

OCSE Child Access & Visitation Program

Name of State: Wyoming

Part I: Contact Information

- Name of State Program Contact Jay Mullendore
- Name of Designated State Agency Wyoming Department of Family Services
- Street Address 2300 Capitol Avenue, Hathaway Building, 3rd Floor
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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) 27,763

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

Yes

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 _____ Contracts _____ Cooperative Agreements _____

Targeted Priority Areas:

- **Mediation**
 - voluntary Yes X No _____
 - mandatory Yes X No _____
- **Counseling** Yes X No _____
- **Education** Yes X No _____
- **Parenting Plans** Yes X No _____
- **Visitation Enforcement**
 - monitoring Yes _____ No _____
 - supervision Yes _____ No _____
 - neutral drop-off/pick-up Yes X No _____

- **Development of Guidelines**

Visitation	Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No	<input type="checkbox"/>
Alternative custody arrangements	Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No	<input type="checkbox"/>

Summary Narrative: Proposed Use of FFY 2000 Funds

The State of Wyoming plans to utilize the FFY 2000 Access and Visitation grant money to develop an access and visitation program that would assist minor children’s parents who are divorcing, divorced, separated or never-married learn to co-parent and form appropriate custody and visitation plans through mediation, education and pro se assistance. Wyoming is also interest in enforcing visitation by providing neutral drop off and pick up sites for minor children to provide a safer environment for all parties involved. Wyoming has been receiving this grant money since the inception of the program and has been contracting with a localized access and visitation program in Sheridan County. The State of Wyoming has been providing voluntary and mandatory mediation, education in the form of co-parenting classes and pro se assistance by providing the necessary paperwork to assist parents in developing and filing parenting and visitation plans with the court.

Wyoming intends to issue a Request for Proposal (RFP) to solicit competitive bids to set up and operate a successful access and visitation program that would allow parents and minor children to work out difference and come to agreement on parenting plans and visitation schedules. The successful bidder(s) shall provide specific services to parents who are having custody and/or visitation problems. These services may include at least one of the following:

1. Provide mediation services, both voluntary and mandatory, to assist parents in developing appropriate parenting plans;
2. Provide counseling for parents and their children to determine what is in the best interests of all parties involve and to assist through separation and/or divorce;
3. Provide education to parents through co-parenting classes. Also, provide education to the surrounding community and legal entities about the program and what is can do for families with custody and/or visitation problems;

4. Provide Pro Se assistance to parents to assist in developing and implementing parenting plans with the courts;

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5. Set up and operate neutral drop off and pick up sites to provide a safer and better environment for visitation exchanges for parents and minor children;
6. Develop and provide, to parents and the public, literature about the program describing services offered to enhance awareness of the importance of developing good parenting skills and the essential need of all children for loving parents; and
7. Wyoming will be looking at forming parenting groups and activities to assist non-custodial parents and their minor child(ren) get acquainted with other non-custodial parents and their minor child(ren) to develop a network facilitating the continued friendships and everlasting bond with each other and their minor child(ren).

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. Wyoming Children's Access Network Sheridan, Wyoming	PLANNING GRANT: to develop a program that offers co-parenting education classes, mediation services and supervised visitation. This included hiring a director to establish and administer this program.	NA		
2.				
3.				
4.				
5.				
6.				

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

Grantee Name & Program Title	Average Annual Income	Parent Participation Rates:		
		divorced	separated	unwed
1.				
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.						
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.							
2.							
3.							
4.							
5.							
6.							