

OCSE Child Access & Visitation Program

Name of State: Tennessee

Part I: Contact Information

- Name of State Program Contact David T. Gilliam
- Name of Designated State Agency Tennessee Dept. of Human Services

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Part II: Statistical Profile

- No. of minor children under 18 years of age living with one biological parent. (1990 U. S. Census data) 394,230

Part III: Previous and Current Year Funding Levels

	<u>Federal \$ Grant</u>	<u>State \$ Match</u>	and	<u>Percentage</u>
• FFY 1997	\$201,540	\$22,393		10%
• FFY 1998	\$181,386	\$20,154		10%
• FFY 1999	\$178,694	\$19,855		10%
• FFY 2000	\$178,694	\$14,891		7%

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 X Cooperative Agreements _____

Targeted Priority Areas:

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

Summary Narrative: Proposed Use of FFY 2000 Funds

In 1995, Tennessee ranked fourth in the nation for divorces, twice the national average. Tennessee ranked third in the nation for the number of families where children were living in single parent homes. Since then, the number of divorces has continued to rise.

The Parenting Plan Pilot Project was created to ensure that children of divorcing parents in Tennessee have stability and consistency in their lives. The Tennessee Department of Human Services is seeking continued Access and Visitation Grant funding to enable the state to continue to develop and evaluate programs that have the potential to make a significant difference in the ways parents decide and enforce their parenting obligations and responsibilities.

The six parenting plan pilot projects will continue to be sub-grantees in order to deliver the coordination, education and mediation services required to meet the goals of the grant. Effective January 1, 2001, the pilot project will end pursuant to a new parenting plan law. At that time the new sub-grantees will provide parent education sessions for indigent parents and coordinate the provision of pro bono mediation services for indigent parents who cannot agree on a parenting plan.

The objectives of the grant activities are:

- To continue to ensure the education of parents regarding their responsibilities and opportunities with their children, and the effect of divorce on children;
- To expand the use of parenting plans to detail parental responsibilities toward their children;
- To continue a delivery mechanism for providing mediation of disputed parenting plans;
- To continue a delivery mechanism for providing enforcement of mediated and court-ordered child visitation;

- To continue to evaluate the results of the six pilot projects and the application of the new law on a statewide basis.

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. Second Judicial District/Sullivan County (423) 989-4560	Mediation, education, parenting plans	850	40	60
2. Shelby County	Mediation, counseling, education, parenting plans	Not available		
3. 20 th Judicial District	Development of parenting plans	655		
4. 16 th Judicial District	Education, development of parenting plans	1200	50	50
5. 11 th Judicial District	Mediation, education, parenting plans	824	40	60
6. 4 th Div. Circuit Ct.of 6 th Judicial Dist/Knox Cty.	Mediation, education, parenting plans	93 (Not broken down)		

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

Grantee Name & Program Title	Average Annual Income	Parent Participation Rates:		
		divorced	separated	unwed
1. 2 nd Judicial Dist/Sullivan Cty.	Not available	5%	94%	1%
2. Shelby County	Not available	10%	90%	
3. 20 th Judicial Dist.	Not available	20%	80%	
4. 16 th Judicial District	Not available			
5. 11 th Judicial District	Not available	100%		
6. Knox County	Below \$10K – 11% \$10-19K 15% \$20-29K 19% \$30-39K 6% \$40K+ 49%	30%	70%	

Participant Data: Part B
(by race/ethnicity)

Grantee Name	<u>RACIAL / ETHNIC BREAKOUT:</u>						
	White	Black	Hispanic	Asian	Native American	Pacific Islander	Don't Know
1. 2 nd Judicial Dist/Sullivan Cty.	95%	1%		1%			2%
2. Shelby County	40%	40%		5%			15%
3. 20 th Judicial Dist.	75%	20%	5%				
4. 16 th Judicial Dist	60%			10%	25%		
5. 11 th Judicial District							100%
6. Knox County	74%	25%					1%

Don't Know _____

Other, _____

Sources of Client Referral

GRANTEE							
Agency	Self-Referral	TANF	Child Welfare	Child Support	Social Services	Courts	Private
1. 2 ND Judicial Dist/Sullivan Cty.						X	
2. Shelby Cty.						X	
3. 20 th Judicial Dist.						X	
4. 16 th Judicial Dist	Info. Not available						
5. 11 th Judicial Dist.	Not available						
6. Knox Cty.	X			X		X	X