



KEEPING KIDS SAFE AND FAMILIES HEALTHY 2.0

Community-based Child Abuse Prevention Services

	FY 2012-13	FY 2013-14	FY 2014-15
Total Funds	\$0	\$1,144,013	\$2,093,143
General Fund	\$0	\$1,144,013	\$2,093,143
FTE	0.0	0.9	1.0

Summary of Request

The Department is requesting \$1,144,013 General Fund and 0.9 FTE in FY 2013-14 and \$2,093,143 General Fund and 1.0 FTE in FY 2014-15. The purpose of these funds is to start and implement a community-based child abuse prevention services program in six initial county sites with a planned expansion to eighteen sites over the next two years.

Problem/Opportunity

Currently, counties “screen-in” or “screen-out” reports of child abuse or neglect based on available information and screening criteria.

- In some instances, cases may be appropriately screened out, but the families would benefit from prevention services to ensure children are able to remain with their families in a safe and stable environment as opposed to becoming involved with the child welfare system.
- This funding would create collaboration across the child maltreatment prevention programs and the human services community, and develop rules that ensure the effective use of these resources for Colorado families and children.

Proposed Solution and Anticipated Outcomes

The Department proposes establishing a program that identifies families who will benefit from prevention services, and connects these families to resources that will increase the families’ protective capacity.

- Since the majority of referrals to child protective services involve concerns about basic care and parental resources, connections to cornerstone community services and supports is critical to child protection.
- Colorado families at-risk for entry into the child welfare system will receive community services and supports to increase the family’s protective factors.
- Each site’s operations will vary based on community needs, however each site will be able to:
 - ✓ Work with county departments and other groups to identify families who would benefit from services;
 - ✓ Establish an array of services, both in the community and provided at the site;
 - ✓ Work with families to identify service goals, such as improving parenting skills, child health, and family self-sufficiency; and provide or coordinate services to meet a family’s goals.