



2021 Health and Human Services Budget in Review

DHS Legislative and Budget Team

2021 Session in Review

- Started with a \$1.273 billion projected deficit FY 22-23 in November Forecast
- Vastly improved \$1.571 billion surplus projected in February Forecast
- Federal American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) passed in March
- Federal Guidance on ARPA not issued until mid May
- Regular session ended May 17th. No committees had passed a budget
- Budget finally passed June 28th in Special Session
- Historic Health and Human Services budget

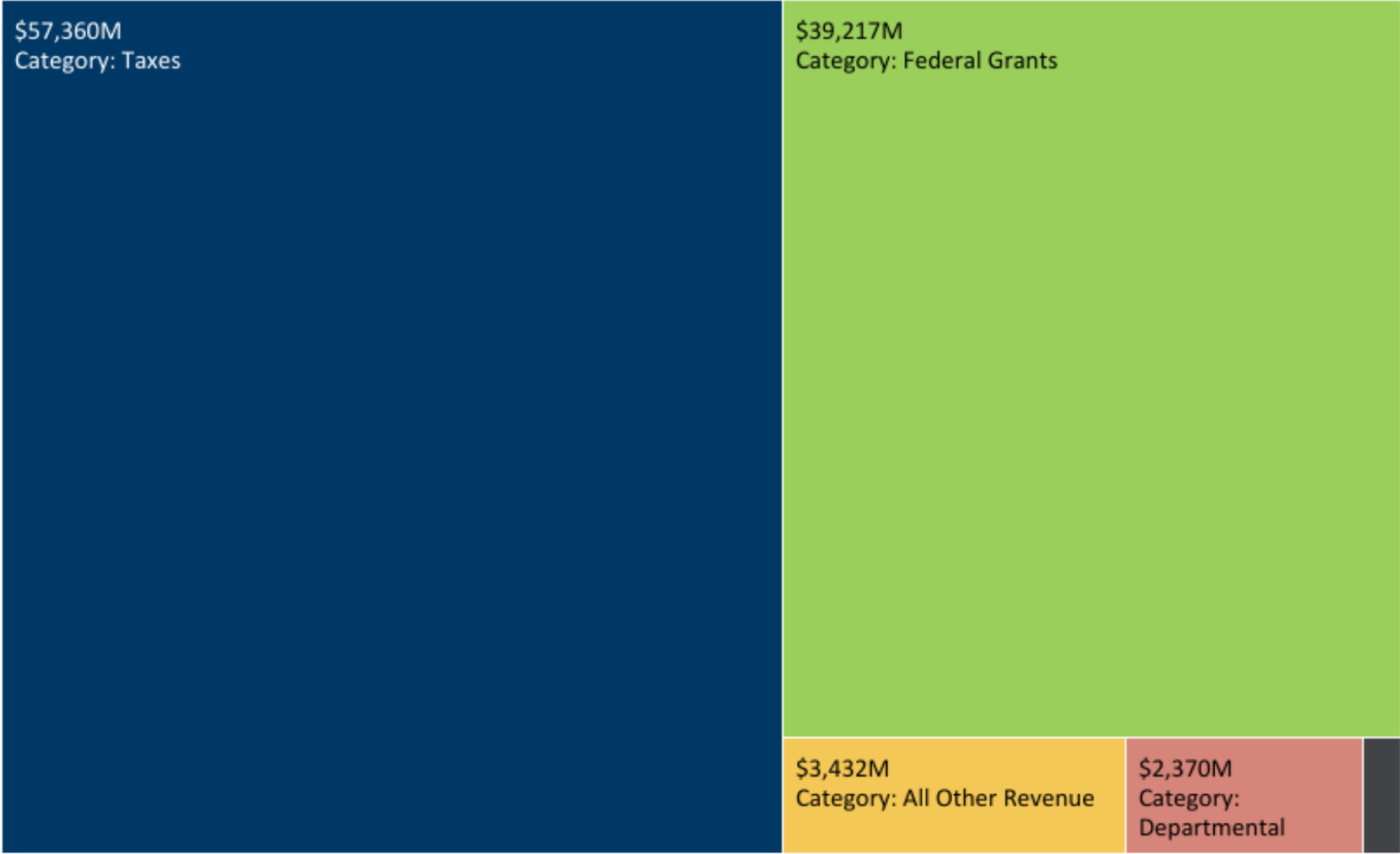
MN Legislature During COVID-19

- Most of session virtual
- Hearings stream on Legislative website, YouTube and Facebook Live
- Zoom hearing attendance
- Remote meetings with legislators, staff and stakeholders



