

District of Columbia
FY 08; Funding 07

Development, Operation & Expansion of Community-based & Prevention-focused Programs	Services Provided to Families by Local Programs	Unmet Needs Identified by the Inventory
<p>DC Children's Trust Fund Network includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Parents Anonymous Network, whose grantees and affiliates include Children's National Medical Center, Healthy Babies Project, Health Services for Children with Special Needs, Northwest Church Family Network, South Washington/West of the River Healthy Families Community Collaborative, DC Healthy Start, Shaw Ministries, Georgia Avenue/Rock Creek Family Strengthening Community, and DC Department of Recreation Early Learning Program. ▪ DC Kids Count Collaborative members include Children's National Medical Center, Council of Latino Agencies, DC Action for Children, DC Campaign to Prevent Teen Pregnancy, DC Child and Family Service Agency, DC Children and Youth Investment Trust Fund Corporation, DC Department of Health, DC Early Care and Education Administration, DC Learns, DC Mayor's Office of Asian and Pacific Islander Affairs, DC Office of Council Member Gray, DC Office of the Deputy Mayor for Children, Youth, Families and Elders, DC Public Schools, DC Public Library, DC Voice, George Washington University, So Others Might Eat, Urban Institute. Trust Fund has continued to be the lead agency for the DC Kids Count Collaborative. In January 2008, the Collaborative released the 2007 <i>Every Kid Counts in DC</i> Fact Book. ▪ Mayor's Advisory Committee on Child Abuse and Neglect (MACCAN) is chaired by the Executive Director of the Trust Fund, and its members are appointed by the Mayor. A list of members is included in the report. The group provides training for mandated reporters. ▪ A body to provide training, capacity-building, and coordinate efforts of the 7 community collaboratives to prevent child abuse and neglect, the Collaborative Council, was established. The Trust Fund is a 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Parent Mutual Support Groups ▪ Parent education, mutual support and parent leadership/empowerment activities included in wrap around services to prevent child abuse and neglect provided on a community level through 7 community collaboratives 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The Trust Fund's existing inventory of community-based efforts was submitted to the Mayor and the Council in January 2008. An inventory of prevention services in the public sector was completed by the Child and Family Services Agency (CFSA). ▪ The Kids Count data book helps identify areas of greatest need. <p>Unmet Needs</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ In reviewing the Child and Family Services Agency's (CFSA) activity on its Program Improvement Plan, the Mayor's Advisory Committee on Child Abuse and Neglect (MACCAN) found that progress had been made. However, to respond to unmet needs, the group made the following recommendations: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♦ Although strides have been made in tracking cases, the number of allegations received and investigated, the number of children in care changes depending on the reporting entity, CFSA, Council of Court Excellence, Metropolitan Police Department, etc. ♦ While the Family Treatment Court Program has experienced positive outcomes, its capacity to serve families is limited. There is now a waiting list for admission to the program. ♦ Approximately 60% of children entering care are age 12 and over. However, the District's child welfare system is designed to protect infants and young children. ♦ Although child sexual abuse laws are comprehensive, response to sexual abuse is uneven and insufficient. ♦ Placing children across jurisdictions continue to take excessive amounts of time, and some children are moved several times before they are placed. <p>Meeting Unmet Need/New Services</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Trust Fund continues to work on following concerns: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♦ Respite Care: More respite needed, particularly for fragile families and families with children who have special needs. Council of Governments continues to

<p>member of the Council.</p>		<p>manage a federal grant for respite services for foster parents who provide therapeutic foster care.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♦ Parent Empowerment: There has been a reduction in parent education classes offered and there continues to be a dearth of training and opportunities for parent empowerment and leadership. ♦ Support services for families with special needs: Linkages between community collaboratives, the Hospital for Sick Children, and Children's National Medical Center are lacking. A new department for Disabilities was created in 2007. The District continues to provide respite. ♦ Increasing public awareness of child abuse and neglect with particular emphasis on educating parents about child abuse laws. The Trust Fund is also promoting and providing education on the five protective factors for child well-being. ♦ Increasing needed professional training on child abuse and neglect. This gap is being addressed by the Trust Fund's promotion of and training on protective factors.
Description of Number of Families Served	Outreach to Special Populations	Parent Leadership
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ In Parent Anonymous mutual support groups, 244 families, including 306 adults and 206 children, were served. ▪ The Trust Fund trained 5377 individuals through community-based organization, schools and churches on a variety of prevention issues. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ A Spanish translation of a booklet for parents on the District's child abuse and neglect laws was completed, and a train-the-trainers session was held for Latino providers. ▪ To help address high illiteracy in the District, Trust Fund continued to produce a monthly cable television program entitled "<i>Igniting the Dream - Communities Caring for Children</i>" in partnership with DC TV, an organization that trains aspiring young people on media production. As each program is aired from 8 - 10 times on its given month on two cable stations that serve the District of Columbia, it is estimated that each program reaches 350,000 viewers. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Trust Fund promoted development of strengths-based services and initiatives that empower parents as the centerpiece of its vision. ▪ The Trust Fund has continued to provide training for parent leaders of the mutual support groups on Parents Anonymous principles and standards, group dynamics, communication skills, organizational process, problem solving techniques, how to handle difficult situations, decision making, planning, and evaluation. Group facilitators of the grantees also provided ongoing support for parent leaders to strengthen their leadership skills for the successful operation of the support groups. ▪ All parent leaders and group facilitators meet bi-monthly with Trust Fund Staff. Each organization's Parent Leader and Group Facilitator meet several times a month to follow up on activities that have been agreed on by their group, to call parents to remind them of meetings, and to debrief on the success and challenges of their group. ▪ During February, 2008, the Trust Fund coordinated activities to promote the importance of positive

