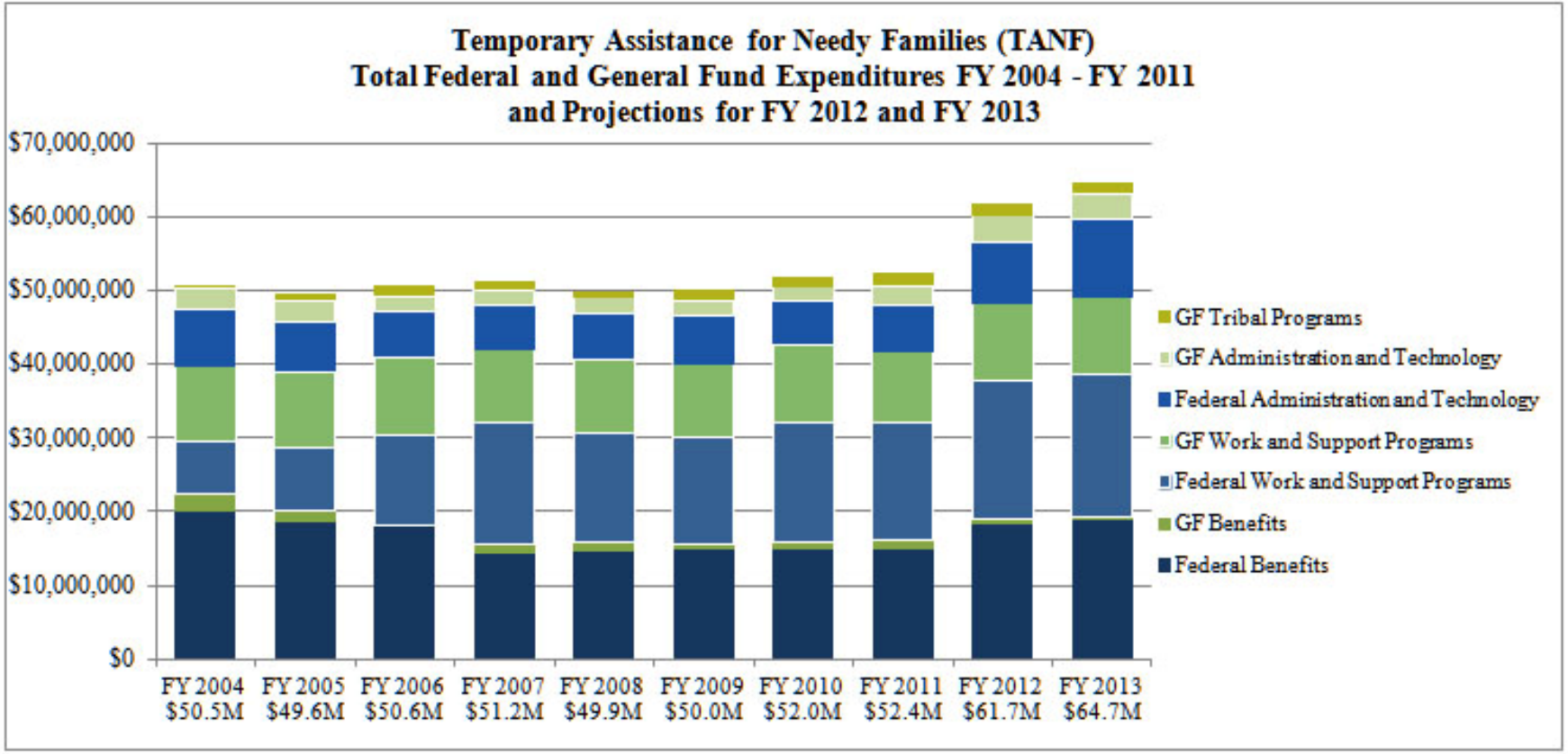

TANF is presently funded with a $38.0 million federal block grant and a required state general fund match that is about $13.0 million a year. General fund primarily supports the work readiness, other support programs, administration, some cash assistance benefits, and the state match for computer systems. The average TANF benefit recipients numbered 14,600 in FY 2004, 10,196 in FY 2006, 7,874 in FY 2008 and 9,364 in FY 2010. There were 8,683 recipients in December, 2011. Unused federal funds may be carried forward.

Decreases in federal benefits through FY 2006 reflect: the federal change from direct benefits to a TANF block grant and the gradual exit of "direct benefit" clients; the Deficit Reduction Act of 2005; some tribal assumptions of TANF plans; and an improved employment picture in many Montana communities. The projected increases through FY 2013 reflect: benefit increases should the economic decline continue and more families qualify for TANF support as their unemployment ends and assets such as savings accounts are depleted; legislative increases in TANF funds for child care and foster care, as well as TANF and general fund increases for the implementaion of TANF related enrollment, benefit and tracking systems (CHIMES - EA).

Charts are developed using data from the Department of Public Health and Human Services and state-wide accounting systems.
For TANF eligibility see: http://www.dphhs.mt.gov/hcsd/tanf/tanfeligibility.shtml