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Family Services Collaboratives

1995 Report

CHILDREN'S CABINET

February 1995



MINNESOTA PLANNING is charged with developing a long-range plan for the state, stimulating public participation in Minnesota's future and coordinating public policy with state agencies, the Legislature and other units of government.

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February 1995

For additional information or copies of *Family Services Collaboratives*, contact:



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CONTENTS

OVERVIEW	1	Le Sueur, Nicollet, Scott and Sibley counties	
		City of Le Sueur	6
IMPLEMENTATION GRANT PROGRAM DESCRIPTIONS	1	Lyon County	
		Marshall Public School District 413	6
Aitkin County		Mille Lacs Reservation	
Aitkin County Family Services Agency	1	Nay-Ah-Shing	7
Anoka County		Ramsey County	
Anoka County	2	Roseville Area Schools	7
		Amherst H. Wilder Foundation	7
Becker County and White Earth Reservation		St. Louis County	
Multi-County Board of Health	2	Hibbing School District 701	8
		St. Louis County	8
Blue Earth and Nicollet counties		St. Louis County Social Services	8
Blue Earth County Human Services	2	Sibley County	
Carlton County		Sibley County Human Development Commission	9
Carlton County Family and Children's Collaboration, Carlton County Human Services	3	Stearns County	
Carver and Scott counties		Stearns County Social Services	9
Carver-Scott Educational Cooperative	3	Stevens County	
Cass County and Leech Lake Reservation		Stevens County Human Service Agency	9
Cass County Department of Social Services	3	Waseca County	
Chisago County		Waseca Public School District 829	10
Chisago County Health and Human Services	4	Washington County	
Clay County		South Washington County School District 833	10
Clay-Wilkin Opportunity Council, Inc.	4	Winona County	
Dakota County		Winona School District 861	10
Dakota County Community Services	4	SUMMARY OF 1994 - 1995 FUNDING	11
Douglas, Grant, Otter Tail, Pope, Stevens and Traverse counties		1994 PLANNING GRANTS	12
Elbow Lake School District 263	5	STATUTE	14
Hennepin County			
Hennepin County Administration	5		
Northwest Hennepin Human Services Council	6		
Itasca County			
Itasca County Human Services	6		



OVERVIEW

Family services collaboratives were initiated by Governor Arne H. Carlson and the Minnesota Legislature in 1993. Included in this initiative are collaboration grants to foster cooperation and help communities come together to improve results for Minnesota's children and families. By providing incentives for better coordination of services, Minnesota hopes to increase the number and percentage of babies and children who are healthy, children who come to school ready to learn, families able to provide a healthy and stable environment for their children and children who excel in basic academic skills. More than \$8 million was allocated to support this initiative.

Collaborative grants for implementation are designed for communities that have developed measurable goals and a comprehensive plan to improve services for children and families. The grants must be used to provide direct services to children and families.

Applications for these grants are reviewed by state agency staff to ensure that they meet program requirements. Citizen review teams then review six to 12 of these applications each. Citizen review teams consist of parents, youth, community social service administrators and representatives of public health, education, nonprofit and other community-based organizations and communities of color. The recommendations of the citizen review teams are forwarded to the Children's Cabinet for final action.

In 1994, 13 implementation grants totaling \$2,535,000 were awarded. This year, 49 requests amounting to almost \$9,674,000 were received; of these requests, 19 were funded, for a total of \$2,574,314.

The collaboration grant program is a joint effort of the agencies that make up the Children's Cabinet: the departments of Education, Health, Human Services, Economic Security, Corrections, Transportation, Finance, Public Safety and Administration; the Housing Finance Agency and Minnesota Planning.

IMPLEMENTATION GRANT PROGRAM DESCRIPTIONS

Implementation grants for 1995 have been awarded to the following applicant agencies. Each grantee is identified by area served; applicant agency; amount of 1995 grant and 1994 grant, if applicable; program description; and contact person. In some cases, not all 1994 grant funds were expended by a collaborative; these funds were returned to the collaboration grants program to be redistributed in 1995.

Aitkin County

Aitkin County Family Services Agency
204 1st St. NW.
Aitkin, MN 56431-1291

1995 grant: up to \$120,000

Contact: Kirk Peysar, (218) 927-3744,
fax (218) 927-7210

The Aitkin County Collaborative Partnership is designed to help Aitkin County families meet needs created by poor economic conditions, long travel distances and complicated application procedures for accessing services, lack of appropriate child care and other services for youth, and lack of support and education for parents. The collaborative's mission is to establish a countywide collaborative commitment to develop a comprehensive, prevention-focused, user-friendly and decentralized service delivery system to enhance the holistic well-being of children and families. Its four goals are: providing better access to services through establishing family resource centers; increasing mental health services and special services for children who are at high risk; providing child care, latch key programs, summer activities and youth employment opportunities; and helping parents raise children who are healthy, well cared for and prepared for school. The collaborative partnership consists of Aitkin County Family Social Services, Aitkin County Public Health, Lakes and Pines Head Start, and all three Aitkin County school districts. The collaborative has a "holding company" governance structure and an integrated fund.

