**Step 6: View Abstracts**

**Bureau Name:** Children's Bureau
**Grant Number:** 90CW1130
**Target Population:** Child welfare professionals
**Fiscal Year:** 2005

**GRANTEE INFORMATION:**

**Name:** Department of Social Services, State of Massachusetts
**Address:** Department of Social Services
24 Farnsworth St.
**City/State/Zip Code:** Boston, MA 02210
**Principal Contact Person:** Mary Gambon, Martha Henry
**Telephone Number:** 508-856-5397

**OTHER GRANT INFORMATION:**

**Amount of Award:** $249,722.00
**Program Name:** Child Welfare Research and Demonstrations
**Project Period:** 9/30/2005-9/29/2008
**ACF Region:** 1
**Congressional District Served:** 1

**ABSTRACT:**

**Organization Description:** The Massachusetts Department of Social Services is a state agency mandated to receive and respond to child abuse and neglect reports, and to provide an array of services to children and families across the Commonwealth. The primary mission of the DSS is to protect children who have been abused or neglected in a family setting or by a caretaker. The Department seeks to ensure that each child has a safe, nurturing, permanent home.

**Use(s) of ACF Program Grant Funds:** The Department of Social Services has formed a partnership with the Center for Adoption Research at the UMass Medical School to develop and implement a training and capacity building project to enhance and strengthen a systemic approach for youth aging out of the DSS foster care system so that they may make a successful transition to adulthood and achieving self-sufficiency. The program targets DSS social work supervisors, equivalent personnel in other state agencies and staff of contracted program providers to improve their skills and knowledge about appropriate programming and support for these youth. The project includes support for leadership and policy
development in building a transition system and includes curriculum development and a major dissemination component. The project objectives are to: educate DSS supervisors to support workers in positive youth development philosophy and practice, educate DSS supervisors in cultural competency and tools to identify opportunities to connect with culturally connected services, help supervisors assess youth's readiness/or independent living services and develop local systems and connections that assist youth making the transition to young adulthood, help supervisors to acquire the skills to identify and assess options for permanency including family connections, support services and community resources, to help youth foster and maintain meaningful familial lifelong connections, enable supervisors to develop skills to help them identify areas of stress and its impact on youth in foster care, connect training efforts at area offices and in local communities to leadership development of youth initiatives, evaluate outcomes and disseminate best practices, methods, and curricula locally, regionally, statewide, and nationally, and involve youth in decision making regarding their own needs and opportunities.

ACF CONTACT INFORMATION:
Federal Project Officer: Pamela Johnson
Telephone Number: 202-205-8086
Email Address: pam.johnson@acf.hhs.gov

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