



COLORADO
Department of Human Services

Jerry Milner, Acting Commissioner
Administration for Children and Families
Mary E. Switzer Building
330 C Street, SW
Washington, DC 20201

May 31, 2018

Re: Children's Justice Act Report and Application FY2018
Log No: ACYF-CB-PI-18-03

Dear Commissioner Milner:

I am pleased to submit Colorado's application for Children's Justice Act (CJA) funds in the amount of \$290,558. The following information is submitted:

The applicant agency is the Colorado Department of Human Services, 1575 Sherman Street, Denver, CO 80203, Fax (303) 866-4214.

The contact person in this agency is Matt Holtman, CAPTA Administrator, (303) 866-4897 and Fax (303) 866-5563.

The Employer Identification Number is 84-0644739.

Included in this submission are:

- Letter with the required assurances signed by Governor Hickenlooper;
- Description of the CJA Task Force membership and function;
- Description of the activities conducted in the 12-month period preceding the date of submission;
- List of prior year budget expenditures;
- Description of the three-year assessment completed by the CJA Task Force;
- Description of proposed activities for the upcoming year; and,
- Certification of Lobbying Form.

Thank you for the continued opportunity to have the State of Colorado fulfill the vision of the Children's Justice Act.

Sincerely,

Reggie Bicha
Executive Director



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COLORADO
Gov. John Hickenlooper

May 31, 2018

Jerry Milner, Acting Commissioner
Administration for Children and Families
Mary E. Switzer Building, 330 C Street, SW
Washington, D.C. 20201

Re: Children's Justice Act Report and Application FY2018, Log No: ACYF-CB-PI-18-03

Dear Commissioner Milner:

This letter is to certify that:

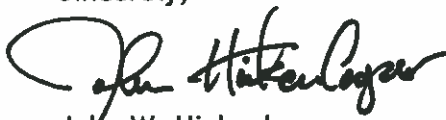
1. The State received the FY2017 Child Abuse and Neglect Basic State Grant and continues to comply with the requirements stipulated in section 106(b) of the Act;
2. The State has maintained a state multidisciplinary task force on children's justice;
3. The State has adopted or continues to progress in adopting recommendations of the State Task Force;
4. The State will make such reports to the Secretary as may reasonably be required, including an annual report on how assistance received under this program was expended throughout the State, with particular attention to the areas described in paragraphs (1) through (3) of Section 107(a);
5. The State will maintain and provide access to records relating to activities under the Children's Justice Act (CJA); and
6. The State will participate in at least one Federally-initiated CJA Conference each year that the grant is in effect, and is authorized to use grant funds to cover travel and per diem expenses for two (2) CJA representatives (CJA Coordinator and Task Force Chairperson) to attend the meeting.

I am delegating authority to sign agreements and assurances to the Colorado Department of Human Services Executive Director, Reggie Bicha, and at his direction, the Director of the Office of Children, Youth, and Families, or the Director of the Division of Child Welfare.

All award letters are to be sent to the Director of the Division of Child Welfare at the Colorado Department of Human Services, 1575 Sherman Street, 2nd Floor, Denver, CO 80203.

Thank you for the continued opportunity to have the State of Colorado fulfill the vision of the Children's Justice Act.

Sincerely,


John W. Hickenlooper
Governor



Part I: Task Force Membership and Function

Colorado maintains an active Children’s Justice Act Task Force per the requirements set forth in Section 107(c) of the Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act (Public Law 111-320) and Colorado’s current membership roster is as follows:

Task Force Membership

Name	Title	Background Description	Task Force Designation
<p>Judge Claude Appel</p>	<p>Chief Judge, Third Judicial District</p>	<p>Judge Appel was appointed as a District Judge in March 1986. Prior to his appointment as a judge, he was in private practice in Longmont, Colorado, then served as a Deputy District Attorney in the Third Judicial District and had a private practice. He received his B.A. degree from Northwestern University in Evanston, Illinois in 1974 and his law degree from the University of Colorado in 1978.</p> <p>The Huerfano County Teen Court program which he began in 1995 and which now operates in both District and County Courts, and in the local high school, is an example of how Judge Appel has positively affected his district outside of the courtroom.</p>	<p>Criminal/Civil Judge **</p>
<p>Ashlee Arcilla</p>	<p>Deputy Director, Office of the Respondent Parents’ Counsel (ORPC)</p>	<p>Prior to her current role as Deputy, Mrs. Arcilla served as the ORPC Staff Attorney – Training Director responsible for the development of ORPC-sponsored training and education requirements listed in Colorado state statute and mandates. Before joining the ORPC team, Mrs. Arcilla worked for the Office of the Child’s Representative where she managed the state-wide training program and served as the office liaison providing oversight of Guardians ad litem in Denver. Mrs. Arcilla received her J.D. from the University of Colorado School of Law where she participated in the Juvenile Law Clinic, interned for the Children and Families Program at the National Conference of State Legislatures, and traveled to Ecuador to study children raised in the prison system with their incarcerated mothers.</p>	<p>Defense Attorney</p>

