

**TESTIMONY BEFORE**  
**COMMISSION ON ALTERNATIVES TO INCARCERATION**  
**SENATOR JOEL HEITKAMP, CHAIRMAN**

**AUGUST 13, 2008**

Chairman Heitkamp and members of the Commission on Alternatives to Incarceration, I am Don Snyder, Foster Care Administrator, Children and Family Services, Department of Human Services.

I have been asked to share some information on potential cost for replication of a short-term crisis intervention program. I have prepared a draft budget for one year dealing with "CRISIS INTERVENTION ASSESSMENT/REUNIFICATION SERVICES, ALTERNATIVES TO INCARCERATIONS."

This is one of the many programs Youth Works provides in Bismarck and Fargo, and one that I have worked very closely with in the past. To replicate this one program into a region such as Williston or Dickinson, our estimation of cost would be about \$351,200 per year or \$702,400 for the biennium.

If such a program were developed in collaboration with law enforcement, private providers, counties and the Department of Human Services, the cost would be as low as \$120,000 per year. You have already heard from Youth Works regarding their programming and outcomes. These types of services would have a huge impact on reducing the entry into foster care or the legal system.

From my working knowledge, approximately 91 percent of the children and their families were kept intact, many children never spend a night out of the home.

I hope this information is helpful and I will try to answer any questions you many have.

<p style="text-align: center;"><b>CRISES INTERVENTION ASSESSMENT/REUNIFICATION SERVICES ALTERNATIVES TO INCARCERATION COMMITTEE</b></p>
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**PERSONNEL:****ANNUAL BUDGET:**

5 - .5 FTE for on call 24/7 family intervention (20 hrs/week @ \$30/hr)	\$	156,000
Intensive in home follow up worker		39,000
.5 FTE Supervisor		18,000
.25 FTE Administrative Support		6,000
Total Personnel		<hr/> 219,000
Fringe benefits (30% of Personnel)		65,700

**OPERATING EXPENSES**

Travel	12,000
Supplies	1,800
Shelter supplies	5,400
Training	2,400
Liability insurance	1,800
Accounting	14,000
Office furniture/equipment	4,800
Rent/utilities	18,000
Laundry	4,200
Licensure/background checks	2,100
Total Operating	<hr/> 66,500

**TOTAL EXPENSES**

\$	<b>351,200</b>
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