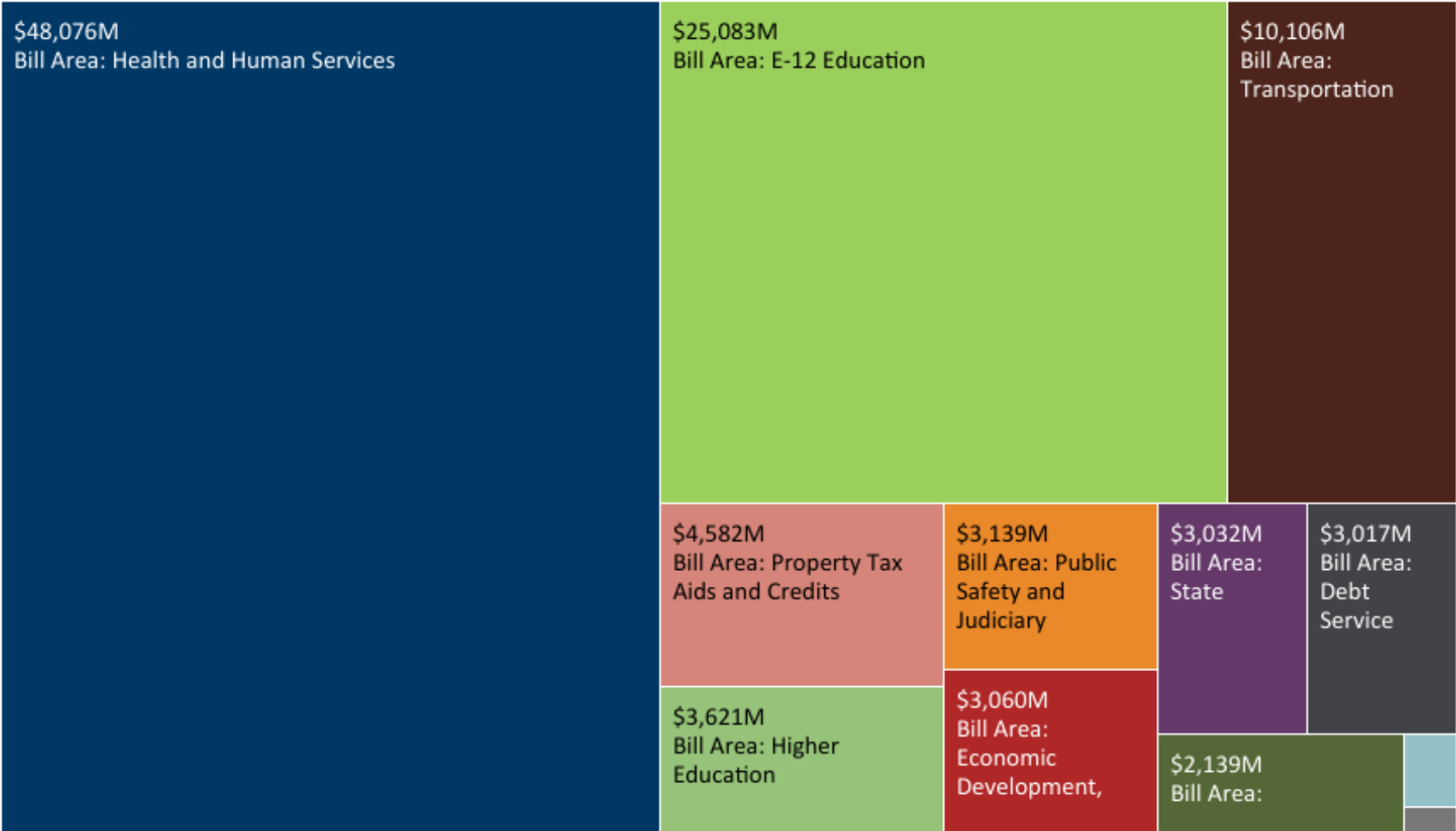
Budget Snapshot

Where the state's money comes from (FY22-23, in millions)