Children's Justice Act Fiscal Year 2018 Report and Re-Application

Name	Title	Background Description	Task Force Designation
<p>Maureen "Mo" Basenberg</p>	<p>Executive Director, Safe Passage</p>	<p>Ms. Basenberg, MPA became Executive Director of Safe Passage Children's Advocacy Center in September 2016. She was Director at Childhelp Children's Center in Phoenix, AZ for nine years where she oversaw one of the largest children's advocacy centers in the country as well as a Mobile Advocacy center that serves tribal area. Ms. Basenberg also had the privilege of serving in the Arizona Governor's Office for eight years in a variety of roles working with domestic violence and child abuse grants throughout the state. She has a Bachelor's of Science in Psychology and Theater from Grand Canyon University and a Master's in Public Administration from Arizona State University.</p>	<p>Child Advocate</p>
<p>Brian Brinkerhoff</p>	<p>Director of Learning, Colorado Youth for Change</p>	<p>Mr. Brinkerhoff graduated with a BA in Philosophy and a Master of Public Administration with a Nonprofit Emphasis from the University of Colorado at Denver. Mr. Brinkerhoff has worked with at-risk youth populations in Denver for over eight years. He worked with homeless youth at Urban Peak where he developed a job training program. He also worked with Colorado Youth for a Change, helping to implement Intervention and Outreach programs within Adams 12 Five Star Schools, Aurora Public Schools, Boulder Valley School District, Denver Public Schools and Englewood Schools.</p>	<p>Court Appointed Special Advocate Representative</p>
<p>Antonia Chiesa, MD</p>	<p>Associate Professor, Department of Pediatrics, Kempe Child Protection Team, The Children's Hospital Colorado</p>	<p>Dr. Chiesa graduated from Louisiana State University Medical School and completed her residency and fellowship with the University of Colorado School of Medicine. Dr. Chiesa is currently a pediatrician at Children's Hospital Colorado in Aurora, Colorado, with specialties in Child Abuse Pediatrics.</p>	<p>Health Professional</p>

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Name	Title	Background Description	Task Force Designation
Claire Clurman	Executive Director, Attention Homes	Ms. Clurman is in her seventh year with Attention Homes and has over 25 years of business experience including eight years with various youth centered non-profits. Ms. Clurman is on the Advisory Committee on Homeless Youth (ACHY), the Metro Denver Homeless Initiative (MDHI) coordinating committee and the board of the Boulder County Ten Year Plan to End Homelessness. Ms. Clurman’s passion for encouraging the healthy development of all youth and her belief that no one’s current station in life should limit who or what they want to be, drives her each day to create bridges of opportunity for our amazing young clients and dedicated staff.	Individuals Experienced in working with homeless children and youths
Beth Collins	Specialist, Colorado Domestic Violence Program (DVP)	Ms. Collins provides support to DVP-funded organizations around Colorado and works to improve responses for people who have experienced domestic violence. Before joining DVP, Ms. Collins worked as the advocacy director at Colorado’s statewide anti-domestic violence coalition, and before that she had the privilege of working directly with survivors of domestic abuse for 7 years in shelter and community settings. Ms. Collins received a Bachelor’s Degree in Cultural Anthropology from the University of Montana and a Master of Social Work degree from the University of Denver.	Mental Health Professional
Diego Condo	Youth Representative	After emancipating from the child welfare system, Mr. Condo is working and attending the University of Colorado at Denver.	Former foster youth
Sheri Danz	Deputy Director, Office of the Child’s Representative	Ms. Danz received her J.D. degree in 2000 from the New York University School of Law and began working in 2007 with the Colorado Office of the Child’s Representative (OCR). Ms. Danz now serves as the Deputy Director with OCR and joined the CJA Task Force in the Spring of 2014.	Child Advocate (Attorney for Children)

Children's Justice Act Fiscal Year 2018 Report and Re-Application

Name	Title	Background Description	Task Force Designation
Amy Ferrin	Deputy District Attorney, Special Victims Unit, Office of the District Attorney, 18 th Judicial District	Ms. Ferrin is a prosecutor in Arapahoe County. She has worked in the Special Victim Unit since 2012, specializing in crimes involving child victims, including sexual assault on a child and serious child physical abuse. Recently, Ms. Ferrin is leading the elder abuse unit, focusing on cases involving caretaker neglect and physical abuse.	Prosecuting attorney
Connie Fixsen	Early Childhood Specialist, Office of Early Childhood, Colorado Department of Human Services (CDHS)	Ms. Fixsen was with the Office of Children, Youth and Families for six years until recently shifting to the Office of Early Childhood. Prior to her work with CDHS, Ms. Fixsen worked as a caseworker with Denver County Department of Human Services and with children with developmental disabilities and early childhood mental health concerns.	Early Childhood Expertise
Rochelle Galey	Substance Abuse Services Treatment Coordinator, Division of Youth Services	Ms. Galey has been with the Division of Youth Services since 2004. She is a graduate of the University of Southern Indiana and received her Master's in social work from the University of Tennessee. Ms. Galey has worked within a variety of mental health treatment agencies, including multiple youth and children service agencies before moving into coordinator and management roles.	Mental Health Professional
Diana Goldberg	Executive Director, Sungate Kids, CAC and Family Resource Center	Ms. Goldberg has been the Executive Director of Sungate Kids since 1996. She is a graduate of Columbia University and the University of Virginia School of Law. Ms. Goldberg practiced law with the firm of Davis, Graham and Stubbs and then with the Legal Aid Society of Metropolitan Denver. She served as Executive Director of the Central Visitation Program before joining Sungate Kids.	Children's Advocacy Center Representative/Law Enforcement Community

