MONTANA

Community-Based Child Abuse Prevention
2010 State Profile

Department of Public Health and Human Services
Child and Family Services Division
301 S. Park Ave – P.O. Box 8005
Helena, MT 59604
406-841-2406

POSITION IN STATE GOVERNMENT

The Montana Children's Trust Fund (MT CTF), a quasi-public entity, is the CBCAP designated lead agency. The MT CTF has a seven-member, volunteer board appointed by the Governor that makes all decisions regarding program selection, design, evaluation and other administrative matters. The MT CTF is administratively attached to the MT DPHHS, Child and Family Services Division.

KEY ACTIVITIES AND ACHIEVEMENTS

- **Core Services:** The CBCAP network included 13 funded programs. Program services include home visiting, fatherhood programs, parent education and support, parent/child activities, outreach, public service awareness and respite care. Programs use evidence based or evidence informed programs or curricula including: The Nurturing Parents Program, Nurturing Fathers Program, Parents as Teachers, Parenting Wisely, Circle of Security, Active Parenting, Love and Logic, Parents Anonymous, Parenting the Second Time Around (PASTA), and Children in the Middle.

- **Policy achievements:** In collaboration with the MT Department of Public Health and Human Services and Healthy Mothers Healthy Babies, the MT CTF led the Montana Coalition to fulfill the mandate of recent laws regarding Shaken Baby Prevention Education statewide. The MT CTF and HMHB contributed to development of the "*Crying Card*" from the National Center for Shaken Baby in Utah. The *"Crying Card"* is now an established educational resource that presents readily comprehensible information on shaken baby syndrome. This and other materials are posted on the department's website in an easily accessible format and distributed throughout Montana. The MT CTF is also collaborating to establish the Period of Purple Crying in Montana.

- **Outreach to Special Populations/Cultural Competence**: MT CTF funded programs serve many special populations including incarcerated parents, grandparents raising grandchildren, fathers, teen parents, and they provide special outreach to parents of children with special needs as well as focused program development activities to better serve these families.

  The CBCAP Grant Administrator, as well as several funded program staff, attended the Bureau of Indian Affairs Conference regarding Native Children. The conference helped build consensus between tribal governments and social services, community-based programs, and state government.

  During the Annual MT Grantees meeting, funded programs completed a Cultural Competency assessment.

- **Parent involvement/leadership**: The MT CTF RFP directs programs to demonstrate a meaningful commitment to parent leadership. Most of the MT CTF funded programs utilize Parent Advisory Councils. For example, one program has a nine-member Parent Advisory Board. The Board meets twice per year to provide a program overview assessment and recommendations. Another funded program stated that their Advisory Board must include 51% parent consumers which is mandated in their by-laws.

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During the Annual MT Grantees meeting, funded programs were also given a Parent Leadership Self Assessment.

- **Evaluation:** Montana's Peer Review process, which serves as their program evaluation process, was completed in 2010 with four funded programs. The process included an agency self-assessment, a SWOT analysis, and development of a quality improvement plan. In addition, all programs provide evaluation data on their evidence-based or evidence-informed programs and practices. Actual data was not provided in this report.

- **Support Training, Technical Assistance, and Evaluation Assistance:** The Montana Children's Trust Fund held a mandatory 2-day Grantees Meeting. Training topics included: Contractor Financial Reports/Invoices; Quarterly reporting requirements; Immunizations in MT; Children with Disabilities; Parent Leadership and Board Development; Primary Prevention of Intimate Partner and Sexual Violence Plan Review; Community Cafes and Perinatal Depression.

  The technical assistance provider communicated regularly and executed a site visit with grantees to prepare for the peer review process.

Participants receiving direct services	**# individuals**	**20,833**	**# families**	**5,892**
	# children with disabilities	**341**	**# parents with disabilities**	**707**
Reach	**# local grantees**	**13**		
Spread	**# training sessions on evidence-based and best practices**		**# professionals participating in training**	

ESSENTIAL PARTNERSHIPS

Structure for partnership:
Montana Substance Abuse and Violence Prevention (MSAVP) Task Force: A collaboration among state education agencies, other state agencies, and other key organizations which focuses on preventing youth substance use and violence in schools and Communities

Partnership with the Montana Injury Prevention Program (MIPP) to lead the Injury Prevention Coalition

Partnership with Healthy Mothers Healthy Babies on Shaken Baby Prevention

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Key partners:

Public Sector

- Child welfare
- Differential or alternative response
- Public health/ maternal and child health
- Education and special education
- Early childhood
- Home visiting
- Substance abuse
- Mental health
- Head Start/ Early Head Start
- Child care
- Tribal programs
- Fatherhood programs
- Department of Justice

Private Sector

- Advocacy organizations
- Parent organizations
- Foundations

SYSTEM CHANGE EFFORTS

- **Early Childhood**: The MT CTF Grant Administrator has participated as a member of the Early Childhood Comprehensive Development, School Readiness Task Force meetings. The Task Force assisted in the process of developing a child care rating systems and worked on developing better partnerships and increasing the awareness of the importance of early childhood development. The task force supported development of the Annual School Readiness Summit- two days dedicated to education and implementation potential of the CSEFEL Pyramid Model – Promoting the social/emotional competence of young children.

