Wyoming Department of Health – ARRA IDEA Part C Part 2

Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) Part C Grants for Infants and Families Program Description: The Wyoming Early Intervention and Education Program receives federal funds from the U.S. Department of Education, Office of Special Education Programs (OSEP) for this program. These funds are distributed to the states on a formula basis to provide services to infants and toddlers with disabilities and their families. The Wyoming Department of Health (WDH) administers the IDEA Part C Program through the Developmental Disabilities Division, Early Intervention and Education Program. Wyoming receives an annual funding allocation of approximately \$2.2 million, which is distributed to fourteen (14) regional child development centers (CDC) and/or developmental delays.

The ARRA stimulus bill originally provided a total of \$2,139,843 funding for the Wyoming IDEA Part C Grant for Infants and Families Program over a two year period and is available for the same spending categories of services as regular IDEA Part C funding. The Developmental Disabilities Division received approval for the program's first round of funding, and is requesting approval for the second round of funding. All activities utilizing stimulus money must be separately contracted (including separate applications to initiate contracts) and separately tracked, vouchered, reported, and monitored. The DDD, EIEP will follow the Governor's protocol in applying for and accepting this award.

The total first round of ARRA IDEA Part C funding for Wyoming was \$1,069,922. These funds have been used to provide professional development activities for service providers, additional services to infants and toddlers with disabilities and their families, a few pieces of equipment/assistive technology devises have been purchased, and family training and support opportunities. These activities are occurring throughout the state, and are being provided by the 14 regional developmental preschool centers. Through May 31, 2010, \$666,660 has been disbursed to sub-recipients.

The total of the second round of ARRA IDEA Part C funding for Wyoming is \$1,328,372; this includes additional funds which were not utilized nation wide through a discretionary first round process. This total amount will be distributed to the 14 regional developmental preschool centers. The 14 CDCs will use these funds for the purpose of improving early intervention services and results for infants and toddlers with disabilities and their families. All funds must be obligated by September 30, 2011 and expended by December 31, 2011.

The staff of the DDD, EIEP will conduct the following: distributing the state stimulus plan, reviewing applications, contracting, payment processing, tracking, monitoring, and reporting of stimulus money in addition to the ongoing duties of overseeing the annual IDEA Part C program. Each of the fourteen CDCs will conduct the following: distributing state stimulus plans, preparing applications, contracting, payments processing, tracking, monitoring and reporting of stimulus funded activities within their region.

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