Step 6: View Abstracts

Bureau Name: Children's Bureau
Grant Number: 90CO1012
Target Population: Adoptable children
Fiscal Year: 2004

GRANTEE INFORMATION:

Name: Bethany Christian Services
Address: 901 Eastern NE
City/State/Zip Code: Grand Rapids, MI 49503
Principal Contact Person: Dona Abbott
Telephone Number: 616-224-7610

OTHER GRANT INFORMATION:

Amount of Award: $400,000.00
Program Name: Adoption Opportunities
ACF Region: 5
Congressional District Served: 3
Related Links:

ABSTRACT:

Organization Description: Founded in Grand Rapids, Michigan in 1944, Bethany Christian Services is a multi-service, child and family service agency that operates a nationwide network of 75 offices in 30 states. Bethany's capacity to develop and deliver high-quality child trauma treatment services through a post-adoption service project is based on the agency's experience demonstrated during 60 years of serving abused, neglected, and displaced children.

Use(s) of ACF Program Grant Funds: Bethany Christian Services proposes to establish THE AD-OPTS CENTER ("THERapy to Address the Distress of Post Traumatic stress ") as a "Field-Initiated Service Demonstration Project" to meet adoptive needs in the ACF priority area of "prevention." The goal is to improve adoption wellness and reduce adoption disruptions of older, special needs children by replicating a promising, evidenced-based therapeutic model for post-adoption services that utilizes a "post-traumatic stress disorder" (PTSD) diagnostic framework. The need for the project involves the growing recognition in the medical and mental health sectors that cognitive-behavioral interventions based on PTSD have greater potential to
demonstrate effectiveness than do the "attachment therapies" (based on "Reactive Attachment Disorder" nomenclature) that have been the primary approaches used in the adoption field in recent years. Bethany proposes to demonstrate the effectiveness of one particularly "promising" PTSD therapeutic model (ARC: "Attachment, Regulatory Capacity, Competencies") for use with 600 adopted children located in Western Michigan. THE AD-OPTS CENTER project will produce measurable outcomes in 4 goal areas: (1) Partner with Boston University Medical Center to modify the ARC model as an evidence-based, post-adoption therapeutic approach for adopted children with replication value for the adoption field; (2) Provide therapeutic PTSD services to adopted children to improve healthy adoption outcomes and prevent the need for more intensive services; (3) Develop family training and education resources to strengthen adoptive family competencies in assisting their adopted children to overcome the long term effects of PTSD; (4) Provide "specialty-response" interventions that modify the AD-OPTS CENTER'S treatment model to address the PTSD needs of adopted children who live in diverse service delivery settings (rural areas, minority communities, & another region of the country). Bethany proposes to implement an evidence-based project evaluation to collect data that makes a significant contribution to the best-practice knowledge and enhances the project's sustainability and replication.

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