Anoka County

Anoka County

2100 3rd Ave.
Anoka, MN 55303-2264

1994 grant: up to \$240,000

1995 grant: up to \$240,000

Contact: Julie Brunner, (612) 422-7008,
fax (612) 422-6987

Out of a planning process involving county, school district and community agency representatives has come the Anoka County Children and Family Services Council. This collaborative effort, with the council's support and guidance, will focus on improving outreach and early identification of children and families in need of services and intervening across service systems on behalf of families. The family comprehensive assessment, referral and education component of this effort will give children between birth and 20 years, along with their families, a "one-stop" opportunity at school district sites to receive help identifying their needs and resources to meet those needs. The second component of this project will establish family service sites in 10 elementary schools in the county. School-based teams composed of family members, school personnel, county staff and community agency representatives will be formed to work with students and their families.

Becker County and White Earth Reservation

Becker County Children's Initiative Multi-County Board of Health

P.O. Box 24
Detroit Lakes, MN 56502

1994 grant: up to \$240,000

1995 grant: up to \$240,000

Contact: Beth Walter, (218) 847-5988,
fax (218) 847-9077

The mission of the Becker County Children's Initiative is to improve child health and development, reduce barriers to adequate school performance and improve family functioning. This site was one of three selected to work

with The Pew Charitable Trusts in developing a broad-based and far-reaching family services collaborative that can be a national model. The collaborative has developed a strategic plan to reconfigure the service delivery system, with supporting information management, governance structures and financing. The reconfigured system represents a shift from crisis-oriented, fragmented, inadequate services driven by categorical funding sources to a system that is focused on prevention, universal, family-friendly and outcome-based.

Blue Earth and Nicollet counties

Blue Earth County Human Services

410 5th St. S.
Mankato, MN 56001

1994 grant: up to \$240,000

1995 grant: up to \$340,000

Contact: Dennis McCoy, deputy county administrator,
(507) 389-8373, fax (507) 389-8374

The Blue Earth County departments of Human Services and Community Health Services, Nicollet County Social Services, and school districts 77 and 2071 formed a collaborative called the South Central Children's Project. Working with all child-serving agencies in the area, the collaborative is taking a systems-change approach to delivering a comprehensive, seamless continuum of services to children and families. The project created an integrated service system, focusing on prevention, early identification and intervention, accessible service delivery and respectful interaction with families. Through a variety of mechanisms and services, the project is redirecting resources to early intervention and prevention. Families receive services in a multiagency, unitary case management system in which they are full participants. The project is family-centered, emphasizes creative service planning, uses resources across systems, helps families navigate the system and provides supplemental, "wraparound" services. The 1995 implementation grant will expand the collaborative to the two remaining school districts within Blue Earth County: Maple River, district 2135, and St. Clair, district 75.

Carlton County

**Carlton County Family and Children's
Collaboration, Carlton County Human Services**
1215 Ave. C
Cloquet, MN 55720

1994 grant: up to \$200,000
1995 grant: up to \$200,000

Contact: Bill Pinsonault, (218) 879-4583 or Bob Sparby,
(218) 878-0199, fax (218) 878-2500

The mission of the Carlton County Children and Family Services Collaborative is to create a community environment and service network that will promote family health, stability and self-sufficiency through an easily accessible, integrated human service delivery system. Recognizing that comprehensive change must occur across system lines for services to families to be more effective, Carlton County has initiated several successful collaborative efforts. The most recent of these efforts involved the award of a \$35,000 Children's Mental Health Collaborative planning grant. This grant supported processes that developed more clearly defined collaborative goals and involved area educators, service providers, businesses, government agencies and service recipients. The collaborative is committed to having an integrated fund, coordinated assessment, a centralized and accessible information base, consolidated services, a consistent focus on individual family needs and reinvesting dollars saved into ongoing and broad-based local prevention efforts.

Carver and Scott counties

Carver-Scott Educational Cooperative
401 E. 4th St.
Chaska, MN 55318

1994 grant: up to \$240,000
1995 grant: up to \$240,000

Contact: James Hinck, (612) 368-8809,
fax (612) 368-8858

The overall goal of the Carver-Scott Family Services Collaborative is to provide families and children with a seamless system of services that strengthen their capacity and resources to support children's healthy development and school success. Carver and Scott are

among the top five fastest growing counties in the five-state region. Families with children under 18 comprise more than 41 percent of their population — a higher proportion than in any other region in Minnesota. Spiraling rates of violence, sexual abuse, chemical abuse, juvenile crime and developmental problems among children are among signals calling for a bold new service delivery system. To meet this challenge, human service, education, community action, public health and correctional agencies are collaborating to develop a comprehensive, integrated system of services to meet the needs of children and families. The two counties have committed more than \$700,000 in an integrated fund to this effort.

Cass County and Leech Lake Reservation

Cass County Department of Social Services
P.O. Box 519
Walker, MN 56484

1994 grant: up to \$215,000
1995 grant: up to \$215,000

Contact: John Fjelstul, (218) 547-1340 or Jim Clark,
(218) 547-3253, fax (218) 547-1448

The Cass County/Leech Lake Reservation Children's Initiative consists of Cass County Social Services and Public Health Service, the Leech Lake Reservation Tribal Council, area school districts, child-serving agencies, other government agencies, nonprofit organizations, community service organizations and private citizens. Its goal is to develop a better coordinated and more integrated system of service delivery to children and families. A network of family centers is being established throughout the county to improve child health and development, reduce barriers to school performance and help families get the services they need to do what is best for themselves, their children and their community. This site was one of three selected to work with The Pew Charitable Trusts in developing the family services collaborative model.

