



Community Development & Criminal Justice Planning  
Children, Youth & Families  
Workforce Development  
Community Assistance  
Justice Services  
Head Start

**March 1, 2007**

**Dear Jefferson County Child and Family Serving Agency:**

**Jefferson County Department of Human Services received a five-year federal grant called “Improving Child Welfare Outcomes through Systems of Care” in October 2003. The grant encourages the promotion of the following Systems of Care Principles:**

- **Strengthening Child Welfare infrastructure for interagency and community collaboration,**
- **Institutionalizing individualized, strength-based care practice,**
- **Enhancing the cultural competency of Jefferson County agencies and providers,**
- **Assuring family involvement in all aspects of the system, and**
- **Institutionalizing effective accountability mechanisms.**

**In an effort to promote the above principles, the grant has purchased clocks with key words from the principles on the faces of the clocks. We will be distributing these clocks throughout child and family serving agencies in the county.**

**The clocks are to promote discussion and thought about the principles. For example, the Individualized, Strength-Based Care clocks will hopefully generate thought and discussion regarding:**

**Have I explored the family's individual strengths?**

**What do I do or ask the family that helps build off of their strengths?**

**Have I asked this family about their particular culture and do I understand this family's cultural background?**

**Is this family's treatment plan specific to this family?**

**These are just some ideas of how these clocks can be used to send a message and also how they can be used to train others and to dialogue about the importance of topics such as individualized, strength-based care.**

**Enjoy!**

**Susan Franklin, Program Manager  
Jefferson County Systems of Care**