

Office of Employment and Family Support
Colorado Works/Preservation and Prevention Programs
Service Integration Initiatives 2007

- ✓ **Child Welfare NFU's**
Team Success caseworkers follow up on child welfare referrals not accepted for assessment during triage. These referrals involve benefit clients who may be struggling with issues related to self-sufficiency, poverty and neglect. A focus is placed on Colorado Works/TANF clients who are struggling with work participation.
- ✓ **SSI Clients on the TANF workload**
The Family Services Team caseworkers continue to work with clients who have applied for Social Security Disability and remain on the TANF caseload pending SSI approval. The FST caseworkers assist clients with filling out paperwork, provide referrals to attorneys/advocates and answer any questions regarding the SSI application process.
- ✓ **Child Fatalities**
Managers in the Office of Employment and Family Support assist child welfare intake with the burial process for children who suffer accidental or non-accidental injuries resulting in death. Almost all of the child fatalities come to the attention of child welfare prior to the benefits area. In an effort to assist families during this difficult time, technicians or caseworkers from Team Success assist the family in filling out the burial application when the children have Medicaid. Referrals to community resources such as grief counseling may also be given to assist the family. When a caseworker from the Family Assessment and Planning area is assigned to investigate the fatality, technicians work with the caseworker to assist in the completion of the necessary paperwork. Recently, there have been two cases where OEFS has assisted in the burial applications of parents who have passed away leaving children needing support from our agency.
- ✓ **Work Participation Assistance**
Team Success caseworkers are providing follow up motivational phone calls to TANF clients at the second and fourth weeks of their initial IRC development. They are also working on IRC's from existing clients that have needed to be updated.
- ✓ **Service Integration Teams**
Three Team Success caseworkers will be teamed with four Colorado Works technicians to assist with Work Participation activities along with crisis intervention, home visits and other needs/concerns of the family.
- ✓ **Diversion/POWER Team Collaboration**
POWER Team caseworkers will collaborate with the Diversion area to assist clients struggling with a lack of food, childcare, housing, medication and any other

resources a client may be lacking. The POWER Team notifies Diversion of any new community resources for our consumers.

- ✓ **CPT/TDM Collaboration**
Technicians from the OEFS will participate in CPT's, TDM's or Fatality Reviews involving their families to assist caseworkers with self-sufficiency concerns. Technicians will provide input regarding benefits and any other pertinent knowledge of the family.
- ✓ **Child Welfare Benefits Accelerated Processing**
Colorado Works and Child Only staff collaborate with Child Welfare and Assistance Payments areas to provide accelerated processing for families involved with child welfare and youth services. The Family Services Team is working diligently to meet the processing timelines for kin families so that state requirements for foster care will be met. An MOU is being developed across the agency to provide accelerated processing for families who are involved in child welfare or youth services. This may include but is not limited to emancipating youth, kin caring for children in DHS custody, children returning from foster care and families with ongoing child welfare involvement.
- ✓ **TANF Orientation**
TANF Orientation is held twice weekly and is facilitated by members of Team Success. Recent updates to the TANF Work Participation policies have recently been updated and incorporated into the orientation.
- ✓ **Work Participation Call Center**
Members of Colorado Works staff, Team Success Caseworkers and POWER Team caseworkers team together to man a "WP Call Center" on the last three days of the month to gather WP activity hours from clients who had not yet turn them in and to remind those who did not participate what there options are.
- ✓ **Pick a Partner**
Colorado Works supervisors, all members of Team Success, and the supervisors of the POWER Team and the Family Service Team have all chosen community partners to collaborate with in an effort to bring knowledge back to staff regarding our resources in the community. Many of the agencies that have been collaborated with have received TANF funding to provide services to our consumers. At least once per month, staff will meet with their "partner" in an effort to share new information and continue the collaboration.
- ✓ **Triage Participation**
Colorado Works supervisors, members of Team Success and the POWER Team participate in the Family Assessment and Planning triage of child welfare assessments to bring back information on assessments assigned in child welfare in order to enhance coordination with Colorado Works staff.

(Percy/Schnell 9-07)