

**Children's Justice Act
State of Colorado
Fiscal Year 2020
Report**

**U.S. Department of Health and Human Services
Administration on Children, Youth and Families**

Children's Bureau

Office on Child Abuse and Neglect

Log No. ACYF-CB-PI-19-03

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STATE OF COLORADO

EXECUTIVE CHAMBERS

136 State Capitol
Denver, Colorado 80203-1792



Jared Polis
Governor

May 31, 2020
Elizabeth Darling, Commissioner
Administration for Children and Families
Mary E. Switzer Building, 330 C Street, SW
Washington, DC 20201

Re: Children's Justice Act Report and Application FY2020, Log No: ACYF-CB-PI 19-03

Dear Commissioner Darling:

This is to certify that:

1. The State received the FY2019 Child Abuse and Neglect Basic State Grant and continues to comply with the requirements stipulated in section 106(b) of the Act; and
2. The State has maintained a State multidisciplinary task force on children's justice; and
3. The State has adopted or continues to progress in adopting recommendations of the State Task Force; and
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); and
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 Michelle Barnes the Colorado Department of Human Services Executive Director, and at her direction, Minna Castillo Cohen, the Director of the Office of Children, Youth and Families, or Joe Homlar, the Director of the Division of Child Welfare.

All award letters are to be sent to Joe Homlar, 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,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Jared Polis".

Jared Polis
Governor

Section 107(a) of the Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act (the Act) authorizes grants to States for the purpose of assisting States in developing, establishing and operating programs designed to improve: (1) the assessment and investigation of suspected child abuse and neglect cases, including cases of suspected child sexual abuse and exploitation, in a manner that limits additional trauma to the child and the child’s family; (2) the assessment and investigation of cases of suspected child abuse-related fatalities and suspected child neglect-related fatalities; (3) the investigation and prosecution of cases of child abuse and neglect, including child sexual abuse and exploitation; and (4) the assessment and investigation of cases involving children with disabilities or serious health-related problems who are suspected victims of child abuse or neglect.

Part II: 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
Ashlee Arcilla	Deputy Director, Office of the Respondent Parents’ Counsel (ORPC)	Prior to her current role as Deputy Director, 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. degree 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.	Defense Attorney

Name	Title	Background Description	Task Force Designation
Maureen “Mo” Basenberg	Executive Director, Safe Passage	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 areas. Ms. Basenberg also had the privilege of serving in the Arizona Governor's Office for eight years in a variety of roles including 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.	Child Advocate
Antonia Chiesa, MD	Associate Professor, Department of Pediatrics, Kempe Child Protection Team, The Children's Hospital Colorado	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 a specialty in Child Abuse Pediatrics.	Health Professional
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 seven 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

Name	Title	Background Description	Task Force Designation
Sheri Danz	Deputy Director, Office of the Child’s Representative (OCR)	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 OCR. Ms. Danz now serves as the Deputy Director of OCR and joined the CJA Task Force in the Spring of 2014.	Child Advocate (Attorney for Children)
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 has been leading the elder abuse unit, focusing on cases involving caretaker neglect and physical abuse.	Prosecuting attorney
Rochelle Galey	Office of Behavioral Health, Colorado Department of Human Services	Ms. Galey has been with the State of Colorado since 2004, first in the Division of Youth Services now in Office of Behavioral Health. She is a graduate of the University of Southern Indiana and received her Master of Social Work degree 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
Andi Leopoldus	Statewide Coordinator, Colorado Children’s Alliance	Ms. Leopoldus has been the Colorado Chapter Coordinator and Chapter Lobbyist for Colorado’s accredited State Chapter of the National Children’s Alliance, since 2005. She has managed three other associations in her career. With more than 25 years of experience at the Colorado State 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

Name	Title	Background Description	Task Force Designation
Jennifer Richardson	Clinical Manger, Shiloh House	Ms. Richardson joined Families First in 1987 and has directed the Family Support Services since 1990. Families First expertise lies in community programs such as, Parent as Teachers, Fatherhood Network, Let’s Connect, Circle of Parents® and Family Support Line. Jennifer’s professional credentials include Licensed Professional Counselor, Certified Addictions Counselor (CACIII), and national trainer for Circle of Parents®. Ms. Richardson represents FamilShiloh House 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 (CDHS)	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 the Division of Child Welfare, within CDHS 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

