

STATE OF COLORADO



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John W. Hickenlooper
Governor

Reggie Bicha
Executive Director

December 31, 2013

The Honorable Crisanta Duran, Chair
Joint Budget Committee
200 East 14th Avenue, Third Floor
Denver, Colorado 80203

The Honorable Dianne Primavera, Chair
House Public Health Care and Human Services Committee
House Health, Insurance and Environment Committee
200 E. Colfax Avenue, Room 271
Denver, Colorado 80203

The Honorable Beth McCann, Chair
House Health, Insurance and Environment Committee
House Public Health Care and Human Services Committee
200 E. Colfax Avenue, Room 303
Denver, Colorado 80203

The Honorable Irene Aguilar, Chair
Senate Health and Human Services Committee
200 E. Colfax Avenue, Room 269
Denver, Colorado 80203

Dear Representative Duran, Representative Primavera, Representative McCann and Senator Aguilar:

Enclosed please find a legislative report to the Joint Budget Committee, House Public Health Care and Human Services Committee, House Health, Insurance and Environment Committee and Senate Health and Human Services Committee from the Department of Human Services (DHS) on the Title IV-E Waiver Demonstration Project authorized in SB 13-231.

Section 26-5-105.4 C.R.S. (2013) requires the Department to report annually by, December 31 on the number of participating counties, implemented interventions, achieved outcomes, money expended, and need for additional legislation related to the Title IV-E Waiver Demonstration Project.

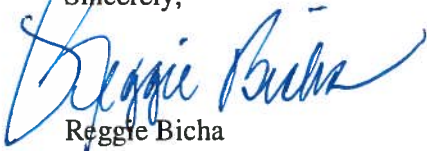
In summary, forty one counties were awarded \$6,687,309.12 to implement three interventions: family engagement, permanency roundtables, and kinship supports. Implementation began July 2013. Early county implementation efforts included: hiring positions; creating the infrastructure to support funding flexibility; and developing policy to support the intervention practice.

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If you require further information or have additional questions, please contact the Department's legislative liaison Sarah Sills, sarah.sills@state.co.us or 303-866-3019.

Sincerely,



Reggie Bicha
Executive Director

Enclosure

Cc: Senator Pat Seadman, Vice Chair, Joint Budget Committee
Senator Mary Hodge, Joint Budget Committee
Senator Kent Lambert, Joint Budget Committee
Representative Jenise May, Joint Budget Committee
Representative Cheri Gerou, Joint Budget Committee
Representative Dave Young, Vice Chair, Public Health Care and Human Services Committee
Representative Sue Schafer, Public Health Care and Human Services Committee and Vice Chair,
Health, Insurance and Environment Committee
Representative Jonathan Singer, Public Health Care and Human Services Committee and Health,
Insurance and Environment Committee
Representative Max Tyler, Public Health Care and Human Services Committee
Representative Amy Stephens, Public Health Care and Human Services Committee
Representative Kathleen Conti, Public Health Care and Human Services Committee
Representative Janak Joshi, Public Health Care and Human Services Committee and Health,
Insurance and Environment Committee
Representative Lois Landgraf, Public Health Care and Human Services Committee and Health,
Insurance and Environment Committee
Representative Justin Everett, Public Health Care and Human Services Committee
Representative Jim Wilson, Public Health Care and Human Services Committee
Representative Rhonda Fields, Health, Insurance and Environment Committee
Representative Joann Ginal, Health, Insurance and Environment Committee
Representative Steve Humphrey, Health, Insurance and Environment Committee
Representative Frank McNulty, Health, Insurance and Environment Committee
Representative Spencer Swalm, Health, Insurance and Environment Committee
Senator Linda Newell, Vice-Chair, Health and Human Services Committee
Senator Jeanne Nicholson, Health and Human Services Committee
Senator John Kefalas, Health and Human Services Committee
Senator Owen Hill, Health and Human Services Committee
Senator Kevin Lundberg, Health and Human Services Committee
Senator Larry Crowder, Health and Human Services Committee
John Ziegler, Staff Director, JBC
Robin Smart, JBC Staff
Elizabeth Burger, Public Health Care and Human Services Committee Staff
Amanda King, Health Insurance and Environment Committee Staff
Dave De Novellis, Health and Human Services Committee Staff
Henry Sobanet, Director, Office of State Planning and Budgeting
Erick Scheminske, Deputy Director, Office of State Planning and Budgeting
Ann Renaud, Budget Analyst, Office of State Planning and Budgeting
Kelly Perez, Human Services Policy Advisor, Governor's Office
Molly Otto, State Librarian
Nikki Hatch, Deputy Executive Director of Operations
Dee Martinez, Deputy Executive Director of Enterprise Partnerships
Melissa Wavelet, Director Office of Performance and Strategic Outcomes
Clint Woodruff, Interim Budget Director
Julie Krow, Director Office of children, Youth and Family Services
Sarah Sills, Executive and Legislative Liaison
Dan Drayer, Communications Director

