



# news

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## **Colorado awarded \$3.2 million in federal grants for youth and family treatment programs**

*Judicial, Kempe Center, Denver Police, Denver Human Services to provide treatment*

DENVER – Colorado’s Justice Initiative for Drug Endangered Families (JIDEF), led by Denver Juvenile Probation, was recently awarded three federal grants totaling \$3.2 million over the next four years. The grants, awarded through the U.S. Substance Abuse Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA), will be used to serve juvenile court, as well as youth and family probation treatment programs in Denver.

“These grants will enable us to further our ongoing mission to provide youth and families with high-touch, innovative treatment programs that help ensure they are given every opportunity to succeed,” said Denver Juvenile Court Chief Judge Karen Ashby. “The collaborative nature of this work, with court, probation services and other agencies, is part of the recipe that has contributed to Colorado being seen as a national leader in this area.”

The \$1.2 million Youth Development Court grant will support Denver Juvenile Drug Court by providing evidence-based assessments, service delivery, and case management for 50 families per year over a four-year period.

The \$900,000 Motivation for Adolescents in Transition grant will serve substance abusing male offenders between the ages of 18 and 24 on probation. The program will provide specialized assessment, intervention and case management services over a three-year period.

The \$1.2 million Trauma Project grant will focus on probation involved families with children and/or juvenile probationers who have a history of traumatic exposure. Services will include trauma-oriented assessment, administration of evidence-based & trauma-oriented cognitive behavioral groups, and intensive case management over a three-year period.

“The Kempe Center is thrilled that TASC was awarded this grant,” stated Kempe Director Dr. Christina Little. “We are looking forward to collaborating on providing trauma based services to a very unique population.”

For probation clients with children, families will have access to evidence-based home visitation and services designed to prevent child maltreatment. Colorado was one of three grant award recipients in the country and will use the funding to enhance existing court, probation and treatment programs over the next four years, by providing evidence based pre-treatment, intervention, aftercare, and case management for drug court youth between the ages of 12 and 17.

The grants were awarded to Colorado as a result of its strong collaboration led by the Denver Juvenile & Family Treatment Accountability for Safer Communities (DJFJ TASC) project, as well as community-based treatment agencies such as the Kempe Center for the Prevention and Treatment of Child Abuse and Neglect, Denver Police Department, and Denver Department of Human Services, which all comprise JIDEF.

Since last year JIDEF has secured more than \$8.85 million in grant funds to promote public safety, child protection, and substance recovery for probation involved families.

The Denver Probation Department supervises more than 5,200 adults and approximately 1,000 juveniles. DJFJ TASC serves more than 700 families each year.