FINANCING STRATEGIES TO SUPPORT COMPREHENSIVE, COMMUNITY-BASED SERVICES FOR CHILDREN AND FAMILIES

THE FINANCE PROJECT

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THE FINANCE PROJECT

May 28, 1997

Dear Colleague,

I am pleased to send you copies of The Finance Project's two most recent working papers. Each paper focuses on a different aspect of financing services for children and families—one on strategies for financing early childhood services and the other on successful efforts to reduce categorical funding and other barriers to delivering comprehensive, community-based supports. Both papers present practical ideas, strategies, and models for policymakers in social services, education, mental health, and health to use in developing more coordinated systems of care for children and families. The papers include:

- ***Financing Services for Young Children and Their Families: Meeting the Challenges of Welfare Reform***, *by Cheryl D. Hayes.* This paper presents strategies for revenue reform and for creating public/private partnerships and attempts to arm decisionmakers with current and relevant information on a variety of effective tools that can be used to support early childhood services in the current environment.

- ***Financing Strategies to Support Comprehensive, Community-Based Services for Children and Families,*** *by Mary M. O'Brien, National Child Welfare Resource Center for Organizational Improvement.* This paper provides an overview of eight initiatives that have brought funds together across programmatic lines to support more comprehensive community-based services and overcome some of the common barriers confronting child and family service providers.

As you may know, The Finance Project produces a variety of reports and papers on topics related to financing for education and other children's services. Some are developed by project staff, others by outside researchers and analysts. Some provide background for our ongoing empirical studies and development activities or conceptual frameworks and analyses of salient policy and programmatic issues. Others provide tangible tools to stimulate new thinking and to induce a variety of public jurisdictions, private organizations, and individuals to advance their own efforts to improve public financing strategies.

Additional copies of these papers and other resources in the Working Papers Series are available from The Finance Project.

With best regards,

Cheryl D. Hayes
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