Children’s Justice Act Fiscal Year 2018 Report and Re-Application

Name	Title	Background Description	Task Force Designation
Nancy Harris	CHRP Supervisor, Division of Child Welfare, Office of Children, Youth & Families, Colorado Department of Human Services	Ms. Harris has a long history of working with children with developmental disabilities, including 24 years with a Community Centered Board providing Early Intervention assessment, services, and coordination, and three years at the State of Colorado supporting the placement of youth with developmental disabilities. Ms. Harris holds a Doctorate and Masters in Psychology.	Individual experienced in working with children with disabilities
Lori Jackson	Licensed Professional Counselor, Denver Counseling Options	Ms. Jackson holds a degree in Counseling Psychology from Regis University and two certificates, one in Child and Adolescent Therapy, and a second in Marriage and Family Therapy. Ms. Jackson has advanced training in infant mental health and trauma support and spent six years traveling the country as a motivational speaker talking about her experience with trauma and how to overcome hardship.	Former Youth, Mental Health Professional
Andi Leopoldus	Statewide Coordinator, Colorado Children's Alliance	Ms. Leopoldus has been the Colorado Chapter Coordinator and Chapter Lobbyist since 2005 for Colorado's accredited State Chapter of the National Children's Alliance. She has managed three other associations in her career. With more than 25 years of experience at the Colorado Capitol, she is knowledgeable and respected at the Legislature. Ms. Leopoldus has a B.A. in English from the University of Colorado-Boulder and an M.P.A. from the University of Colorado-Colorado Springs. She is the mother of two adult children and four grandchildren. Andi and her husband live in Colorado Springs.	Children's Advocacy Center Representative

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Name	Title	Background Description	Task Force Designation
Toni Miner	Parent Representative	Ms. Miner was involved in the child welfare system over ten years ago. Ms. Miner now uses her own experiences with child welfare to act as a Parent Partner for current families involved with child welfare and serves on a number of different committees, including the Colorado Domestic Violence Council, IV-E Waiver Committee, and the Birth Parent Advisory Committee. Ms. Miner also works with the Annie E. Casey Foundation, is currently caring for her grandson, and recently celebrated thirteen years of sobriety and became certified as a facilitator for Circle of Parents®.	Parent Representative
Jennifer Richardson	Family Support Services Director, Families First	Ms. Richardson joined Families First in 1987 and has directed the Family Support Services since 1990. Her professional credentials include Licensed Professional Counselor, Certified Addictions Counselor (CACIII), and national trainer for Circle of Parents®. Ms. Richardson represents Families First by serving on the Colorado Children's Justice Task Force, the Kinship Conference planning committee, and the Douglas County Parenting Coalition.	Parent Group Representative
Gretchen Russo	Judicial and Legislative Administrator, Office of Children, Youth & Families, Colorado Department of Human Services	Ms. Russo has spent over 20 years working in the child welfare and juvenile justice field. Prior to her current position, she was the Permanency Manager for Division of Child Welfare where she oversaw a number of programs including Adoption, Foster Care, Kinship Care, Recruitment and Retention, Residential Care and Permanency programs. Ms. Russo spent over 7 years as a liaison between the Denver Juvenile Court and the Denver Department of Human Services. Ms. Russo graduated from Gonzaga Law School, in Spokane, Washington in 2004; prior to attending law school, she worked as a nurse case manager for foster children in Utah.	Child Protective Services

Children's Justice Act Fiscal Year 2018 Report and Re-Application

Name	Title	Background Description	Task Force Designation
Matt Holtman	CAPTA Administrator, Division of Child Welfare, Office of Children, Youth & Families, Colorado Department of Human Services	Mr. Holtman has worked in the human services field for over 15 years, including work as a child welfare caseworker in Wisconsin and Colorado. He joined CDHS in September 2013 after working as a caseworker for Arapahoe County Department of Human Services. Mr. Holtman is a Licensed Clinical Social Work and is an adjunct professor at the Graduate School of Social Work, University of Denver.	Child Protective Services CJA Task Force Co-Chair
Andrew Sirotnak, Ph.D.	Professor, Department of Pediatrics, The Children's Hospital	Dr. Sirotnak directs the Child Protection Team at Children's Hospital Colorado and The Kempe Center Child Abuse Pediatrics Fellowship Program. He is a graduate of Jefferson Medical College of Thomas Jefferson University (1989) and the JMC - Medical Center of Delaware, A.I. du Pont Hospital for Children Pediatrics Residency (1991). Dr. Sirotnak came to Colorado as a Chief Resident in Pediatrics (1993) and completed a fellowship in Child Abuse Pediatrics (1994). He maintains Board Certification in Pediatrics (1992) and Child Abuse Pediatrics (2009).	Health Professional
Judge Valerie J. Robison	Civil/Criminal Court Judge, 21 st Judicial District	Judge Robison grew up in Colorado and received her undergraduate degree from the University of Colorado in 1986 and her law degree from the University of Denver in 1991. Judge Robison was appointed to the bench on June 14, 2007 and sworn in on August 7, 2007. Prior to her appointment, she was serving Mesa County as the Chief Assistant County Attorney and supervised the dependency and neglect attorneys. She had also been chosen by the Mesa County Commissioners to serve as the Interim Director for the Mesa County Department of Human Services; where she remained until her appointment. Since her appointment to the bench, Judge Robison was named Lead Judge for the Best Practices Team and was named Juvenile Judge of the Year in 2015.	Civil/Criminal Judge CJA Task Force Co-Chair

