STATE OF COLORADO



Colorado Department of Human Services

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EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR Reggie Bicha

1575 Sherman Street Denver, Colorado 80203-1714 Phone 303-866-5700 www.cdhs.state.co.us



John W. Hickenlooper Governor

> Reggie Bicha Executive Director

February 4, 2013

The Honorable John P. Morse, President of the Senate The Honorable Mark Ferrandino, Speaker of the House 200 East Colfax, Room 257 Denver, Colorado 80203

Re: Abandoned Infant Report Pursuant to SB00-171 enacted at C.R.S. § 19-3-304.5 (6)

Dear Senator Morse and Representative Ferrandino:

As outlined in C.R.S. § 19-3-304.5 Emergency possession of certain abandoned children, the state department of human services shall submit an annual report to the general assembly that compiles county reports of children abandoned under this act during the past calendar year. Counties report these children verbally and/or in writing. It is important to note that the specific criteria are outlined in the legislation whereby all three of the following provisions are met to qualify the child under this statute:

- 1. The abandoned child is 72 hours old or younger
- 2. The parent(s) did not express an intent to return for the child
- 3. The child is abandoned at a fire station or a hospital.

For the reporting period January 1-December 31, 2012, one county, Otero, reported that a newborn child was abandoned at a hospital in December of 2012.

If you have questions regarding this report, please contact Ida Drury, Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Program Administrator at 303-866-5937, or by email at Ida.Drury@state.co.us.

Sincerely,

Executive Director

cc: Joint Legislative Library

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