Title IV-E Waiver Demonstration Project

Background

Forty one counties were awarded \$6,687,309.12 in July 2013 to implement three interventions: family engagement, permanency roundtables, and kinship supports. Implementation began July 2013. Early county implementation efforts included: hiring positions; creating the infrastructure to support funding flexibility; and developing policy to support the intervention practice.

Efforts to ensure the Title IV-E Waiver Demonstration Project's success include:

- Formation of the Oversight Committee consisting of 28 members representing the State, counties, family, and community partners. There are five subcommittees: Planning/Operation, Communication, Evaluation, Funding/Finance, and Judicial/Legal.
- Development of a comprehensive communication plan. Communication between CDHS, the counties and community partners include: "Waiver World," an email newsletter, operation and intervention-specific teleconferences, and regional convening and training for participant counties.
- Creation of a statewide system of support to provide implementation coaching to counties in a regional and timely manner.
- Collaboration with the Departments' Office of Behavioral Health and the Department Health Care Policy and Financing in the development of the trauma informed interventions.

Waiver Evaluation

The evaluator, Human Service Research Institute (HSRI), began work on 8/30/13. The evaluation is in the early stages and given the short time span since implementation, outcomes have yet to be determined. Changes to the Statewide Automated Child Welfare Information System (SACWIS), Trails, to include data items specific to the Title IV-E Waiver will go into effect on 1/1/14. HSRI will survey all counties regarding their efforts to implement the IV-E Waiver interventions in February 2014. HSRI and CDHS will perform site visits to the counties/regions beginning March 2014. The evaluation will be an ongoing effort to determine intervention impact on children, youth and families during their involvement with the child welfare system.

Statutory Reporting Requirement

Pursuant to 26-5-105.4, C.R.S. (2013), below, the Department of Human Services is required to report on the status of the Title IV-E waiver demonstration project.

26-5-105.4 (8) (a) C.R.S. (2013) On or before December 31, 2013, and each December 31 thereafter, the state department shall prepare a report concerning the status of the Title IV-E waiver demonstration project, as described in this section. The state department shall deliver the report to the joint budget committee, the health and human services committee of the senate, the health, insurance, and environment committee of the house of representatives, and the public health care and human services committee of the house of representatives, or any successor committees, no later than December 31 of each year.

I. NUMBER OF COUNTIES PARTICIPATING IN THE PROJECT

Forty one counties entered Memorandums of Understanding with Colorado Department of Human Services to participate in Year 1 of the Title IV-E Waiver Demonstration Project.

II. INTERVENTIONS IMPLEMENTED BY EACH COUNTY PARTICIPATING IN THE PROJECT

Family Engagement

The family engagement intervention employs family meetings at pre-determined times to ensure families are engaged early and often while involved with child welfare. Meetings occur when a case is opened, at

placement, every 90 Days for out-of-home placements, and every 6 months when providing in-home services. The desired outcomes include:

- For children and youth in out-of-home care:
 - Increase in stability,
 - Decrease in length of stay,
 - Decrease in re-entry,
 - Decrease in short-term stayers (two weeks or less), and
 - Decrease the likelihood of the use of congregate care.
- For children and youth receiving services in their own home:
 - Increase stability in their living situations,
 - Decrease in maltreatment,
 - Decrease in trauma to children and youth, and
 - Increase in the family's engagement in case planning.