Children’s Justice Act Fiscal Year 2018 Report and Re-Application

Name	Title	Background Description	Task Force Designation
Faith Stevens	Detective, Arvada Police Department	Since 1991, Det. Stevens has served as a Crimes Against Children Detective with the Arvada Police Department. She has served as a Senior Detective and Crisis Negotiator for Arvada Police Department, as well as an expert consultant for the Kempe Center START program.	Law Enforcement Community
Anne Tapp	Executive Director, Safehouse Progressive Alliance for Nonviolence (SPAN)	Ms. Tapp has served as Executive Director at Safehouse Progressive Alliance for Nonviolence (SPAN) since 1997. Prior to holding this position, she was the SPAN Shelter Program Director for six years. Ms. Tapp sits on numerous local, statewide, and national boards and task forces addressing domestic violence and related issues.	Individual experienced in working with homeless children and youth
Julie Thomerson	Assistant County Attorney, Adams County Department of Human Services	Ms. Thomerson brings a wealth of knowledge and experience to Colorado’s Children’s Justice Act Task Force. She graduated from the University of Denver in 1999 with both a Juris Doctorate and a Masters in Social Work. Since graduation, Ms. Thomerson has served as a law clerk, legislative intern, a policy specialist, and an Assistant County Attorney.	Child Protective Services
Alison Young	Court Improvement Program Coordinator, State Court Administrator’s Office	Ms. Young serves as the Court Improvement Program (CIP) Coordinator for the Office of the State Court Administrator. Her primary responsibility is to oversee the CIP Strategic Plan. Ms. Young previously served as the Family Justice Information System (FAMJIS) Coordinator. Alison began her career in judicial, at the First Judicial District in various positions including: clerical staff at probation, juvenile court clerk, Assistant Division Clerk, and Division Clerk. In addition to working at the first judicial department, she was a Legal Assistant at the Jefferson County District Attorney’s Office. Ms. Young earned an undergraduate degree in Criminal Justice from University of Phoenix.	Criminal/Civil Court Representative

****Note:** Judge Appel asked to resign from the CJA Task Force on 1/24/2018 after years of service fulfilling the values of the Children's Justice Act. We thank him for all he has done for the children, youth, and families in Colorado.

Task Force Function

The Children's Justice Act Task Force meets quarterly. The CJA Task Force encourages members to attend in person, but there is also a phone conference option available. The following outlines the meeting activities that occurred during this reporting period (June 1, 2017 to May 31, 2018), as well as the plan for the next reporting period (June 1, 2018 to May 31, 2019).

2017-18 Task Force Meeting activities (June 1, 2017 to May 31, 2018):

- **August 2017:** Review of current funding activities. Discussion of the annual CJA meeting in Washington DC. Discussion of the CARA and the implications to CJA.
- **October 2017:** Reviewed the current Request for Proposals (RFP). Discussion of the CJA funded judicial tribal visits. CJA three year assessment and CFSR processes were discussed.
- **January 2018:** Update from RFP awardee. CFSR outcomes discussed and CJA three year goals being in alignment with the Division of Child Welfare. CJA approved continuing to work on the same five goals agreed upon in in 2015, at the last 3 year assessment.
- **March 2018:** Review of the RFP applications and make funding recommendations and ensure alignment with the current Program Improvement Plan.
- **May 2018:** Discussion of remaining CJA funds

2018-19 Task Force Meeting activities (June 1, 2018 to May 31, 2019):

- **August 2018:** Review of current funding activities; report from the CJA Annual Meeting
- **October 2018:** Review of current funding activities; Three-Year Assessment Activities
- **December 2018:** review of current funding activities; Three-Year Assessment Activities
- **March 2019:** Finalize funding recommendations for 2018-20 RFP

Part III: Prior Year Projects/Activities and Performance Report

Request for Proposals

In 2012, the CJA Task Force developed a Request for Proposal (RFP) process where organizations throughout Colorado apply to be a sub-recipient of CJA funding. Utilizing a RFP process strengthens the work of the CJA Task Force, increases the involvement and engagement of CJA Task Force members, and increases transparency with the community. The CJA Task Force reviews the applications and makes direct funding recommendations. The sub-recipients implement their projects and report back to the CJA Task Force about their progress, successes, replicability, dissemination, performance, and project barriers.

All grant sub-recipients align with one of the three categories outlined in CAPTA Section 107(e)(1)(A)(B)(C):

- (A) Investigative, administrative, and judicial handling of cases of child abuse and neglect, including child sexual abuse and exploitation, as well as cases involving suspected child maltreatment related fatalities and cases involving a potential combination of jurisdictions, such as interstate, Federal-State, and State-Tribal, in a manner which reduces the additional trauma to the child victim and the victim's family and which also ensures procedural fairness to the accused;
- (B) Experimental, model, and demonstration programs for testing innovative approaches and techniques which may improve the prompt and successful resolution of civil and criminal court proceedings or enhance the effectiveness of judicial and administrative action in child abuse and neglect cases, particularly child sexual abuse and exploitation cases, including the enhancement of performance of court-appointed attorneys and guardians ad litem for children, and which also ensure procedural fairness to the accused; and
- (C) Reform of State laws, ordinances, regulations, protocols and procedures to provide comprehensive protection for children from abuse, including sexual abuse and exploitation, while ensuring fairness to all affected persons.

In addition, all grant sub-recipients must also align with at least one of the CJA recommendations that were a result of Colorado's FF2018 Three-Year Assessment:

1. Ensure that all professionals involved in the assessment, investigation, and judicial handling of child abuse and/or neglect throughout the State of Colorado are well-qualified.
2. Ensure that all resources and trainings have the maximum impact.
3. Ensure that CJA-supported trainings do not duplicate other trainings available in Colorado.
4. Increase the dissemination and replication of effective models, programs, and trainings.
5. Increase the rate of successful prosecution of child abuse and/or neglect.

