

Program Profile

Family Advocacy Demonstration Project

Program Description

The Family Advocacy Demonstration Program provides an array of services and supports coordinated by a family advocate for youth with mental health or co-occurring disorders in, or at-risk of involvement with, the juvenile justice system and their families in urban, suburban, and rural systems of care.

Authorizing Legislation

C.R.S. 26-22-101, et seq.
(House Bill 07-1057) Sponsors Stafford/Windels

Program Services

Family advocates employed by a family advocacy organization assist families and youth to obtain necessary services and supports to improve outcomes. Services include 1) systems navigation, 2) crisis response, 3) integrated planning, 4) diversion from the juvenile justice system, 5) family support and education groups, and 6) family advocate and community training. The programs also collect and report evaluation data on youth, family, and community partners. Services are coordinated with the local system of care, including key youth-serving agencies and other stakeholders.

Population Served

Youth with mental health or co-occurring disorders (e.g. substance abuse, developmental disability, traumatic brain injury), who are in, or at-risk of involvement with, the juvenile justice system, and their families. It is expected that approximately 270 youth and families will receive family advocacy and related services and supports over the four years covered by the statute.

Program sites: Denver County, Jefferson County, and Montrose County

Amount Allocated

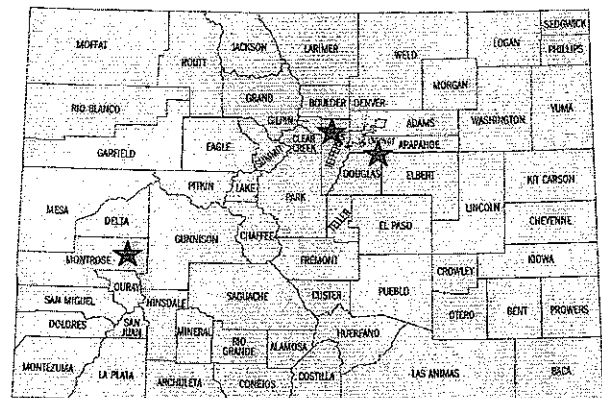
\$196,154 State general funds, and \$196,154 local matching funds (State Fiscal Year 2009-10)

Grantees/Participating Agencies:

- Colorado Department of Human Services, Division of Behavioral Health
- Division of Criminal Justice
- Family Agency Collaboration and Mental Health Center of Denver
- Federation of Families for Children's Mental Health-Colorado Chapter and Juvenile Services Board/SB 94 (1st Judicial District)
- Montrose County School District - RE-1J and Hilltop Community Resources

Program Outcomes

The Division of Criminal Justice is evaluating the program, examining system utilization, and youth and family outcomes; family and youth satisfaction and assessment of family advocates; process and leadership outcomes; cost avoidance or cost savings; transition services provided, and service utilization timeframes. A comparison group is being used to contrast outcomes with youth and families that did not receive services. A full evaluation report to the Legislature is due June 1, 2010.



Program Contact

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