



COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO NEWS RELEASE

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Child Support Services Collections Reach Record High \$103.7 Million Distributed to San Diego Families

The County of San Diego Department of Child Support Services (DCSS) distributed an all-time high \$103.7 million in child support payments to San Diego families for fiscal year 2004-2005. The figure represents a 16% increase in funds disbursed locally in the past two years and the first time the department has surpassed the \$100 million mark in payments to local families.

DCSS also attained a record amount for overall collections at \$158.6 million for the fiscal year, including payments on cases outside San Diego and on those that go to recoupment of welfare expenditures. In less than four years since the department left the District Attorney's office and was established as an independent agency, child support collections have totaled nearly \$604 million.

"In the past year, we've made improvements in customer service, in the data management system, in providing new services like online credit card payments and direct deposit, and in our enforcement procedures," said Dr. Thomas Boardman, DCSS director. "But the most important factor in our success is the dedication and hard work of our staff."

The Department of Child Support Services is responsible for establishing, enforcing and modifying child support, paternity and health insurance orders. DCSS closed the 2004-2005 fiscal year with 128,060 active cases. Given the average number of participants on each case, the department has a direct impact on the lives of one in seven San Diegans.

Those seeking additional information on child support can contact DCSS by calling 619-236-7600. The department's web site is www.sandiegochildsupport.org.

AUGUST IS CHILD SUPPORT AWARENESS MONTH