

**OCSE Child Access & Visitation Program
Columbia**

Name of State: District of

Part I: Contact Information

- Name of State Program Contact Philip L. Browning, Director
- Name of Designated State Agency Office of the Corporation Counsel
District of Columbia
- Street Address 441 4th Street, N. W.
- City, State, & Zipcode Washington, D.C., 20001-2714
- Telephone no. (202) 724-2131
- E-mail Address dcivd_browning@hotmail.com
- Fax no. (202) 724-3710

Part II: Statistical Profile

- Total no. of minor children under 18 years of age living with one biological parent (1990 U.S. Census data) 61,788

Part III: Previous and Current Year Funding Levels

	<u>Federal \$ Grant</u>	<u>State \$ Match</u>	and	<u>Percentage</u>
• FFY 1997	\$ 50,000	\$ 5,556		10%
• FFY 1998	\$ 50,000	\$ 5,556		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)		
• New only		
• Continuation only	X	
• Other _____		

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

Award of Funds: Grants _____ Contracts _____ Cooperative Agreements X

Targeted Priority Areas:

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mediation <li style="padding-left: 20px;">voluntary <li style="padding-left: 20px;">mandatory • Counseling • Education • Parenting Plans • Visitation Enforcement <li style="padding-left: 20px;">monitoring <li style="padding-left: 20px;">supervision <li style="padding-left: 20px;">neutral drop-off/pick-up 	<p>Yes _____</p> <p>Yes _____</p> <p>Yes _____</p> <p>Yes _____</p> <p>Yes _____</p> <p>Yes <u>X</u> _____</p> <p>Yes <u>X</u> _____</p> <p>Yes <u>X</u> _____</p>	<p>No <u>X</u> _____</p> <p>No _____</p> <p>No _____</p> <p>No _____</p>
---	--	--

- **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

The Child Support Enforcement Division, District of Columbia’s Office of the Corporation Counsel, proposes to use the FFY 2000 Child Access and Visitation Grant funds to provide supervised visitation services through the District’s Superior Court, and, in part, the Children Right’s Council. Shortly after the establishment of the Domestic Violence Unit in 1966, the District’s Supreme Court recognized the need for a supervised visitation center for domestic violence cases. As a result, the Supervised Visitation Center was established and has been funded via Federal Child A & V Grant funds since its inception in July 1998. The Center serves the dual role of protecting the safety of the child and the custodial parent while preserving the right of the non-custodial parent to visit the child. During 1999, court referrals of domestic violence cases to the Supreme Court’s Supervised Visitation Center have increased significantly. There were 179 intake interviews conducted in this one year alone. Furthermore, 271 supervised visits were held and there were 292 exchanges, totaling 563 contacts. A total of 105 children were served.

In order to address the visitation needs of families who are not in the domestic violence court system, the D. C. Chapters of the Children’s Rights Council provide supervised visitation services to children of unwed, separated, and divorced parents including children in abuse and neglect cases. The services include visitation monitoring, neutral drop-off and pick-up services, and the development of parenting plans and guidelines for visitation. The Children’s Rights Council also operates a telephone hotline that enables individuals to obtain information on custody, access, mediation, parenting education, and referral services.

The D. C. Superior Court proposes to use \$89,856 of the Federal A & V grant to fund 5 positions at the Superior Court Supervised Visitation Center. The remaining \$21,256 will be used to partially fund the hotline operated by the Children’s Rights

Council and the supervised visitation services provided by the D. C. Chapter of the Children's Rights Council.

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. D. C. Superior Court	\$55,555	158	79	79
2.				
3.				
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. DC Superior Court		9%	29%	62%
2.				
3.				
4.				
5.				
6.				

Participant Data: Part B
(by race/ethnicity)

Grantee Name	<u>RACIAL / ETHNIC BREAKOUT:</u>					
	White	Black	Hispanic	Asian	Native American	Pacific Islander
1. DC Superior Court	4%	80%	9%	1%		6%
2.						
3.						
4.						
5.						
6.						

Don't Know _____

Other, _____

Sources of Client Referral

GRANTEE							
Agency	Self-Referral	TANF	Child Welfare	Child Support	Social Services	Courts	Private
1. DC Superior Court						X	
2.							
3.							
4.							
5.							
6.							