



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DES to Begin Administering Child Support Services in Gila County

PHOENIX - (November 2, 2020) The Arizona Department of Economic Security (DES) announced today it will administer the Gila County Child Support Program. Gila County's Child Support Program is currently being operated by the Gila County Attorney's Office and will transition to the DES Division of Child Support Services (DCSS) beginning November 9, 2020.

"We welcome the opportunity to serve families in Gila County as we do for all other counties in Arizona," said DES Director Michael Wisehart. "We're grateful for the support from our Gila County partners to ensure there will be no disruption to families throughout this transition."

Gila County, the Arizona Attorney General's Office, the Administrative Office of the Courts and the Gila County Clerk of the Court are actively engaged with DCSS to transition approximately 1,100 cases. The Division currently manages 151,300 cases throughout the state.

Current Gila County clients with a valid email address and phone number have received emails, texts and a mailed notice from the Division informing them of this change. DCSS offers convenient, virtual services, such as various payment methods, including [online](#), [phone](#), [select retail locations](#), and [mail](#), as well as the [Arizona Child Support Portal](#). The portal also contains information regarding payment history and case status, the ability to update contact information and correspond with customer service.

The new DES Gila County child support office will be located at 605 S. 7th St. Globe, Arizona 85501, and will follow the same virtual service model of DES offices. This location will have a document drop box where clients can securely submit documents in addition to the services clients can access virtually at des.az.gov/dcsc.

The federal child support program was established in 1975 under Title IV-D of the Social Security Act (IV-D). In Arizona, this program has operated through DES and the county governments, but with the transition of Gila County, DES will now serve the entire state. The goals of the child support program are to ensure that children are supported by their parents; to foster family responsibility by offering services and resources to families that will help them become more self-reliant; and to reduce the costs of public assistance to the taxpayer. Some of these services include obtaining a child support order, collecting child, medical and spousal support payments from parents who have a court order, and helping parents establish paternity. Child support services are available to any Arizona resident. To apply for child support services, custodial parents must complete a [Request for Title IV-D Child Support Services](#)

application and email, mail or drop it off at a DCSS office.

For more information, please visit the [DCSS website](#).

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