



## **Expand Parent Support Outreach Program statewide**

### **Issue:**

- County and tribal social services receive many reports of possible child maltreatment but “screen out” some from further action because the reported incident does not reach the legal standard of abuse or neglect.
- Many screened-out families have significant child maltreatment risk factors including poverty, substance abuse, domestic violence and past reports of child maltreatment.
- Parent Support Outreach Program, currently operating in 38 counties and two tribes, is an early intervention response approach to serve these families with at least one child under age 10 and possibly avert future maltreatment.
- Research found that families receiving Parent Support Outreach Program services had significantly lower subsequent child maltreatment reports than families in the program but not receiving services.

### **Proposal:**

The governor’s budget proposal provides \$2.25 million a year for fiscal years 2014 to 2017 to expand the Parent Support Outreach Program statewide.

### **Impact:**

- This proposal will improve outcomes for children at risk of being abused or neglected. An evaluation of the Parent Support Outreach Program found that families were less likely to have a subsequent report in the child protection system than families with similar problems who received no services.
- The research also showed that those counties with high levels of Parent Support Outreach Program implementation had fewer screened-in child maltreatment reports than counties that had a low level of implementation or did not offer these services at all.

### **Number of people affected:**

- Approximately 4,000 families, or 9,600 children, will be reached by the expanded program.

### **Fiscal impact:**

- FY 2014: \$2.25 million
- FY 2015: \$2.25 million
- FY 2016: \$2.25 million
- FY 2017: \$2.25 million

**Related information:**

- Minnesota Management & Budget's website: <http://www.mmb.state.mn.us/>
- DHS website page on Parent Support Outreach Program: [http://www.dhs.state.mn.us/main/dhs16\\_147684](http://www.dhs.state.mn.us/main/dhs16_147684)
- Minnesota Parent Support Outreach Program Evaluation Final Report: <http://iarstl.org/papers/PSOPFinalReport.pdf>

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