



**Community Services and Housing Department
Program Activity Report**

to the

Community Services and Housing Committee

**for the
4th Quarter, 2006
October to December**

Employment & Financial Support

Table 1

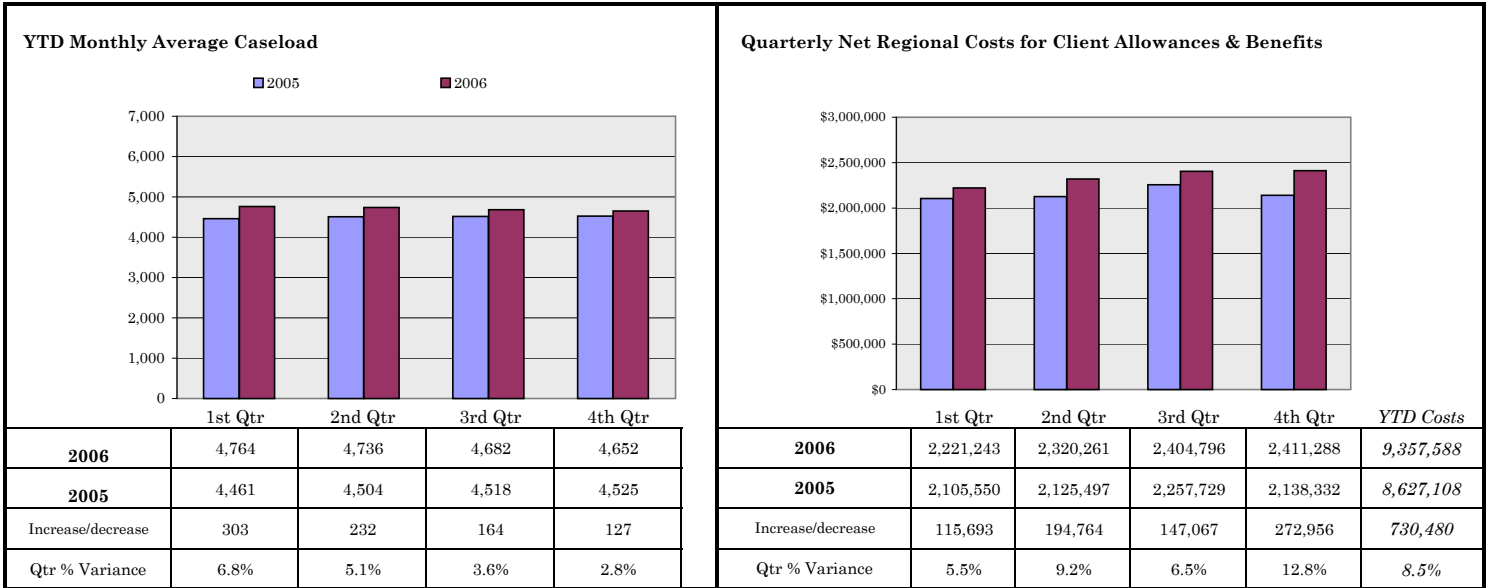


Table 2

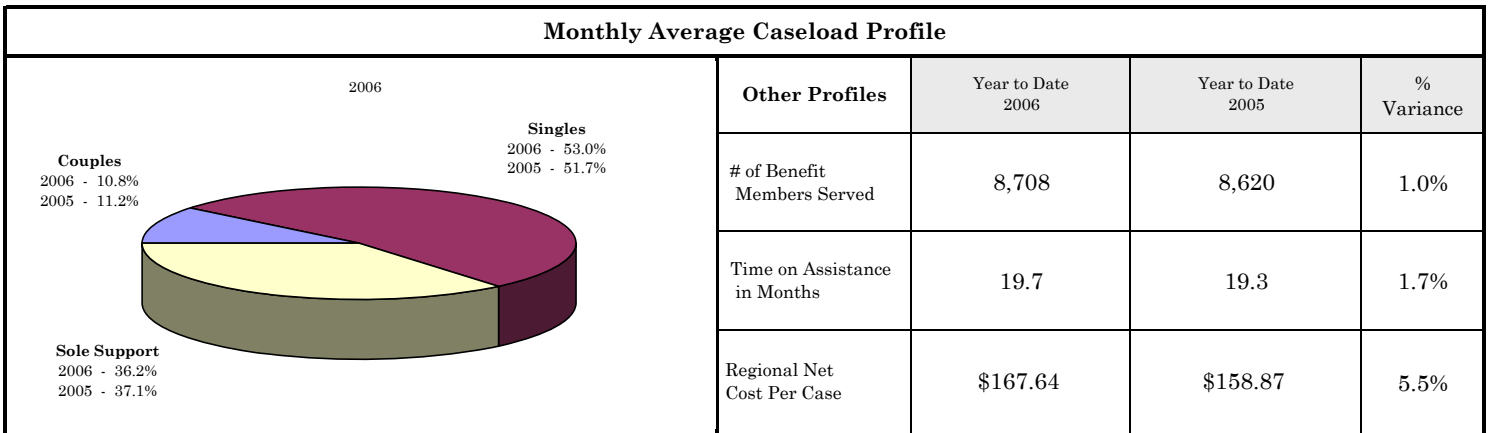


Table 3

Emergency Shelter	Year to Date 2006	Year to Date 2005	% Variance
October to December			
Emergency Shelter - Monthly Average # of Clients	244	203	20.2%
Emergency Shelter - Total # Days of Service	34,867	29,299	19.0%

Highlights (4th Qtr)

- Social Assistance Caseload increased 2.8% over 2005 primarily due to regional population growth and demographics as well as provincially regulated changes including the treatment of earned income.
- Regional Net Cost Per Case has increased 5.5% over 2005 as a result of legislative changes and provincially mandated rate increases to client allowances.
- The new Sutton Youth Shelter opened in March 2006 resulting in an increased number of clients and days of service. Client lengths of stay in shelters fluctuate based on individual circumstances.