Chisago County

Chisago County Health and Human Services

313 N. Main St., Room 239
Center City, MN 55012-9665

1994 grant: up to \$240,000

1995 grant: up to \$240,000

Contact: Bob Kinderman, (612) 257-0375,
fax (612) 257-0454

Family centers were created in Chisago County as part of a collaborative effort to reach out to and support families before their problems became expensive and difficult-to-solve crises. Two school districts developed the centers in cooperation with parents and the county government, and strong support from local business leaders. The North Branch School District opened the Stacy Family Center adjacent to a large trailer court in Stacy. The land and construction costs were assumed by a local businessman who leases the building to the school at cost. The Rush City School District opened the Rush City Family Center in the city's shopping mall. A local businessman picked up the costs for the space and furnishings; he also donates to the center one dollar for every three in nonschool-based funding it gets. Related collaborative initiatives also were undertaken. The collaboration between the Chisago County Health and Human Services departments and the St. Croix River Education District, for example, offers case management services by school staff for children with mental health needs. Much of the implementation grant is being used to develop resources to help the family centers increase the identification of and contact with children who may need more crisis-oriented services, extend their services to school-age children and team with the Five County Mental Health Center to provide in-home family therapy. It also supports the coordination of all collaboration initiatives in the county, including the development of a wraparound services fund and accompanying noncategorical approach to providing children's services.

Clay County

Clay-Wilkin Opportunity Council, Inc.

715 11th St. N., Suite 402
Moorhead, MN 56560

1995 grant: up to \$125,000

Contact: Dennis Heitkamp, (218) 299-7000, fax (218) 299-7210

Cornerstone, the family services collaborative of Clay County, consists of members and partners representing many sectors of the community. Its goal is to "enhance children's self-esteem and ability to lead healthy and productive lives by strengthening families in Clay County." A plan has been designed to implement an integrated service delivery system that is proactive and preventive, outcome-based, inclusive, family-focused and family-driven. The plan will begin the systems-change process by coordinating funding streams, standardizing policies and procedures, creating a prevention-focused continuum of services and outreach, implementing a standardized family assessment tool and process, putting into place a unitary case management approach to service delivery and creating a shared data system. An outcome-based guideline has been developed for addressing the comprehensive health, development, education and culturally specific needs of families so they can help their children be ready to enter school. Cornerstone has designated two points of universal contact with families. At the first point, all families with new births will have a chance to work in partnership with a case manager to identify needs and develop a family action plan. At the second point, families with children between 3 and 5 years old will participate in early childhood screening and be given the opportunity to participate in the comprehensive family assessment process. Families will be asked for feedback to evaluate and improve the developing system.

Dakota County

Dakota County Community Services

33 Wentworth Ave. E., Suite 2375
West St. Paul, MN 55118

1994 grant: up to \$30,000

1995 grant: up to \$150,000

Contact: Joe Schur, (612) 450-2811, fax (612) 450-2948

Four local family services collaboratives, serving seven school districts, have been formed to provide strong local autonomy and countywide coordination to meet the needs of Dakota County families through system redesign. Each collaborative will serve families in ways suited to local needs, but all will operate with family-driven and -empowered outcome-oriented approaches. All will use the same model for building local capacity, a

direct-services flexible fund and appropriate technology. This effort to build capacity rather than simply respond to problems is based on partnership and collaboration. Interdisciplinary teams of family members and professionals will work to address family priorities and concerns. A direct-services flexible fund will pay for wraparound services, while a countywide computer network, information and referral and expert systems software will extend technology to families and their interdisciplinary teams. Finally, a countywide collaborative will be the clearinghouse for lessons learned and planning systems change. State funding will be matched by local resources of more than \$400,000.

Douglas, Grant, Otter Tail, Pope, Stevens and Traverse counties

Elbow Lake School District 263

P.O. Box 68
Barrett, MN 56311

1995 grant: up to \$131,000

Contact: Kelly Smith, (612) 528-2650, fax (612) 528-2279

The partners in this collaborative include eight school districts, four county agencies, a community action agency, Lakeland Mental Health Center and Lutheran Social Services, child-care providers and the United Way of Otter Tail County. The collaborative's vision is that families, communities and institutions will work together for a more responsive, flexible system of education and support with services that focus on the needs, strengths and potential of each child and family. The partners have identified concerns with and expected outcomes for a collaborative system. Concerns centered on improving existing collaborative efforts. These projects have demonstrated the ability of these partners to work together to serve families with children. The outcomes focused on skill-building and prevention, as well as easier access to and better information on services, systems change, and societal education and change. The Otter Tail County Human Services Board will appoint a Children's Cabinet consisting of parents and providers of services for families and children that will make recommendations to the governing boards of schools and the county related to services and funding for families and children.

