# Children are at the heart of what we do.

Both parents play an important role in raising a healthy child.

As parents, you have equal rights to be informed and have access to services that will assist you in providing support for your children. Regular child support payments help families meet their children's daily needs, including food, shelter and health care.



Professional staff of the Connecticut Department of Social Services Office of Child Support Services and Judicial Branch Support Enforcement Services work together, with legal assistance from the Office of the Attorney General, to provide child support services to families.

# What Child Support Services does the State of Connecticut offer?

- Locating noncustodial parents
- Establishing legal parentage of children
- Establishing financial, medical and child care orders
- Collecting and distributing child support payments
- Reviewing and modifying child support orders, if appropriate
- Enforcing child support orders
- Service of process in child support matters

# How do I apply for child support services?

The first step is to contact a local branch of the Office of Child Support Services at the Department of Social Services. Please see the list of offices and phone numbers in this pamphlet.

The Child Support Call Center at 1-800-228-KIDS(5437) will also provide information about applying. Helpful information is also at www. ct.gov/dss/childsupport, or can be found at any Judicial Branch Support Enforcement Services office.

There is no fee to apply for child support services. However, you may be charged an annual service fee of \$35.

#### **Court-based Support**

The Judicial Branch Support Enforcement Services is responsible for all court-based enforcement actions, including:

- Contempt applications
- Reviewing and/or modifying your financial, medical and/or child care orders
   Either parent can request a review of the support order to see if it should be changed.
   Requests for a review should be made to your local Support Enforcement Services office.

For more information about these services, please visit www.jud.ct.gov/childsupport/.

#### How is child support collected?

#### **Methods include:**

- Income withholding
- Interception of federal and state tax refunds
- Credit bureau reporting
- Liens on real estate and personal property
- Seizure of financial assets
- Passport denial
- Interception of lottery winnings



Connecticut's child support program is designed to get your child the financial and medical support he or she deserves, in recognition that both parents are responsible for supporting their children

Child support services can be provided in most cases even if the other parent does not live in Connecticut.

### DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES OFFICE OF CHILD SUPPORT SERVICES

**Bridgeport** 

925 Housatonic Avenue; 203-551-2703

**Danbury** 

342 Main Street; 203-207-8986

**Greater Hartford** 

20 Meadow Road, Windsor; 860-723-1002

Manchester

699 East Middle Turnpike; 860-647-5913

Middletown

2018 South Main Street, Suite B; 860-704-3126

**New Britain** 

30 Christian Lane; 860-612-3465

**New Haven** 

50 Humphrey Street; 203-974-8248

Norwich

401 West Thames Street, Unit 102; 860-823-3325

**Stamford** 

1642 Bedford Street; 203-251-9417

**Torrington** 

62 Commercial Boulevard; 860-496-6944

Waterbury

249 Thomaston Avenue; 203-597-4171

Willimantic

Tyler Square, 1320 Main St.; 860-465-3590

For persons with hearing or speech impairment: please dial 7-1-1

#### **RESOURCES**

Child Support Call Center 1-800-228-KIDS (5437) Child Support Payment Information 1-888-233-7223

- Automated, up-to-date information about your case
   Access your account 24 hours/day
  - Staff is available to answer questions from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday to Friday
- Set up direct deposit for your child support (note: payments are received by direct deposit or ATM-type electronic benefits transfer cards)

  Fatherhood Initiative of Connecticut

  1-866.6CTDADS(1-866-628-3237)

www.ct.gov/fatherhood



# We look forward to serving your family!

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The Department of Social Services' programs are available to all applicants and recipients without regard to race, color, creed, gender, sexual orientation, age, disabilities, learning disabilities, national origin, ancestry or language barriers.

For persons with a hearing or speech impairment,
Dial 7-1-1 or 1-800-842-4524.

Auxiliary aids are also available for blind or visually impaired persons. The State of Connecticut is an equal opportunity,

affirmative action employer.

# **Child Support Services** in Connecticut

**A Brief Guide** 

Kids... the of what we do



## Connecticut Department of Social Services Office of Child Support Services

Deidre S. Gifford, MD, MPH Commissioner

### Support Enforcement Services Connecticut Judicial Branch

Judge Patrick L. Carroll, III Chief Court Administrator