

# VETERANS' CHILD WELFARE SERVICE OFFICE

## Enabling Laws

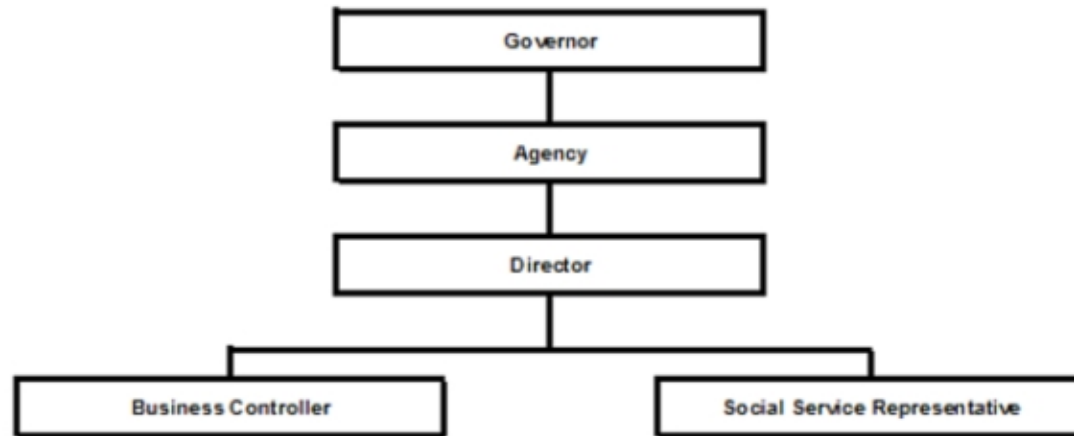
Act 118 of 2016  
A.C.A. §20-81-101

## History and Organization

The American Legion Child Welfare Division originated as a unit of the American Legion in 1923 to provide aid to the needy children of hospitalized and deceased veterans. Funds were provided through the American Legion Posts and Auxiliary Units.

Act 189 of 1969 changed the name of the Agency to the Arkansas Veterans Child Welfare Service Office. The Agency was put under the supervision of a Director appointed by the Governor upon written recommendation by the governing body of the American Legion Department of Arkansas. The Agency was delegated the responsibility of establishing temporary and interim welfare assistance for the minor age children of hospitalized and recently deceased Honorably Discharged Veterans who reside in Arkansas.

Act 100 of 1997 allowed our Agency to assist children of Honorably Discharged Arkansas Veterans who are deceased, hospitalized or medically incapacitated. Funds for the Agency are procured by funded appropriation from the State of Arkansas and from the American Legion Posts and Auxiliary Units through memorials, donations and contributions received throughout the year.



### **Agency Commentary**

The Arkansas Veterans Child Welfare Service strives to provide needed services and assistance to the minor children of honorably discharged Arkansas veterans who are experiencing medical issues. Our budget in previous years and for the upcoming biennial budget period remains unchanged.

The Veterans Child Welfare Service has succeeded in staying within our approved budget each year, even with rising operating expenses and with the need for grants and aid increasing.

In closing, it is essential that the Arkansas Veterans Child Welfare Service's biennial budget for 2017-2019 remain at its present level to ensure the financial obligations of the agency are met.

## Audit Findings

DIVISION OF LEGISLATIVE AUDIT  
AUDIT OF :  
ARKANSAS VETERANS CHILD WELFARE SERVICE  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2015

Findings

Recommendations

None

None

## State Contracts Over \$50,000 Awarded To Minority Owned Businesses Fiscal Year 2016

None

## Employment Summary

	Male	Female	Total	%
White Employees	1	1	2	100 %
Black Employees	0	0	0	0 %
Other Racial Minorities	0	0	0	0 %
Total Minorities			0	0 %
Total Employees			2	100 %

## Publications

### A.C.A. 25-1-201 et seq.

Name	Statutory Authorization	Required for		# of Copies	Reason(s) for Continued Publication and Distribution	Unbound Black & White Copies Produced During the Last Two Years	Cost of Unbound Copies Produced During the Last Two Years
		Governor	General Assembly				
None	NA	N	N	0	NA	0	0.00