Hennepin County

School-Human Service Redesign Initiative Hennepin County Administration

A-17 Hennepin County Government Center
Mail Code: 172
300 S. 6th St.
Minneapolis, MN 55487

1994 grant: up to \$250,000

1994 diversity grant: up to \$90,000

1995 grant: up to \$60,000 – to add Hopkins and Wayzata School Districts

Contact: Edward Duren, Jr., (612) 348-9071,
fax (612) 348-9077

The School-Human Services Redesign Initiative is a family services collaborative made up of the Minneapolis, Robbinsdale Area and Hopkins public schools; the Forum for Nonprofit Leadership; United Way of Minneapolis Area; the city of Minneapolis; the Youth Coordinating Board; and Hennepin County. In the process of joining this collaborative are the Wayzata Public Schools and the Wayzata Communities in Collaboration Council. The Northwest Hennepin Human Services Council and the South Hennepin Regional Planning Agency for Human Services regularly meet with the collaborative to ensure coordination of efforts in their seven additional school districts. The collaborative also is working with the Hennepin County Library system to more effectively integrate library services at the local level. The 1995 implementation grant will go to redesigning services to families and children in the Hopkins and Wayzata school districts. Community-driven, school-linked councils in these districts are responsible for identifying the assets and needs of children and families in their communities and targeting the resources to be redirected to their area. The role of the partner organizations and the collaborative's governance structure is to eliminate barriers to redirecting and decentralizing resources for children and families.

Northwest Hennepin Human Services Council
7601 Kentucky Ave. N.
Brooklyn Park, MN 55428

1995 grant: up to \$218,898

Contact: Patricia S. Wilder, (612) 493-2802,
fax (612) 493-2713

The Northwest Hennepin Family Services Collaborative is a grass-roots initiative of parents, community members and youth in northwest Hennepin County. For the past year, community members, parents, students, schools and local providers have been working together to identify barriers to delivering services and ways of breaking those barriers down. The implementation grant will be used to increase access to quality information, referral and services through outreach and co-location strategies; form a cooperative child-care center; maintain quality education by including more appropriate curricula on diverse cultures; and increase awareness and effectiveness of transportation options in northwest Hennepin County suburbs.

Itasca County

Itasca County Human Services
123 N. 4th St.
Grand Rapids, MN 55744-2680

1994 grant: up to \$100,000
1995 grant: up to \$100,000

Contact: David Sanio or Lora Mathison, (218) 327-2981,
fax (218) 327-2987

A human resource center is being collaboratively developed for Nashwauk and Keewatin. The center will change the way services are developed, governed, delivered and evaluated. Community members, schools, service providers and customers will participate in developing the center. The center will help toward attaining the goal of reducing artificial barriers between participating agencies and developing a fully integrated service delivery system.

Le Sueur, Nicollet, Scott and Sibley counties

City of Le Sueur
203 2nd St. S.
P.O. Box 176
Le Sueur, MN 56058

1995 grant: up to \$100,000

Contact: John Schultz, (612) 665-3966, fax (612) 665-6858

Le Sueur-Henderson School District 2397, the cities of Henderson and Le Sueur, and the Sibley and Le Sueur County departments of Human Services and Public Health Services have formed a collaborative to create a community-based, consumer-driven, easily accessible and integrated service delivery system that promotes family health, stability and self-sufficiency. This system includes unitary case management, a family services coordinator and a single point of entry with services offered from and coordinated at an easily accessible location. The aim is to create a community environment that preserves the family and prevents unnecessary out-of-home placement of at-risk children; links the child and family with appropriate resources and services in the community; creates a comprehensive community system of care; and strengthens the family and enhances the self-esteem and integrity of all family members.

Lyon County

Marshall Public School District 413
401 S. Saratoga
Marshall, MN 56268

1994 grant: up to \$220,000

Contact: Ellie Trautman, (507) 532-5221,
fax (507) 532-0345

The goal of the Marshall effort is to help children and their families receive holistic services and support based on their individual needs, strengths and capacities. "One-stop" intake and referral services will be integrated across agencies, in a common central location, using staff cross-trained in agency mandates, rules and regulations. Computer networking across agencies will be used to reduce red tape, duplication and confusion. Children and their families will then be supported by

cross-agency service teams that will develop and carry out with each family a prevention-intervention plan, drawing on the resources of multiple agencies and public and private organizations.

Mille Lacs Reservation

Nay-Ah-Shing

P.O. Box 67
Onamia, MN 56359

1995 grant: up to \$250,000

Contact: George Weber, (612) 532-4695,
fax (612) 532-4209

The Nay-Ah-Shing School was given a Family Services Collaborative Planning Grant to focus on needs and services for children and families and how to develop a better delivery system in partnership with the social and human service agencies that serve the Mille Lacs Reservation, which covers four counties in central Minnesota. Out of this planning came a vision of a better system of providing services to families and children to ensure them a life of health and independence within their cultural beliefs and values. This system will be implemented based on parental and agency input regarding the needs of children and families, Maslow's hierarchy of needs, collaborative efforts to bring about systemic change and Ojibwe culture, values and the Circle of Life. A comprehensive and traditional Ojibwe cultural program will provide inclusive services to all Mille Lacs Band members. A 12-member governance board, composed of parents, Band officials and social and human service agency representatives, will be formed, as will an advisory council to the board of about 40 members representing the three districts within the Mille Lacs Reservation and all four counties.

Ramsey County

Roseville Area Schools

1251 W. County Road B2
Roseville, MN 55113

1995 grant: up to \$150,000

Contact: Sharon Buechner, (612) 487-4388,
fax (612) 631-2544

Roseville Area Schools, Ramsey County and Ramsey County departments of Public Health, Community Human Services and Jobs and Training, along with families and numerous community organizations, completed the planning process that focused on three key areas: making sure people get information about what services are available; identifying community contact points where residents can find out details about programs and services; and connecting service providers at easily accessible sites. The collaborative's vision is to integrate the community's cultural and linguistic diversity in its efforts to address the health, developmental, educational and culturally specific needs of all families.

