



Arapahoe • Douglas • Jefferson Counties

News Release

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Arapahoe and Jefferson Counties welcome Douglas County as newest partner in Collaborative Foster Care Program

Joint program works to recruit, train and support foster families in three counties

Littleton, Colo. – The Collaborative Foster Care Program of Arapahoe and Jefferson Counties will welcome Douglas County as its newest partner in July, expanding a successful joint venture to provide foster care for children who cannot remain safely in their homes. On average, there are more than 1,000 children in foster care and 40 children awaiting an adoptive family combined in these three counties at any given time.

The Collaborative Foster Care Program was created in 2008 as a joint effort between the Arapahoe County and Jefferson County Departments of Human Services. Over the past four years, the two counties have combined resources, personnel and best practices for recruiting, training and supporting foster families across the metro area. The program now includes 175 foster families who are certified to care for up to 296 children at any given time.

Thanks to the approval of all three Boards of County Commissioners, the CFCP will expand to include the Douglas County Department of Human Services. The program will certify resource families (kin, foster and respite parents) to provide care for youth from any of the three counties who are victims of abuse or neglect.

When a District Court orders that a child be removed from the home for his/her own protection and placed in temporary out-of-home care, the counties will seek placement in a foster home only if it is not possible to place a child with a relative or trusted friend. The counties share a commitment to reunifying children with their family whenever possible, and to providing the best-possible out-of-home experience until the child can be reunified, live independently or be adopted.

As part of the collaboration, Douglas County's Foster Care Coordinator will re-locate to the CFCP office at Arapahoe Plaza, 1690 W. Littleton Blvd., in Littleton to work side-by-side with Arapahoe and Jefferson County staff. Douglas County's nine certified foster families will gain access to the Collaborative Program workforce, increased training opportunities and established resources, such as a quarterly newsletter, free trainings, appreciation events, recognition and more.



Douglas County joins Collaborative Foster Care Program

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In return, the CFCP will be invited to expand its marketing efforts into Douglas County, where it may reach many more families who may want to make a difference in the life of a child. Trainings and recruitment efforts for foster and adoptive families will expand into Douglas County, beginning with three Information Nights at local churches in 2012.

If you would like to learn more about foster care or adoption through Arapahoe, Douglas and Jefferson Counties, attend a free Information Night, visit www.collaborativefostercare.com or call 303-636-1KID.

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