The DHR Family Investment Administration provides assistance to low-income families so that they can cover basic needs such as food, shelter and clothing while preparing them for independence through work.

**More people returning to work.**
Job creation plays an important role in lifting families out of poverty.

- DHR placed a record 24,600 welfare recipients in jobs since September 2011.
- The starting wage for approximately 37% of the jobs was $10 per hour or higher.
- 2 year average increase
- 18%

**Welfare rolls are shrinking.** As the economy improves, the number of individuals seeking temporary cash assistance (TCA) has decreased.

- In September 2013, there were 8,942 TCA recipients who were work eligible. This is a 11% decrease from September 2012, when 10,085 such TCA recipients received benefits.
- Maryland has seen a 25% reduction since December 2010 when this caseload reached its highest level.
- The overall caseload decreased 13% from a peak of 29,637 in December 2010 to 25,752 in October 2013.

**180,000 fewer children go hungry.**
Governor O’Malley set a goal of eliminating childhood hunger by 2015. Since 2007:

- We’ve increased Food Supplement Program enrollment from approximately 146,500 low-income families to more than 400,000.
- The total number of children served grew from 148,352 to 329,340.
- Overall, 94% of families with children who are eligible for food stamps in Maryland receive them.
- 122%

**Improved customer service.**
DHR is helping families get assistance faster while improving our accuracy.

- Applications for social safety net services for 900,000 Marylanders -- including food, health care and cash assistance -- were processed on time.
- 96%
- Updated 01/2014