Permanency Roundtables

Permanency roundtables (PRT) are a series of meetings focused on achieving permanency for youth and children in out-of-home placement. Each roundtable is a structured, professional, case consultation which uses three phases to move the child/youth to permanency. Attending the PRT are stakeholders, the child/youth, their family/kin and supports, caseworker, supervisor, administrator, and permanency experts. The child/youth voice is encouraged and heard. This group drives the Permanency Action Plan. PRTs are held quarterly until the child or youth achieves permanency. PRT seeks to expedite safe permanency, stimulate thinking and learn about ways to accelerate permanency, and address systemic and cross-systems barriers. The desired outcomes include:

- Decrease in length of stay in out-of-home care,
- Decrease in the likelihood that children/youth are placed in congregate care,
- Increase in the use of kinship placements,
- Increase engagement of youth in case planning, and
- Decrease re-entry into out-of-home care.

Kinship Supports

The kinship supports intervention focuses on providing supports to both certified and non-certified kinship care providers to improve the safety, permanency and well-being outcomes of children residing in the kin's home. This intervention utilizes the Kinship Needs Assessment. The assessment is to be completed within five days of initial contact with the kin. The provided supports may include: clothing, baby items, bedding, food, child care, rent/utility assistance, transportation, training, advocacy, and/or referral to community resources. The desired outcomes include:

- Increase the likelihood that kinship placements occur for children/youth removed from their homes,
- Decrease in length of stay,
- Increase the likelihood that children/youth removed from their home achieve safe permanency through kinship guardianship, and
- Increase in stability in out-of-home care.

Intervention Implementation by County

COUNTY	FAMILY ENGAGEMENT	PERMANENCY ROUNDTABLES	KINSHIP SUPPORTS
Adams	X	X	X
Arapahoe	X		X
Boulder	X		X
Broomfield	X		
Central Region - Clear Creek		X	
Central Region - Grand		X	
Central Region - Summit	X		
Chaffee	X		
Denver	X		X
Douglas	X	X	
El Paso	X		X
Fremont		X	X
Huerfano	X	X	
Jefferson	X	X	X
Larimer	X		X
Las Animas		X	X
Mesa	X	X	X
Montrose	X	X	
NE Region - Elbert	X	X	
NE Region - Kit Carson	X	X	X
NE Region - Lincoln	X		X
NE Region - Logan	X	X	
NW Region - Eagle	X	X	
NW Region - Garfield	X	X	X
NW Region - Moffat	X	X	
NW Region - Pitkin	X	X	
NW Region - Rio Blanco	X	X	
NW Region - Routt	X	X	
Park	X		
Pueblo	X	X	X
SE Region - Baca	X	X	
SE Region - Bent	X	X	
SE Region - Crowley	X		
SE Region - Kiowa	X	X	
SE Region - Otero		X	X
SE Region - Prowers		X	
SW Region - La Plata	X	X	X
SW Region - San Juan	X	X	X
Teller	X	X	
Weld	X		X
Yuma	X	X	

III. OUTCOMES ACHIEVED BY THE PROJECT AS REPORTED TO THE FEDERAL ADMINISTRATION FOR CHILDRENS AND FAMILIES

The evaluator, Human Services Research Institute (HSRI) is beginning their efforts to evaluate the IV-E Waiver efforts in Colorado. Because HSRI began working on the project on 8/30/13 outcomes are not available to report at this time.

