

United Way of Laramie County End-of Year Report

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Agency Name: CLIMB Wyoming Program: CLIMB Wyoming - Cheyenne Reporting Period: Jan - Dec 2009

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Agency Mission/Vision:	The mission of CLIMB Wyoming is to train and place low-income single mothers in careers that allow them to successfully support their families.
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Community Issue Program Targets:	Helping Neighbors in Crisis and Strengthening Families to Move Them Toward Economic Self-Sufficiency
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Program Target Population:
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Purpose: To ensure that impoverished single mothers receive the training and skills necessary to enter higher paying careers and to succeed long term in all aspects of their lives.• Population: CLIMB Wyoming serves families led by single mothers ages 16 and above who are living at or below 185% of the Federal Poverty Level. Almost half of Wyoming families living in poverty are headed by single mothers. Within this population, there is a high degree of substance abuse, mental health disorders, family violence, child behavior problems, use of foster care, and legal involvement. All of these factors make this population one of the most at-risk and difficult to reach. Moving this target population out of poverty often takes much more than job training, so the CLIMB programs are comprehensive and provide numerous other support services.

Program Significance to the Community
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• CLIMB Wyoming Shares the Following United Way Investment team Priorities: Helping those in crisis; addressing basic needs; strengthening families; moving the target population out of poverty and toward permanent self-sufficiency; tending to the physical, mental, and social well-being of participants; focusing on mental health, life skills, education, job skills, parenting, relationships, mentoring, and advocacy; providing streamlined access to community services; and engaging in extensive community collaboration.• Impact on Target Population: The majority of program participants complete the education and training necessary to be placed in jobs that pay a livable wage; learn the life and job skills necessary for successful relationships at home and at work; reduce their dependence on government benefits; show decreases in substance abuse, mental health disorders, family violence, child behavior problems, use of foster care, and legal involvement.• Impact on Community: An increased tax base, an increased skilled labor pool, more goods and services sold, decreased crime rate, increased school attendance rate, decreased child behavior problems, improved mental health, decreased substance abuse, decreased use of foster care, increased preventative health care and access to health insurance. Families that break the cycle of poverty have the ability to become positive role models and contributing members of the community.

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Program Resources			Program Activities		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Program Staff: FT Program Director/Mental Health Provider, FT Program Assistant, FT Business Liaison. • Support from Home Office (which serves 6 statewide sites): includes administration, communications, operations, data analysis, research, accounting, and development. • Facilities and equipment: classroom, mental health counseling space, employee office space, common areas including copy room, kitchen, waiting room, restrooms and storage shed. <p>Community Collaborations: CLIMB shares resources with dozens of community partners.</p>			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Employer Driven Job Training, Work Readiness Training, and Job Placement • Comprehensive Mental Health Services • Academic Remediation • Advocacy • Life Skills and Parenting Skills Training • On-Going Post-Program Support 		
Outcome		Performance Measure		Method of Measure	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Program Graduates: percentage of participants that graduate and are placed in jobs • Participant Wage Levels: pre and post program • Utilization of Government Assistance: pre and post program. 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Program enrollment and completion • Employment status and changes in hourly wage rate • Childcare • Government subsidies before and after the program • Mental health indicators 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Client self-report forms • Staff observations • Client interviews • Client records <p>Data is collected: 30 days, 3 months, 6 months, 12 months, 15 months, 18 months, and 24 months post program and verified by WIND and WYSAC.</p>	
Program Results			Results Analysis and Next Steps		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Number of single mothers served: 44 • Number of children served: 70 • Graduation rate: 82% • