

OCSE Child Access & Visitation Program

Name of State: Alaska

Part I: Contact Information

- Name of State Program Contact Susan Miller
- Name of Designated State Agency Alaska Court System
- Street Address 820 west 4th Avenue
- City, State, & Zipcode Anchorage, Alaska 99501-2005
- Telephone no. (907) 264-8229
- E-mail Address smiller@courts.state.ak.us
- Fax no. (907)264-8291

Part II: Statistical Profile

- No. of minor children under 18 years of age living with one biological parent (1990 U.S. Census data) 27,765

Part III: Previous and Current Year Funding Levels

	<u>Federal \$ Grant</u>	<u>State \$ Match</u>	and	<u>Percentage</u>
• FFY 1997	\$ 50,000	\$ 5,555		10%
• FFY 1998	\$ 50,000	\$ 5,555		10%
• FFY 1999	\$ 100,000	\$ 11,111		10%
• FFY 2000	\$ 100,000	\$ 11,111		10%

Part IV: Summary of State's Proposed Use of FFY 2000 Grant Funds

	<u>Yes</u>	<u>No</u>
Process for Awarding Funds:		
• Request for Proposals (new & continuation)	X	
• New only		
• Continuation only		
• Other _____		

Time of Year RFP's are Issued and/or Funding Decisions Are Made:
 Fall X Winter X Spring X Summer X

Award of Funds: Grants _____ Contracts X Cooperative Agreements _____

When needs can be anticipated, RFP's are issued so that decisions may be made at receipt of grant award. However, need for RFPs may arise at any time of the year.

Targeted Priority Areas:

• Mediation			
voluntary	Yes <u> X </u>	No	_____
mandatory	Yes <u> X </u>	No	_____
• Counseling	Yes _____	No	<u> X </u>
• Education	Yes <u> X </u>	No	_____
• Parenting Plans	Yes <u> X </u>	No	_____
• Visitation Enforcement			
monitoring	Yes <u> X </u>	No	_____
supervision	Yes <u> X </u>	No	_____
neutral drop-off/pick-up	Yes <u> X </u>	No	_____

- **Development of Guidelines**

Visitation	Yes _____	No <u> X </u>
Alternative custody arrangements	Yes _____	No <u> X </u>

Summary Narrative: Proposed Use of FFY 2000 Funds

In the past, most of Alaska's grant funds have been used to support the development of a court-connected mediation program for parents involved in disputes over child custody and visitation. First year funds were used to begin a program in Anchorage which is the largest community in the state. In the second year of the grant, the mediation program was expanded to Fairbanks (Alaska's second largest community) and to three communities on the Kenai Peninsula. Third year grants were used to expand the mediation program to Southeast Alaska. With FFY 2000 funds, mediation will continue to be the primary service that will be funded by Alaska via the Child Access and Visitation grant. However, in view of the fact that Alaska has a high incidence of domestic violence, the state will also expend a portion of the grant funds on training mediators in how to work with high conflict families. Due to the absence of agencies/organizations that might provide mediation or supervised visitation, the State of Alaska contracts directly with individual persons to provide needed services. To date, the state's child access mediation program is available in six of Alaska's 15 Superior Court locations. Last, but not least, Alaska has used a small but significant portion of its grant award to support the development of forms for pro se litigants to use in bringing child access disputes before the court and/or in mediation.

Part V: Projects Funded by States with FFY 98 OCSE Dollars

Grantee Name, Address & Phone Number mothers	Amount of Award & Services Provided	Number of Parents Served:		
		Total #	% fathers	%
1. Fairbanks, Anchorage, and Kenai	\$33,000 Mediation	8	49	49
2. Anchorage	\$7,000 Parenting Plan Development	N/A		
3. Anchorage, Kenai & Fairbanks	\$10,000 General Training	N/A		
4.				
5.				
6.				

Participant Data: Part A
(by income and marital status)

Grantee Name & Program Title	Average Annual Income	Parent Participation Rates:		
		Divorced	Separated	Unwed
1. Child Custody and Visitation Mediation Program Anchorage, Kenai, Fairbanks	Less than\$10,000 0% \$10,000-\$19,000 12.5% \$20,000-\$29,000 10.7% \$30,000-\$39,000 21.4% \$40,000 &over 55.35%	25.86%	44.82%	29.31%
2.				
3.				
4.				

Participant Data: Part B
(by race/ethnicity)

Grantee Name	<u>RACIAL / ETHNIC BREAKOUT:</u>					
	White	Black	Hispanic	Asian	Native American	Pacific Islander
1. Mediation Program Anchorage, Knai, Fairbanks						
2.						
3.						
4.						
5.						
6.						

Don't Know 100%

Other, _____

Sources of Client Referral

GRANTEE							
Agency	Self-Referral	TANF	Child Welfare	Child Support	Social Services	Courts	Private
1. Mediation Program Anchorage, Kenai, Fairbanks						X	
2.							
3.							
4.							
5.							
6.							