IV. MONEYS EXPENDED FOR THE PROJECT

COUNTY	FAMILY ENGAGEMENT	PERMANENCY ROUNDTABLES	KINSHIP SUPPORTS	TOTAL APPROVED
Adams	\$ 250,051.00	\$ 103,963.00	\$ 268,179.00	\$ 622,193.00
Arapahoe	\$ 113,512.00	\$ -	\$ 57,489.00	\$ 171,001.00
Boulder	\$ 161,164.00	\$ -	\$ 140,282.00	\$ 301,446.00
Broomfield	\$ 91,200.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 91,200.00
Central Region - Clear Creek	\$ -	\$ 21,500.00	\$ -	\$ 21,500.00
Central Region - Grand	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Central Region - Summit	\$ 54,150.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 54,150.00
Chaffee	\$ 50,922.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 50,922.00
Denver	\$ 263,560.00	\$ -	\$ 520,890.00	\$ 784,450.00
Douglas	\$ 76,511.50	\$ 75,511.50	\$ -	\$ 152,023.00
El Paso	\$ 254,288.00	\$ -	\$ 645,712.00	\$ 900,000.00
Fremont	\$ -	\$ 62,000.00	\$ 142,500.00	\$ 204,500.00
Huerfano	\$ 39,400.00	\$ 4,700.00	\$ -	\$ 44,100.00
Jefferson	\$ 73,509.98	\$ 110,859.98	\$ 326,965.00	\$ 511,334.96
Larimer	\$ 211,427.00	\$ -	\$ 150,063.00	\$ 361,490.00
Las Animas	\$ -	\$ 15,000.00	\$ 33,000.00	\$ 48,000.00
Mesa	\$ 173,438.16	\$ 97,219.08	\$ 103,638.40	\$ 374,295.64
Montrose	\$ 81,970.00	\$ 67,710.00	\$ -	\$ 149,680.00
NE Region - Elbert	\$ 32,500.00	\$ 37,800.00	\$ -	\$ 70,300.00
NE Region - Kit Carson	\$ 15,000.00	\$ 7,200.00	\$ 15,000.00	\$ 37,200.00
NE Region - Lincoln	\$ 5,000.00	\$ -	\$ 37,000.00	\$ 42,000.00
NE Region - Logan	\$ 41,280.00	\$ 40,000.00	\$ -	\$ 81,280.00
NW Region - Eagle	\$ -	\$ 99,092.00	\$ -	\$ 99,092.00
NW Region - Garfield	\$ 87,205.00	\$ -	\$ 43,144.00	\$ 130,349.00
NW Region - Moffat	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
NW Region - Pitkin	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
NW Region - Rio Blanco	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
NW Region - Routt	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Park	\$ 50,239.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 50,239.00
Pueblo	\$ 104,000.00	\$ 113,000.00	\$ 58,000.00	\$ 275,000.00
SE Region - Baca	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
SE Region - Bent	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
SE Region - Crowley	\$ 59,941.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 59,941.00
SE Region - Kiowa	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
SE Region - Otero	\$ -	\$ 500.00	\$ 38,500.00	\$ 39,000.00
SE Region - Prowers	\$ -	\$ 38,228.00	\$ -	\$ 38,228.00
SW Region - La Plata	\$ 118,260.50	\$ 118,260.50	\$ 24,995.00	\$ 261,516.00
SW Region - San Juan	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Teller	\$ 49,966.52	\$ 18,750.00	\$ -	\$ 68,715.52
Weld	\$ 374,942.00	\$ -	\$ 186,221.00	\$ 561,163.00
Yuma	\$ 20,000.00	\$ 11,000.00	\$ -	\$ 31,000.00
TOTAL	\$ 2,853,437.66	\$ 1,042,294.06	\$ 2,791,578.40	\$ 6,687,309.12

In regional models, specific counties received the funding/resources to be shared with other participating regional counties.

Human Services Research Institute

INVOICE	AMOUNT
May/June	\$ 54,500.00
July/August	\$ 25,000.00
September	\$ 99,497.00
October	\$ 41,667.00
November	\$ 41,667.00
TOTAL	\$ 262,331.00

V. ANY NEED FOR ADDITIONAL LEGISLATION TO FURTHER THE ACCOMPLISHMENT OF GOALS OF THE PROJECT RELATED TO CHILD SAFETY, PERMANENCY, AND WELL-BEING

There is no current need for additional legislation.