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 (CDHS)	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 Worker and has been an adjunct professor at the Graduate School of Social Work, University of Denver.	Child Protective Services CJA Task Force Co-Chair
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 dependency and neglect attorneys. She served as the Interim Director for the Mesa County Department of Human Services until her judicial appointment. Since her appointment to the bench, Judge Robison was named Lead Judge for the Best Practices Court Team and was named Juvenile Judge of the Year in 2015.	Civil/Criminal Judge CJA Task Force Co-Chair
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 the Arvada Police Department, as well as an expert consultant for the Kempe Center Multidisciplinary State And Regional Team (START).	Law Enforcement Community

Name	Title	Background Description	Task Force Designation
Anne Tapp	Executive Director, Safehouse Progressive Alliance for Nonviolence (SPAN)	Ms. Tapp has served as the Executive Director of 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
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 oversight of the CIP Strategic Plan. Ms. Young previously served as the Family Justice Information System (FAMJIS) Coordinator. Ms. Young earned an undergraduate degree in Criminal Justice from University of Phoenix.	Criminal/Civil Court Representative
Magistrate Kellie Starritt	District Court Magistrate for the 7th Judicial District	Magistrate Starritt is currently a District Court Magistrate for Montrose and Delta Counties, handling the domestic relations, dependency & neglect and family treatment court dockets. She joined the 7 th Judicial District in January 2017 and previously worked as a Mesa County Chief Deputy County Attorney supervising the Human Services Unit. She has over 15 years of experience in child welfare as both a guardian ad litem and county attorney, and has a passion for juvenile cases.	Civil/Criminal Judge

Name	Title	Background Description	Task Force Designation
Michelle Jensen	Office of the Child’s Representative (OCR)	Ms. Jensen has worked with children and families for over 10 years in a variety of settings, including adoption, family violence, family law, and child welfare policy and program administration. She joined the OCR in 2017. Ms. Jensen holds a law degree and Master’s Degree in Social Work.	Attorney for Children
Alexa Peterson	Arapahoe County Case Coordinator – Court Appointed Special Advocate	Alexa Peterson has been at Advocates for Children CASA for the last year. Alexa is a Case Coordinator and supervises Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASAs) as they work one-on-one with children who have been abused and/or neglected. Alexa came to Advocates with a long history of working with children and families involved in either the child welfare or juvenile delinquency system. During Alexa’s time as a Caseworker she worked with children who had developmental disabilities, extensive sexual trauma, suicidal ideations, as well as, with families experiencing homelessness. Alexa was a part of four specialized court dockets in Denver County that worked with youth who were at high risk for human trafficking, were gang involved, as well as, with youth who had significant substance use issues.	Court Appointed Special Advocate Representative
Tori Shuler	Director, Fostering Great Ideas	Ms. Shuler is the Denver Director of Fostering Great Ideas, a non-profit dedicated to improving the lives of children experiencing foster care. Ms. Shuler is passionate about preventing child abuse and neglect in the community and focusing on supportive relationships to provide connection and dignity for children/youth that have fallen victim to abuse and neglect. This passion stems from her own experience as a child in Colorado’s foster care system.	Adult former victim of child abuse and or neglect

Name	Title	Background Description	Task Force Designation
Pamela Neu	Manager, Child & Adolescent Mental Health Programs, Office of Behavioral Health, Colorado Department of Human Services	With a Masters in Counseling Psychology from Gonzaga University, Ms. Neu has worked with the Colorado Department of Human Services since 2005. Her roles have included Residential Program Supervisor and Manager of Child and Adolescent Mental Health Programs.	Mental Health Professional
Jessica McKnight	Residential Case manager	Jessica started as a paraprofessional working directly with individuals with severe intellectual disabilities, then moved to direct care of individuals with varying intellectual disabilities and obtained knowledge in behavioral therapy. She completed her degree in psychology with a minor in special education and went to work for Rocky Mountain Human Services managing a case load of individuals with a wide range of abilities. Jessica has a brother who is 23 years old with down syndrome that she is co guardian and assists with his care; he is also her best friend. She has been a volunteer for Special Olympics for 15 years. In 2011 she started a foundation to host a fundraiser to benefit Special Olympics.	Individual experienced in working with children with disabilities
Meghan Baker	Facilities Attorney, Disability Law Colorado	Meghan received her B.A. in 2003 from the University of Texas at Austin, and completed her J.D. and M.S.W. at the University of Houston in 2011. She interned at the Protection and Advocacy agency in Texas for over a year where she engaged in advocacy on behalf of multiple youth with disabilities in the foster care system, Medicaid appeals, and issues related to special education. She currently works as a staff attorney on the Facilities Team at Disability Law Colorado (DLC), the Protection and Advocacy agency for people with disabilities in the state of Colorado. She has worked at DLC since July 2017	Individual experienced in working with children with disabilities