Quality Assurance

Table 4

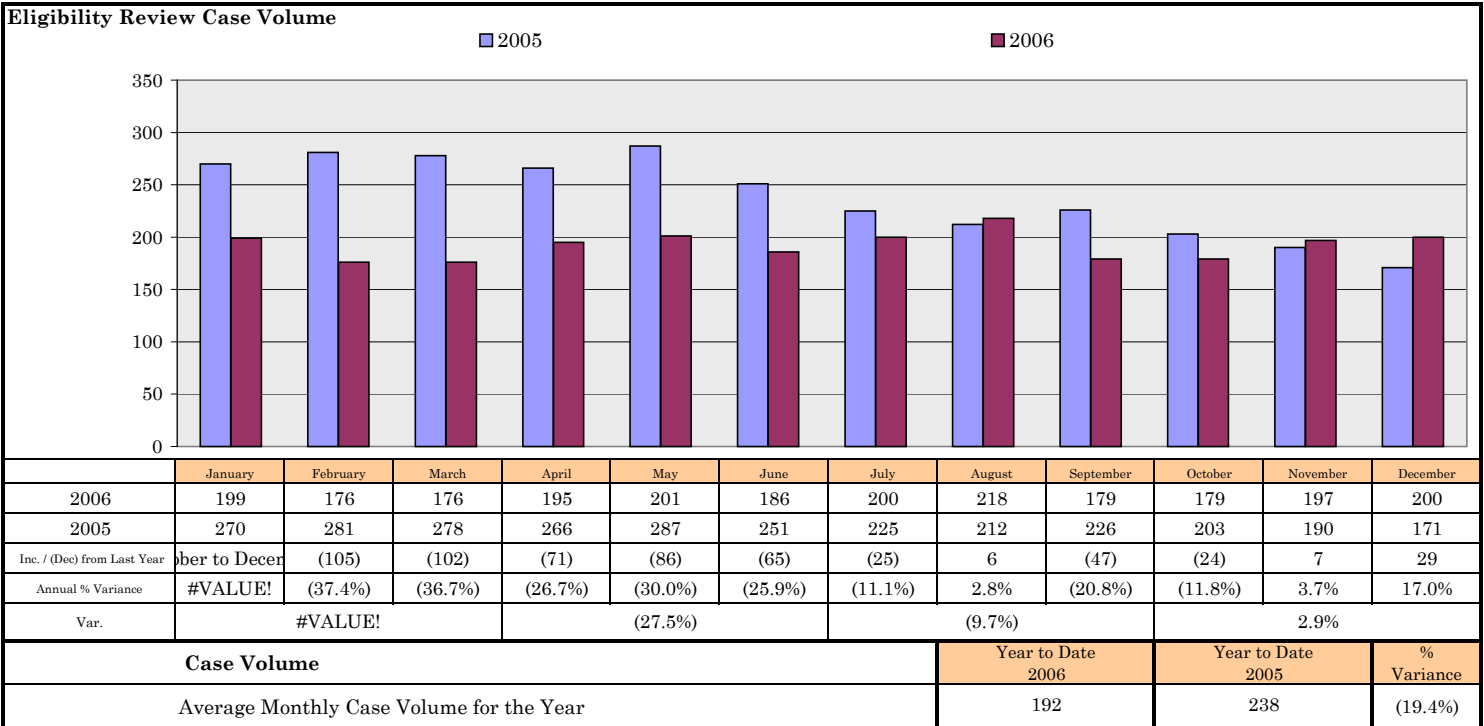


Table 5

Eligibility Review Financial Impact	Year to Date 2006	Year to Date 2005	% Variance
Recoveries (Overpayments, Assignments & Restitution Collected)	\$1,111,416	\$838,014	32.6%
Cost Avoidance (Terminated/Reduced Assistance)	\$104,097	\$121,063	(14.0%)
Total Recoveries & Cost Avoidance	\$1,215,513	\$959,077	26.7%
Overpayments Registered	\$1,004,098	\$917,734	9.4%

Table 6

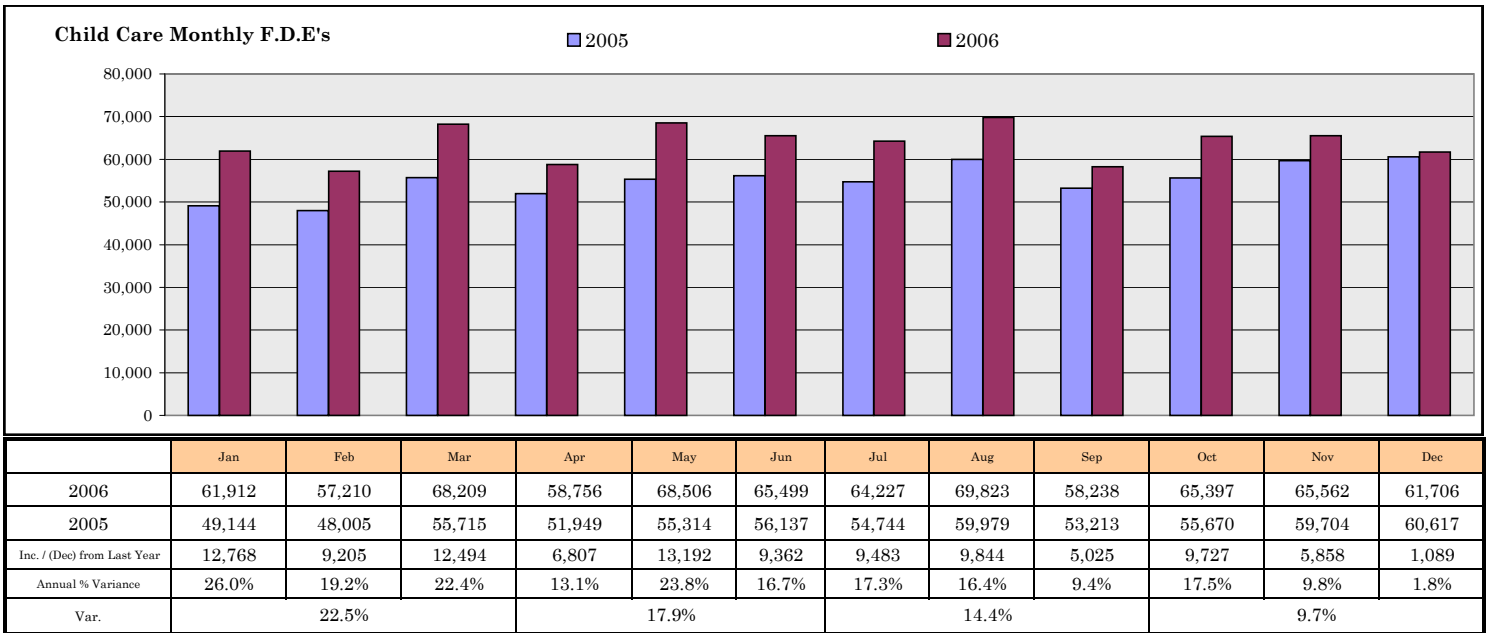
Family Support Financial Impact	Year to Date 2006	Year to Date 2005	% Variance
Recoveries (Support Arrears Collected)	\$789,205	\$652,120	21.0%
Cost Avoidance (Terminated/Reduced Assistance)	\$115,053	\$89,211	29.0%
Total Recoveries & Cost Avoidance	\$904,258	\$741,331	22.0%
Overpayments Registered	\$134,689	\$119,526	12.7%

Highlights (4th Qtr)

- Eligibility Review Case Volume continues to stabilize. The overall 19.4% reduction over 2005 is due to an exercise to review and close aged cases (investigations opened more than 1 year ago) in 2005.
- Total Eligibility Review Recoveries have increased 26.7% due to significantly higher numbers of assignments, which account for 67% (\$742,177) of the total recoveries.
- Total Family Support Recoveries have increased 22% over 2005 primarily due to the introduction of new efficiencies for recoveries and compliance by the Family Responsibility Office (e.g. demand letters specify that credit bureaus to be notified and this caused increase in payors making payments). The Unit reviewed 32% more cases this year resulting in 56% more court orders and private agreements.