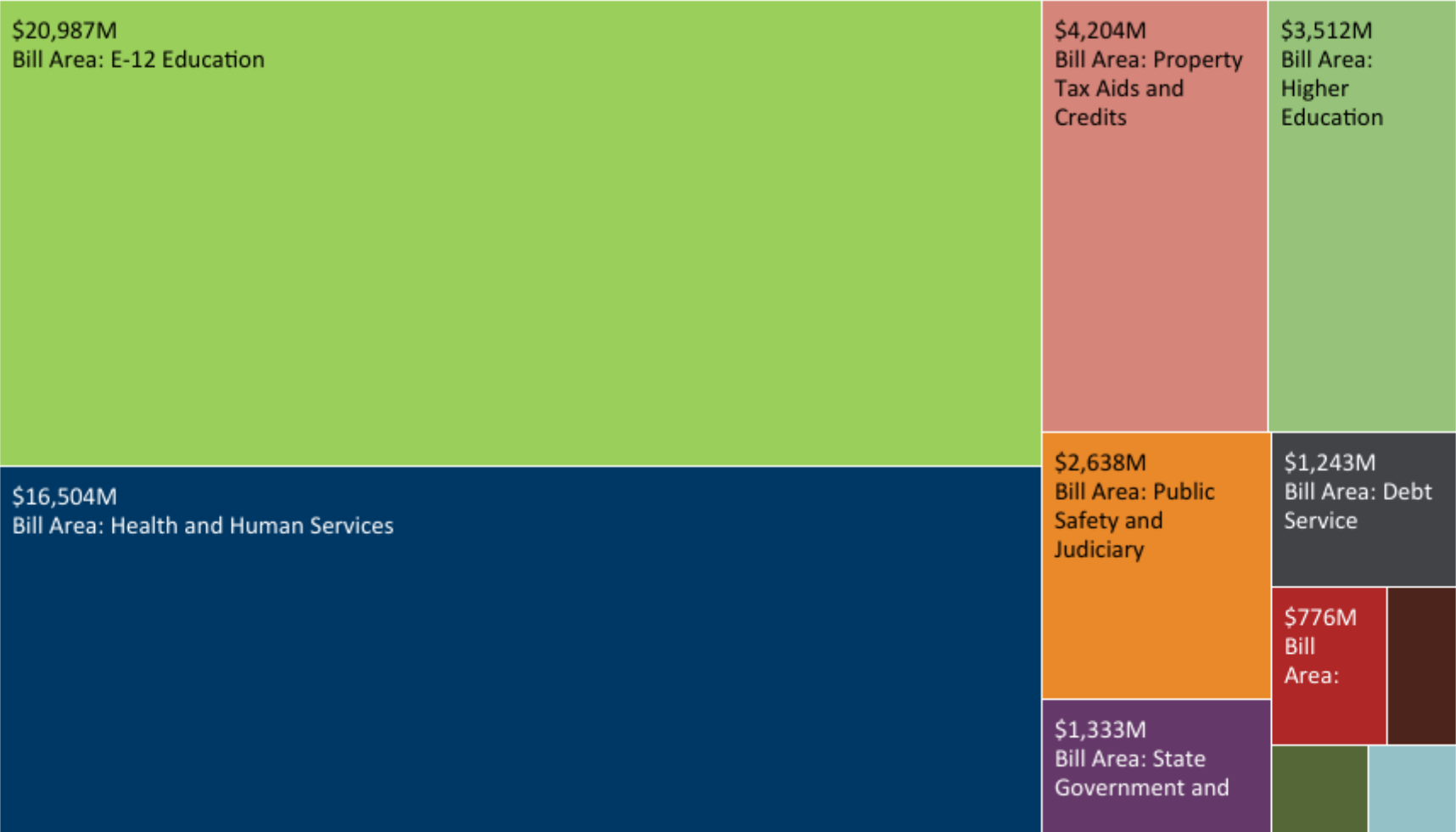
Budget Snapshot

Where the state's money goes (FY22-23, in millions, all funds)



Budget Snapshot

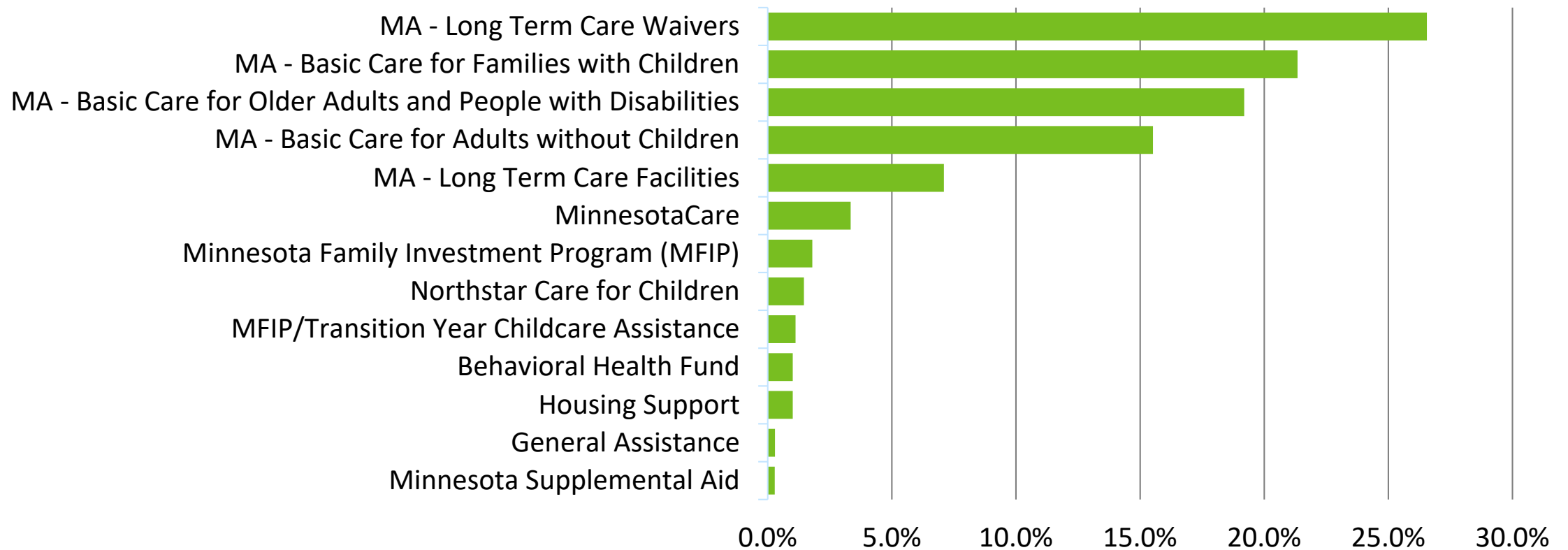
Where the state's money goes (FY22-23, in millions, General Fund)



