**2019 End of Session Wrap Up**

The 2019 Legislative session lasted for 135 days. There were 1,318 bills and 100 resolutions introduced. Three hundred thirty one bills and 24 resolutions passed before SINE DIE on May 28th. The Arizona Council tracked over 600 bills this session—123 of them passed and were signed by the Governor. Council staff, lobbyists, and our members worked hard to ensure that good bills passed, bad ones were neutralized or failed, and relationships with our elected officials, state agencies, and community partners were maintained.

**Budget**

The budget “feed” bill (HB2747) and health and human service budget reconciliation bills (BRBs HB2754 and HB2755) passed the House on party line votes and stalled briefly in the Senate as several Senators held out for policy and funding demands. There is always good news and bad news in a budget. Some highlights are:

**AHCCCS:** Funding ($1.6M) for KidsCare and removal of the enrollment freeze when the federal match falls below 100%. Continued flat crisis funding ($16.4M), NTXIX behavioral health services ($77.6M), and supported housing ($5.3M). Continued funding for the suicide prevention coordinator at AHCCCS. Continued funding $9.9M for behavioral health services in schools. Provides funding for Graduate Medical Education ($10 for rural, $8M for urban) over 3 years. Requires AHCCCS to report by 1/2/2020 on the number of inpatient psychiatric beds for adults and children, the cost of these programs, number of people in out of state psychiatric treatment, and information on psych boarding in emergency departments. Requires AHJCCCS to report annually (9/1) on the SMI Housing Trust Fund and allows the fund to be used for rental assistance.

**DCS:** Congregate care ($98.9M), foster care ($52.6M), and HRSS ($32.7M) funded. In home ($28.9M) and out of home services ($153.9M) funded. Prevention funding of $15.1M. Kinship stipends expanded to $5M for $75/month/child kinship stipends awarded without application, including fictive kin. Requires a report from DCS on implementation of the Family First Prevention Services Act by 1/2/2020 and report on meeting caseload standards, number of backlog and open cases, and number of children in out of home care by 9/30/2019. Continues established benchmarks.

**DES**: Allocates the federal child care assistance dollars for FY19 and FY20 (HB2124 and HB2125). Requires a stakeholder report by 8/1/19 on provider rate increases. Establishes the Family Caregiver Grant program

**Department of Education**: Provides $31.9M for the school safety program to provide grants to schools for school counselors, social workers, or resource officers (HB2749).

**DHS:** Increases the state student loan repayment program by $750K to 1.75M. HB2754 allows 18 to 21 year olds to work in outpatient behavioral health facilities and requires DHS to adopt rules for this change. Requires DHS to license secure behavioral health residential facilities for those with SMI diagnoses who are resistant to treatment who have been court ordered into this placement.

**Department of Housing:** $15.3M to Housing Trust Fund, $3.5M for housing and services for those with SMI diagnoses who are resistant to treatment. Requires report annually on 9/1 on the status of the Housing Trust Fund.

**AHCCCS, Insurance, and Health Care Related**

HB2513 (Cobb) and SB1134 (Carter): Children’s Health Insurance Program; Appropriations These companion bills lift the freeze on KidsCare and provide $1.5 million general fund monies to provide the federally required match beginning 10/1/19. Both bills died, but funding and elimination of the freeze was included in the budget. **SUPPORT**

SB1211: Intermediate Care Facilities; Licensure (Carter) This bill requires intermediate care facilities for those with intellectual disabilities to be licensed. Requires Central Registry and Adult Protective Services checks on all staff employed or seeking employment working with children or vulnerable adults. Requires DHS to establish rules requiring those who work in intermediate care facilities to report abuse and neglect.

SB1321: Health Information Organizations (Carter) This bill updates the opt in and opt out options for health information stored in the HIE.

**Behavioral Health Bills**

SB1096: Health Professionals Data; Repository; Appropriation (Carter) This bill establishes and funds the health professional workforce data repository at DHS. Beginning January 2021, health professional licensing boards will be required to provide data on their licensees to this database. The bill passed but without the funding. **SUPPORT**

SB1468: Schools; Suicide Prevention Training (Bowie) This bill requires schools to provide training in suicide prevention and related topics to teachers, counselors, principals, and other school personnel working with students in grades 6-12. **SUPPORT**

HB2070: Adult Behavioral Health Therapuetic Homes (Cobb) This strike everything bill exempts adult therapeutic foster homes from compliance with building codes and zoning standards for health care institutions. **SUPPORT**

HB2569: Occupational Licensing; Reciprocity (Petersen) This bills allows those who are licensed for at least one year in another state to be licensed in Arizona following establishing residency and verification of the other state that they met the educational, work, and supervision requirements of that state. **SUPPORT**

HB2152: Residential Beds; Seriously Mentally Ill (Barto) This bill requires AHCCCS to report the number of behavioral health and supportive housing beds available in Arizona for those with SMI diagnoses.