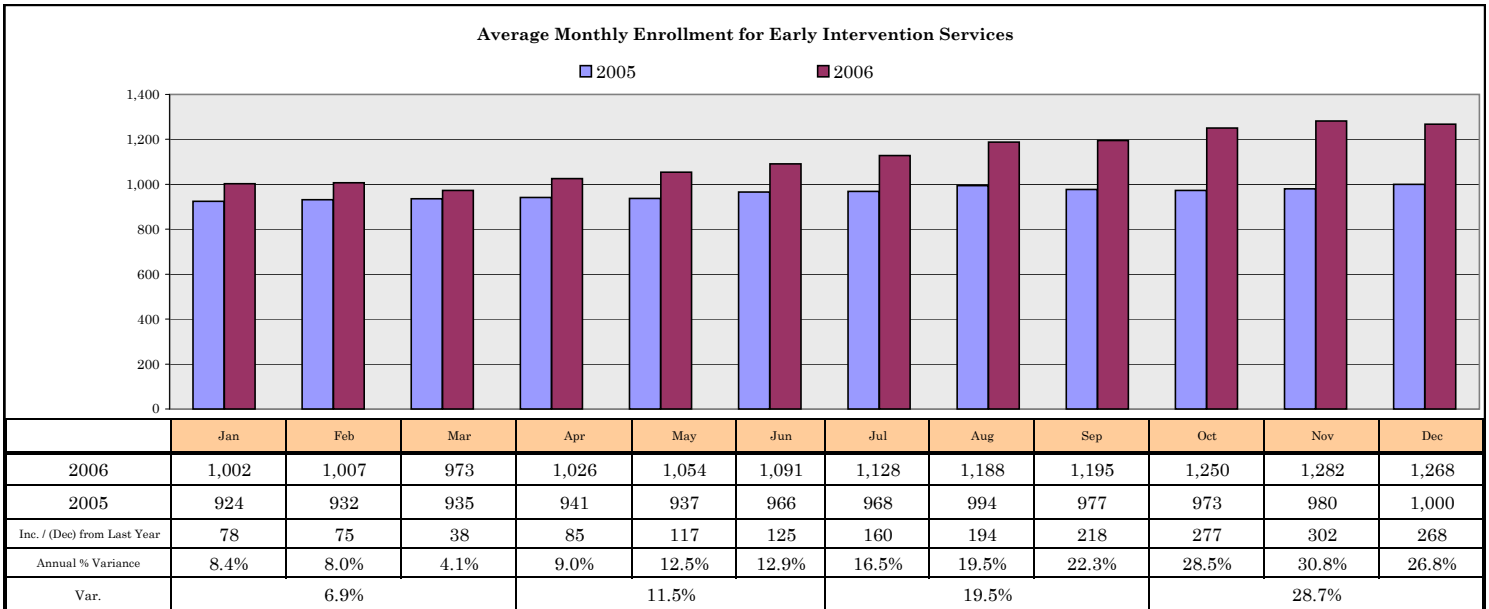
Family & Children's Services

Table 7



Child Care - Fee Assistance (DNA, OW, LEAP, ELCC, Best Start)	Year to Date 2006	Year to Date 2005	% Variance
October to December	63,754	55,016	15.9%
Monthly Average # of Children Served (without duplicates)	3,264	2,834	15.2%
Monthly Average Wait List	1,876	1,511	24.2%
Expenditure	Year to Date 2006	Year to Date 2005	% Variance
Expenditures (net of parent contributions)	\$21,131,311	\$16,839,699	25.5%

Table 8



Early Intervention Services	Year to Date 2006	Year to Date 2005	% Variance
Average Monthly Enrollment	1,122	961	16.8%
New Enrollments	602	454	32.6%
Discharges	303	416	(27.2%)
No. of Children Served Y.T.D.	1,574	1,345	17.0%
No. of Referrals	709	592	19.8%
Average Monthly Wait List	121	110	10.1%