		<p>parenting and recognize strong parents. The Mayor issued a proclamation declaring February "Parent Leadership Month in the District of Columbia."</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The Trust Fund has one parent representative on its Board and the Parent Leadership Council, comprised of Parent Leaders from each support group, continues to provide guidance on program activities and events. ▪ The Trust Fund actively supports National Parent Leadership Month by developing messages and activities in recognition of the month. Up to eight parent leaders (one from each ward) are recognized at an annual awards banquet in February. ▪ On May 7 - 8, 2008, a parent leader attended a train-the-trainer session with staff in Hartford, Connecticut. The session was on how to train on outcome measures and how to create logic models.
<p>Training and Technical Assistance</p>	<p>Child Abuse Prevention Month Activities</p>	<p>Innovative Funding Mechanisms</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The Lead agency continued to educate community agency personnel on the Center for Disease Control and Prevention's socio-ecological public health strategy for preventing child maltreatment. ▪ The lead agency continued to provide training to early learning center personnel and parents on the child abuse prevention protective factors framed by the Center for the Study of Social Policy. ▪ Trust Fund continued to provide training and technical assistance to community-based organizations, schools, and churches to incorporate prevention activities into existing programs. Educational and/or training materials have been developed and are being used for each area below. Areas of training included: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♦ Interpreting indicators on child well-being in the District; ♦ Providing training to enhance parent mutual support programs; ♦ Enhancing parent leadership and family advocacy; ♦ The benefits of infant massage; ♦ The social-ecological model for prevention of child abuse and neglect; ♦ The protective factors for keeping children safe at home; ♦ Promoting healthy relationships; and ♦ Achieving cultural competency in service provision. ▪ Training and Technical Assistance for Parents 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ April's "Child Abuse Prevention Month" was renamed "Family Strengthening Month." The month was officially recognized through a mayoral proclamation. ▪ The theme of the month was "Reconnecting Disconnected Youth". This theme was developed in recognition of the numbers of youth who are entering the child welfare system in the District of Columbia. Throughout the month, the theme was promoted on the backs of 20 city buses. ▪ On April 23, 2008, MACCAN and the DC Children's Trust Fund held a conference on at risk youth entitled, "From Prevention to Crisis Intervention: Saving Our Children." The goal of the conference was to give service providers tools for working with families. Approximately 180 people attended the event. ▪ On April 18, 2008, the DC Children's Trust Fund and MACCAN held a train-the-trainer session on the laws on child abuse and neglect for professionals who serve the Latino population. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ By partnering with organizations and funders, such as the Annie E. Casey Foundation and Children's Charities Foundation, the Trust Fund has been able to leverage funds to support efforts that promote family strengthening and community building. ▪ As a certified provider of the National Parents Anonymous®, the Trust Fund receives both in-kind and monetary support from the national organization. ▪ Trust Fund receives donations through the internet as well as the Combined Federal Campaign. ▪ Notice was received of District government support for child abuse prevention activities in 2008.