Amherst H. Wilder Foundation

919 Lafond Ave.
St. Paul, MN 55104

1994 grant: up to \$120,000

1994 diversity grant: up to \$60,000

1995 grant: up to \$250,000

Contact: Kathleen Vellenga, (612) 659-6042,

fax (612) 659-4068

The St. Paul Children's Initiative's strategic planning process has included the city, Ramsey County, St. Paul Public Schools, major private funders, parents, front-line workers and community-level service providers. Out of their work has come a plan to integrate the delivery of health, education and human services for families at the neighborhood level. Family centers will be places for families to meet in the community, hubs for a range of services and the mechanism for facilitating system change. Implementation grant funds will be used for core services to help collaboratives of existing community-level agencies become full family centers. Ramsey County, the city of St. Paul and the St. Paul Public Schools have committed significant resources to an integrated fund and are partners in an interim governance structure. St. Paul is one of the three sites selected to work with The Pew Charitable Trusts.

St. Louis County

Hibbing School District 701

P.O. Box 158
Hibbing, MN 55746

1994 grant: up to \$200,000

1995 grant: up to \$200,000

Contact: Margaret Haggemiller, (218) 262-5662,
fax (218) 263-5021

The Hibbing Family Center is being developed by a collaborative of service providers to offer the surrounding community an array of early intervention and outreach services to support families and children ages birth to 18. These services will include a child-care center, Early Childhood Family Education, Early Childhood Special Education, Learning Readiness, Head Start, and public health, social and financial assistance services. The center is located in a former grocery store on a main highway in Hibbing, providing easy access and parking. A computer-based check-processing business has also located in the center's building, providing desperately needed jobs and job training opportunities.

St. Louis County (Northern)

100 N. 5th Ave. W., #202
Duluth, MN 55802-1287

1995 grant: up to \$100,000

Contact: Lisa Pattni, (218) 749-0670, fax (218) 749-7123

The Northern St. Louis County Collaborative involves a large rural area covering 6,000 square miles and including two Indian reservations. The collaborative has designed family service centers to provide integrated service delivery in three rural kindergarten-through-12th grade schools. The centers will provide early intervention, direct services and coordinated activities for children and families starting from birth. Community councils will provide direct community and family involvement. Collaboration among service providers will be built into everyday activities at the centers and will lead to seamless service delivery. Social services, mental health, chemical dependency treatment, community action outreach, family recreation, and employment and training services are among the services that will be provided at these sites. Collaborative activities developed within the target sites will be duplicated

throughout the region through the coordinated work of a large advisory group of service providers and the Northern Steering Committee for Children and Youth, a policy-oriented group made up of county commissioners, school board members and city officials from throughout northern St. Louis County.

St. Louis County Social Services (Southern)

320 2nd St. W.
Government Services Center, Room 404
Duluth, MN 55802

1995 grant: up to \$100,000

Contact: Jane Gilley, (218) 726-2146, fax (218) 726-2163

The South St. Louis County Family Services Collaborative proposes to open three family resource centers in Duluth. The centers will be located at sites that are accessible, culturally sensitive and perceived as safe. They will serve families and children from birth to age 18. The guiding principle for the centers is to empower parents and families to solve their own problems (and prevent others from developing) through support, information, skill-building and advocacy. A primary focus of the center will be prevention of problems within families through early identification of risk factors and by helping families access services so that intervention is timely. Each site will be staffed by a family service specialist, trained in family support and advocacy, who will work one-on-one with parents. This person also will coordinate all services and activities at the center, coordinate with service providers in the community, and conduct community outreach. Parenting classes, public health services, financial assistance eligibility determinations and early childhood services will be available at the centers. Supporting each center will be a multidisciplinary team that will consult with school-age children and their families on the best way to serve them. Team members will include the center's family service specialist, a school representative, a county social worker, a police representative, a public health nurse, a probation officer and a chemical health specialist. A project coordinator will work with the collaborative's governing board on the broader institutional aspects of systems change.

Sibley County

Sibley County Human Development Commission

Sibley County Board of Commissioners
P.O. Box 237
Gaylord, MN 55334

1995 grant: up to \$200,000

Contact: Dan Bergner, (612) 237-5575, fax (612) 237-5961

The Sibley County Children's Collaborative will use the implementation grant to invest in prevention and early intervention, as well as family-centered, integrated service delivery. It will implement a home-visiting program for all new mothers and for at-risk mothers and babies. Parenting education programs will be targeted to high-risk families and families of school-age children. Early intervention will be enhanced through a single intake system, home-based services and multiagency teams. Family facilitators will be co-located with school districts to manage multiagency and early intervention efforts with families. The Internet will be used to share client and agency information throughout the collaborative. Academically at-risk children will receive home tutoring in the summer. An integrated governance and \$36,500 locally funded discretionary fund will ensure long-term commitment to the concept of the family services collaborative.

