Colorado Child Support Enforcement



Annual Report 2010

https://childsupport.state.co.us

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Child Support Enforcement Program — MISSION & VISION

OUR MISSION

The mission of the Colorado Child
Support Enforcement Program is to assure children receive financial and medical support from each parent.

This is accomplished by:

- Locating each parent
- Establishing paternity
- Establishing support obligations
- Enforcing those obligations

OUR VISION

Children can count on their parents for the financial, medical, and emotional support they need to be healthy and successful.



The Colorado Child Support Enforcement Program will put children first by helping both parents assume their responsibility for the economic and social well-being, health, and stability of their children. We recognize that children benefit from positive, ongoing relationships with both parents.

National Child Support Enforcement Program — HISTORY



NATIONAL CHILD SUPPORT PROGRAM

HISTORY

2010 marked the 35th Anniversary of the National Child Support Program. However, it was 60 years ago, back in 1950 that Congress first passed Federal child support enforcement legislation requiring State welfare agencies to notify the appropriate law enforcement officials when it became necessary to provide aid to dependent children who had been abandoned or deserted by a parent.

Amendments to the Social Security Act in 1965 allowed local and state welfare agencies to obtain information from the Secretary of Health, Education and Welfare regarding the address and place of employment of a non-custodial parent who owed support under a court order for support.

The year 1975 saw big changes not only for the collection of child support, but also for the enforcement of child support collection. When Title IV-D of the Social Security Act was signed into law on January 4, 1975, it allowed the Secretary of Health and Human Services (previously the Secretary of Health, Education and Welfare,) to establish a separate division, which would be mandated to oversee the operation of an Enforcement program.

This program would establish a parent locator service; state operational guidelines, and a plan for periodic review of cases. The primary responsibility for operating the Enforcement program was placed on each state. These provisions were to come into effect by July 1, 1975.

The next big year for child support laws was 1984, when the Child Support Enforcement Amendments were established requiring major improvements in both state and local Enforcement programs. First, all States were required to develop mandatory income withholding procedures as well as expedited processes for establishing and enforcing support orders (such as income tax refund interceptions and property liens.) In addition, states were allowed to report delinquent parents to consumer credit agencies.

Then in 1988, the Family Support Act of 1988 was enacted. This Act made several important changes to the child support program. Most significantly, the Act required the courts to use State guidelines when establishing support amounts. States were also required to review their guidelines every four years. Another important provision established with the Child Support Recovery Act of 1992, made it a Federal crime to willfully fail to pay past-due child support payments, with respect to a child who resides in another State.

TODAY

One of the most significant changes in support enforcement policy in recent years has been the shift towards addressing men's roles as fathers. Legislation enacted in 1996, the Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act, contains significant revisions in child support legislation that call for the development of a number of social services programs aimed towards working with fathers.

Under this Act, states can apply for grants in the range of \$50,000 to develop programs that provide mediation and counseling services and encourage child visitation in families where the parents do not live together. (See *The Colorado Promoting Responsible Fatherhood Initiative* on page 3.)

The Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act also allowed for the creation of the New Hires database, which requires all employers to report information about newly hired employees. This allows child support enforcement officials to track down obligors, even across state lines and retrieve payments through income withholding.

Child Support Enforcement Program – FATHERHOOD



INNOVATIVE PARTNERSHIPS

The bubble chart shown above is a visual aid developed by the Federal Office of Child Support Enforcement. It depicts the innovative partnerships and initiatives that state, county, and tribal child support programs (CSE) have developed to help parents improve their ability and willingness to support their children.

The ideas in the chart encourage local child support programs to intervene early to address the underlying reasons for non-support. By broadening our strategies and collaborating with other programs, CSE can do more to help assure that parents provide for children with financial and emotional support throughout their childhood.

It is in the spirit of collaboration that Colorado's Child Support Enforcement Division teamed with the Division of Colorado Works to help educate Colorado's Dads about the importance of providing financial support for their child(ren).



