, May 5, 2006.

CS/SB 1286 -- Extends the Florida SAMH Corporation sunset date to October 1, 2011. It requires the Corporation to review and assess implementation of a recovery and resiliency-based system for mental health care and activities related to transformation of substance abuse and mental health systems.

CS/HB 1503 -- Creates state policy to achieve ongoing reduction in the use of seclusion and restraint.

SB 1850 -- Re-enacts the DCF Substance Abuse and Mental Health Program Offices and the Office of Assistant Secretary for Substance Abuse and Mental Health. The bill also creates an interagency work group to address the needs of people with disabilities to be coordinated by DCF.

### **Budget Highlights:**

- \$11.7 -- Substance Abuse Treatment gap
- \$10.0 -- Mental Health equity
- \$5.4 -- Medication line item for the state hospitals
- \$6.8 -- 24 secure forensic beds, 60 step down beds
- \$325,000 to continue the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Corporation

There was also approximately \$10 million appropriated for mental health special projects. Many of these projects are for funding for crisis stabilization units.

There was also approximately \$25 million appropriated for substance abuse and mental health service reimbursement from the 2005 Hurricanes.