Task Force Function

The Children's Justice Act Task Force in Colorado meets quarterly. The CJA Task Force encourages members to attend in person; however, a phone conference option available. The following outlines the meeting activities that occurred during this reporting period (June 1, 2019 to May 31, 2020), as well as the plan for the next reporting period (June 1, 2020 to May 31, 2021). The Task Force shares all detailed meeting agendas, minutes, and prior applications via <https://www.colorado.gov/pacific/cdhs-boards-committees-collaboration/childrens-justice-act-task-force>

2019-2020 Overview of Task Force Meeting activities (June 1, 2019 to May 31, 2020):

- July 2019: All of the CJA sub-awardees presented to the Task Force to provide program updates, provide requests for funding in the next fiscal year, and discuss if any changes to other funding sources had been identified. A scoring rubric was given to all CJA Task Force members present to unanimously vote for keep, modify, or remove CJA funding from each of our sub-awardees. Based on this meeting and completion of the scoring and discretion, all amounts to the sub-awardees were modified.
- October 2019: The Task Force took the time to closely examine ways to collaborate more closely with new partners, existing partners, and identified information needed to make better funding and program supportive decisions.
- February 2020: The Task Force voted in two new members. The Task Force continued work towards setting priorities for future funding. The Task Force is working to align the funding provided to sub grantees to outcomes related to the Child and Families Services Plan (CFSP), Annual Program Services Report (APSR), Child & Family Services Review (CFSR), or the Program Improvement Plan (PIP). A survey was sent out to gather information on goals and funding alignment. The annual report was reviewed.
- May 2020: The Task Force reviewed the results of the survey and discussed the incorporation of the data into the funding allocation matrix. The Task Force also discussed funding processes, including the reissue of an RFP or distribution of the funds via direct contract.

Future Task Force meetings will focus on the upcoming three-year assessment and continuing review of the current awardees' progress. Each awardee will discuss measurement and quantification of the program along with any tangible change each awardee experience during the past year.

Part III: Prior Year Projects/Activities and Performance Report

Request for Proposals

In 2012, the CJA Task Force developed an RFP process for organizations throughout Colorado as 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 by making the funding opportunities public. The CJA Task Force reviews the applications and makes direct funding recommendations. The sub-recipients implement projects and report back to the CJA Task Force on 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:

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, October 1, 2019 through September 30, 2020 the CJA Task Force funded projects through one RFP.

2018-2020 RFP

Two projects were chosen by the CJA Task Force to be CJA grant sub-recipients. These projects each fill unique gaps within the current system. A total of \$99,000 was distributed between October 1, 2018 and September 30, 2020 to all awardees. Please note that this budget spans two different CJA awards:

Sub-Recipient	Total Award Amount 10-1-18 – 9-30-2020
Colorado Children’s Alliance	\$18,500
Colorado Seminary/Butler Institute	\$80,500
Total Award Amounts	\$99,000