Stearns County

Stearns County Social Services

705 Courthouse Square, Box 1107
St. Cloud, MN 56301-1107

1995 grant: up to \$112,347

Contact: Pat Hontos, (612) 656-6211, fax (612) 656-6253

The Stearns County Family Services Collaborative's service plan is designed to provide families with the power of information, easy access to services and a mechanism to coordinate a network of services to best meet their individual needs. The plan contains three elements: a community-based network of family support specialists; a computer information and referral network; and local collaborative councils made up of parents and providers to coordinate services and provide overall direction. Family support specialists are community-based workers who serve as the point persons for

information, referral and advocacy for families in need. A uniform assessment form will be designed to obtain all the information needed for intake at all member agencies. This form is client-owned and -controlled as the family proceeds through the integrated family service system. This system is supported by the creation of a computer network system that will permit the exchange of information across agencies, facilitate referrals and the development of family service plans, and allow joint planning activities. The network will be available to families, empowering them to seek and choose services they feel are necessary to address their needs. The councils will set priorities, conduct evaluations and gather feedback, and identify and remove barriers to achieving the priorities. Through them, two pilot projects for the new service system model will be introduced.

Stevens County

Stevens County Human Service Agency

Box 530 HS
Morris, MN 56267

1995 grant: up to \$137,668

Contact: James Moore, (612) 589-7400,
fax (612) 589-2036

"If I don't know about what services are available or what they are for or can do for me, how am I supposed to use them?" This comment from one of the 682 parents answering the Stevens County Family Services Collaborative's parent survey succinctly expressed one of the survey's primary findings: Parents want more information about programs and services. It also underscores the belief repeatedly voiced by service providers throughout the collaborative planning process that a coordinated, systemic, interagency approach to providing our community with information on existing programs and services is an essential but too often lacking component of any dynamic service delivery system. To create a coordinated service delivery system, the collaborative's advisory council decided that the Community Resources Outreach Program will include the following components: a comprehensive community resource directory, a toll-free information and referral service, a standard multiagency intake form, universal contact of pregnant women and parents with newborns, and universal monitoring of child development from birth through age 4.

Waseca County

Waseca Public School District 829

501 Elm Ave. E.
Waseca, MN 56093

1995 grant: up to \$125,000

Contact: Marilyn Koprowski, (507) 835-2222,
fax (507) 835-1161

The Waseca County Collaborative for Families is made up of parents, clergy, and representatives of education, social and health services, law enforcement, private industry and a nonprofit foundation. The collaborative has identified a need to reverse some very negative trends for children and families in the county, such as dramatic increases in the numbers of low birth-weight babies, children born to unmarried parents and school dropouts. The collaborative has two goals and two plans of action. The goals are to improve the health, development and well-being of babies and their families during both the prenatal and postnatal periods and to support all families in raising their children to be successful and contributing members of the community. To accomplish these goals, the collaborative plans a home visitation education and support program for all pregnant women and families with infants to ensure healthy bonding and development up to enrollment in kindergarten. The second plan of action is to provide counseling and family services coordination for students and their families both in school and at home.

Washington County

South Washington County School District 833

7362 E. Point Douglas Road S.
Cottage Grove, MN 55016

1995 grant: up to \$169,401

Contact: Debby Peterson, (612) 458-6631,
fax (612) 458-6620

The South Washington County Community Partnership, formed in 1990, has more than 30 members representing children, families, health and social service agencies, nonprofit organizations, education, law enforcement, recreation, libraries and city and county programs. The collaborative has proposed the Family Links Initiative, which is guided by a community-based vision of a

strong, caring, responsive community for all who live and work in the South Washington County area. The goal of the initiative is to empower the community to work collaboratively to strengthen families and promote positive lifestyles through access to prevention, intervention and treatment resources. Family Links will have five primary mechanisms for achieving desired outcomes: a governance structure inclusive of families and service providers to guide the implementation process; a shared family resource information system to equalize access to resources for families and service providers; coordinated, community-based service delivery; increased access to family resources and services through expanded delivery hours, co-location and multiple points of access; and early intervention and outreach through collaboration with service providers.

Winona County

Winona School District 861

654 Huff St.
Winona, MN 55987

1995 grant: up to \$125,000

Contact: Connie Blackburn-Lowrey, (507) 457-6520,
fax (507) 457-6469

Citizens and service providers in Winona County engaged in a series of planning activities supported by a family services collaborative planning grant and by the McKnight Foundation's Community Connectors Institute. The purpose was to design an improved system for meeting the needs of all children and families in the county. These activities have come to be known as the Winona Community Connections Project. As the project moves to implementation, two major goals are to be accomplished: promote the process of building community assets as the paradigm for ensuring the well-being of families; and implement a whole-systems, family-centered, asset-building paradigm for meeting the needs of children and families.

