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GRANT FUNDING: Colorado Nurse Home Visitor Program

Colorado Nurse Home Visitor Program Act, as described in § 25-31-101, C.R.S., awards grants to public or private organizations in Colorado to provide regular, in-home, visiting nurse services to low-income, first-time mothers, with their consent, during their pregnancies and through their child's second birthday. The program provides trained visiting nurses to help educate mothers on the importance of nutrition and avoiding alcohol and drugs, including nicotine, and to assist and educate mothers in providing general care for their children and in improving health outcomes for their children. In addition, visiting nurses help mothers in locating assistance with educational achievement and employment. Any assistance provided through the program shall be provided only with the consent of the mother and she may refuse further services at any time.

PROGRAM MODEL: Nurse-Family Partnership

The **Nurse-Family Partnership**, developed by Dr. David Olds and associates of the National Center for Children, Families and Communities (NCCFC) at the University of Colorado Health Sciences Center, is the current nurse home visitor model that is funded with NHVP dollars. For Fiscal Year 2007-08, there are 18 grantee sites serving 53 Colorado counties.

Program Goals:	To improve pregnancy outcomes, child health and development, and parental life course.
Program Description:	Nurse Family Partnership is a home visitation, case-management program. Nurses follow specific visit-by-visit guidelines that focus on six domains: personal, health, life course development, maternal role, family and friends, and health and human services.
Program Services:	Registered nurses make regular home visits throughout this intensive, long-term program. They provide maternal and child health assessments and extensive teaching on health, parenting, safety and environmental health. They also provide links to other community services and support as needed.
Enrollment criteria:	First-time (defined as no previous live births), pregnant women or whose first child is less than one month old and who are at or below 200% of the Federal Poverty Level.
Duration of Services:	Enrollment during pregnancy, or within one month postpartum, until age 2 of the child. Encourage enrollment as early in pregnancy as possible.