Below is a short description 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. Training is provided to forensic interviewers on-site at an Children Advocacy Center (CAC), caseworkers in parts of the State where there is not a dedicated CAC, and any team member (law enforcement and human services caseworkers) who would benefit from the training. The training is provided in three parts. Training has been provided to nine people for Block I, 6 people for Block II and 9 people for Block III. During this funding period there have been five forensic interview trainings with nine participants in each training. The plan is to provide Block III training two more times, Block II once more and Block I once more before the end of the grant in September 2020. *This project aligned with CAPTA Section 107(e)(1)(A) and Colorado CJA Recommendations #2, #4, and #5.*
- Colorado Seminary/Butler Institute:** Funds were awarded to the Butler Institute, in partnership with Strum College of Law, to implement the recommendations from the needs assessment. Volunteer county attorneys and Butler staff developed a 4-day academy on the knowledge and skills county attorneys need for their jobs. Facilitated by county attorneys and child welfare experts, the Academy held at the Sturm College of Law with introductions from the Deans of the School of Law and Social Work. The Academy emphasized both social work and legal knowledge and skills and culminated in a series of court simulations based upon a case scenario. Areas of focus were to reduce the time between the termination of parental rights and the finalized adoption, as indicated during Colorado’s 2017 CFSR, along with family engagement, Indian Child Welfare Act (ICWA) appeals processes, and best practices in representing the agency. The project partners with the Colorado Supreme Court’s “Colorado Attorney Mentoring Program” to offer a structured mentoring program featuring individual mentoring and group learning circles and led by an experienced county attorney that continues over one year. All 23 participants were matched with an experienced county attorney mentor to continue their learning. The project also developed podcasts this year on timeliness to permanency, the importance of collaboration, across systems, and using data to more effectively manage the court process. Additionally, Butler staff participated in conference presentations focusing on using data and

Judge's perspective on achieving permanency. *This project aligned with CAPTA Section 107(e)(1)(A) and Colorado CJA Recommendations #1, #2, #4, and #5.*

Other CJA Activities

While some of the CJA funds are distributed through the RFP process, a few CJA activities remained separate from the RFP process. Below are brief descriptions of each activity, along with the actual amounts expended between June 2019 and May 2020:

- **Alignment with the Colorado Child & Family Services Plan (CFSP), Annual Progress & Services Report (APSR), Child & Family Services Review (CFSR), Program Improvement Plan (PIP):** The chair of the state of Colorado's CJA Task Force is also responsible for overseeing and supervising the state's Federal Reporting Specialist who compiles the information and drafts the APSR along with sections of the PIP. This deliberate organization structure ensures continuity and alignment between these critical federal reports and activities. At least one specific goal in Colorado's PIP directly relates to the work the CJA Task Force of supporting through the Colorado Seminary/Butler Institute. In addition, several members of the CJA Task Force have been involved in planning, drafting, editing, and submission of the PIP and will continue to provide a link between the CFSR and the CJA Task Force. The CJA Task Force is also looking to reprioritize how it distributes funds by ensuring all future awardees and projects are in direct alignment with our federal outcomes measures. *This project aligned with CAPTA Section 107(e)(1)(A) and (C) and with Colorado CJA Recommendations #3 and #4.*
- **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 to support attending in-state trainings and continuing education activities. The scholarship fund will be available to cover travel, lodging, per diem, and registration fees. A sub-committee of the CJA Task Force was created to review scholarship applications and award funds on an ad-hoc basis to review any applications for training. *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 (GAL). The CJA Task Force provided funding to OCR to update a Guided Reference in Dependency (GRID) that guides guardians ad litem regarding laws and policies related to best interest child representation in dependency and neglect cases. The 2019 update is currently being published as a pocket part for the print version of the GRID and has been incorporated into the electronic version of the GRID, which is available online: <http://www.coloradochildrep.org/grid/>. The GRID update was made available to other child welfare stakeholders, in addition to guardians ad litem. CJA Task Force funding also supported activities related to statewide engagement with GALs to assist in identifying training and support needs of GALs, allowed for additional training, specifically a 3-day

intensive trial skills training, and allowed for the use of audio/visual services to ensure that rural attorneys have access to all OCR training. *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 upon its creation. 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 Respondent Parent Counsel (RPC) attorneys. The CJA Task Force provides training funds to the ORPC for training of parent representation attorneys and other professionals, as well as ORPC staff. CJA funding contributes significantly to the ORPC's Annual Fall Conference, a multi-day training and community building event for ORPC contractors across the state. Other training activities that CJA funds contribute to include contractor and staff attendance at the ABA National Parent Representation Conference, new RPC boot camp, statewide regional trainings, and training scholarships for ORPC contractors and staff. CJA funds for fiscal year 2020 allowed ORPC staff to attend The Association for Successful Parenting (TASP) International Chance to Parent Conference in October 2019, which focused on advocacy for at-risk parents with learning difficulties such as intellectual disabilities or borderline intellectual functioning, and their children. The ORPC also used CJA FY20 funds to sponsor the Carrie Ann Lucas Disability Advocacy Training in February 2020, the ABA/ORPC Interdisciplinary Conference in May 2020, New Attorney Boot Camp in June 2020, and the ORPC's 5th Annual Fall Conference. *These activities align with CAPTA Section 107(e)(1)(A) and with Colorado CJA Recommendation #1,#2, #4 and #5.*

