



News Release

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For release: December 1, 2009

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Arapahoe County earns regional recognition for child support

Child Support Enforcement Division recognized as most outstanding in western states

Aurora, Colo. – Arapahoe County's Child Support Enforcement Division recently was recognized as the best program of its kind this side of the Mississippi River.

The Division received the 2009 Outstanding Program Award in September from the Western Interstate Child Support Enforcement Council, a non-profit professional association comprised of public and private agencies and professionals.

The award recognizes a state, regional, county or tribal child support enforcement program west of the Mississippi River that has 'consistently and comprehensively exemplified the best in child support enforcement through an outstanding record of performance and by providing effective services to its constituency and community.'

"Our Child Support Enforcement team works hard to ensure that parents fulfill their responsibility to support their children," said Arapahoe County Commissioner Frank Weddig. "We are proud that the team has earned this recognition from an association of their peers, and thank our staff for their continued commitment to improving the lives of children."

Arapahoe County was the only large county in Colorado in 2008 to meet all 10 performance indicators set by the Colorado Department of Human Services IV-D Task Force. These indicators strive for establishing paternity, establishing and ensuring financial support and medical coverage for children, and using cost-effective and customer-focused practices. Earlier this year, the Division received a Certificate of Excellence from CDHS for those successes.

"Our team has worked incredibly hard in a tough economy amidst an influx of child support cases, and it was a great honor to deserve this recognition from WICSEC for our efforts," said Division Manager Chad Edinger. "We will continue doing everything possible to educate child support obligors and remove any barriers that we can to make certain that children receive the support they need and deserve."

If you need assistance with establishing or enforcing a child support order, please call 303-752-8900 or visit www.co.arapahoe.co.us.

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To download photos, click on the following link: ftp://www.co.arapahoe.co.us/Pub/CM/Child_Support

Photo captions:

CSE Team: Arapahoe County's Child Support Enforcement Division was recognized as the 2009 Outstanding Program by the Western Interstate Child Support Enforcement Council.

CSE Management: Arapahoe County Division Manager Chad Edinger and Human Services Director Cheryl Ternes celebrate the WICSEC Outstanding Program Award with county and state leaders.

Left to Right:

FRONT: **John Bernhart** Colorado Department of Human Services Child Support Division Director; **Cheryl Ternes**, Arapahoe County Department of Human Services Director, **Chad Edinger**, Arapahoe County Child Support Enforcement Division Manager; **Robin Cochran** Arapahoe County Deputy County Attorney.

BACK: **Carla Finch**, Arapahoe County Department of Human Services Deputy Director; **Larry Desbien**, Colorado Division of Child Support Enforcement Section Chief; **Frank Weddig**, Arapahoe County Commissioner; **Curtis Rose**, Automated Child Support Enforcement System Technical Manager