COLORADO'S PROMOTING RESPONSIBLE FATHERHOOD INITIATIVE

Back in October 2006, the Colorado Department of Human Services' Colorado Works Division was awarded a 5-year grant to help strengthen paternal relationships that would improve the well-being of Colorado's children. The Colorado Promoting Responsible Fatherhood Initiative (PRF) was developed through the use of these grant funds. The PRF distributes more than \$1 million each year to state, community, and faith-based organizations to assist them in providing direct services to fathers and families.

Utilizing funds from the grant, www.ColoradoDads.com launched its "be there for your kids" campaign. This informative website includes some important Child Support Resources to help fathers navigate through the child support system, and includes links to these important publications:

- A Father's Guide to Child Support A handbook that is designed to help fathers understand how child support works
- Making and Receiving Child Support Payments — To help fathers learn more about acceptable Family Support Registry payments options
- Paternity Means Fatherhood: Three Easy Ways to Establish Paternity in Colorado
- Child Support Informational Brochure —
 Outlines the services that are available
 through the State Office of Child Support
 Enforcement (CSE).

Soon to be added to the site is an informational video entitled, "Engaging Colorado Fathers in the Child Support System;" it is scheduled for release in early 2011. Featuring fathers in the Jefferson County Fatherhood Program, along with staff from Jefferson County and the State CSE office, the video answers many questions fathers have about the child support system — order modifications, paternity establishment, arrears, and more.









Child Support Enforcement Program — WEBSITE

eCSE ANNUAL REPORT

PARENTS

The Child Support website, https://childsupport. state.co.us, is a web portal designed to help individuals and families find the CSE resources they need. The website provides real-time information to give parents online access to their child support case and payment information. Parents who register to use the website can receive an email notification when a child support payment is disbursed. There is also a link to Western Union so obligors can make online payments of child support obligations. Current Child Support Enforcement Newsletters for Parents are available online in addition to many other publications and forms. CSE continues to work on a number of new enhancements, one of which is planned for release during the second quarter of 2011; it is the ability to complete and submit an application online for child support services.

EMPLOYERS

eCSE provides many interactive online features to help employers working with Child Support Enforcement. Employers, who register to use the website, will have the ability to view pending income-withholding orders, acknowledge receipt of the orders, and search for orders issued to their company. Employers may also report an employee lump sum or employment termination CSE is working on a number of enonline. hancements for release during 2011, which will: 1) Allow employers to make online, one-time or recurring payments from their checking or savings account, and 2) Allow employers to reconcile employee information, so they may begin to submit payments electronically via the ACH network.



PARTNER AGENCIES

Colorado Child Support Enforcement partners with other Colorado state agencies in the online sharing of real-time information on child support cases. This online partnership helps to expedite eligibility determination to qualify CSE clients for other state services. Additional agencies are planned for access in the coming year.

CHILD SUPPORT WORKERS

Colorado was one of the first states in the country to participate in the 'Query Interstate Cases for Kids' (QUICK) network. QUICK is a federally-sponsored internet portal that allows child support workers in Colorado to share real-time case information with CSE workers in other participating states. Colorado CSE is working with the Federal Office of Child Support Enforcement to build upon the QUICK infrastructure to provide State workers with additional access to child support services via the new Federal Parent Locator Service (FPLS) State Services Portal (SSP) initiative. CSE plans to have the FPLS SSP online during the first half of 2011.

Building Support for Colorado's Children — EARLY INTERVENTION

Early Intervention Alerts

Colorado's child support professionals are committed to ensuring that families can depend on the consistent payment of monthly current child support. To assist in that effort, we developed and implemented an "Early Intervention" alert that is generated by the Automated Child Support Enforcement System. This alert notifies the worker assigned to the case about those obligors who paid their full monthly payment due in a month and then stopped paying entirely the next month or only made a partial payment. The alert also provides a great deal of case and contact information to the child support professional to assist in their determining the best early intervention action to take with the obligor to get them back on track to paying their full monthly payment due.

