

# It's time to put a stop to privatization.

Last month, a new computer program threw Ontario's social assistance system into chaos.

The Social Assistance Management System (SAMS) paid some people too much, others too little, and some not at all. It sent cheques to wrong addresses and the wrong people. Some recipients were cut off altogether. Others saw their health benefits cancelled.

One family of five got a cheque for \$5.00.

Frontline social services staff had 13,000 problems with the system in the first five weeks. What did Ontario Premier Kathleen Wynne call it? "A glitch."

It wasn't. The SAMS fiasco is just the latest episode in the Wynne government's love affair with privatization. Since 2010, Liberal spending on private Information Technology (IT) contractors has skyrocketed. Yet a recent consultant's report – paid for by the government – found that private IT contractors typically cost **two to three times more** than public employees doing the same work.

Paying more to pad private profits may be a signature policy of the Wynne government, but it's not working for Ontarians. It's time to put a stop to privatization.

**Please contact your MPP.**

A message from the Ontario Public Service Employees Union

[www.opseu.org](http://www.opseu.org)

