Bureau Name: Children's Bureau  
Grant Number: 90CB0153  
Target Population: Substance exposed newborns  
Fiscal Year: 2005

GRANTEE INFORMATION:
   Name: Denver Department of Human Services  
   Address: 1200 Federal Blvd.  
   City/State/Zip Code: Denver, CO 80204  
   Principal Contact Person: Ben Levek  
   Telephone Number: 720-944-2875

OTHER GRANT INFORMATION:
   Amount of Award: $150,000.00  
   Program Name: Abandoned Infant Projects  
   Project Period: 9/30/2005-9/30/2010  
   ACF Region: 8  
   Congressional District Served: 1-7

ABSTRACT:

Organization Description: The Denver Department of Human Services (DDHS) provides financial benefits and services to Denver's citizens. DDHS administers federal, state and local funds for Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF), Medicaid, food stamps, Low-Income Energy Assistance Program (LEAP), Child Welfare Services, Child Support and Enforcement and General Assistance. DDHS is recognized for the quality of its programs and services by the Council on Accreditation for Children and Family Services.

Use(s) of ACF Program Grant Funds: The primary objective of the Colorado Systems Integration Model for Infants (C-SIMI) project is the incorporation of best practice approaches from the child welfare, drug treatment, legal and health care systems involved with substance-exposed infants and their families. C-SIMI will assist substance-exposed children and their families by responding to the complexities of prenatal substance exposure with comprehensive intervention and enhanced and optimal utilization of existing services for healthy infants. The project will utilize a collaborative, best practices based, integrated systems expertise approach that provides: secondary prevention of harm from...
prenatal exposure to illicit drugs; proactive outreach through local community health clinics focusing on Latino and Black populations; effective strategies and protocols for the identification of maternal substance abuse prenatally as well as substance-exposed newborns at the time of birth; a Child Welfare notification protocol for hospital health care providers; innovative Child Welfare risk assessment procedures; seamless interface with appropriate drug treatment programming including the assessment of families involved in treatment programs for child safety concerns; and cooperation with the court system to better inform their response to the families facing substance abuse issues that they serve. Expected results and benefits include integrated systems of service for the largest population area in the state of Colorado. C-SIMI will coordinate and magnify the benefits of current programs while utilizing resources in the most humane and efficient manner focusing on efficiency. The project will enhance services expected to increase prenatal care and decrease re-reports of child abuse/neglect while providing alternatives to out of home placement that strengthen parenting capacity for protection of infant and benefits of strong maternal-child attachment. Overall, C-SIMI will strengthen families of infants and young children through humane and efficient use of public resources in identifying and assuring the safety of substance exposed newborns.

ACF CONTACT INFORMATION:

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