



### *Grant Summary*

<b>Initiative:</b>	Healthier Beginnings
<b>Project Name:</b>	<i>Growing Great Kids™</i> Parenting & Childhood Development Program (Year 5)
<b>Funding Period:</b>	December 1, 2014 – November 30, 2015
<b>Date of Funding:</b>	November 24, 2014
<b>Project Coordinator:</b>	Kathleen Richard, LMSW
<b>Project Administration:</b>	Life Choices of North Central Louisiana
<b>Total Funding Approved:</b>	\$ 124,000.00

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### **Program Summary**

The *Growing Great Kids™* program is a nationally recognized voluntary home-based visitation program that utilizes and deploys educational curriculum for intensive parenting and childhood education services targeted at critical points in a child's development. Beginning prenatally, *Growing Great Kids* provides a "how to" guide, or roadmap, for supporting parents and developing parenting competencies. It provides a structure for each home visit or group, and takes the "guess work" out of parent contacts and supervision.

*Growing Great Kids™* puts difficult concepts into simple language by offering examples of practical "how-to's" in the following areas:

- Building relationships with families that focus on program goals
- Growing parental empathy and nurturing relationships
- Doing activities that support childhood health, growth and development
- Integrating the latest information on supporting early brain development into daily parenting practices
- Gaining an understanding of parental/family values
- Communicating to facilitate open discussion and parental empowerment
- Making age-appropriate toys from common household items
- Enhancing family relationships
- Extending families' support systems

- Addressing concerns and exploring solutions
- Cultivating critical thinking and problem-solving skills
- Promoting parental self-care and health

*Growing Great Kids™* program objectives are as follows:

- **Prevention of Child Maltreatment** through parenting skill development and monitoring of home environments.
- **Facilitation of Positive Pregnancy and Child Health Outcomes** by teaching proper prenatal and postnatal care.
- **Improving Family Functioning** through the development of parenting and problem solving skills.
- **Optimization of Child Growth and Development** by enhancing parental knowledge of child development and linking with relative community resources.

Year 5 objectives are as follows:

- **Obtain Tier II and Tier III Certification Training for New Employees** – Tier II and Tier III training is a self-guided review and mastery of skills learned during the Tier I certificate training. Ongoing effective use of the GGK™ curriculum involves continuing development of the six competencies learned during the initial training. Together, Tier II and Tier III make up a total of 27 assignments that are reviewed with the program supervisor.
- **All Home Visitor to Maintain a Full Case Load** – GGK™ home visit program has been well-received among the clients of Life Choices. Life Choices currently has two fulltime home visitors and one part-time home visitor. At the beginning of Year Four of funding the part-time home visitor will transition to fulltime. Fulltime home visitors should maintain a maximum caseload of 20-24 points.
- **Continue Wellness Events** – Life Choices understands the importance of preventive care. However, access to that care by some clients is limited due to transportation and/or health care coverage. Life Choices would like to continue to host wellness for GGK™ participants. Wellness issues to be addressed would include information about cold and influenza season presented by a medical professional, influenza vaccinations, and a fire safety seminar and demonstration. Events also encourage the building of support systems outside the limited contact with GGK™ staff.
- **Expand services to Restore Ministries** – Restore Ministries houses homeless mothers and children in Ruston. Life Choices would like to offer the GGK™ home visit services to the residents of this program as part of their case plans. Expanding

to this clientele will continue to broaden the preventive efforts that GGK™ is making in the community.

- **Show Positive Influence on Health Factors** – Without a doubt, the GGK™ home visit program is having a positive impact on participants. One of the more concrete ways of measuring that success is by measuring core health factors. The main factors that Life Choices measures are [1] those clients who deliver at full term (at least 37 weeks), [2] those clients who deliver babies at healthy birth weights (at least 5 pounds, 8 ounces), and [3] those clients who choose to breastfeed their infant. During the first three years of programming, Life Choices has noted positive movement in all three areas. Life Choices has also begun to track other significant factors for clients including pre-delivery emergency room visits, post-delivery emergency room visits, childhood immunizations, subsequent pregnancies, medical home, and prenatal dental visits.

## GGK™ Budget

November 1, 2013 – October 31, 2014

<b>Staff</b>			
<i>Director</i>		10,000	
<i>Office Manager</i>		4,400	
<i>Home Visit Specialist 1</i>		23,400	
<i>Home Visit Specialist 2/ Family Assessment Counselor</i>		22,000	
<i>Home Visit Specialist 3</i>		20,300	
<i>Nurse(RN) Supervisor</i>		13,300	
		<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>93,400</b>
<b>Related Taxes/Insurance</b>	<b>\$8,000</b>		
<b>Travel</b>	<b>\$4,000</b>		
<b>Supplies and Incentives</b>	<b>\$5,000</b>		
<b>Printing and Copying</b>	<b>\$750</b>		
<b>Postage and Delivery</b>	<b>\$100</b>		
<b>Rent, Utilities and Maintenance</b>	<b>\$4,000</b>		
<b>Training</b>	<b>\$6,000</b>		
<b>Hope Room Supplies</b>	<b>\$4,000</b>		
<b>Outreach Events</b>	<b>\$1,750</b>		
		<b>subtotal</b>	<b>33,600</b>
	<b>Total Budget</b>		<b>\$127,000</b>
	<b>Approved Amount</b>		<b>\$127,000</b>