



REGIONAL PARTNERSHIP GRANTS

Planning Year Profile

Grant Period: 2019-2024

IMPROVING WELL-BEING, PERMANENCY, AND SAFETY FOR CHILDREN BY INCORPORATING PEER SUPPORT GROUPS INTO THE INNOVATIVE DANSR APPROACH

LEAD AGENCY: Colorado Judicial Department;
State Court Administrator's Office

TARGET SERVICE AREA: Arapahoe, Broomfield,
Denver, El Paso, Garfield, Jefferson, and
Huerfano Counties (additional counties to be
identified)

LOCATION: Denver, CO

ADMINISTRATION FOR CHILDREN AND

FAMILIES REGION: 8

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT SERVED: All

BRIEF PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION: This project proposes to deliver emerging interventions in target communities for children who are in, or at risk of, an out-of-home placement as a result of a parent's or caregiver's opioid or other substance use and study the impact of the interventions on child safety, permanency, well-being and family functioning and recovery. Colorado proposes the full implementation of Circle of Parents® in Recovery (CoPR) in 21 counties that are implementing the Dependency and Neglect System Reform Program (DANSR) approach. CoPR is an evidence-informed model that works to strengthen families, prevent child maltreatment, and support recovery through a prosocial peer network. DANSR is an approach to managing cases in the Dependency and Neglect Courts that infuses the extensively researched family treatment drug court principles to yield more positive outcomes for child welfare-involved families with substance use disorders or co-occurring mental health issues.

TARGET POPULATION: Children and families involved in dependency and neglect cases within DANSR counties where children are in out-of-home placements and where they are at risk of removal due to parental substance use concerns.

PROJECTED NUMBERS SERVED: Over the five years of the grant period 352 families from counties that are implementing the DANSR approach will participate in CoPR.

MAJOR PROGRAM GOALS

OVERALL GOAL: To utilize interventions that are evidence-informed, emerging and supported practices to target communities where children are in out-of-home care or at risk of being placed in out-of-home care due to substantial impact of substance abuse through coordinated practice across systems and organizations to enhance child and family safety, permanency, and well-being.

KEY PROGRAM SERVICES

- Circle of Parents® in Recovery (CoPR)
- The DANSR approach to Case Management using Family Treatment Drug Court principles

EXISTING OR PROPOSED PARTNERS

- Colorado Department of Human Services Office of Children, Youth and Families, Division of Child Welfare and Office of Behavioral Health
- Substance Abuse Treatment Providers
- State Court Administrator's Office
- Court Improvement Program
- Court Appointed Special Advocates
- Dependency Courts implementing the Dependency and Neglect Reform approach
- The Kempe Center, Department of Pediatrics, University of Colorado Anschutz Medical Campus
- Office of Respondent Parent Counsel
- Office of the Child's Representative
- Grays Peak Strategies
- Illuminate Colorado
- 2M Research

EVALUATION DESIGN

The grantee's local evaluation proposes two components: an impact study and a process study. The grantee is also participating in the RPG cross-site evaluation studies of family and child outcomes, program implementation, and collaboration among RPG grantees and partners.

IMPACT STUDY DESIGN

The grantee proposes to use a quasi-experimental design to test the impact of their services among families where children are in out-of-home placements and where they are at risk of removal due to parental substance use concerns. Members of the program group will receive the DANSR approach in combination with the CoPR for 36 months. Members of the comparison group will not have access to the DANSR/CoPR intervention but will receive business-as-usual services. The impact study will include 2,388 families from across 21 counties, with 352 in the program group and 2,036 in the comparison group. The grantee proposes to examine impacts in the following domains: permanency, safety, child well-being, family functioning, and recovery. Data sources include administrative data and information collected by data collectors using standardized instruments, for both the program and comparison groups.

PROCESS STUDY DESIGN

The process study proposes to include two primary components. First, the grantee proposes to conduct a system-level assessment of how the combined DANSR/CoPR intervention is designed by the counties, the barriers and strategies for uptake of the intervention, and how these barriers and strategies change over time. Second, the grantee proposes to conduct a detailed examination of intervention processes at the case level, which will be used to understand how other factors contribute to the success of the combined model. Data sources include surveys, interviews, and focus groups with parents/caretakers and program professionals.

This grantee profile is supported by the Administration on Children, Youth, and Families Children's Bureau, under contract HHSS270201700001C. This content represents the work of The Center for Children and Family Futures, and does not reflect the opinions of the Administration on Children, Youth, and Families.