SUMMARY OF 1994 AND 1995 FUNDING

Total funds available for planning grants \$2,408,250

(Money left over available for implementation)

Total funds available for implementation grants \$5,962,500

(Includes planning dollars left over, and funds from
Departments of Education and Public Safety)

TOTAL: \$8,370,750

Total approved for planning grants \$1,429,823

Total approved for implementation grants \$6,940,927

TOTAL: \$8,370,750

1994 PLANNING GRANTS

Beltrami, Cass and Hubbard counties

Bemidji Area Schools

201 15th St. NW.
Bemidji, MN 56601
Bob Wagner, Community Education Director
(218) 759-3287, (218) 759-3127 (fax)

Chisago County

Chisago County Health & Human Services

313 N. Main St., Room 239
Center City, MN 55012-9665
Bob Kinderman
(612) 257-0375, (612) 257-0454 (fax)

Crow Wing County

Brainerd School District 181

Paul Bunyan Education District
804 Oak St.
Brainerd, MN 56401
Kathleen Gaffney
(218) 828-7003, (218) 828-2148 (fax)

Freeborn County

Albert Lea Area Public Schools 241

109 West Ave.
Albert Lea, MN 56007
Keith Erickson
(507) 377-5824, (507) 377-5804 (fax)

Hennepin County

Public School Incentives

2550 University Ave. W., #347N
St. Paul, MN 55114-1052
Amy Berk
(612) 645-0200, (612) 645-0240 (fax)

South Hennepin Regional Planning Agency

5701 Normandale Rd., Room 302
Edina, MN 55424
Jeanne Massey
(612) 922-5999, (612) 922-3081 (fax)

Isanti County

Rum River Special Education Cooperative

315 7th Lane NE.
Cambridge, MN 55008
Trisha Oeltjenbruns or Mary Lou Pykola
(612) 689-3600, (612) 689-3601 (fax)

Jackson County

Jackson County

Local Children's Coordinating Council
310 Sherman St., P.O. Box 67
Jackson, MN 56143
Jeffrey L. Kern
(507) 847-4000, (507) 847-5616 (fax)

Morrison County

Morrison County Social Services Government Center

213 SE. 1st Ave.
Little Falls, MN 56345
Mary Pfohl
(612) 632-0267, (612) 632-0225 (fax)

Mower County

Mower County Family Services Collaborative

202 NE. 4th Ave.
Austin, MN 55912
Bruce Henricks
(507) 433-0962, (507) 433-5934, (507) 433-0950 (fax)

Nobles County

Worthington School District 518

P.O. Box 13
Granite Falls, MN 56241
Maureen Aakre, Planner
(612) 564-2103, (612) 564-2103 (fax)

Olmsted County

Olmsted County Collaborative Planning

903 W. Center St., Suite 100
Rochester, MN 55902
Cary Williams
(507) 287-2000, (507) 287-2063 (fax)

Southeast Minnesota Education Cooperative Service Unit

210 Woodlake Drive SE.
Rochester, MN 55904
Lynn Dosch
(507) 288-1282, (507) 288-7663 (fax)

Otter Tail County

West Central Education Cooperative Service Unit

1001 E. Mount Faith
Fergus Falls, MN 56537
Pat Anderson
(218) 739-3273, (218) 739-2459 (fax)

Pine County

Pine County Department of Human Services

Box 110
Pine City, MN 55063
Robert Walz
(612) 629-6781, (612) 629-2442 (fax)

Polk County

Polk County Nursing Service

1500 University
P.O. Box 403
Crookston MN 56716
Brenda Menier, PHN
(218) 281-3385, (218) 281-7376 (fax)

Pope County

Minnewaska Area

9555 Grubb Lake Road SW.
Alexandria, MN 56308
Ann Kramer
(612) 283-5758

Renville County

Renville County Human Services

300 S. 7th St.
Olivia, MN 56277
Toni Braness
(612) 235-2639, ~~(612) 235-2639~~, ~~(800) 920-1566~~, (612) 235-7269 (fax)
~~James Moore~~
~~(612) 589-7400, (612) 589-2036 (fax)~~

Todd County

Freshwater Education District

1100 N. 5th St., Suite 2
Staples, MN 56479
Jerel Nelsen
(218) 894-2439, (218) 894-2295 (fax)

Washington County

St. Croix Area United Way, Inc.

Metropolitan Bank Downtown
P.O. Box 305
Stillwater, MN 55082
J.C. Pfeiffer
(612) 439-3838

Watonwan County

Child's Time, Inc.

Hands Across the County
521 Armstrong Blvd. W.
St. James, MN 56081
Barbara Jagodzinske
(507) 375-5004, (507) 375-5004 (fax)

Wright and Buffalo counties

Rockford School District 883

Community-Family Advocate
P.O. Box 9
Rockford, MN 55373
Marsha White
(612) 477-5055, (612) 477-5833 (fax)

Statute

M.S. 121.8355 FAMILY SERVICES AND COMMUNITY-BASED COLLABORATIVES.

Subdivision 1. **Establishment.** (a) In order to qualify as a family services collaborative, a minimum of one school district, one county, and one public health entity must agree in writing to provide coordinated family services and commit resources to an integrated fund. Collaboratives are expected to have broad community representation, which may include other local providers, including additional school districts, counties, and public health entities, other municipalities, existing culturally specific community organizations, local health organizations, private and nonprofit service providers, child care providers, local foundations, community-based service groups, businesses, local transit authorities or other transportation providers, community action agencies under section 268.53, senior citizen volunteer organizations, and sectarian organizations that provide non-sectarian services.

(b) Community-based collaboratives composed of representatives of schools, local businesses, local units of government, parents, students, clergy, health and social services providers, youth service organizations, and existing culturally specific community organizations may plan and develop services for children and youth. A community-based collaborative must agree to collaborate with county, school district, and public health entities. Their services may include opportunities for children or youth to improve child health and development, reduce barriers to adequate school performance, improve family functioning, provide community service, enhance self esteem, and develop general employment skills.

