**Bureau Name:** Children's Bureau
**Grant Number:** 90CO0984
**Target Population:** Adoptable children

**GRANT INFORMATION:**
- **Name of Grantee:** Minnesota Department of Human Services
- **Fiscal Year:** 2003
- **Amount of Award:** $350,000.00
- **Program Name:** Adoption Opportunities Program
- **Project Period:** 09/30/2003-09/29/2008
- **ACF Region:** 5
- **Congressional District Served:** 4
- **Related Links:**

**ABSTRACT:**
The Minnesota Department of Human Services Adoption and Guardianship Unit oversees The Homecoming Project: Adult-Youth Partnerships for Permanence. Since 1996, Minnesota has been successful in increasing the total number of adoptions of children under State guardianship through general, targeted, and child-specific recruitment efforts, but has been less successful in finalizing adoptions for children ages 13 to 17. The Homecoming Project acknowledges that teenagers are cognitively, developmentally, and emotionally distinct from younger children and that unique recruitment efforts are needed to locate permanent adoptive families for them. Adolescents must participate in cultivating their own recruitment plans to mature into healthy adults. The goals of the project are: (1) to increase the rate and frequency of adoptions for teenagers under State guardianship, and (2) to strengthen youths’ connectedness to caring adults and the larger community. Research-based principles of positive youth development are incorporated into each step of adoption recruitment. While the goal of the project is first and foremost to place teens in adoptive families, another important goal is to assist adolescents to develop connections with caring adults, to provide them with healthy relationships throughout their lives.

**CONTACT INFORMATION:**
- **Principal Contact Person:** Melissa Sherlock
- **Address of Grantee:** 444 Lafayette Rd N
  St. Paul, MN 55155
- **Telephone of Grantee:** 651-282-5307
- **Federal Project Officer:** Theresa Epps
  **Telephone of Federal Project Officer:** 202-205-9880

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

**NEW SEARCH**