

OCSE Child Access & Visitation Program

Name of State: New Jersey

Part I: Contact Information

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| • Name of State Program Contact | Mary DeLeo |
| • Name of Designated State Agency | Administrative Office of the Courts
Richard J. Hughes Justice Complex |
| • Street Address | PO Box 983 |
| • City, State, & Zipcode | Trenton, New Jersey 08625 |
| • Telephone no. | (609) 984-7793 |
| • E-mail Address | mary_deleo@judiciary.state.nj.us |
| • Fax no. | (609) 984-0067 |

Part II: Statistical Profile

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| • No. of minor children under 18 years of age living with one biological parent. (1990 U. S. Census data) | 395,560 |
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Part III: Previous and Current Year Funding Levels

	<u>Federal \$ Grant</u>	<u>State \$ Match</u>	and	<u>Percentage</u>
• FFY 1997	\$202,220	\$22,468		10%
• FFY 1998	\$202,220	\$22,468		10%
• FFY 1999	\$179,297	\$49,497		25%
• FFY 2000	\$179,297	\$25,000		13%

- **Development of Guidelines**

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

Summary Narrative: Proposed Use of FFY 2000 Funds

The New Jersey Administrative Office of the Courts (AOC) has administrative responsibility for the Federal Child Access and Visitation Grant Program. AOC continues to support a variety of programs through this grant that promote access for non-custodial parents and shared parenting time throughout the state. These programs include mediation, parent education, children’s programs, supervised parenting time, neutral drop-off/pick-up, and therapeutic services. Several programs have expanded their services and others have created new and innovative programs to meet specific needs of the non-custodial parent population. Noteworthy of mention is a parenting program for unmarried parents that has begun in a large urban county serving inner city communities. There also has been an expansion of the “KIDS Count Program,” to one additional county (Passaic). The statutorily mandated parent education classes for divorcing parents was passed in May, 1999. This enactment created a mandatory education program for all divorcing parents to teach parents about the negative effects divorce and parental conflict may have on their children during and after the process of divorce. Also noteworthy was the recent formation of a state-level “Child Access and Parenting Time Advisory Group.” The Advisory Group assisted the AOC in providing a Parenting Time Awareness Conference for the public and for court personnel. In addition, the Advisory Group developed a pamphlet entitled “Parenting Time: A Child’s Right” that has since been distributed to all county courthouses, as well as local police stations. In addition, the Advisory Group met with the Director of the Office of Educational Support Services with the New Jersey Department of Education regarding the passage of legislation mandating parenting education since it assures that both parents will have access to all of a child’s school and medical records.

New Jersey's FFY 2000 Child Access and Visitation Grant will enable the state to continue the following programs. (1) State Parenting Time Access Coordinator, Administrative Office of the Courts, Trenton, New Jersey; (2) Parenting Time/Access Parenting Center, Camden County Hall of Justice, Camden, New Jersey; (3) Parenting Education Workshops for Unmarried

Page 4 – Child Access & Visitation (New Jersey)

Parents, Essex County Family Division, Newark, New Jersey; (4) Parenting Time Resolution and Contractual Supervised Parenting, Hudson County Administrative bldg., Jersey City, New Jersey; (5) Neutral Drop-Off and Pick-Up Site/Counseling/Supervised Parenting Time, Mercer County Civil Court Family Division, Trenton, New Jersey; (6) Supervised Parenting Time, Middlesex County Courthouse, New Brunswick, New Jersey; (7) Continue Expansion of Supervised Parenting Time, Monmouth County Courthouse, Freehold, New Jersey; (8) Therapeutic Supervised Parenting Time Program, Morris County Courthouse, Morristown, New Jersey; (9) Supervised Parenting Time, Passaic County Courthouse, Paterson, New Jersey; (10) Co-Parent Effectiveness (COPE), Warren County Courthouse, Belvidere, New Jersey.