Table 9

Wage Subsidy for Day Care Operators	Year to Date 2006	Year to Date 2005	% Variance
Non Profit Sites receiving subsidy	313	252	23.9%
Commercial Sites receiving Subsidy	223	146	52.2%

Table 10

Hostel Program	Year to Date 2006	Year to Date 2005	% Var.
Domiciliary - Monthly Average # of Clients	326	324	0.5%
Domiciliary - Total # Days of Service	8,983	9,075	(1.0%)

Highlights (4th Qtr)

- The expenditures and number of Full Day Equivalents have increased as a result of Best Start funding.
- Average enrollment and the year to date enrollment for Early Intervention Services has increased due to Best Start funding.
- The number of sites receiving wage subsidy has increased due to Best Start funding.

Elizabeth Wagle, Director, Family & Children's Services

Housing Services

Table 11

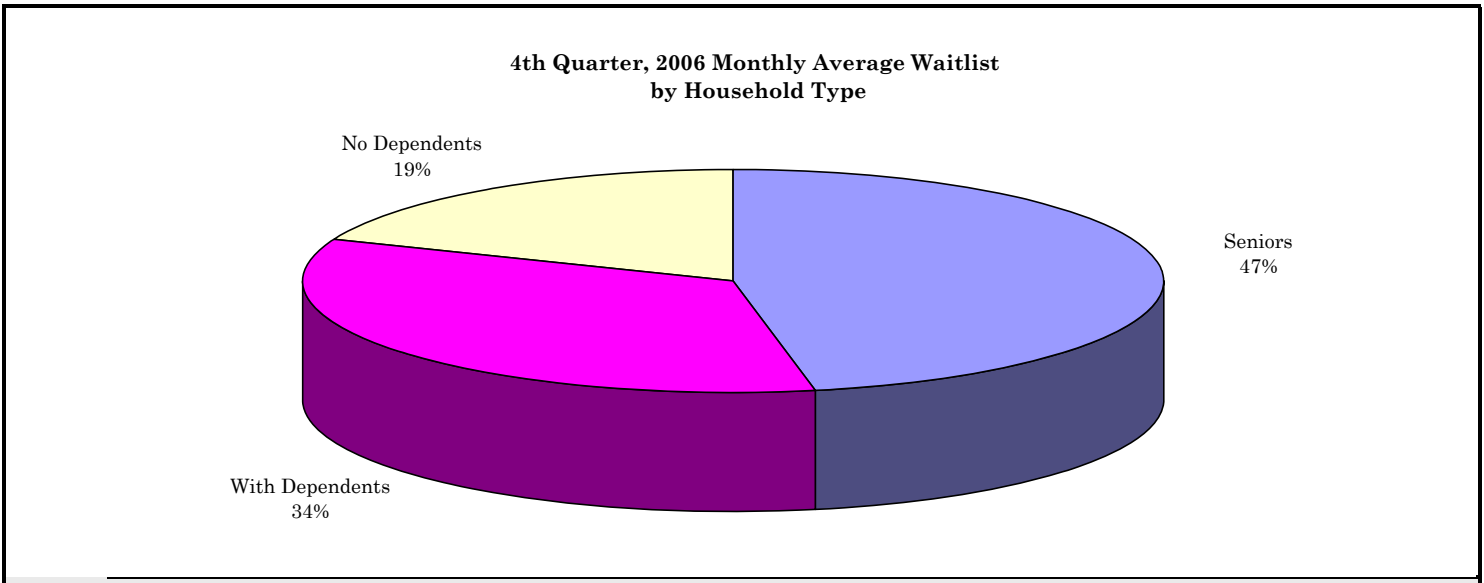


Table 12

Social Housing Waitlist	Year to Date 2006.	Year to Date 2005	% Var.
Average Monthly # Households Waiting for Housing	5,329	5,483	(2.8%)
Average Monthly # of Special Priority Applicants (included in waitlist)	105	106	(0.9%)
October to December	129	145	(11.0%)

Highlights (4th Qtr)

- The waitlist for Social Housing has decreased slightly from 5,483 in 2005 to 5,329 for the same period in 2006, continuing to reflect a higher applicant cancellation rate. Files are negated when an applicant fails to complete and return the annual update form.
- The number of special priority applicants for the end of 2006 is consistent with the average reflected at the end of 2005.
- The average monthly number of new applications declined 11% comparing 4th quarter 2006 to 4th quarter 2005. The variance reflects an improved practice of communicating to potential applicants the likely wait period to access subsidized housing.

Sylvia Patterson, Director, Housing Services