Subd. 1a. **Definition.** For purposes of this section, "collaborative" means either a family services collaborative described under subdivision 1, paragraph (a), or community-based collaboratives described under subdivision 1, paragraph (b).

Subd. 2. **Duties.** (a) Each collaborative shall:

(1) establish, with assistance from families and service providers, clear goals for addressing the health, developmental, educational, and family-related needs of children and youth and use outcome-based indicators to measure progress toward achieving those goals;

(2) establish a comprehensive planning process that involves all sectors of the community, identifies local needs, and surveys existing local programs;

(3) integrate service funding sources so that children and their families obtain services from providers best able to anticipate and meet their needs;

(4) coordinate families' services to avoid duplicative and overlapping assessment and intake procedures;

(5) focus primarily on family-centered services;

(6) encourage parents and volunteers to actively participate by using flexible scheduling and actively recruiting volunteers;

(7) provide services in locations that are readily accessible to children and families;

(8) use new or reallocated funds to improve or enhance services provided to children and their families;

(9) identify federal, state, and local institutional barriers to coordinating services and suggest ways to remove these barriers; and

(10) design and implement an integrated local service delivery system for children and their families that coordinates services across agencies and is client centered. The delivery system shall provide a continuum of services for children birth to age 18. The collaborative shall describe the community plan for serving pregnant women and children from birth to age six.

(b) The outcome-based indicators developed in paragraph (a), clause (1), may include the number of low birth weight babies, the infant mortality rate, the number of children who are adequately immunized and health, require out-of-home placement or long-term special education services, and the number of minor parents.

Subd. 3. **Integrated local service delivery system.** A collaborative shall design an integrated local service delivery system that coordinates funding streams and the delivery of services between existing agencies. The integrated local service delivery system may:

(1) improve outreach and early identification of children and families in need of services and intervene across service systems on behalf of families;

(2) offer an inclusive service system that supports all families within a community;

(3) coordinate services that eliminate the need to match funding streams, provider eligibilities, or clients with multiple providers;

(4) improve access to services by coordinating transportation services;

(5) provide initial outreach to all new mothers and periodic family visits to children who are potentially at risk;

(6) coordinate assessment across systems to determine which children and families need coordinated multiagency services and supplemental services;

(7) include multiagency service plans and coordinate unitary case management; and

(8) integrate funding of services.

Subd. 3a. **Information sharing.** (a) The school district, county, and public health entity members of a family services collaborative may inform each other as to whether an individual or family is being served by the member, without the consent of the subject of the data. If further information

sharing is necessary in order for the collaborative to carry out duties under subdivision 2 or 3, the collaborative may share data if the individual, as defined in section 13.02, subdivision 8, gives written informed consent. Data on individuals shared under this subdivision retain the original classification as defined under section 13.02, as to each member of the collaborative with whom the data is shared.

(b) If a federal law or regulation impedes information sharing that is necessary in order for a collaborative to carry out duties under subdivision 2 or 3, the appropriate state agencies shall seek a waiver or exemption from the applicable law or regulation.

Subd. 4. Integrated fund. (a) A collaborative must establish an integrated fund to help provide an integrated service system and fund additional supplemental services. The integrated fund may consist of federal, state, local, or private resources. The collaborative agreement must specify a minimum financial commitment by the contributors to an integrated fund. Contributors may not reduce their financial commitment except as specified in the agreement or by federal declaration.

(b) A collaborative must seek to maximize federal and private funds by designating local expenditures for services that can be matched with federal or private grant funds and by designing services to meet the requirements for state or federal reimbursement.

(c) Collaboratives may seek to maximize federal reimbursement of funds under section 256F.10.

Subd. 5. Local plans. The collaborative plan shall describe how the collaborative will carry out the duties and implement the integrated local services delivery system required under this section. The plan shall include a list of the collaborative participants, a copy of the agreement required under subdivision 1, the amount and source of resources each participant will contribute to the integrated fund, and methods for increasing local participation in the collaborative, involving parents and other community members in

implementing and operating the collaborative, and providing effective outreach services to all families with young children in the community. The plan shall also include specific goals that the collaborative intends to achieve and methods for objectively measuring progress toward meeting the goals.

Subd. 6. Plan approval by the children's cabinet. (a) The children's cabinet shall approve local plans for collaboratives. In approving local plans, the children's cabinet shall give highest priority to a plan that provides:

- (1) early intervention and family outreach services;
- (2) family visitation services;
- (3) a continuum of services for children from birth to age 18;
- (4) family preservation services;
- (5) culturally sensitive approaches for delivering services and utilizing culturally specific organizations;
- (6) clearly defined outcomes and valid methods of assessment;
- (7) effective service coordination;
- (8) participation by the maximum number of jurisdictions and local, county, and state funding sources;
- (9) integrated community service providers and local resources;
- (10) integrated transportation services;
- (11) integrated housing services; and
- (12) coordinated services that include a children's mental health collaborative authorized by law.

(b) The children's cabinet shall ensure that the collaboratives established under this section do not conflict with any state or federal policy or program and do not negatively impact the state budget.

Subd. 7. Receipt of funds. The office of strategic and long-range planning may receive and administer public and private funds for the purposes of this act.

1993 c 224 art 4 s 10

121.84 Repealed, 1989 c 329 art 9 s 34