During the current reporting period, June 1, 2017 through May 31, 2018, the CJA Task Force funded projects through one RFP with a funding period of January 1, 2017 – March 31, 2018.

2017-18 RFP

Three projects were chosen by the CJA Task Force to be CJA grant sub-recipients. A total of \$194,838 was awarded between January 1, 2017 and September 30, 2018. Please note that this project spans two different CJA awards:

Sub-Recipient	Total Award Amount 1-1-17 – 09-30-18
Colorado Children’s Alliance	\$50,000
Illuminate Colorado	\$55,763
Ralston House	\$89,075
Total Award Amounts	\$194,838

Below are short descriptions of the CJA Grant sub-recipient activities:

- **Colorado Children’s Alliance:** Funds were awarded to train forensic interviewers using the Colorado model for forensic interviewing. *This project aligned with CAPTA Section 107(e)(1)(A) and Colorado CJA Recommendations #2, #4, and #5.*
- **Illuminate Colorado:** Funds were awarded to support Illuminate Colorado in supporting The Child Abuse and Neglect Expert Staffing (CANES) program. This program is facilitated by Illuminate Colorado and utilizes a multidisciplinary team of experts to engage in critical thinking surrounding the dynamics and concerns at play in complex and challenging child abuse and/or neglect cases. The CANES may be utilized at no cost to county departments to determine next steps in a complex, challenging, and/or difficult referral, assessment, or case. *This project aligned with CAPTA Section 107(e)(1)(A) and Colorado CJA Recommendations #2, #4, and #5.*
- **Ralston House Children’s Advocacy Center:** Funds were awarded for a half-time prosecutor. This prosecutor observes as many forensic interviews of children and teens as possible and participates in the MDT investigative process. Please note: activities do not include direct services. *This project aligned with CAPTA Section 107(e)(1)(A) and (C) and with Colorado CJA Recommendations #1 and #5.*

Other CJA Activities

While the majority of CJA funds are distributed through the RFP process, a few CJA activities remained separate from the RFP process. Below are brief description of each activity, along with the actual amounts expended, if applicable, between June 2017 and May 2018:

- **Alignment with the Colorado Child & Family Services Plan (CFSP), Annual Progress & Services Report (APSR), and Child & Family Services Review (CFSR):** During the three-year assessment, information about the CFSP, APSR, and CFSR were shared with the CJA Task Force. The purpose of reviewing the CFSP state goals was to ensure that the CJA Task Force was aware of both the plan and the goals. The review of the CFSP state goals as part of the 3-year assessment allowed the CJA Task Force to take into account the CFSP state goals when the CJA Task Force goals were developed. The CJA Task Force provided feedback as a stakeholder group to the 2019 APSR and

will continue to provide feedback for each annual report. In addition, individual members of the CJA Task Force have been involved in planning for the Program Improvement Plan and will continue to provide the link between the CFSR and the CJA Task Force.

- **Training Scholarships:** CJA Task Force created a scholarship fund to support individual judicial officers, prosecuting attorneys, and other individuals involved with the investigation and assessment of child abuse and/or neglect. These funds were available to support attending in-state trainings and continuing education activities, and will be available to cover travel, lodging, per diem, and registration fees. An application process was implemented and a sub-committee of the CJA Task Force was created to review scholarship applications and award funds on an ad-hoc basis. *This project aligns with CAPTA Section 107(e)(1)(A) and with Colorado CJA Recommendations #2 and #5.*

- **Court and Legal Representation Improvements:**
 - **Colorado's Office of the Child's Representative (OCR):** The CJA Task Force approached OCR to identify opportunities to improve the capacity of the Colorado's Guardians ad Litem. The CJA Task Force provided funding to OCR to update a Guided Reference in Dependency (GRID) that provides guidance to Guardians ad Litem regarding laws and policies that related to dependency & neglect petitions. The GRID is now available online: <http://www.coloradochildrep.org/grid/>. In addition, the CJA Task Force provided scholarships for GALs to attend existing trainings. *These projects align with CAPTA Section 107(e)(1)(A) and with Colorado CJA Recommendation #1,#2, #4 and #5.*

 - **Colorado's Office of the Respondent Parents' Counsel (ORPC):** ORPC was created in July 2016 and was provided a small training budget. The CJA Task Force approached the ORPC to become a member of the CJA Task Force and to identify opportunities for improvement in the training and support of RPCs. The CJA Task Force will provide funds for RPCs and ORPC staff to attend existing trainings and for ORPC staff to provide technical assistance to RPCs throughout the State of Colorado. *These activities align with CAPTA Section 107(e)(1)(A) and with Colorado CJA Recommendation #1,#2, #4 and #5.*

- **Special Projects:** Not all of the funds awarded to sub-recipients were utilized by the sub-recipients, leaving funds available for special projects. After the first round of RFP awardees were selected, the CJA Task Force identified a gap in training for attorneys who work in the field of child abuse and/or neglect. This area was identified internally and via the preliminary preparatory work being done for the 2017 CFSR. In an effort to reduce the scope of a potential PIP and better serve the children, youth, and families we work with an additional RFP was sent out *This project aligned with CAPTA Section 107(e)(1)(A) and Colorado CJA Recommendations #1, #2, #4, and #5.*
 - **Colorado Seminary/Butler Institute:** Funds were awarded to the Butler Institute in partnership with Strum College of Law to determine the needs for training and

professional development for city/county and district attorneys throughout Colorado; Assess the current training and professional development offered to attorneys in Colorado; and, Develop, manage and deliver training and professional development to city/county and district attorneys throughout Colorado. There will be a section of the training dedicated to reducing the time between the termination of parental rights and the finalized adoption, as indicated during Colorado's 2017 CFSR. *This project aligned with CAPTA Section 107(e)(1)(A) and Colorado CJA Recommendations #1, #2, #4, and #5.*

