

OCSE Child Access & Visitation Program

Name of State: Utah

Part I: Contact Information

- Name of State Program Contact Amanda Singer
- Name of Designated State Agency Department of Human Services
- Street Address 120 North 200 West, Room 319
- City, State, & Zipcode Salt Lake City, Utah 84103
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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) 142,460

Part III: Previous and Current Year Funding Levels

	<u>Federal \$ Grant</u>	<u>State \$ Match</u>	and	<u>Percentage</u>
• FFY 1997	\$142,460	\$20,000		13%
• FFY 1998	\$ 72,829	\$20,000		25%
• FFY 1999	\$100,000	\$20,000		18%
• FFY 2000	\$100,000	\$20,000		18%

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 _____ Summer _____

Award of Funds: Grants X _____ Contracts _____ 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 _____	No _____
Alternative custody arrangements	Yes _____	No _____

Summary Narrative: Proposed Use of FFY 2000 Funds

In October 1997, Utah established the Expedited Visitation Enforcement Pilot Program in the Third Judicial District, in Salt Lake County. The program is a collaborative effort between the Utah Department of Human Services, the Utah Administrative Office of the Courts, and the Third District Court. It is designed to provide low cost and easily accessible services to help parents overcome visitation and access problems. The services include mediation, supervised visitation, neutral pick-up and drop-off, education, and six month follow up. The underlying premise of the program is that a child's best interest is served when family conflict regarding visitation is reduced, when court orders are followed, and when the child can maintain a relationship with both parents. All parents who file a motion with the Third District Court alleging that court-ordered visitation rights are being violated will be referred to the program.

During the first year of operation the program established a roster of mediators; developed and implemented policy and procedures; trained attorneys, judges and court clerks; and provided services to 75 families. Since October 1, 1998, the program has served over 600 families. For the coming year, October 1, 2000 to September 30, 2001, the program will focus on helping families comply with visitation plans developed as a result of mediation, and increasing the number of parents participating in supervised visitation and neutral pick up and drop off services.

The State of Utah will collect the process and outcome data that is required to assess the results and benefits of the program. In addition, the State will annually monitor the program to determine compliance to state and federal requirements. The program will also be required to develop and implement procedures to safeguard program participants from domestic violence.

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. Administrative Office of the Courts 450 S. State Street Salt Lake City, UT (801) 573-3826	Mediation, education, development of parenting plans, guidelines for custody and visitation, monitored visitation, supervised visitation, neutral drop-off and pick-up	392	50%	50%
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. Administrative Office of the Courts		60%	17%	23%
2.				
3.				
4.				
5.				
6.				

Participant Data: Part B(by race/ethnicity)

Grantee Name (No data supplied)	<u>RACIAL / ETHNIC BREAKOUT:</u>					
	White	Black	Hispanic	Asian	Native American	Pacific Islander
1.						
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. Administrative Office of the Court	X					X	
2.							
3.							
4.							
5.							
6.							