

POSITION IN STATE GOVERNMENT

The State of Utah Department of Human Services (DHS) is responsible for the administration of programs and services using funding provided through Titles IV-B, IV-E, and XX of the Social Security Act. The department has designated the Division of Child and Family Services (DCFS) as the agency responsible for implementing and providing direct oversight of Title IV-B and Title IV-E programs and services delivered to Utah's children and families. As such, DCFS administers the federal Child and Family Services Plan (CFSP), and as the lead child welfare agency for the State of Utah, provides services throughout the State of Utah. The division is responsible for agency planning, legislative matters, federal programs coordination, policy development, information system development and maintenance, as well as overall management of division programs and services.

KEY ACTIVITIES AND ACHIEVEMENTS

- **Core Services:** The Child Abuse Prevention Program coordinates prevention services delivered by contract providers and collaborates with other organizations that serve families or children that are at-risk of committing or may become a victim of child abuse or neglect. Services provided include intensive home visiting including in-home clinical services; home-based parent education; clinical outpatient mental health services; support groups for children who are being cared for by their grandparents; parent education programs; school-based prevention related education and child mentoring; public awareness and advocacy education; and crisis nursery and respite care.
- **Policy achievements:** During the General Legislative Session, the Utah State Legislature passed 11 separate pieces of legislation that support the Child Abuse Prevention System.
- **Outreach to Special Populations/Cultural Competence:** DCFS providers continue to increase services delivered to disabled children and adults. Child Abuse Prevention Program funds were used to provide services to children of families whose first language is Spanish through the Hispanic infant home visiting program of the Utah County Health Department. Services to Spanish speaking clients were also provided through the Guadalupe School, which employs Spanish speaking home visitors in order to improve home-school communication, and strengthen Spanish-speaking families with children in grades K – 3. Teachers at Guadalupe School receive training in a multicultural approach to working with families including engaging parents as mentors and partnering with them to build on cultural assets that aid in strengthening families.
- **Parent involvement/leadership:** During FFY 2009, a parent served as a representative on the CAN Council. DCFS provided funds to support scholarships for parents to attend a child abuse and domestic violence prevention conference. In addition, scholarships were available to pay for travel and maintenance costs for members of councils, boards, and committees that were parents, disabled, minorities, or others that represent the community at large.
- **Evaluation:** In FFY 2009, the Child Abuse Prevention Program Administrator reviewed the results of program evaluations completed by DCFS contract monitoring staff who determine whether a provider's activities, and progress, are in compliance with the provider's contracted scope of work. Several providers use the Protective Factor Parent Survey to evaluate the effectiveness of their programs. Initial results indicate that more than 75% of respondents report positive changes as a result of their participation in those programs.
- **Support Training, Technical Assistance, and Evaluation Assistance:** The UAFSC supports a collaborative network that provides leadership and technical support to the CAPAC. Family Support Center directors sustain local collaborative community efforts and participate on Local Interagency Planning Councils that assess local



needs and coordinate local child welfare services. Family Service Center directors support these LIPCs, and other organizations, by providing training and technical assistance that focuses on needs of children. The OHV conducted a training needs assessment of all home-visiting programs and are developing a training system for those programs and other early childhood professionals.

Participants receiving direct services	# children	792	# families	873
	# children with disabilities	14	# parents with disabilities	6
Reach	# local grantees	6		
Spread	# training sessions on evidence-based and best practices		# professionals participating in training	

ESSENTIAL PARTNERSHIPS

The CBCAP State Lead acts as staff support and provides technical assistance to three groups:

- *The Child Abuse Prevention Action Committee (CAPAC)*. DCFS designated the CAPAC as the body that provides advice related to the development and implementation of the CBCAP grant. The CAPAC has balanced representation of public and private sector members, parents, and non-profit service providers.
- *The Utah Association of Family Support Centers (UAFSC)*. The UAFSC is the umbrella organization representing the directors of 13 Family Support Centers located in Utah. The Family Support Centers receive state funds to provide crisis and respite nursery care for children at risk for maltreatment.
- *The Child Abuse and Neglect Council (CAN Council)*. Established by statute in the late 1980's the CAN Council advises DCFS on matters related to the prevention and treatment of child abuse and neglect. One of its key functions is oversight of the Utah Children's Trust Account, one of four streams that fund Utah's continuum of coordinated child abuse prevention programs and services.

Key partners:

Public Sector

- Child welfare
- Differential or alternative response
- Public health/ maternal and child health
- Education and special education
- Early childhood
- Home visiting
- Head Start/ Early Head Start
- Child care

- TANF or cash assistance
- Migrant Coalition
- Tribal Programs

Private Sector

- Advocacy organizations
- Parent organizations
- Foundations
- Other



SYSTEM CHANGE EFFORTS

- **Early Childhood:** The lead agency has developed memorandums of agreement and has partnered with community organizations involved with early childhood programs, including the Office of Home Visiting in the Utah Department of Health.
- **Child and Family Service Reviews/Program Improvement Plan (CFRS/PIP):** Utah’s self-assessment has been completed, and the CFRS review is scheduled for June 2010.
- **Home Visiting:** DCFS has formed, and will enhance, a strategic partnership with the Utah Department of Health’s Office of Home Visiting (OHV). The Office of Home Visiting was established October of 2008 through a five-year cooperative agreement with the Administration for Children and Families, to develop the infrastructure needed to support evidence-based home visiting services for first-time mothers. Eligible women are referred from Medicaid, the Women Infants and Children program, or from community referral sources that have access to first-time mothers. In addition, CBCAP funds several home visiting programs, and partners with the Office of Home Visiting to coordinate with other home visiting efforts.
- **State Interagency Coordinating Council for Part C:** DCFS took a leadership position in implementing the provisions of CAPTA and IDEA that mandate that children under age three with supported cases of abuse be referred to Utah’s Part C Early Intervention Program (Baby Watch) for evaluation and services.
- **Interagency Child Abuse Prevention Task Force:** The CAPAC, CAN Council, and UAFSC assign individual members the responsibility of advocating on behalf of the committee, or have legislative or advocacy subcommittees that develop advocacy and legislative plans. The CAPAC is responsible for generating a coordinated advocacy plan and communicating that plan to the community.

FUNDING AND FISCAL LEVERAGING

Fiscal Leveraging

Innovative funding mechanisms:

- Child Abuse Prevention Program funding includes state revenue funding streams designated for child abuse prevention, family support, and parenting education programs including but not limited to Crisis Respite Nurseries (CRN) and the Utah Children’s Trust (CTF). DCFS also uses federal IV-B Part 2, Promoting Safe and Stable Families funding to support prevention services.

State Allowable Claims	3,594,781
Population-based Allocations	275,779
Leveraged-Funds-Based Allocations	119,457
Final FY 08 Federal Grant Amount	399,028



EVIDENCE-BASED AND EVIDENCE-INFORMED PRACTICES

Level per Program Assessment Rating Tool	CBCAP Funding
Programs Lacking Support or Positive Evidence/Undetermined/Harmful	
Emerging and Evidence-informed Programs and Practices	\$21,944
Promising Programs and Practices	\$339,058
Supported Programs and Practices	
Well Supported Programs and Practices	\$104,935

TRAINING TOPICS

The OHV conducted a training needs assessment of all home-visiting programs and is developing a training system for those programs and other early childhood professionals.

Administrative and Management Topics

- Collaboration and partnerships for prevention

Programmatic and Service Topics

- Prevention programs and family support
- Promoting protective factors and reducing risk factors

RESOURCES

- Annual State Profiles: [www.friendsnrc.org/...](http://www.friendsnrc.org/)