- **Coordination with Child Welfare Services:** The CBCAP Grant Administrator has met with the Child and Family Services In-Home Services Program Manager and the Contracts' Supervisor regarding a better coordination of the CBCAP prevention dollars and the IV-B funding that is used to support In-Home Services in Montana. Because of the better coordination between the MT CTF and In-Home Services, the Division's Child Protection Specialists and/or other professionals in the community are referring the target group of children and families who do not have a substantiated case of abuse or neglect to our network for prevention services (primarily parenting classes).

- **Home Visiting:** The MT CTF Grant Administrator and MT DPHHS, CFSD Staff have been working with Staff of the MIECHV to determine the best method to assist in the data collections mandated by the benchmarks and constructs. In addition, the MT DPHHS Director convened a workgroup that included CBCAP Program staff to complete a document entitled "Systemic Opportunities that Align with Infant Toddler Development" which was requested from a statewide network of philanthropists interested in knowing more about early childhood.

- **State Interagency Coordinating Council**: The Montana Children's Trust Fund Board Chair and the MT CTF Grant Administrator are members of the ICC. The ICC focus in 2010 has been to develop a statewide collaborative strategy to curb underage drinking and binge drinking, and promote and facilitate functional communication (using current lines of communication) among the involved Agencies and Departments and local entities throughout the State.

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- **Montana Alliance for Families Touched by Incarceration (MAFTI):** The CBCAP Grant Administrator is also a member of the Montana Alliance for Families Touched by Incarceration (MAFTI.) MAFTI developed the Montana Bill of Rights for Children of Incarcerated Parents. MAFTI successfully completed a Tool Kit for Caregivers, Social Workers, Law Enforcement Officers, and others. The toolkit is now available internationally through the MAFTI network.

- **National Alliance of Children's Trust and Prevention Funds Board**: MT CTF Board Chair, Betty Hidalgo, is a member of the alliance on the Public Policy Committee. The Alliance is currently working on a strategic plan.

FUNDING AND FISCAL LEVERAGING

Fiscal Leveraging

Innovative funding mechanisms:

- MT Legislature established a $1 Million Endowment for the Montana Children's Trust Fund in 2007. The interest earnings from the Endowment were used to fund community-based child maltreatment prevention projects and to increase public awareness.
- The Montana Tax Income Check-off also provides funding to strengthen Montana families

State Allowable Claims	**$106,551**
Population-based Allocations	**$200,000**
Leveraged-Funds-Based Allocations	**$3,694**
Final FY 10 Federal Grant Amount	**$201,382**

EVIDENCE-BASED AND EVIDENCE-INFORMED PRACTICES

Level per Program Assessment Rating Tool	CBCAP Funding
Programs Lacking Support or Positive Evidence/Undetermined/Harmful	$0
Emerging and Evidence-informed Programs and Practices	$41,855
Promising Programs and Practices	$61,916
Supported Programs and Practices	$69,787
Well Supported Programs and Practices	$76,264

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TRAINING

The MT CBCAP Grant Administrator and the TA Contractor conducted a Grant Writing Workshop. This full-day workshop was offered free of charge and had 20 participants.

The MT CBCAP Grant Administrator also facilitated a Shaken Baby/Abusive Head Trauma training to organizations and programs during 2010-2011.

Administrative and Management Topics

- collaboration and partnerships for prevention
- fiscal leveraging
- evaluation and data management
- program monitoring and continuous quality improvement
- grant reporting requirements
- strategic planning
- centralized intake procedures
- peer review process
- mandatory reporting
- community and state resources

Programmatic and Service Topics

- cultural competence
- research on prevention and child maltreatment
- evidence-based and evidence-informed programs and practices
- home visiting
- prevention programs and family support
- promoting protective factors and reducing risk factors
- marketing, messaging and public awareness
- infant mental health
- parent leadership

RESOURCES

- MT CTF RFP Access: http://www.dphhs.mt.gov/cfsd...
- Center on the Social Emotional Foundations for Early Learning; www.vanderbilt.edu/csefel.
- IACC Resources: http://parentpower.mt.gov/ http://www.stopalcoholabuse.gov/ http://www.alcoholfreechildren.org/
- MT KidsCount: www.bber.umt.edu
- Evidence-based Practice Resources http://www.cachildwelfareclearinghou... http://www.dsgonline... www.evidencebasedprograms.org
- Annual State Profiles: www.friendsnrc.org/...