Work First Demonstration Pilot  
Families and Community Together Succeed Program (FACTS)  
Fourth Quarter, Second Year  

(January 01 through February 28, 2002)

The FACTS Program continues to grow and reach out to the community as word gets out about the program's services and success. There has been an increase in activities within the program due to outreach efforts.

The program has two (2) full-time and one (1) part-time FACTS Social Workers. A BSW student and an MSW student have begin assisting the Unit during this “short” quarter. Outreach activities have been expanded. Our Spanish Interpreter continues to provide interpreter services within the agency and out in the field.

For this quarter, the FACTS Program within DSS, received 35 new referrals, provided Enriched Information and Referral Services to 49 families, plus provided case management services to 125 on-going families within the program caseloads. FACTS staff had informational meetings for school social workers within the county schools and participated in planning activities for Davidson County’s More at Four Program to serve 96 children. 448 families received Spanish interpreting services.

The Family Assistance Coordinator position at Thomasville Primary School has served 22 children and their families this quarter. FACTS works with Davidson Community College (DCCC) and Davidson County Job Training and Employment Center (JTEC) to provide enriched information and referral services and case management services by Career Planning and Placement Specialists within the two (2) Job Link Centers located at DCCC and in Thomasville JTEC Center. The population targeted is within 200% of the poverty level. During January and February the two sites reported that these Specialists served 985 persons.

Family Services of Davidson County, Inc. provided the Families and Schools Together Program (FAST) at two (2) sites, South Lexington Elementary School, a Lexington City School, and Southwest Elementary School, a Davidson County School. These 13 families will finish the cycle in March. Another 36 families received case management services. The National FAST Program finally provided Family Services with the evaluation data from last fiscal year, and we are reviewing the results. FASTWORKS has been implemented and continues at South Lexington Elementary School and Pickett Elementary School, serving 9 families. In March, another new FACTS cycle will begin at Thomasville Primary School, a Thomasville City School.
Expenditures:

Expenditures through February, 2002, as reported by our County Finance Department, total $84,829.88 for December through February. Total expenditures from the 1st and 2nd Year Grant Total of $605,494, equal $466,508.72 or 77%. We requested and were approved for a no cost extension to provide FACTS services through May 31, 2002, and have enough funds left within the grant to do so.

Evaluation Activities:

Achievement towards the objectives continue to measured and will be described in detail in the final evaluation report of the FACTS Program. We are in the process of examining the evaluation data from the National FAST Program for FAST activities at two sites last year.

A Client Satisfaction Survey was developed last year with the assistance of an MSW graduate student. Employment and low or no income issues were the most frequently cited issues that brought clients to the FACTS Program. Most heard about the FACTS Program from word of mouth, schools, and Child Protective Services, in that order. More detailed results of the survey will be reported in the final evaluation report of the FACTS Program.

Successes, large and small, go on and on. Our families and the community benefit from this program. It truly helps folks navigate the maze of services available in the community and maximizes the families’ potential for functioning, building on the families’ strengths. Our FACTS staff are designated liaisons with school personnel and the Job Link Centers in the county, building linkages between systems.

As we continue to provide services through May, 2002, we anticipate more strides in our outreach efforts.

Respectfully Submitted,

Pam Horton Caviness, MSW, LCSW
March 15, 2002