## Agency Position Usage Report

FY2014 - 2015						FY2015 - 2016						FY2016 - 2017					
Authorized in Act	Budgeted			Unbudgeted	% of Authorized Unused	Authorized in Act	Budgeted			Unbudgeted	% of Authorized Unused	Authorized in Act	Budgeted			Unbudgeted	% of Authorized Unused
	Filled	Unfilled	Total	Total			Filled	Unfilled	Total	Total			Filled	Unfilled	Total	Total	
2	2	0	2	0	0.00 %	2	2	0	2	0	0.00 %	2	2	0	2	0	0.00 %

## **Analysis of Budget Request**

**Appropriation:** 064 - Vet Child Welfare Operations

**Funding Sources:** HUA - Miscellaneous Agencies Fund

The Veterans Child Welfare Service offers temporary financial assistance to the minor children of recently deceased, hospitalized or medically incapacitated veterans with limited or no income, until a more permanent source of income is established. Veterans and their families are eligible for assistance for up to three months with rent or house payments and utilities. Additional assistance will be at the Director's discretion. The Staff also counsels with families and refers them to other agencies for further assistance. The program is also subsidized by the American Legion and its Auxiliary. This appropriation is funded from general revenue.

Base Level Regular Salaries and Personal Services Matching include the continuation of the previously authorized 2017 Salaries and Career Service Payments for eligible employees. Personal Services Matching includes the monthly contribution for State employee's health insurance for a total State match per budgeted employee of \$420 per month. Base Level salaries and matching do not include appropriation for a Cost of Living Adjustment or Merit Pay Increases. The Base Level salary of unclassified positions reflects the FY17 line item maximum plus the previously authorized 2016 1% Cost of Living Adjustment authorized by Act 1007 (3 (B)) of 2015.

The Agency's Base Level and total request is for appropriation of \$160,409 for FY18 and \$160,532 for FY19.

The Executive Recommendation provides for the Agency Request.

## Appropriation Summary

**Appropriation:** 064 - Vet Child Welfare Operations

**Funding Sources:** HUA - Miscellaneous Agencies Fund

### Historical Data

### Agency Request and Executive Recommendation

Commitment Item		Historical Data			Agency Request and Executive Recommendation			Agency Request and Executive Recommendation		
		2015-2016 Actual	2016-2017 Budget	2016-2017 Authorized	2017-2018			2018-2019		
					Base Level	Agency	Executive	Base Level	Agency	Executive
Regular Salaries	5010000	89,260	85,467	84,631	85,467	85,467	85,467	85,567	85,567	85,567
<b>#Positions</b>		<b>2</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>2</b>
Personal Services Matching	5010003	29,889	29,011	29,096	29,490	29,490	29,490	29,513	29,513	29,513
Operating Expenses	5020002	2,481	3,432	3,432	3,432	3,432	3,432	3,432	3,432	3,432
Conference & Travel Expenses	5050009	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Professional Fees	5060010	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Data Processing	5090012	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Grants and Aid	5100004	40,768	42,020	44,360	42,020	42,020	42,020	42,020	42,020	42,020
Capital Outlay	5120011	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>Total</b>		<b>162,398</b>	<b>159,930</b>	<b>161,519</b>	<b>160,409</b>	<b>160,409</b>	<b>160,409</b>	<b>160,532</b>	<b>160,532</b>	<b>160,532</b>
<b>Funding Sources</b>										
General Revenue	4000010	162,398	159,930		160,409	160,409	160,409	160,532	160,532	160,532
<b>Total Funding</b>		<b>162,398</b>	<b>159,930</b>		<b>160,409</b>	<b>160,409</b>	<b>160,409</b>	<b>160,532</b>	<b>160,532</b>	<b>160,532</b>
Excess Appropriation/(Funding)		0	0		0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>Grand Total</b>		<b>162,398</b>	<b>159,930</b>		<b>160,409</b>	<b>160,409</b>	<b>160,409</b>	<b>160,532</b>	<b>160,532</b>	<b>160,532</b>

FY17 Budget amount in Regular Salaries exceeds the authorized amount due to salary adjustments during the 2015-2017 Biennium.