

Demonstrations to Test Early Childhood Development Programs

- o Section 501(a) of the Family Support Act (P.L. 100-485) authorized Early Childhood Development Program demonstration projects that would emphasize literacy and communication skills of children and parents.
- o Up to \$6 million per year for Fys 1990 through 1992 for three Family Support Demonstration Projects, including Early Childhood Development Program demonstrations, were authorized.
- o The Early Childhood Development Program demonstration authorization was extended for FYs 1995-1999 at \$3 million per year in The Social Security Act Amendments of 1994 (P.L. 103-432).
- o ~~Congress has not appropriated funds for these demonstration projects.~~ Therefore, they have not been implemented.

Additional Information:

March 10, 1993: Rep. Jacobs at a Committee on Ways and Means hearing on the President's economic package forcefully asked the Secretary if she intended to "carry out the law with regard to those pilot projects that will cost practically nothing?" The response was, "The answer is yes." A hearing record insert was submitted to the Committee clarifying that Congress had not appropriated funds for these projects, the authorization had expired, but if funds were appropriated we would expeditiously act to implement.

Project Description:

- Purpose - To test the effect of in-home and pre-school center-based early childhood development programs on AFDC families participating in JOBS, emphasizing the use of volunteers and academic credit for student volunteers
- Scope - Up to 10 States could undertake these demonstrations. Projects may not exceed 3 years.
- Focus - To enhance the cognitive skills and linguistic ability of children under age 5, to improve communication skills and to develop their ability to read, write and speak English. Parents of eligible children may participate.
- Reports- Reports and evaluations were required of the Sec for each project.



DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20201

Executive Secretariat

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**PLEASE NOTIFY OR HAND-CARRY THIS TRANSMISSION
TO THE FOLLOWING PERSON AS SOON AS POSSIBLE:**

Name: Jennifer Kline _____

Address: _____

Message: Here's information on the Jacobs issue, we will
follow-up on Monday.

Telephone: Office: _____ FAX: _____

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FROM: Claudia Cooley _____

FAX NUMBER: _____
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Name: Jennifer Kline

Address: _____

Message: Here's more on the Andy Jacobs letter.

I pushed staff on whether there was anything we
could do to show "good faith" within existing
resources. So far, nothing worth pursuing has
surfaced.

Telephone: Office: 456-2599 FAX: 456-2878

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FROM: Claudia Cooley

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From : Charlotte Bristow@OLAB@ACF.WDC
Subject : Rep. Jacobs
Date : Monday, March 11, 1996 at 1:38:48 pm EST
Attach :
Certify : N
Encrypt : N

Howard and I discussed the letter from Rep. Jacobs to the First Lady. Here are our thoughts:

1. We don't know exactly what the First Lady said during her hearing, and that could have a bearing on how this letter should be answered.
2. Rep. Jacobs' suggestion about detailing HHS staff to negotiate with universities is not consistent with the authorizing statute. The Family Support Act would require us to accept applications from all states that wish to participate, choose the best 10 projects, and make grants to those 10 states. The statute also requires HHS to submit a detailed evaluation on each project after one year and again when the project is completed.
3. The most direct, non-political, response would be that HHS will implement the provision if the Congress provides an appropriation for it.

Please call if you want to discuss further. (I should be back at my desk after 3:00 p.m.)

Claudia - here's some more response to the Jacobs letter - it seems as I suspected, that to comply w/ the statute would require money, + more than just the person-hours for someone to work on it. Let me know if you feel we need more info to give to the FL's office.

- Jeff