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. Administrative Office of the Courts PO Box 983 Trenton, NJ 08625 Paula Andrews (609) 292-8982	State Parenting Time Access Coordinator \$62,337 salary & fringe	NA		
2. Camden County Hall of Justice 101 S. 5 th St., Suite 270 Camden, NJ 08103-4001 Joseph Gunn (856) 225-7374	Parenting Center (Visitation Access) Family Counseling Services (\$36,500)	2,142	50 %	50 %
3. Gloucester County Courthouse Annex PO Box 655 Broad & Hunter Streets Woodbury, NJ 08096 Paula Montana (856) 853-3649	Kids Court Program (\$3,000)	38		
4. Essex County Family Court Robert N. Wilentz Bldg. 212 Washington St. Newark, NJ 07102 Bernadette Fiore (973) 693-6667	Parenting Education Workshop Expansion (\$16,872)	3,569	50 %	50 %

5. Hudson County Family Court Administration Bldg. 595 Newark Ave. Jersey City, NJ 07306 Joseph Mollica (201) 795-6779	Mediation Center/Parenting Plans/Visitation Conflict Resolution/Supervised Parenting time (\$28,859)	240	50 %	50 %
6. Mercer County Civil Bldg. 175 South Broad St. PO Box 8068 Alfred Federico (609) 989-6742	Emergent Phone for Visitation Dispute Resolution/Neutral Drop Off & Pick-up Sites/Supervised Parenting Time (\$8,916)	56	50 %	50 %
7. Middlesex County Family Court 120 New Street PO Box 2691 New Brunswick, NJ 08903 Charles C. Hager (732) 981-3295	Supervised Parenting time overtime for weekends (\$12,6363)	180	56 %	44%
8. Warren County Courthouse PO Box 900 Belvedere, NJ 07823 Shirley Gurisic (908) 475-6159	Co-Parent Effectiveness Program (\$9,200)	14	50 %	50 %

<p>9. Passaic County Courthouse 401 Grand St. Suite 819 Patterson, NJ 07505 Harry Bradle (973) 247-8459</p>	<p>Supervised Parenting time for Saturdays (\$15,600)</p>	<p>50</p>	<p>86 %</p>	<p>14 %</p>
<p>10. Morris County Courthouse PO Box 910 Morristown, NJ 07963-0910 Edith Larsen (973) 829-8072</p>	<p>Therapeutic Supervised Parenting Time (\$7,300)</p>	<p>74</p>	<p>50 %</p>	<p>50%</p>

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

Grantee Name & Program Title	Average Annual Income	Parent Participation Rates:		
		divorced	separated	unwed
1. Camden	\$25-30,000	20 %	10 %	70 %
2. Gloucester County	Unknown	0	10 %	90 %
3. Essex County	Unknown	0	10 %	90 %
4. Passaic County Courthouse	Unknown	15 %	0	85 %
5. Hudson	\$20-29,000	10 %	15%	75%
6. Mercer County	Unknown	10 %	90%	0
7. Warren County Courthouse	\$20-29,000	25 %	0	75 %
8. Middlesex County	\$20-29,000	35 %	25 %	40%

9. Morris County Courthouse	\$10-19,000	20 %	35 %	45 %
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Participant Data: Part B
(by race/ethnicity)

Grantee Name	<u>RACIAL / ETHNIC BREAKOUT:</u>					
	White	Black	Hispanic	Asian	Native American	Pacific Islander
1. Camden County	50 %	34%	15 %	1 %		
2. Gloucester County	40 %	45 %	15 %			
3. Essex County	10 %	65%	20 %	5 %		
4. Warren County	100 %					
5. Hudson County	15 %	39 %	40 %	5 %	1 %	
6. Mercer County		90 %	10 %			
7. Middlesex County	35 %	25 %	20 %	10 %	2 %	3 %
8. Passaic County	20 %	35 %	40 %			5 %
9. Morris County	45 %	15 %	30 %			10 %

Don't Know _____

Other, _____

Sources of Client Referral

GRANTEE							
Agency	Self-Referral	TANF	Child Welfare	Child Support	Social Services	Courts	Private
1. Camden County						X	
2. Gloucester County						X	
3. Essex County						X	
4. Passaic County						X	
5. Hudson County						X	
6. Morris County						X	
7. Warren County						X	
8.. Mercer County						X	
9. Middlesex County						X	