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TEXAS TO REPLICATE THE RELIEF NURSERY

The Texas Department for Family and Protective Services has contracted with the Relief Nursery of Eugene, OR to replicate two Relief Nurseries in the state of Texas.

The Relief Nursery model was selected after the Texas DFPS conducted a national search for comprehensive family support services with a focus on prevention. According to Lory Britain, Ph.D, Associate Director of National Replication, Texas chose the Relief Nursery because of its unique, innovative and highly effective programs and services.

These Relief Nurseries are the first to be developed as part of a national replication initiative. "This is an exciting time for the Relief Nursery as we reach across Oregon's borders to meet the growing needs of at-risk children and families across the country," said Sid Johnson, Director of National Replication.

Texas is funding the development of the Relief Nurseries through its use of federal funds from the Community Based Child Abuse Prevention Program.

"Every state receives these funds and could use them to replicate a Relief Nursery in their area," said Sid Johnson. For those interested in more information about the Relief Nursery the Texas Request for Proposals (RFP) is a valuable and informative document that can serve as a prototype for interested government agencies.

The Texas Department for Family and Protective Services will be reviewing proposals from communities across the state to determine where the Relief Nurseries will be located. Texas will begin the formal planning stages of both Relief Nurseries on January 1, 2007.

In addition, the Relief Nursery is discussing replication with city and state agencies in Los Angeles, CA; Washington DC; localities in Virginia and Florida; as well as Pendleton and Malheur County, OR.