<p>Anonymous grantees and/or affiliates:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Trust fund staff and selected parent leaders provided training on the PA model and included the following topics: Group Facilitator/Parent Leader Training, Advocacy, Children's Program Training, Protective Factors, Training on child abuse and neglect, protective factors, mandated reporting, and shared leadership. ◆ Trust Fund staff met face to face monthly with parent leaders, group facilitators and children's program workers and by telephone weekly to facilitate information sharing, ascertain technical assistance needs, and provide training on selected topics such as child abuse and neglect, domestic violence, evaluation tools and the District's law on mandatory reporting of child abuse and neglect. ◆ In February 2008, Parents Anonymous® National Network staff and parent leaders met for a two-day leadership institute in Arlington, Virginia. 		
<p>Linkages with Other Systems (Child Welfare, PSSF, Early Childhood, etc.)</p>	<p>A. PART Data Efficiency Measure that Supports EBP and EIP Practices</p>	<p>B. Demonstration of High Level of Satisfaction Among Families</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Lead agency tracks and provides input on the District's Program Improvement Plan to ensure that prevention objectives and activities are included. ▪ The Trust Fund continued to track and provide input on the District's Program Improvement Plan to ensure that prevention objectives and activities are part of the plan. ▪ MACCAN met with staff of the Center for the Study of Social Policy (CSSP) to continue review of the Child and Family Services Agency's (CFSA) progress on its Program Improvement Plan and recommended that CFSA should continue progress on its Program Improvement Plan. ▪ The Trust Fund Continued efforts to enhance the child welfare system through collecting and analyzing data on the well being of children in the District and by facilitating formulation and dissemination of recommendations based on the findings. 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ In self-reports among parents in mutual support groups, more than 94% of parents stated that they felt the program was meeting their needs. ▪ Parents and facilitators report they feel less isolated and parents have voiced appreciation for the much need respite the groups offer. ▪ Attendance also gauges satisfaction. Average daily attendance across groups was seven (7) adults and 6 children per group. ▪ Parents are a major referral source for the PA network.
<p>C. Results of Peer Review</p>	<p>D. Evaluation Data on Funded Programs, the Lead Agency & the Network</p>	<p>Other Elements:</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Peer review is part of a comprehensive evaluation of programs. Peer review site visits were conducted. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The following tools were used to assess parent mutual support groups: Attendance Reports (Monthly), 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The Trust Fund conducted public awareness campaigns on child-wellbeing and produced a monthly

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Peer review was accomplished during a conference call on November 13, 2008. Eleven group facilitators and eight parent leaders participated on the call. Those in attendance were queried about the strengths and challenges of the groups. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♦ Strengths cited were the enthusiasm of parents, the feeling of community with parents feeling less isolated and more supported, connection to services, improvement in parenting practices, and improvement in the behavior of children. ♦ Challenges included the cost and preparation of meals, transportation, the difficulty in keeping parents who are acknowledged leaders of the groups because of parent leaders moving to the suburbs or other parts of the city, recruiting and training children's program workers, and not being able to anticipate the number and ages of children who would be attending on any given evening. 	<p>Program Reports (Quarterly), Staff Reports (Monthly Meetings), Participant Reports (Monthly Meetings), Self Evaluation Tool (Annually), Finance Reports (Quarterly), Site Visit (Annually or As Needed), Teleconference (Annually or As Needed) to assess:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♦ the level of interest in this type of support, ♦ the need for the service, ♦ the service's impact on coping skills of both parents and children, ♦ the change in participants' help seeking behaviors, ♦ compliance with program principles and standards, ♦ compliance with submission of deliverables, ♦ the number of parent leaders developed, ♦ training needs for effective self advocacy, and ♦ the number and types of community action projects selected and pursued. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ PA Support Group Site Visits: Beginning in October 2008, staff and selected parent leaders visited each group. Group bonding, topics discussed, and compliance with program fidelity were observed. Staff and group facilitators from the host organizations were interviewed on recordkeeping, reports, recruitment efforts, support that is available for parents, and the referral process to access the support. All organizations had wraparound services in place for the parents, provided services (i.e., residential, family support, counseling, education, childcare) for parents through other programs, and the parents came to the groups because of the prior services provided. Parents also received services because of participation in the support group. Findings: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♦ <i>Group Bonding</i>: There appeared to be significant bonding among parents who participated in groups for three months or more. ♦ <i>Topics Discussed During Groups</i>: During the meetings, an array of topics was discussed. The most frequently discussed topics included parent-child relations, communication, personal growth, relationships with other adults, parenting skills, parent leadership, community issues/involvement, family transitions, child/teen development, fatherhood, child abuse and neglect, and discipline. ♦ <i>Compliance with Program Fidelity</i>: This is the area where the groups had the most difficulty. Of the 14 parent groups, five were out of compliance with the shared leadership standard at some point during the 	<p>cable television program. The themes were:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♦ National Domestic Violence Month ♦ National Parent Leadership Month ♦ National Family Strengthening Month
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State Allowable Claims: \$382,742

Population-Based Allocations: \$200,000

Leveraged-Funds-Based Allocations: \$ 16,602

Final State Allocations: \$216,692

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