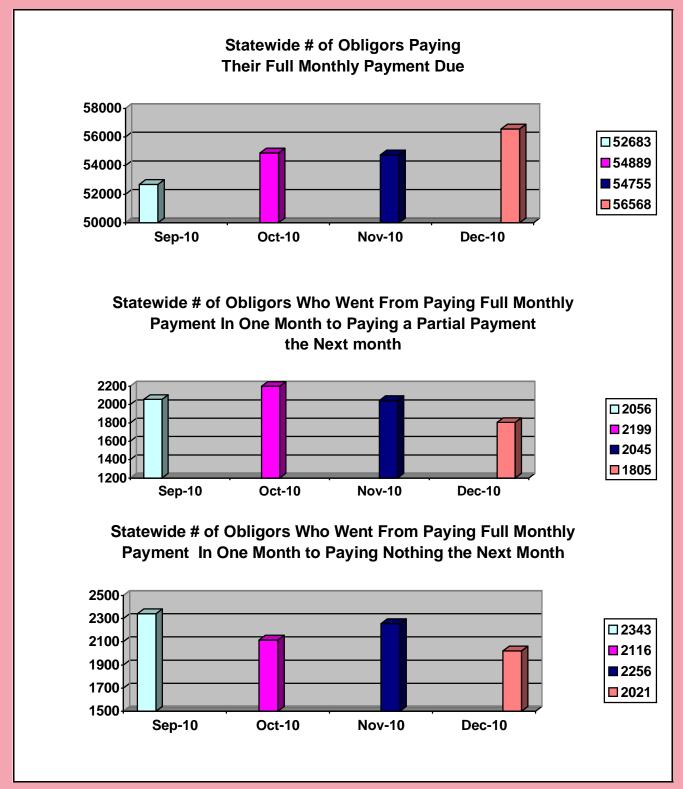
The efforts of the county child support professionals to diligently work these Early Intervention alerts have resulted in a substantial number of the obligors resuming their payments. For example, the 4,307 Early Intervention alerts worked by county child support professionals in December 2010 resulted in 2,801 of these obligors making child support payments after the alerts were worked. This equates to 65% of the total alerts cleared, resulting in payments totaling \$1,538,777.

The charts on the next page illustrate statewide data for the time period of September 2010 through December 2010 for: 1) the number of obligors paying their full monthly payment due; 2) the number of obligors who went from paying their full monthly payment due to paying nothing the next month; and 3) the number of obligors who went from paying their full monthly payment due to paying a partial payment the next month.

- From September 2010 to December 2010 an additional 3,915 obligors paid their full monthly payment due. This is a real tribute to the work of the child support professionals in Colorado and means that 3,915 more families received the full amount of ordered monthly child support owed to them.
- Each month, approximately 8% of the obligors who paid their full monthly payment due the previous month pay either nothing or just a partial payment the next month. This demonstrates the importance of working the Early Intervention alerts to get the obligors back on track to making full payments.

(See Page 6 for detailed charts that correspond to this article.)

Building Support for Colorado's Children — EARLY INTERVENTON



Building Support for Colorado's Children — PERFORMANCE GOALS

Strategic Plan Roll-Out

In 2010 the Child Support Enforcement Program developed its new Strategic Plan for 2011-2013. This Plan was shared with Colorado's child support professionals through 11 presentations throughout the state. At each of these presentations, input was solicited from attendees on the mission critical Action Steps the program should focus on over the time of the Strategic Plan in order to accomplish the statewide performance goals. All of the Action Steps that were identified will be reviewed in 2011 to determine those that can and should be worked on and monitor the progress to ensure they are implemented effectively. The 2011-2013 Strategic Plan is published on our website at https://childsupport.state.co.us.

