

ARKANSAS
FY 06; Funding 05

NETWORKS	FUNDED PROGRAMS	EMPHASIS ON NEW AREAS OF SERVICE and RESPITE/CRISIS CARE
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The State Child Abuse and Prevention Board (the Board) hired a full-time coordinator for a statewide task force on parenting education (Arkansas Parenting Education Network – APEN). APEN members include a wide variety of professional disciplines including social workers, teachers, home economists, health department representatives, county extension agents, Head Start providers, CPS workers, and juvenile court workers. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The State Child Abuse and Prevention Board used CBCAP funds to enhance grant awards to 20 community-based programs. Community-based programs represent diverse approaches to prevention while strongly emphasizing: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Parenting education and support for positive discipline, healthy lifestyle, literacy, positive communication and conflict resolution, child safety, and preventing family violence. Early preventive health care for children and pregnant mothers including periodic developmental, health, vision, and hearing screening; nutrition; and anticipatory developmental guidance. Center- and home-based child development services with a focus on social-emotional development and fostering resilience. Service coordination. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A statewide inventory identified that many programs across the state were operating in isolation and lacked a focal point for parent educators in the state. To help address this need, the Parenting Education Network was established in order to gather and share information about parenting and other family resource programs, to provide a forum to discuss challenges and problems, and to provide opportunities for growth, improvement and development of parent programs statewide.

DESCRIPTION OF NUMBER OF FAMILIES SERVED	EVALUATION AND QUANTITATIVE SERVICE INFORMATION	TRAINING AND TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE PROVIDED
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Community-based programs served 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Grantees are required to administer a client satisfaction 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Arkansas PEN sponsored its eighth

<p>approximately 2,000 families during the funding period.</p>	<p>survey to all program participants.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Grantees specify in written form program objectives, targeted client outcomes, the measurement and evaluation tools they use, and the outcomes achieved. 	<p>statewide conference for parent educators and provided seven pre-conference institutes, 50 workshops and 27 exhibitors to more than 500 attendees.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Technical assistance is provided to programs during site visits and via frequent telephone and electronic mail communications. Technical assistance ranges from curriculum selection, to evaluation advice, to moral support. Childcare providers participating in the Strengthening Families Initiative attended a full-day training that introduced participating programs to the concepts and strategies of the initiative. Three additional regional trainings were also provided, and monthly conference calls were held with all participating programs.
<p align="center">INNOVATIVE FUNDING MECHANISMS</p>	<p align="center">PEER REVIEW</p>	<p align="center">PARENT LEADERSHIP</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All programs receiving grants from the State Child Abuse and Neglect Prevention Board receive a blend of State and Federal CBCAP dollars. State funds are generated through a surcharge on marriage license fees. In addition, all grantees provide 25% of their total budget in matching funds which include cash and in-kind donations. The eighth annual statewide conference sponsored by the Arkansas Parenting Education Network was supported in part by: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Children's Trust Fund; The Center for Effective Parenting; The Arkansas Department of Education; The Arkansas Cooperative Extension Service; the Arkansas Head Start Collaborative; 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> County level councils on Child Abuse and Prevention reviewed grant applications to the Children's Trust Fund, and they submitted written comments about programs making an application from their county. Only those programs receiving peer approval were deemed eligible to receive funding. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All applicants for funding are required to submit a plan for involving families in the design and implementation of their programs, and they are required to report on the progress of this plan every three months in their quarterly reports. Parents are serving on parent advisory boards that meet two to four times a year. Parents provide feedback to programs about issues they find troublesome, and they offer suggestions about how the program might improve. Program staff test new ideas and concepts with parent advisors before implementing them with all program participants. In the Strengthening Families Initiative, all participating child care providers are required to establish a leadership team at their center comprised of the center director, one teacher and one parent. One of the initial activities teams conducted was an assessment of how

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the Parent Center in Little Rock; and • the Arkansas Association of Consumer and Family Sciences. 		<p>well their child care center values and supports parents as partners.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Parent leaders are invited to attend all sponsored trainings and conference calls, although parent response has been limited.
<p>LINKAGES WITH OTHER SYSTEMS (CHILD WELFARE, PSSF, ETC.)</p>	<p>OTHER ELEMENTS:</p>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Board is laying the groundwork for policy change through their collaborative work in the Strengthening Families Initiative which integrates child abuse prevention strategies into childcare and early childhood education settings. • The Board has successfully incorporated the use of protective factors and other family support strategies into every level of the state's draft plan for a tiered quality licensing system for childcare programs. • The Children's Trust Fund was provided a seat on a newly formed Task Force on Child Abuse, formed in 2006 by the state legislature. • The Board's director serves on the statewide Advisory Board for the Division of Children and Family Services, and the Board provides advice on policies and procedures used statewide by Protective Services. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • As part of Child Abuse Prevention Month, the Board distributed 100 Community Resource Packets to county-organized Local Councils and all grantees, and they distributed 10,000 blue silicone wristbands (free of charge) with the message "Keep Kids Safe". 	

State Allowable Claims: \$245,067

Population-Based Allocations: \$241,860

Leveraged-Funds-Based Allocations: \$11,972
Final State Allocations: \$253,832

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