Bureau Name: Children's Bureau
Grant Number: 90CB0147
Target Population: Abandoned infants
Fiscal Year: 2005

GRANTEE INFORMATION:

Name: County of Santa Cruz
Address: 1400 Emeline Ave. #K
City/State/Zip Code: Santa Cruz, CA 95060
Principal Contact Person: Judy Yokel
Telephone Number: 831-454-4130

OTHER GRANT INFORMATION:

Amount of Award: $475,000.00
Program Name: Abandoned Infant Projects
ACF Region: 9
Congressional District Served: 17
Related Links:

ABSTRACT:

Organization Description: The Santa Cruz County Human Resources Agency (HRA) provides social services, public assistance, and employment training to County residents. The Family and Child Services Division of the HRA provides all public child welfare services, foster and adoption services for the County.

Use(s) of ACF Program Funds: A public/private consortium including the Santa Cruz County child welfare agency, public health division, alcohol and drug program, and community-based treatment providers are responding to the need to change the county’s child welfare system and improve services for substance-abusing pregnant and parenting Latinos and families. The consortium agrees that prenatal screening and early intervention services are critical elements of the strategy to provide support to promote positive outcomes for these families. In order to attract and retain these women in prenatal care, promote healthier family functioning, and assure quality care for their children, the emphasis is to develop an innovative approach to prenatal outreach and a continuity of care to this population throughout the pregnancy
and the child’s early years. A culturally competent staff will ensure a family-based support system that will result in better outcomes in preventing the need for out-of-home placement of children, or supporting the family while the child is in a kinship placement or culturally appropriate foster home. The approach includes integrated support for substance abusing parents in residential or day treatment, methadone treatment and clean and sober housing programs so that at the time of birth, there is a smooth transition to the sustainable placement of the infant or support for the parent(s) to care for the child. This requires a high level of coordination of the child welfare and public health services as well as introducing new screening and support services at the nonprofit substance abuse treatment facilities. The project will also train the medical community, community-based organizations and the recovery community to better and earlier identify substance-abusing Latino women, and to assist these women in engaging in treatment.

**ACF CONTACT INFORMATION:**

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(To revise this search, go back to Steps 1-2, 3, 4, 5)