The 2011-2013 Strategic Plan focuses on the following Strategic Goals for Colorado's Child Support Enforcement Program:

- Promoting the establishment of paternity for all children:
- Establishing financial support for all children in IV-D cases (IV-D refers to those cases that are worked by the county child support offices);
- Ensuring that all children in IV-D cases receive financial support from parents as ordered:
- Ensuring that all children in IV-D cases have medical support established and provided:
- Operating the IV-D program in an effective and efficient manner.

Listed below are the specific Performance Targets for 2011 for Colorado's Child Support Enforcement Program.

Performance Targets for 2011

Paternity Establishment Percentage (PEP)	90.0%
Percent of IV-D Cases with Support Orders	80.0%
Percent of Current Support Paid	63.9%
Percent of IV-D Cases with a Payment	
on Arrears	71.4%



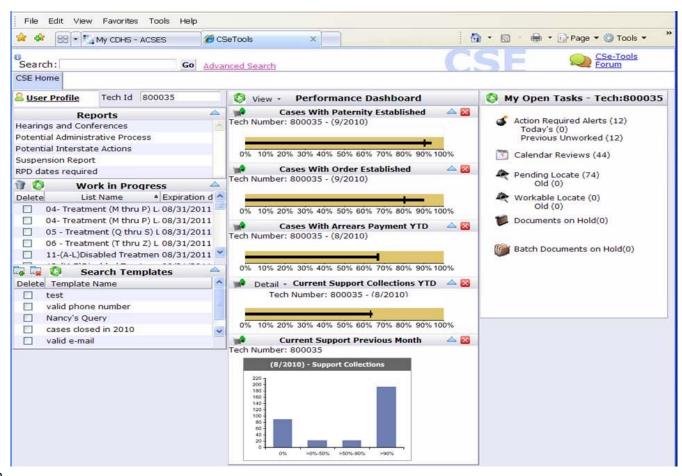
Building Support for Colorado's Children — CASE MANAGEMENT

Case Management — Performance Dashboard

The Colorado Child Support Enforcement (CSE) program's approaches to case management and performance improvement are designed on the premise that compliance and performance have a synergistic relationship. Various tools, such as alerts, calendar reviews, and case management reports have been designed to ensure federally mandated timeframes are met, and mandated actions are taken on all cases. Through meeting these timeframes, and taking appropriate actions when needed, performance improvement should theoretically follow.

With the assistance of a federal grant, Colorado developed a case management Performance Dashboard to assist county and State CSE workers with caseload analysis capabilities specific to the CSE performance measures. The expectation was that individual and county caseload performance would improve based on compliance with federally mandated timeframes and required actions.

Despite the short time frame for the grant, Colorado CSE at all levels of the program saw the benefits of the Performance Dashboard. The Dashboard displays accurate and real-time case information, and gives workers the ability to 'drill-down' to case-level specific actions that can be taken to resolve existing or potential case issues. Statewide hands-on training will commence summer 2011, with both live and web-based trainings being offered.



2010 Program Performance — QUICK FACTS

Calendar Year 2010 Quick Facts

Collections

Total Collections	\$317,133,681
Non TANF Collections	\$293,640,673
TANF Collections	\$23,493,008

Collections Sources

Income Assignments	\$167,115,073
Federal Tax Refund Intercepts	\$23,976,356
State Tax Refund Intercepts	\$3,532,743
Collections from other states	28,190,345
Workers Compensation Benefits	\$2,136,723
Unemployment Compensation	\$24,547,442
Financial Institution Data Match	\$1,643,047
Other (Gambling Intercepts,	\$64,683,952
Lottery Intercepts, Credit	
Reporting, License Suspension,	
Voluntary Payments, etc.)	