Part IV: Prior Year Budget Expenditure Line Item

Category	Description	Budget	Actuals (FFY17)
Personnel	<p>CDHS has a 100% Time and Effort Reporting policy to ensure that costs associated with a grant are accurately represented. Salary and Benefits costs are included for the following staff:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Program Assistant II (1.0 FTE) • CAPTA Administrator (0.25 FTE) • Contracts and Grants Supervisor (0.05 FTE) 	\$80,094	\$67,348
Travel	CJA Federal Grantees Meeting (2 representatives)	\$4,000	\$3,811
Operations	Supplies, Copying, Teleconferencing and Operations costs	\$2,500	\$2,500
Contractual	Court and Legal Representation Improvements		\$80,000
	Other CJA Activities & Special Projects		
	<i>Awarded via RFP 2016-2017:</i>		
	Colorado Drug Endangered Children	\$30,000	\$29,463
	Colorado Children's Alliance	\$25,000	\$20,842
	Kempe Center	\$27,000	\$23,326
	Pueblo Child Advocacy Center	\$7,000	\$6,332
	Ralston House	\$58,000	\$23,609
	Tu Casa	\$36,000	\$12,494
Indirect	CDHS uses an actual cost allocation model to bill indirect costs. Historically, these costs have represented approximately 7% of the awarded Grant amount.	\$20,000	\$19,869
TOTAL		\$289,594	\$289,594

Part V: Three-year Assessment

Review

During the last three quarterly CJA Task Force meetings, the CJA Task Force has engaged in a three-year assessment of Colorado's investigative, administrative, and judicial handling of cases of child abuse and/or neglect. The CJA Task Force engaged in the following four activities:

1. To help focus the 2018 three-year assessment process, the CJA Task Force identified the areas of greatest concern related to the investigative, administrative, and judicial handling of cases of child abuse and neglect. Using a structured continuous quality improvement (CQI) process, the CJA Task Force members reviewed the goals established in 2015. These are:
 - a. Ensure that all professionals involved in the assessment, investigation, and judicial handling of child abuse and/or neglect throughout the State of Colorado are well-qualified.
 - b. Ensure that all resources and trainings have the maximum impact.
 - c. Ensure that CJA-supported trainings do not duplicate other trainings available in Colorado.
 - d. Increase the dissemination and replication of effective models, programs, and trainings.
 - e. Increase the rate of successful prosecution of child abuse and/or neglect.
2. Over the last three years, the CJA Task Force asked for verbal and written reports from all grant sub-recipients, including those awarded through the RFP process and outside of the RFP process. These reports included a description of activities, stories of success, and stories of challenges.
3. The CJA Task Force studied the verbal and written reports from the RFP awardees to ensure the five goals of the CJA Task Force remained pertinent and effective in filling in the gaps of other groups within Colorado.
4. The CJA Task Force was given the opportunity review to the final 2017 Child and Family Services Report (CFSR) report and provided input to Colorado's Annual Progress and Services Report 2019 (APSR) and work on subcommittee groups who are formulating Colorado's Program Improvement Plan (PIP).

Evaluation

The CJA Task Force engaged in the following activities:

1. The CJA Task Force evaluated the previous RFP's released by the Colorado CJA Task Force utilizing the CQI process. This evaluation included looking at what has gone well with previous RFPs, what has been worrisome with previous RFPs, and what the CJA Task Force would like to improve with the next RFP.

2. The CJA Task Force engaged in structured, facilitated conversation to outline all gaps/opportunities identified during the review/evaluation activities to determine which areas could be best addressed through the CJA Task Force recommendations (see page 25). These conversations were based on the CQI processes to include plan, improve, assess with the focus being assess during the evaluation phase.
3. The CJA Task Force identified ongoing activities they wish to explore to ensure on going quality assurance and assessment of CJA funding in Colorado (see Proposed Activities). These activities were based on the final CFSR report and in conjunction with the drafting of the PIP.

Progress Made

The CJA Task Force followed the structured CQI process in reviewing the work done over the last three years. During the study aspect of the CQI process, the CJA Task Force reviewed the current RFP awardees and the other projects awarded to ensure they were fulfilling the goals set forth by the CJA Task Force in 2015. Each of the awarded projects was compared to the five current goals of the CJA Task Force. The CJA Task Force found all of the funded projects meet at least one of the five goals.

One area the CJA Task force decided to change in 2016 was the length of time for the RFP. The CJA Task Force decided 18 month RFP's will be awarded as a 12 month cycle was difficult to see long term results which could be sustained. 18 months was decided as it gave a longer window of funding to the awardees and allowed them to focus on long term change.

An example of the CJA Task Force review each RFP within the context of the 5 set goals was the 2017 award to Ralston House. The CJA Task Force partially awarded Ralston House the requested funds but the CJA Task Force also asked for an independent reviewer to research the model Ralston House is utilizing and report the results back. Ralston House agreed and was awarded the remainder of their RFP and hired a program evaluator to provide qualitative and quantitative data back to the CJA Task Force to review.

