**Bureau Name:** Children's Bureau  
**Grant Number:** 90CW1133  
**Target Population:** Child welfare professionals  
**Fiscal Year:** 2005

**GRANTEE INFORMATION:**
- **Name:** The University of Iowa  
- **Address:** 351 North Hall  
- **City/State/Zip Code:** Iowa City, IA 52242  
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**OTHER GRANT INFORMATION:**
- **Amount of Award:** $235,000.00  
- **Program Name:** Child Welfare Research and Demonstrations  
- **Project Period:** 9/30/2005-9/29/2008  
- **ACF Region:** 7  
- **Congressional District Served:** 1

**ABSTRACT:**

**Organization Description:** The University of Iowa School of Social Work offers Iowa's largest and most comprehensive social work education program, the only one with bachelor's, master's and doctoral programs. For twenty-five years, the University of Iowa School of Social Work has been home to the National Resource Center on Family Centered Practice (NRC), which has extensive capacity for providing training, technical assistance, and consultative services to state, local, and private, non-profit child welfare community based agencies around the country.

**Use(s) of ACF Program Grant Funds:** The University of Iowa School of Social Work (UI-SSW) will collaborate with the Iowa Department of Human Services (IDHS) to develop, field test, implement, evaluate, and disseminate a training program for public child welfare supervisors, and for supervisors mentoring their workers, to improve outcomes for older youth in transition from, foster care to independence. The project has three goals, each with specific objectives. These objectives are: to strengthen the quality of public child welfare supervision to improve outcomes for Iowa youth in transition from foster care to independence; to demonstrate a training
model that engages supervisors and their workers in a learning and team-building process around the needs of youth in transition; and to improve outcomes for youth in transition nationally, through varied dissemination activities. The approach builds on the core principles of youth development, cultural competence, collaboration, and permanent connections, and involves all Iowa Department of Human Services supervisors, line staff, and transitional planning specialists. The project involves youth, IDHS staff, and community partners in each step, from information gathering through focus groups and interviews, to curriculum development, field-testing, implementation, and evaluation, through dissemination. There are two phases to the curriculum. The first involving skill building with supervisors. The second bring supervisors and their workers together in a learning/team-building model, in which supervisors will participate as co-trainers. The project evaluation will examine the impact of the training program on knowledge acquisition, utilization of skills, and outcomes for youth as measured through quantitative data and from the perspectives of both youth and professionals. The key benefits of this project include developing and documenting a whole agency approach to improving outcomes for older youth in transition, producing and disseminating two distinct but complementary curricula to improve transitional planning for older youth; making the training and evaluation results widely available through printed and electronic means; and sustaining the capacity for ongoing training of new public child welfare employees through the UI-IDHS partnership.

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