Cases

Total Caseload	142,585
Current TANF	13,469
Former TANF Caseload	22,315
Never Assistance Caseload	106,801

Service Performance

Paternity Establishment Percentage	95.5%
Percent of Caseload with Orders	87.7%
Percent of Cases Paying on Arrears	70.4%
Percent of Current Support Paid	62.9%
Cost Effectiveness Ratio	\$4.27





Previewing 2011 Program Highlights — RESEARCH

NEW GRANTS

Operation Access for Active Duty Military

This grant responds to Priority Area "Projects to Address Child Support Needs of Active Duty Military Members." This collaboration between the El Paso County Child Support Enforcement Unit, active duty military installations, and military personnel proposes to improve service and to educate military personnel on matters of child support.

The major goals and objectives of the project are to develop: a structured and sustainable process for engaging active duty military and their families in the child support enforcement process in a way that meets the needs of the military installations, the El Paso County Child Support Enforcement Unit, and the needs of the military families they serve; a streamlined method of handling change of custody and review and adjustment for active duty military, and a resource list of family law legal resources in the area that are free or have adjusted fees and are readily available to military personnel.

To achieve these goals, the project will develop and design a sustainable service-of-process method for active duty military, presentation and handouts for use at on-site sessions for military personnel, and a sturdy, pocket-sized booklet with key information for use by active duty military.

They also plan to improve and expand secure communication methods for use by overseas military personnel and the content and use of the CSE website for delivery of CSE information and secure bi-directional communication.

Additionally, the grantee will identify and propose any needed policy changes or legislation that would remove barriers or enhance the provision of services to active duty military.

Triple Play: Three Paths to Success

This grant responds to Priority Area "How OCSE Grantees Can Support Building Assets for Fathers and Families (BAFF)." In collaboration with Mile High Untied Way (MHUW) and the Colorado Responsible Fatherhood Program (CRFP), the project will build on the established Assets for Independence (AFI) program that MHUW operates. The program has well-defined intake and eligibility criteria for participation; a financial literacy curriculum that is required for all participants; individualized, asset-building, counseling services offered through skilled providers, and other financial services (e.g., tax preparation, banking, and credit counseling).

Project implementation plans include:

- Develop and sustain collaboration with MHUW (AFI Grantee) and community partners for providing opportunities for non-custodial parents (NCPs) with IV-D cases;
- Develop NCP incentives to encourage successful participation in the AFI asset development program;
- Develop a business plan and an outreach plan to private for-profit and non-profit sectors in hopes of identifying and recruiting donors to support the program financially beyond the grant period;
- Create a referral process to identify and refer qualified NCPs to each entity in a manner that allows for minimum effort for those being served, modify the AFI financial education modules to include CSE-related program information; and
- Cross-train collaboration partners to develop in-house experts about the child support and AFI programs.

Proposed project outcomes are:

- Improved financial literacy in the areas of banking and savings (through the use of Individual Development Accounts (IDAs):
- Credit repair, debt management, and access to financial institutions (banking); and
- A choice between three asset-building paths for low-income NCPs with a IV-D child support enforcement case
 in two of the ten largest child support enforcement units in the state of Colorado, Adams and Jefferson
 Counties.

