

Court Administrator Family Visitation Program

The mission of the Family Visitation Program is to provide a safe and structured environment where children may visit with their non-custodial parents on a regular basis when parents are court-ordered to do so.

PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

1. More than half of the Family Visitation Program's budgetary needs are donated by Florida State University in the form of in-kind services. These include volunteer hours, rent, utilities, telephones, and building maintenance and repair. The County also provides funding through the Guardian ad Litem program.
2. As a recipient of a grant from the Department of Children and Families, the program has been able to expand its services to offer two sessions of free parenting skills, Early Childhood Systematic Training for Effective Parenting (ECSTEP), and Systematic Training for Effective Parenting (STEP).
3. Supervised visits maintain vital parent/child bonds which are important to relationships.
4. There is currently no waiting list for parents to begin seeing their children.

ADVISORY BOARD

The Director of the Family Visitation Program sits on the Supervised Visitation Network Board and the Nominations Committee of the Florida Chapter of the Supervised Visitation Network.

SUMMARY OF KEY STATUTORY RESPONSIBILITIES

Pending Second Judicial Circuit Administrative Order to increase fees

SUMMARY OF KEY SERVICE FUNCTIONS

1. The Family Visitation Program provides supervised visits in dependency, domestic violence injunction, paternity, and dissolution of marriage cases.
2. Visits are observed by a neutral visitation monitor who completes a written summary after each visit. Absences by visiting parents and children are documented.
3. Parents, children, and staff are kept safe during visits by an on-site Leon County Sheriff's Deputy.
4. Family Visitation provides information to the Department of Children and Families that may be used in making reunification decisions for dependent children.
5. Conduct survey of client customer satisfaction.

PERFORMANCE MEASUREMENTS

	FY 99/00	FY 00/01	FY 01/02	FY 02/03
	Actual	Actual	Estimate	Target
1) Number of visits supervised provided	533	893	783	1156
2 Average Number of Monthly Visits	44	74	65	100
3 Consumer Satisfaction Rate	N/A	80%	80%	80%

Court Administrator - Family Visitation Program

ACCOUNT NUMBER: 114-569-669

FY 2002/2003 THRU FY 2006/2007 FINANCIAL & STAFFING SUMMARY

	FY 00/01 Actual	FY 01/02 Adopted	FY 02/03 Budget	FY 03/04 Planned	FY 04/05 Planned	FY 05/06 Planned	FY 06/07 Planned
<u>OPERATING</u>							
Personnel							
Operating	5,351	1,301	1,884	1,884	1,884	1,884	1,884
Capital Outlay							
Contingency							
TOTAL	\$5,351	\$1,301	\$1,884	\$1,884	\$1,884	\$1,884	\$1,884
<u>STAFFING</u>							
Full Time							
O.P.S.							

FY 2002/2003 PROGRAM CHANGES & NOTES:

This program is recommended at the No Increase Target (NIT) funding level as adjusted for increased revenues.

This program is administered and subsidized by two grants from the Department of Children and Families. One grant, in the amount of \$15,759, is used for the purpose of visitation services for dependant children. The other grant, in the amount of \$3,300 provides for the delivery of parenting classes as part of the program and is funded by the Promoting Safe and Stable Families Federal Grant Program. The county also provides funding through the Guardian ad Litem program in Court Administration (001-547). One-third of participants can pay for services while the remainder generally are less likely to be in the position to pay for services. Staff for this program are funded from the grant.

FY 2003/2004 THRU FY 2006/2007 PLANNED INITIATIVES & NOTES:

The program continues to seek additional funding to expand the number of visits it can provide to clients referred by the court. The amount of grant money available from the Promoting Safe and Stable Families Program is much larger than was awarded last year, and every effort is being made to seek additional monies from this program.

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PROGRAM EXPENDITURE DETAIL

Object		FY 00/01	FY 01/02	FY 02/03 Requested			FY 02/03 Budget		ARB
Code	Account Description	Actual	Adopted	NIT	Change	Total	NIT	Change	
53400	Other Contract Svcs.	5,351	1,301	1,884		1,884	1,884		1,884
TOTAL OPERATING EXPENSES		\$5,351	\$1,301	\$1,884		\$1,884	\$1,884		\$1,884
PROGRAM TOTAL		\$5,351	\$1,301	\$1,884		\$1,884	\$1,884		\$1,884