

Federally Mandated Child and Family Services Review

FY2009 Request:

\$200,000

Reference No:

45404

AP/AL: Appropriation

Project Type: Health and Safety

Category: Health/Human Services

Location: Statewide

Contact: Arnold Liebelt

House District: Statewide (HD 1-40)

Contact Phone: (907)465-1870

Estimated Project Dates: 07/01/2008 - 06/30/2013

Brief Summary and Statement of Need:

Beginning in 2002, the federal Administration for Children and families mandated Child and Family Services Reviews (CFSRs). These reviews are conducted by the Children's Bureau within the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. The purpose of a CFSR is to help states improve safety, permanency, and well-being outcomes for children and families receiving services through the child welfare system and to monitor compliance with the requirements of Title IV-B of the Social Security Act. This request will fund the development and implementation for the Program Improvement Plan which will be a result of the CFSR.

Funding:	FY2009	FY2010	FY2011	FY2012	FY2013	FY2014	Total
Fed Rcpts	\$48,300						\$48,300
G/F Match	\$151,700						\$151,700
Total:	\$200,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$200,000

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> State Match Required	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> One-Time Project	<input type="checkbox"/> Phased - new	<input type="checkbox"/> Phased - underway	<input type="checkbox"/> On-Going
77% = Minimum State Match % Required		<input type="checkbox"/> Amendment	<input type="checkbox"/> Mental Health Bill	

Operating & Maintenance Costs:

	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Staff</u>
Project Development:	0	0
Ongoing Operating:	0	0
<u>One-Time Startup:</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>
Totals:	0	0

Additional Information / Prior Funding History:

Project Description/Justification:

Beginning in 2002, the federal Administration for Children and Families mandated Child and Family Services Reviews (CFSRs). These reviews are conducted by the Children's Bureau within the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. The purpose of a CFSR is to help states improve safety, permanency, and well-being outcomes for children and families receiving services through the child welfare system and to monitor compliance with the requirements of Title IV-B of the social Security Act.

CFSRs also provide greater transparency about how systems in the state are operating, increase public knowledge and scrutiny by important stakeholders, and let states learn about each other's systems by analyzing the results of the reviews. CFSRs offer states a new way to manage their child welfare systems - with a focus on continuous improvement. Therefore, compliance standards are set for each measure at 95% to 100%. Each CFSR includes a statewide assessment and on onsite review of child and family services outcomes and program systems.

The first CFSR was conducted for all states between 2002 and 2004. The first round of nationwide reviews resulted in Program Improvement Plans (PIPs) for all states. The onsite portion of Alaska's review took place in June, 2002. The Alaska PIP was successfully completed in October, 2006.

The second round of reviews began in early spring of 2007. As in the first round, any state determined not to be in substantial conformity with specific outcomes and specific systemic factors must develop and implement a Program Improvement Plan. Approximately 10 states have been reviewed a second time, and each of those states failed second round reviews, resulting in PIPs.

The onsite portion of Alaska's second review is scheduled for September, 2008. The Office of Children's Services (OCS) assumes a PIP will need to be developed and implemented for this second review.

This request will help OCS cover the extraneous costs associated with this process and includes:

Pre site review trips undertaken by the CFSR state lead to prepare the identified sites for the review	\$8.0
Mandatory pre review training for all state reviewers	\$6.0
State reviewers' trips to three identified sites (Anchorage and 2 others) for a 5-day review process. This funds travel, lodging, transportation and per diem	\$69.0
Providing a transparent process that keeps the public informed	\$5.0
Day meetings in Anchorage for this process, including 21 individuals, 14 of whom will be from outside the Anchorage area	\$112.0
Total	\$ 200.0

This one-time request will allow the OCS to comply with mandated activities without cutting services elsewhere in the budget for the review beginning September, 2008.

Department's Mission: *To promote and protect the health and well being of Alaskans.* This project supports the Department's mission by improving the safety, permanency, and well-being of children and families receiving services through the child welfare system.

The end result to which this project contributes is "Children are, first and foremost, protected from abuse or neglect."