CSE County Offices

Adams County 7190 Colorado Blvd. Commerce City, CO 80022	Alamosa County P.O. Box 1310	Arapahoe County 14980 E. Alameda Dr., #38 Aurora, CO 80012	Archuleta County P.O. Box 240 Pagosa Springs, CO 81147
Tele (303) 227-2233	Tele (719) 589-2581	Tele (303) 752-8900	Tele (970) 264-2182
Fax (303) 227-2239	Fax ((719) 589-9794	Fax (303) 752-8901	Fax (970) 264-2186
Baca County 772 Colorado Street	Bent County 215 - 2nd Street	Boulder County 529 Coffman St, Ste 190	Broomfield County 6 Garden Center
Springfield, CO 81073	Las Animas, CO 81054	Longmont, CO 80501	Broomfield ,CO 80020
Tele (719) 523-4131	Tele (719) 456-2620	Tele (303) 678-6300	Tele (720) 887-2261
Fax (719) 523-4820	Fax (719) 456-2945	Fax (303) 678-6309	Fax (720) 294-9677
Chaffee County	Cheyenne County	Clear Creek County	Conejos County
P.O. Box 1007	P.O. Box 146	3500 Illinois Street, Ste 1300	P.O. Box 68
Salida, CO 81201	Cheyenne Wells, CO 80810	Golden, CO 80401	Conejos, CO 81129
Tele (719) 539-6627	Tele (719) 767-5629	Tele (303) 271-4300	Tele (719) 376-5455
Fax (719) 539-6430	Fax (719) 767-5101	Fax (303) 271-4091	Fax (719) 376-2389
Costilla County	Crowley County	Custer County	Delta County
P.O. Box 249	631 Main Street Ste 101	P.O. Box 929	P.O. Box 290
San Luis, CO 81152	Ordway, CO 81063	Westcliffe, CO 81252	Delta, CO 81416-0290
Tele (719) 672-4131	Tele (719) 267-3546	Tele (719) 783-2371	Tele (970) 874-2063
Fax (719) 672-4141	Fax (719) 267-9959	Fax (719) 783-9085	Fax (970) 874-2069
Denver County	Dolores County	Douglas County	Eagle County
1200 Federal Blvd.	P.O. Box 485	4000 Justice Way #2525A	P.O. Box 660
Denver, CO 80204	Dove Creek, CO 81324	Castle Rock, CO 80104	Eagle, CO 81631
Tele (720) 944-2960	Tele (970) 677-2240	Tele (303) 814-7145	Tele (970) 328-8840
Fax (720) 944-2660	Fax (970) 677-2859	Fax (303) 814-7014	Fax (970) 328-8829
Elbert County	El Paso County	Fremont County	Garfield County
P.O. Box 6	30 E. Pikes Peak Ste 203	172 Justice Center Rd	195 W. 14th Street
Simla, CO 80835	Colorado Springs, CO 80903	Canon City, CO 81212	Rifle, CO 81650
Tele (719) 541-2369	Tele (719)457-6331	Tele (719) 275-2318	Tele (970) 625-5282
Fax None	Fax (719) 457-6340	Fax (719) 269-2339	Fax (970) 625-0927
Gilpin County	Grand County	Gunnison County	Hinsdale County
3500 Illinois Street, Ste 1300		225 N. Pine St, Ste A	225 N. Pine Street Ste A
Golden, CO 80401	Hot Sulphur. Spgs, CO 80451		Gunnison, CO 81230
Tele (303) 271-4300	Tele (970) 725-3331	Tele (970) 641-3244	Tele (970) 641-3244
Fax (303) 271-4091	Fax (970) 725-3696 metro (303) 572-3821	Fax (970) 641-3738	Fax (970) 641-3738
Huerfano County	Jackson County	Jefferson County	Kiowa County
121 W. 6th Street	P.O. Box 204	3500 Illinois Street, Ste 1300	P.O. Box 187
Walsenburg, CO 81089	Hot Sulphur Spgs, CO 80451	Golden, CO 80401	Eads, CO 81036
Tele (719) 738-2810	Tele (970) 725-3331	Tele (303) 271-4300	Tele (719) 438-5541
Fax (719) 738-2549	Fax (970) 725-3696	Fax (303) 271-4091	Fax (719) 438-5370

