

OCSE Child Access & Visitation Program

Name of State: New Hampshire

Part I: Contact Information

- Name of State Program Contact Thomas Pryor
- Name of Designated State Agency Dept. of Health & Human Services
Division of Child Support Enforcement
- Street Address 129 Pleasant Street
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Part II: Statistical Profile

- Total No. of Minor Children under 18 years of age living with one biological parent (1990 U.S. Census data) 56,581

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	\$ 50,000		50%
• FFY 2000	\$100,000	\$100,000		100%

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 _____ Winter _____ Spring X Summer _____

Award of Funds: Grants _____ Contracts X Cooperative Agreements _____

Targeted Priority Areas:

• Mediation			
voluntary	Yes <u>X</u>	No	_____
mandatory	Yes <u>X</u>	No	_____
• Counseling	Yes <u>X</u>	No	_____
• 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 X
 - Alternative custody arrangements Yes _____ No X

Summary Narrative: Proposed Use of FFY 2000 Funds

New Hampshire’s Federal Child Access and Visitation Grant is administered by the state’s Division of Child Support Services, Department of Health and Human Services.

Since its inception in September of 1997, the Access and Visitation Program in New Hampshire has provided intervention mediation services in a court-based setting to resolve contested custody and visitation issues. These services have been delivered to both custodial and non-custodial parents at no cost. Priority has been given to serve pro se litigants who are unwed parents and to parents receiving TANF assistance or who are at risk of becoming TANF eligible. While this approach has been well-received during the last three years, New Hampshire has concluded that proceeding with solely a court-based service concept is too restrictive. This decision has been reached after a careful re-examination of client needs, service delivery methodologies, program outcomes, and viable programmatic alternatives.

As a result, funds made available via the FFY 2000 grant will identify the following additional activities as eligible for funding by the Access and Visitation program:

- Voluntary and Mandatory mediation;
- Counseling;
- Education;
- Development of parenting plans;
- Visitation enforcement to include: monitoring, supervision and

Page 4 – Child Access & Visitation (New Hampshire)

- Neutral drop-off and pick-up;
- Development of guidelines for visitation and alternative custody arrangements; and
- Case management services.

In 199, New Hampshire awarded four contracts (continuation and new) for court-based access and visitation services. They are as follows:

- Tri-County Community Action Program of Berlin, New Hampshire, was awarded two (2) contracts to continue a court based access and visitation program in Coos and Carroll Counties. Services are provided at the Coos County Superior Court in Lancaster and at the Carroll County Superior Court in Ossipee.
- New Hampshire Mediation Program of Concord, New Hampshire, was selected to continue a court-based access and visitation program in Merrimack County for a second year. Services are provided at the Merrimack County Superior Court in Concord.
- Monadnock Family Services of Keene, New Hampshire, was also selected to implement a new court-based access and Visitation program in Cheshire County. These services will be provided at the Cheshire County Superior Court in Keene.

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

Grantee Name, Address & Phone Number	Amount of Award & Services Provided	Number of Parents Served:		
		Total #	% fathers	% mothers
1. NH Mediation Program 10 Ferry Street – Suite 425 Concord, NH 03301 (603) 224-8043	\$25,000	48	50%	50%
2. Tri-County Community Action Program, 30 Exchange St. Berlin, NH 03570 (Coos County) (603) 752-7001	\$25,000	64	50%	50%
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. NH Mediation Program Custody & Marital Mediation	\$25,678	14	24	14
2. Tri-County Community Action Program, Access & Visitation	\$24,000	22	8	13
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. NH Mediation	79**	0	2**	0	0	0
2. Tri-County Community Action	64**	0	0	0	0	
3.						
4.						
5.						
6.						

Don't Know: *In some cases the service provider has not been able to determine ethnicity

Other: **Includes children of families served.

Sources of Client Referral

GRANTEE							
	Self-Referral	TANF	Child Welfare	Child Support	Social Services	Courts	Private Agency
1. NH Meditation						100%	
2. Tri-County CAP						100%	
3.							
4.							
5.							
6.							