

Oregon Child Support Program

THE PROGRAM

In 1975, Congress enacted Title IV-D of the Social Security Act, requiring all states have in effect a state-wide child support program by January 1976. In Oregon, the Department of Human Resources was designated to administer the program, which is located in the Recovery Services Section of the Adult and Family Services Division.

Despite gradual reductions in the rate of federal funding provided to states, Oregon consistently ranks among the nation's top states in efficiency and effectiveness of its program. Oregon's excellent automated data system has been chosen as a model for

duplication in other states. As of 1987, Oregon stars as the central point and hub for an exciting new computerized program, electronically linking participating western states while serving as a national model for the automated

enhancement of child support enforcement services.

The program is responsible for locating absent parents, establishing and enforcing child support orders, establishing paternity, and collecting and recording child support payments. The program fulfills requirements and services by coordinating efforts from federal, state and county levels.

FUNDING

The funding for the child support program is contributed by the federal government at 68%, while the state and county share the remaining portion of total costs.

HISTORICAL PERSPECTIVE

Oregon has strengthened its commitment to child support enforcement over the years to meet the needs of a changing society. This has paralleled a growing commitment by the Federal government to child support enforcement.

- 1862 Oregon law first involved county district attorneys in domestic relations cases and authorized courts to enforce the collection of child support.
- 1950 The Federal government amended the Social Security Act by requiring state welfare agencies to notify appropriate law enforcement officials whenever Aid to Dependent Children (ADC) was furnished for a child because of abandonment or desertion by one or both parents.
- 1957 Oregon established the Welfare Recovery Divison (WRD) in the Department of Justice as a permanent state agency charged with investigating welfare fraud and collecting child support for ADC children.

the Recovery Services Section. CSP became responsible for overall administration of the child support enforcement program in Oregon. Responsibilities

> included: Receiving, disbursing, and providing central record-keeping services for child support cases in Oregon.

1959 Oregon passed legislation requiring county district attorneys to

1962 Oregon passed legislation requiring that all child support

1963 The Oregon Welfare Commission (now the Adult and Family

1975 The Federal government amended the Social Security Act by

established the first national child support program.

payments be made through the clerk of the court for each

county. This legislation made the court clerks responsible for

Services Division, or AFS) established a separate unit for

investigating and recovering welfare fraud. This left WRD

responsible solely for establishing and enforcing support

adding a new section (Title IV-D), entitled "CHild Support Pro-

gram: Child Support and Establishment of Paternity." This

To meet federal requirements under the new Title IV-D, the

Oregon legislature established Oregon's Child Support Pro-

gram. Program responsibility was assigned to the Department

of Human Resources (DHR). DHR delegated responsibility for

Oregon's Child Support Program to the Adult and Family Serv-

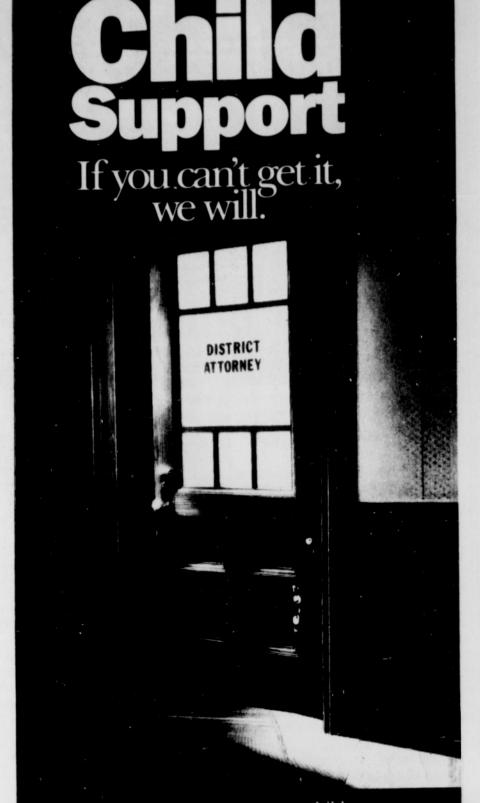
ices Division (AFS). Within AFS, this program is now located in

give priority to child support enforement.

keeping official payment records.

obligations for ADC children.

- Establishing cooperative agreements with county district attorneys, under which the district attorneys qualify for partial federal funding for child support enforcement activities.
- · Contracting with the Support Enforcement Division (SED, formerly WRD) of Oregon's Department of Justice, ofr establishing and enforcing child support obligations on ADC **Continued to Page 7** cases.



If you have trouble receiving your child support payments, we can help. Contact your local D.A. We can tell you about the Child Support Enforcement Program. We can help you get the money your child deserves. Because, when a parent doesn't pay, the children do.

For More Information, Write: Child Support Program, P.O. Box 14013, Salem, Oregon 97309 or call your local D.A.



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