The CJA Task Force was able to provide funding for the Office of Respondent Parent Counsel who utilized the funds to visit every jurisdiction in the state of Colorado, meet with RPCs and provide a Continuing Legal Education (CLE) credit. The ORPC Roadshow was a huge success and allowed our Executive Director, Melissa Thompson, to meet almost every contractor. The chance to meet and talk with our Executive Director was invaluable for many of their contractors, especially in the rural jurisdictions. The ORPC also used the funds to hold several trainings including but not limited to new attorney boot camp for trial and appellate attorneys as well as our Fall Conference. The ORPC trained 173 respondent parent counsel. During the CJA Grant period of 1/1/2018 to 12/31/2018 ORPC has provided 53 general CLE credits and 15.9 ethics CLE credits and trained 355 respondent parent counsel to date. The ORPC anticipates an additional 57 general CLE credits and 13 ethics CLE credits for the remainder of the CJA 2018 grant period.

The CJA Task Force providing funding to OCR which provided an intensive trial skills training to 40 of our attorneys by partnering with the National Institute for Trial Advocacy, provided scholarships to the American Bar Association Children and the Law Annual Conference, and developed a Social Work Accessibility Project to make social science research, practice and academic materials accessible to all attorneys to aid in their independent investigations, placement decisions, treatment decisions, and other important decisions.

Additionally, OCR is updating the Guided Reference in Dependency (GRID) manual, the first ever state-wide legal reference manual for attorneys representing parents and children's best interests in juvenile dependency proceedings in Colorado. The GRID was first published in 2012 and last updated in 2015. Significant developments in case law and regulation since 2015 mandated an update to the GRID to ensure its usefulness to practitioners. To date, OCR has worked with the Office of Respondent Parents' Counsel to update the GRID chapters and fact sheets to reflect current law and policy.

The work the CJA Task Force is doing is closely related to the APSR, the CFSR, and the PIP. This is evident by the second request of proposals issued by CJA to solicit training for attorney's working with child abuse and/or neglect. In preparation for the CFSR, 65 child welfare files were reviewed and counties and state staff began to notice an extended period of time between termination of parental rights and the finalized adoption of children. There were also a number of concerns with how child welfare cases were being handled across the state and if Colorado was consistent.

All CJA Task Force members were invited to review the 2019 APSR and provide feedback via email or teleconference. The CJA Task Force was also issued the final CFSR federal report and a number of members have offered to work on PIP subcommittees. It is this level of integration between county and state staff alongside community providers, judicial partners, and families which CJA Task Force is most proud of.

Recommendations

The CJA Task Force agrees on the following recommendations:

1. Ensure that all professionals involved in the assessment, investigation, and judicial handling of child abuse and/or neglect throughout the State of Colorado are well-qualified by supporting:
 - a. The creation or replication of multi-disciplinary trainings;
 - b. Effective multi-disciplinary case review processes;
 - c. Multi-disciplinary consultations processes; and
 - d. Innovative programs that further partnerships, ensure the use of best-practice, and prevent the further occurrence child abuse and/or neglect.
2. Ensure that all resources and trainings have the maximum impact through:
 - a. Improved accessibility of resources and training opportunities;
 - b. Extensive reach (geographically and quantity of participants);
 - c. The use of clear performance outcomes;
 - d. Enhanced knowledge and skill transfer activities that support sustainability; and
 - e. Using current technology.
3. Ensure CJA-supported trainings do not duplicate other trainings available in Colorado.
4. Increase the dissemination and replication of effective models, programs, and trainings.
5. Increase the rate of successful prosecution of child abuse and/or neglect through:
 - a. Implementation of evidence-based programs;
 - b. Ensuring well-trained and well-supported professionals (forensic interviewers, prosecutors, judicial officers, child welfare workers, etc.); and
 - c. Implementation of innovative and/or pilot programs.

The CJA Task Force agrees to continue following the five goals established in 2015 and these were reconfirmed in 2018. The CJA Task Force agrees these five goals are in alignment with the current APSR and PIP along with being in alignment with CAPTA legislation specifically Section 107(e)(1)(A)(B)(C). The CJA Task Force will continue to review proposals through the RPF process and continue to be selective by only funding those proposals which meet at least one of these criteria and ensure they are aligned with the PIP.

Proposed Activities

The current RFP cycle ends on March 31, 2018, and thus, the CJA Task Force released available funds through a RFP process (see budget on page 25). The CJA Task Force is currently in the process of reopening the statewide request for proposals to solicit other activities and/or programs which meet the recommended criteria.

In addition, the CJA Task Force will engage in the following activities to meet CJA Recommendations:

- **Alignment with the Colorado Child & Family Services Plan (CFSP), Annual Progress & Services Report (APSR), and Child & Family Services Review (CFSR):** The CJA Task Force provided feedback as a stakeholder group to the 2019 APSR and to the Program Improvement Plan Oversight Group (PIPOG). In addition, individual members of the CJA Task Force have been involved in planning for the next PIP) and will continue to provide the link between the CFSR and the CJA Task Force.
- **Court and Legal Representation Improvement Work:**
 - **Colorado Court Improvement Program (CIP) and Judicial Training Department:** The CJA Task Force has approached CIP and the Judicial Training Department to identify opportunities for improvement in the training and support of judicial officers. The CJA Task Force, CIP, and the Judicial Training Department are conducting a needs assessment, and the CJA Task Force will support recommendations over the next three years. *This project aligns with CAPTA Section 107(e)(1)(A) and with Colorado CJA Recommendations #1, #2, and #3.*
 - **Colorado's Office of the Child's Representative (OCR):** See description under prior year activities as these activities continue through March of 2019. *This project aligns with CAPTA Section 107(e)(1)(A) and with Colorado CJA Recommendations #4 and #5.*
 - **Colorado's Office of the Respondent Parents' Counsel (ORPC):** See description under prior year activities as these activities continue through December of 2018. *This project aligns with CAPTA Section 107(e)(1)(A) and with Colorado CJA Recommendations #4 and #5.*