CSE County Offices

Kit Carson County	Lake County P.O. Box 884 Leadville, CO 80461 Tele (719) 486-4155 Fax (719) 486-4164	La Plata County	Larimer County
P.O. Box 70		1060 E. 2nd Ave	1501 Blue Spruce Dr.
Burlington, CO 80807		Durango, CO 81301	Fort Collins, CO 80524
Tele (719) 346-8732		Tele (970) 382-6144	Tele (970) 498-6483
Fax (719) 346-8066		Fax (970) 385-5269	Fax (970) 498-6310
Las Animas County	Lincoln County	Logan County P.O. Box 1746 Sterling, CO 80751 Tele (970) 522-2194 Fax (970) 521-0853	Mesa County
204 S. Chestnut Street	P.O. Box 37		P.O. Box 20000
Trinidad, CO 81082	Hugo, CO 80821		Grand Junction, CO 81502-5035
Tele (719) 846-2276	Tele (719) 743-2404		Tele (970) 248-2780
Fax (719) 846-4269	Fax (720) 743-2879		Fax (970) 248-2883
Mineral County P.O. Box 40 Del Norte, CO 81132 Tele (719) 657-3381 Fax (719) 657-2997	Moffat County	Montezuma County	Montrose County
	595 Breeze Street	109 W. Main #203	1200 N. Grand Avenue #C
	Craig, CO 81625	Cortez, CO 81321-3179	Montrose, CO 81401
	Tele (970) 824-8282	Tele (970) 565-3769	Tele (970) 252-4200
	Fax (970) 824 –9552	Fax (970) 565-0172	Fax (970) 252-4210
Morgan County P.O. Box 220 Fort Morgan, CO 80701 Tele (970) 542-3530 Fax (970) 542-3415	Otero County P.O. Box 494 La Junta, CO 81050 Tele (719) 383-3100 Fax (719) 383-3102	Ouray County P.O. Box 530 177 Sherman St, Unit 104 Ridgway, CO 81432 Tele (970) 626-2299 Fax (970) 626-9911	Park County P.O. Box 1007 Salida, CO 81201 Tele (719) 539-6627 Fax (719) 539-6430
Phillips County	Pitkin County	Prowers County	Pueblo County
127 E. Denver Ste A	195 W. 14th Street	P.O. Box 1157	212 W. 12th Street
Holyoke, CO 80734	Rifle, CO 81650	Lamar, CO 81052	Pueblo, CO 81003
Tele (970) 854-2280	Tele (970) 625-5282	Tele (719) 336-7486	Tele (719) 583-6160
Fax (970) 854-3637	Fax (970) 625-0927	Fax (719) 336-7198	Fax (719) 583-6946
Rio Blanco County	Rio Grande County	Routt County	Saguache County
345 Market Street	PO Box 40	P.O. Box 772790	P.O. Box 215
Meeker, CO 81641	Del Norte, CO 81132	Steamboat Spgs, CO 80477	Saguache, CO 81149
Tele (970) 878-9640	Tele (719) 657-3381	Tele (970) 870-5256	Tele (719) 655-2537
Fax (970) 878-4893	Fax (719) 657-2997	Fax (970) 870-5260	Fax (719) 655-0206
San Juan County	San Miguel County	Sedgwick County	Summit County
1060 E. 2nd Avenue	1200 N. Grand Avenue #C	P. O. Box 27	P. O. Box 869
Durango, CO 81301	Montrose, CO 81401	Julesburg, CO 80737	Frisco, CO 80443
Tele (970) 382-6144	Tele (970) 252-4200	Tele (970) 474-3397	Tele (970) 668-9160
Fax (970) 498-6310	Fax (970) 252-4210	Fax (970) 474-9881	Fax (970) 668-4115
Teller County P.O. Box 6688 Divide, CO 80814 Tele (719) 687-5572 Fax (719) 686-9127	Washington County	Weld County	Yuma County
	P.O. Box 395	P.O. Box A	340 S. Birch
	Akron, CO 80720	Greeley, CO 80632	Wray, CO 80758
	Tele (970) 345-2238	Tele (970) 352-6933	Tele (970) 332-4877
	Fax (970) 345-2237	Fax (970) 346-7663	Fax (970 332-4978





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https://childsupport.state.co.us

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