

CONNECTICUT  
FY 04; Funding 03

NETWORKS	FUNDED PROGRAMS	EMPHASIS ON NEW AREAS OF SERVICE and RESPITE/CRISIS CARE
<p>The Children's Trust Fund Council, which includes Commissioners from the Departments of Children and Families, Public Health, Social Services and Education, 3 appointed representatives from the business community, 3 from the child abuse prevention field, 3 parents and 1 pediatrician, directs the statewide prevention network.</p> <p>By linking state agencies, parents, the business and service community, the Council is in a unique position to direct the statewide network of community based, prevention focused, family resource and support programs. The CTF Council has been very active and engaged in this effort.</p> <p>Members, who meet monthly, are actively involved in public awareness efforts, policy and program development, and strategic planning for the Trust Fund.</p>	<p>Funded programs include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Parent support groups</li> <li>▪ Parent education groups</li> <li>▪ Home visiting programs for high risk families with children 0-5</li> <li>▪ Additional services to high risk families involved in domestic violence, substance abuse, mental health concerns, raising children with disabilities, living in poverty &amp; social isolation or have a family history of abuse</li> <li>▪ Respite care for relative caregivers</li> <li>▪ Parent involvement</li> <li>▪ Community awareness</li> <li>▪ Systems change related activities</li> <li>▪ Network development</li> <li>▪ Training</li> <li>▪ Research</li> </ul> <p>Community based resources</p>	<p>The Kinship Fund provides funding for a variety of services to children in the care of a relative, including respite care. Additional funds were raised to expand the program, providing more funding for respite care.</p> <p>The Continuous Quality Improvement Team for the Nurturing Families Network strengthened its focus on fathers and other men who may live or spend a good deal of time in the household.</p> <p>Expansion of Nurturing Families Network into the city of Hartford included 8 new sites. In addition, the recent budget will provide funding for an additional 6 sites over two years.</p> <p>Funding for a respite group home for run away teenage girls at risk.</p>

DESCRIPTION OF NUMBER OF FAMILIES SERVED	EVALUATION AND QUANTITATIVE SERVICE INFORMATION	INNOVATIVE FUNDING MECHANISMS
<p>This past year more than 10,000 mothers, fathers, children, grandparents received family support services, while 3,000 agency staff have received training and education on child abuse and neglect</p>	<p>Outcome data from the Nurturing Home Visiting Program as compared to populations with similar demographics:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Rate of physical abuse is much lower</li> <li>▪ Immunization rate for 2 year olds higher</li> </ul>	<p>The Trust Fund budget of roughly 11.2 million dollars is raised from a combination of state, federal and private donations. Utilizing these funds the Children's Trust Fund has broadened its network of community -</p>

<p>prevention and effective methods of reaching and working with families. An additional 5,000 families and program staff participated in community awareness and information projects.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ A significant number of parents are completing high school and becoming employed</li> <li>▪ Parent child relationships are enhanced</li> <li>▪ Improved parenting capacity, attitudes and behavior</li> </ul> <p>Preliminary data from the Lengthening Rope Program suggest the programs are reaching and engaging hard to reach families, providing critical support to parents in their community, creating sustainable informal supports networks for parents, enhancing parenting skills, appropriate expectations and empathetic awareness and resulting in noticeably calmer and 'happier' children.</p>	<p>based, prevention focused, family resource and support services and effectively designed a series of activities to broaden and engage the membership of the network. This year there was an increase in the state appropriation of roughly 2 million dollars.</p>
<p><b>PEER REVIEW</b></p>	<p><b>PARENT LEADERSHIP</b></p>	<p><b>LINKAGES WITH OTHER SYSTEMS (CHILD WELFARE, PSSF, ETC.)</b></p>
<p>The Continuous Quality Improvement Committee is a representative group drawn from the community-based program staff to review policy and practice within each of the network sites. The group's charge is to assess best practice and make recommendations to the membership on the:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Role and training needs of the paraprofessional family support worker role</li> <li>▪ Role of supervision in a paraprofessional model</li> <li>▪ Assessment process and tools</li> <li>▪ Practice of home visiting</li> <li>▪ Challenges of home visiting</li> <li>▪ National credentialing process</li> </ul>	<p>Parent engagement efforts include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Active and successful recruitment of parents for advisory committees, involvement with legislative information and advocacy, volunteer positions and positions of leadership at the organizations funded by the Trust Fund</li> <li>▪ Legislative establishment of a Parent Trust Fund within the Children's Trust Fund solely for the purpose of supporting parent leadership activities</li> </ul> <p>The strong participation of parents in leadership roles in the Hartford Community Partnership</p>	<p>The Hartford Community Partnership is a collaborative between the Children's Trust Fund, the Department of Children and Families and a number of Social service organizations. The goal of the Partnership is to establish a 'differential response' that will allow DCF to provide services to families who, for a variety of reasons, currently do not receive them – and to partner with the community in the delivery of those services.</p>

**OTHER APPLICATION ELEMENTS:**

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**State Allowable Claims:**

**\$5,632,935**

<b>Population-Based Allocations:</b>	<b>\$ 233,597</b>
<b>Leveraged-Funds-Based Allocations:</b>	<b>\$ 193,063</b>
<b>Final State Allocations:</b>	<b>\$ 426,660</b>

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