



Covenant to Care for Children

*Helping Connecticut's
Children in Need.*

1477 Park Street
Suite 2A
Hartford, CT 06106
Telephone (860) 243-1806
Fax (860) 243-0100
www.covenanttocare.org

February 19, 2020

Good evening Senator Osten, Representative Walker and esteemed members of the State Appropriations Committee.

I am Nancy Fleming, finance manager for Covenant to Care for Children (CCC), and I am here to comment on H.B. 5005, An Act Adjusting the State Budget for the Biennium Ending June Thirtieth, 2021.

Covenant to Care for Children is a statewide agency which for over 33 years has provided a safety net for abused, neglected or impoverished Connecticut children by providing basic essential support in moments that are critical for a child's ability to thrive and a family's ability to stay together.

I am here tonight to ask that you support the Governor's proposed level of funding to CCC at **\$161,778** so that we may continue our mission to assist Connecticut's most helpless citizens, the countless children who have no voice.

The basic essential support which CCC provides these at risk children include, but are not limited to new twin beds, car seats, strollers, toiletry items, diapers, clothing, school supplies and school uniforms. Last fiscal year, CCC and its partners provided these basic essential goods to more than **8,800** of Connecticut's most vulnerable children.

Since beginning operations in 1987, CCC and its partners have provided basic essential support to over **829,000** Connecticut children. Ideally, these services would be coordinated by 4 full time employees. But as funding has remained flat for many years, it has been necessary to administer our program with one full time and one part time employee.

Covenant to Care for Children is unique in that we partner with over 100 faith and/or community based organizations to provide children with these basic essential goods. Many of the children receiving these goods are involved with the Department of Children and Families or are at high risk of becoming involved with the Department. Often the goods provided by CCC prevent the removal of a child from the home. In some instances, we are able to provide goods necessary for the

reunification of a child with his or her caregiver. In still other cases, these basic essential goods may help prevent disruption of the family.

Please support the funding to Covenant to Care for Children included in the Governor's budget so that CCC may continue to help Connecticut's neediest children see a brighter future for themselves.

Thank you,

Nancy J Fleming
Covenant to Care for Children
1477 Park Street Suite 2A
Hartford, CT. 06106
nfleming@covenanttocare.org



Covenant to Care for Children

*Helping Connecticut's
Children in Need.*

1477 Park Street
Suite 2A
Hartford, CT 06106
Telephone (860) 243-1806
Fax (860) 243-0100
www.covenanttocare.org

Children Served Through Covenant to Care for Children

Fiscal Year 2019

By

DCF Sub-Region

Bridgeport	951
Stamford/Norwalk	110
New Haven/Milford	182
Meriden	92
Middletown	94
Norwich	78
Willimantic	468
Hartford	3,098
New Britain	1,149
Manchester	1,719
Danbury	34
Torrington	113
Waterbury	10