Part IV: Prior Year Budget Expenditure Line Item

Category	Description	Budget	Actuals (FFY19)
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) 	\$98,927	\$98,927
Travel	CJA Federal Grantees Meeting (2 representatives)	\$2,408	\$2,408
Operations	Supplies, Copying, Teleconferencing and Operations costs	\$357	\$357
Contractual	Court and Legal Representation Improvements – OCR and ORPC	\$66,000	\$66,000
	Colorado Children’s Alliance	\$18,500	\$18,500
	DU Seminary - Butler Institute	\$80,500	\$80,500
Indirect	CDHS uses an actual cost allocation model to bill indirect costs. Historically, these costs have represented approximately 7% of the awarded grant amount.	\$22,902	\$22,902
TOTAL		\$289,594.00	\$289,594.00

Part V: Three-year Assessment

Not applicable for Colorado in 2020

Part VI: Proposed Activities

The current RFP cycle ends on March 31, 2021, and thus, the CJA Task Force released available funds through a RFP process (see budget on page 22). The CJA Task Force has decided to align the timeframes to the state RFP cycle; therefore, the CJA Task Force agreed to extend the funding for all activities through September 30, 2020. The CJA Task Force is currently in the process of reopening the statewide RFP to solicit other activities and/or programs that meet the recommended criteria. The Task Force will begin offering this funding on October 1, 2020, as a five year RFP.

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 the results of the 2017 Child & Family Services Review (CFSR) and creation of the federal Program Improvement Plan (PIP):** The chair of the State of Colorado’s CJA Task Force is also responsible for overseeing and supervising the state’s Federal Reporting Specialist

who compiles the information and drafts the APSR along with sections of the PIP. This deliberate organization structure ensures continuity and alignment between these critical federal reports and activities. At least one specific goal in Colorado's PIP directly relates to the work the CJA Task Force of supporting through the Colorado Seminary/Butler Institute. In addition, several members of the CJA Task Force have been involved in planning, drafting, editing, and submission of the PIP and will continue to provide a link between the CFSR and the CJA Task Force. If the CJA Task Force decides to distribute funds in alignment with these federal outcomes measures, this will change our ongoing measurement of performance for the awards. *This project aligned with CAPTA Section 107(e)(1)(A) and (C) and with Colorado CJA Recommendations #3 and #4.*

- **Court and Legal Representation Improvement Work:**
 - **Colorado Court Improvement Program (CIP) and Judicial Training Department:** The CJA Task Force has worked with 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 have conducted a needs assessment for county attorneys involved in delinquency and neglect cases. Based on the findings, the Task Force began the creation of a four-day training curriculum and had its first delivery in 2019. This training will have its next delivery in September of 2020 and will have one more in the summer of 2021. *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 September of 2020. *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 September of 2020. *This project aligns with CAPTA Section 107(e)(1)(A) and with Colorado CJA Recommendations #4 and #5.*

Ongoing 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;
- Demonstrate quality performance by providing timely reports which demonstrate improved

outcomes and through 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 monitoring.

Other CJA Task Force opportunities to support 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;
- Demonstrate quality performance by providing timely reports which demonstrate improved outcomes and through communication with the CAPTA Administrator and the CJA Task Force;
- Demonstrate compliance with their agreement with the Task Force by providing timely reports and improvement in measurable outcomes;
- 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 monitoring.

Proposed FY21 Budget

Category	Description	Budget FFY20 October 1, 2020 – September 30, 2021
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) 	\$96,000
Travel	CJA Federal Grantees Meeting (2 representatives)	\$4,000
Operations	Supplies, Copying, Teleconferencing and Operations costs	\$500
Awarded via RFP 20-23	Support for multidisciplinary training and pilot projects designed to improve the investigative, administrative, and judicial handling of cases of child abuse and neglect.	\$110,000
Other Activities	Support for linkages with the Colorado CIP, ORPC, OCR, training for prosecutors, and the Judicial Training Department	\$75,000
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		\$305,500.00

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.

Michelle Barnes

May 31, 2020

Signature and Date

Michelle Barnes

Printed Name

Executive Director

Title

Colorado Department of Human Services

Organization