On-Going Evaluation of Performance

For performance monitoring of the RFP grant sub-recipients, the CJA Task Force asks each sub-recipient to identify clear performance measures in their application for funds. In addition, the CJA Task Force requires the following reporting:

- Make at least one (1) annual presentation by phone or in person to the CJA Task Force;
- Participate in one (1) annual site visit with CJA Task Force members;
- Provide progress reports every six (6) months during the funding cycle;
- Provide timely reporting that demonstrates improved outcomes;

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- Demonstrate quality performance by providing timely reporting that demonstrates improved outcomes and thorough communication with the CAPTA Administrator and the CJA Task Force;
- Submit regular invoices; and,
- Provide additional information as requested to assess performance. Methods used to assess performance will include a review of documentation reflective of performance, including status reports, meeting minutes, electronic data, and on-going fiscal desk monitoring.

Whenever the CJA Task Force identifies opportunities to support other projects not funded through the RFP process, the CJA Task Force requires the following:

- Submission of quarterly progress reports;
- Make at least one (1) annual presentation by phone or in person to the CJA Task Force;
- Show that they are performing to their agreement by providing timely reporting that demonstrates improved outcomes;
- Demonstrate quality performance by providing timely reporting that demonstrates improved outcomes and thorough communication with the CAPTA Administrator and the CJA Task Force;
- Submit regular invoices; and,
- Provide additional information as requested to assess performance. Methods used to assess performance will include a review of documentation reflective of performance, including status reports, meeting minutes, electronic data, and on-going fiscal desk monitoring.

Proposed FY19 Budget

Category	Description	Budget FFY19 October 1, 2018 – September 30, 2019
Personnel	CDHS has a 100% Time and Effort Reporting policy to ensure that costs associated with a grant are accurately represented. Salary and Benefits costs are included for the following staff: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Program Assistant II (1.0 FTE) • CAPTA Administrator (0.25 FTE) • Contracts and Grants Supervisor (0.05 FTE) 	\$80,000
Travel	CJA Federal Grantees Meeting (2 representatives)	\$4,000
Operations	Supplies, Copying, Teleconferencing and Operations costs	\$2,500
Awarded via RFP 19-22	Support for multidisciplinary training and pilot projects designed to improve the investigative, administrative, and judicial handling of cases of child abuse and neglect.	\$73,094
Other Activities	Support for linkages with the Colorado CIP, ORPC, OCR, training for prosecutors, and the Judicial Training Department	\$110,000
Indirect	CDHS uses an actual cost allocation model to bill indirect costs. Historically, these costs have represented approximately 7% of the awarded grant amount.	\$20,000
TOTAL		\$289,594

CERTIFICATION REGARDING LOBBYING

Certification for Contracts, Grants, Loans, and Cooperative Agreements

The undersigned certifies, to the best of his or her knowledge and belief, that:

(1) No Federal appropriated funds have been paid or will be paid, by or on behalf of the undersigned, to any person for influencing or attempting to influence an officer or employee of an agency, a Member of Congress, an officer or employee of Congress, or an employee of a Member of Congress in connection with the awarding of any Federal contract, the making of any Federal grant, the making of any Federal loan, the entering into of any cooperative agreement, and the extension, continuation, renewal, amendment, or modification of any Federal contract, grant, loan, or cooperative agreement.

(2) If any funds other than Federal appropriated funds have been paid or will be paid to any person for influencing or attempting to influence an officer or employee of any agency, a Member of Congress, an officer or employee of Congress or an employee of a Member of Congress in connection with this Federal contract, grant, loan, or cooperative agreement, the undersigned shall complete and submit Standard Form-LLL, "Disclosure Form to Report Lobbying," in accordance with its instructions.

(3) The undersigned shall require that the language of this certification be included in the award documents for all subawards at all tiers (including subcontracts, subgrants, and contracts under grants, loans, and cooperative agreements) and that all subrecipients shall certify and disclose accordingly. This certification is a material representation of fact upon which reliance was placed when this transaction was made or entered into. Submission of this certification is a prerequisite for making or entering into this transaction imposed by section 1352, title 31, U.S. Code. Any person who fails to file the required certification shall be subject to a civil penalty of not less than \$10,000 and not more than \$100,000 for each such failure.

Statement for Loan Guarantees and Loan Insurance

The undersigned states, to the best of his or her knowledge and belief, that:

If any funds have been paid or will be paid to any person for influencing or attempting to influence an officer or employee of any agency, a Member of Congress, an officer or employee of Congress, or an employee of a Member of Congress in connection with this commitment providing for the United States to insure or guarantee a loan, the undersigned shall complete and submit Standard Form-LLL, "Disclosure Form to Report Lobbying," in accordance with its instructions. Submission of this statement is a prerequisite for making or entering into this transaction imposed by section 1352, title 31, U.S. Code. Any person who fails to file the required statement shall be subject to a civil penalty of not less than \$10,000 and not more than \$100,000 for each such failure.



May 31, 2018

Signature and Date

Reggie Bicha

Printed Name

Executive Director

Title

Colorado Department of Human Services

Organization