HB2488: Veterans Suicides; Annual Report (Lawrence) This bill requires DHS to annually report on veteran suicides in Arizona.

**Substance and Opioid Use Disorder Related**

HB2068: Clinical Nurse Specialists; Prescribing Authority (Barto) This bill allows CNS with education and training to prescribe MAT. **SUPPORT**

SB1029: Qualifying Physicians; Opiate Dependent Patients (Carter) This bill allows the Medical and Osteopathic boards to determine if doctors have the training and experience to treat opiate dependent patients.

SB1039: Pain Management Clinics; Regulation (Brophy McGee) This bill specifies that pain management clinics are not exempt from licensure.

SB1108/HB2075: Electronic Prescribing; Exceptions; Deadlines (Carter) This bill extends the deadline for electronic prescribing of opioids to January 2020.

SB1535: AHCCCS; Opioid Treatment Programs; Requirements (Brophy McGee) This bill as originally introduced had some requirements that would have been excessively onerous for MAT providers. As passed, the bill establishes annual reporting requirements for MAT providers including their security plan, neighborhood engagement plan, patient care plan, and census data on those served. Requires AHCCCS and DHS to establish standards for MAT Centers of Excellence by 12/31/19 as well as annual reporting to the legislature. It also establishes the Opioid Use Disorder Review Council who will provide an annual report to the legislature by 12/15.

SB1536: Controlled Substances; Monitoring; Delegation (Brophy McGee) This bill allows the board of pharmacy to release data collected by the Controlled Substances Prescription Monitoring Program according to rules adopted by DHS.

**Children and Child Wellbeing Related Bills**

HB2124: Child Care Assistance Monies; Allocations and HB 2125: Supplemental Appropriation; Child Care Assistance (Udall) These bill allowed the $56 million child care block grant funding for quality for FY2018-19 to be spent and authorized how it could be spent. They died but the funding and authorization to spend was in the budget. **SUPPORT**

B1040: Maternal Fatalities and Morbidity; Advisory Committee (Brophy McGee) This bill establishes the DHS Advisory Committee on Maternal Fatalities and Morbidity. Requires a report by December 2019 with recommendations on improving data collection on the incidence and causes of maternal fatalities. **SUPPORT**

SB1246: Behavioral Health; Foster Children (Brophy McGee) This DCS sponsored bill allows for integration of behavioral health services for foster children through CMDP. **SUPPORT**

SB1539: Extended Foster Care Program (Brophy McGee) This DCS sponsored bill authorizes them to extend foster care for youth aging out of care (ages 18-20) using Title IV-E funding. **SUPPORT**

HB2119: School Safety; Reporting (Barto) This bill requires schools to develop policies for reporting serious offenses or threats to local law enforcement.

HB2122: Do Not Resuscitate Orders; Minors; Parental Consent (Barto) This bills prohibits health care providers from implementing a DNR for minors without written or oral consent of at least one parent. Establishes requirements for revoking the DNR and a process for resolving a conflict if parents are unable to agree.

HB2378: Adoption; Child Welfare: Placement; Dependency (Barto) This bill as amended allows for expedited adoptions for those 16 or older, makes changes to allow foster parents to consent to special education if bio family is not available, and report data on substantiated reports of abuse or neglect on substance exposed newborns.

SB1076: Abducting Child From State Agency (Brophy McGee) This DCS sponsored bill creates a criminal offense for kidnapping a child from DCS custody.

SB1112: Juvenile Group Homes; DCS (Brophy McGee) This DCS sponsored bill makes technical changes overlooked during the creation of DCS.

SB1247: Residential Care Facilities; Children (Brophy McGee) Addresses concerns raised for unaccompanied refugee and asylum seeking children.

SB1537: Service Providers; Fingerprint Card (Brophy McGee) This DCS sponsored bill requires fingerprint clearance cards for staff and volunteers of DCS licensed agencies or those contracted to provide services to children or vulnerable adults or those working in a group home, residential treatment center, shelter or other congregate care setting.

**Housing and Homelessness**

SB1336: Housing Fund; Seriously Mentally Ill (Carter) This bill allows the SMI Housing Trust Fund to be used for rental assistance. Requires AHCCCS to report annually on number of people provided rental assistance. This bill died, but was included in the budget. **SUPPORT**

SB1098: Housing Assistance Pilot Program; Appropriation (Carter) This bill establishes the Housing Assistance Advisory Board to administer the Housing Assistance Pilot Program. An amendment included grants for secure 24/7 housing for those with SMI diagnoses who are resistant to treatment. The bill died, but was included in the budget.

