



Child Welfare -- Education System Collaborations to Increase Educational Stability

Summary

This infrastructure building project is intended to improve educational stability and permanency outcomes for youth between the ages of 10 to 17 years old in the child welfare system. The legislative authority for this project comes from the Adoption Opportunities Program, included within CAPTA. There is a focus on permanency through adoption most specifically, however not the exclusion of the other legal options available. There is recognition that there have been long standing barriers to collaboration between child welfare, the education system and the courts, which are impeding timely permanency for some children and youth, particularly those children and youth with who are not performing well in school or are exhibiting social, emotional or behavioral problems in school settings. Strong, effective partnerships between child welfare and the educational system on the local level could help to ensure appropriate assessments and services are in place for children and youth in foster care.

These projects will:

- Foster strategic coordination and institutionalized communication among public child welfare, education, community organizations, targeted youths in care and their families;
- Support the development of policies, procedures, and/or practices to increase the identification, enrollment, and attendance of targeted youths in care into comprehensive, high-quality education services; Promote the awareness and utilization of multi-disciplinary interventions and quality practice that increase protective factors and decrease risk factors to improve outcomes for youths in foster care;
- Promote the development of policy and procedures across child welfare, education and other supporting systems (courts, juvenile justice and health) aimed at increasing protective factors and mitigating the effects of childhood trauma which impact permanency and educational outcomes;
- Collectively disseminate findings and support knowledge transfer from these projects to the field.

Developing and implementing a model for information and data sharing between schools and child welfare would be one example of an infrastructure improvement fundable through this grant announcement.

Fast Facts

Application Due Date: 07.26.11

Eligible:

- State, County, City or township governments
- Independent school districts
- Public and State controlled institutions of higher education
- Native American tribal governments (Both Federally recognized and non)
- Nonprofits having a 501(c)(3) status with the IRS, other than institutions of higher education or institutions of early learning and education

Funding:

- \$2 million dollars total,
- 8 awards are expected,
- \$250,000 is available per budget period
- There is no cost sharing or match requirement.

Duration: 17 months