Budget Snapshot

Health and Human Services Spending

Percent of Total Forecast Spending (all funds)



Supporting Children and Families

- One-time payment of up to \$435 to support families in the Minnesota Family Investment Program (MFIP)
- Annual cost-of-living increases for MFIP cash assistance benefits
- Higher rates for the Child Care Assistance Program
- A tribal training partnership to train and certify child protection workers to fully comply with the Indian Child Welfare Act, and to use culturally responsive practices to better serve American Indian children and families in the child protection system
- Grants to help improve access to shelter and housing for people experiencing homelessness

Strengthening health care coverage for Minnesotans

- People on MinnesotaCare will benefit from lower premiums through 2022, and easier access to coverage for family members if employer-sponsored coverage is unaffordable
- New mothers will keep Medical Assistance coverage for a full year after giving birth
- Integrated Care for High Risk Pregnancies, a successful program for pregnant African American and American Indian women and their babies, will expand to improve overall health, social and economic outcomes through culturally specific services and resources
- Expanded access to telehealth will continue for Minnesotans on public health care programs
- Higher payment rates for dentists will make dental care more accessible
- Medical Assistance enrollees will have easier access to public transit passes, reducing barriers to care.

Making behavioral health care more culturally informed and accessible

- Higher payment rates will support more culturally specific and culturally responsive treatment services for substance use disorder, as well as SUD treatment services responsive to people with disabilities.
- The state will seek to extend its federal substance use disorder demonstration to all residential treatment providers to ensure high quality care around the state.
- A task force convening in summer 2022 will make recommendations for more culturally informed and culturally responsive mental health services statewide.
- Video and audio access to treatment for mental health, substance use disorder and case management will remain available, while study of the impact of telehealth on coverage and services will continue.
- Expanded School-linked behavioral health grants will support both mental health and substance use disorder services for more children and youth.
- Mobile crisis teams that respond rapidly in crisis situations and link people to services will expand.

Increasing resources for older adults and people with disabilities

- A significant boost in federal funding for Home and Community Based Services through March 2024 will strengthen services for older Minnesotans and people with disabilities.
- Payment rates will increase for disability waiver services, home health and home care nursing services, and services on the Elderly Waiver, Alternative Care, and Essential Community Supports programs.
- Payment rates for Personal Care Assistance services will see a historic increase
- The second phase of Waiver Reimagine will empower people with disabilities by consolidating four waivers into two and implementing an individual budget methodology based on a person's needs.
- Grants to HCBS providers statewide will help build capacity so that people can receive services from providers with shared histories, languages, cultures and norms.
- A task force will recommend how to phase out subminimum wages paid by disability service providers, while grants will support providers to move beyond subminimum wage work for people with disabilities.
- Up to 100 counties, Tribes and community organizations will receive grants to enhance structures, services and community features to support older residents as Age-Friendly Communities.

Operations/Direct Care and Treatment

- A task force will review background study eligibility and disqualifications and make recommendations.
- Cultural and Ethnic Communities Leadership Council (CECLC) advises the DHS commissioner on implementing strategies to reduce inequities and disparities that particularly affect racial and ethnic groups in Minnesota. The sunset for the council was extended until 2025 and the legislature added money for stipends and expense reimbursement for council members.
- The 2021 Family Child Care Task Force Report indicated that some child care providers struggle with complicated licensing requirements, which can lead to fewer providers. In 2021, the Legislature funded regulation modernization projects for both family child care and child care centers, funding will be used to develop a streamlined licensing process for child care.
- Minnesota's state-operated services, including inpatient mental health facilities and home and community based services for people with disabilities, will get increased funding to ensure continued access to these services

Thank You!