SB1300: Low Income Housing; Tax Exemption (Brophy McGee) This bill includes nonprofit corporations providing low-income rental housing.

**Good Bills that Died**

HB2067: Behavioral Health; Dependent Children; Reports (Barto) This bill requires AHCCCS and DCS to report financial and program accountability trends semiannually. **SUPPORT**

HB2120 (Barto) and SB1097 (Carter): AHCCCS; Chiropractic Coverage These companion bills allow AHCCCS to cover chiropractic services following referral from a primary care physician. **SUPPORT**

HB2148: Syringe Service Programs; Authorization (Rivero) This bill allows creation of syringe needle exchange programs. Establishes requirements for these programs including needle replacement and disposal, access to naloxone kits, provision of educational materials on prevention of overdose, HIV, and Hep C, and referrals to mental health and substance use treatment programs. **SUPPORT**

SB1011: Appropriation; DES; Information; Referral Service (Carter) This bill appropriates $1.5 million in general fund monies to establish a statewide 211 information and referral service. **SUPPORT**

SB1088: AHCCCS; Pregnant Women; Dental Care (Carter) This bill allows for comprehensive dental care for pregnant women over age 21. Appropriates general fund and prescription drug rebate funding for the federal match. Requires a report to the legislature in October 2020 on costs. **SUPPORT**

SB1296: Approp; Healthy Families Program (Brophy McGee) This bills appropriates $3 million from the state general fund to continue the Healthy Families program. **SUPPORT**

SB1306: Kinship Foster Care; TANF monies (Brophy McGee) This bill allows kinship providers to receive “child only” TANF payments without application and allocates $5 million from the TANF block grant for these children. The budget allows all kinship providers to qualify for the $75/month kinship stipend without application however. **SUPPORT**

SB1497: Housing Trust Fund; Unclaimed Property (Carter) This bill restores the Housing Trust Fund to pre-recession funding levels. **SUPPORT**

SB1524: Nursing Shortage; Plan; Pilot Program (Carter) This bill requires the Board of Regents to establish a long term plan and pilot program to address Arizona’s nursing shortage. **SUPPORT**

HB2142: Driver License Fees; Homeless (Bolding) This bill removes the driver’s license fee for homeless individuals.

HB2186: School Meals; Unpaid Fees (Udall) This bill requires schools to provide meals to students regardless of ability to pay.

HB2218: Appropriations; Primary Care Loan Repayment (Blanc) This bill appropriates and additional $250,000 from the general fund to the state student loan repayment program.

SB1047 (Bowie) and HB2658 (Chavez): Sexual Orientation; Conversion Therapy; Prohibition This bill establishes that it is unprofessional conduct for any psychotherapist to provide conversion therapy to those under age 18. Violations are subject to regulatory board disciplinary action.

SB1148: DPS School Safety Hotline (Boyer) This bill establishes a Center for School Safety at DPS that is required to create a Safe Schools Hotline Program to allow anonymous reporting of dangerous, violent, or unlawful activity occurring or threatened to occur at schools.

SB1175: DCS Systemic Critical Incident Review (Carter) This DCS sponsored bill codifies the existing critical incident debriefing process. Makes information gained through this process confidential but available to legislators in executive session.

SB1217: Arizona High School Graduates; Tuition (Carter) This bill allows all AZ high school graduates to receive in state tuition.

SB1249: Antidiscrimination; Employment; Housing; Public Accommodations (Brophy McGee) This bill adds sexual orientation and gender identity to the non-discrimination laws relating to employment, housing, and public accommodation.

SB1342: Rural Health Providers; Tax Credit (Carter) This bill establishes a tax credit for licensed rural health professionals. The credit ranges from $1500 to $5000 depending on profession and hours worked.

SB1402: Controlled Substances; Schedule Designations (Carter) This bill makes changes to state law to reflect federal regulations.

SB1471: Homeless Youth; Families; Funding Source (S Allen) This bill uses taxes from non-resident real estate sales for capital projects, rental assistance for homeless youth and families, and supplement existing funding for homeless youth and families. This bill died, but the funding stream was included in the budget, however it does specify it should go to the Housing Trust Fund.

**Bullets Dodged**

HB2356: Public Safety Guardianships (Barto). This bill establishes the Office of Public Safety Guardianship and a petition process to identify those who are likely to commit violent acts or cause harm to another person. Requires the Arizona State Hospital to establish a program to treat, house, and care for these individuals.

HB2377: Dependency; Substance Abuse; Services; Petition (Barto) This bill requires DCS to file dependency petitions on all substance exposed children under the age of 6 months. **OPPOSE**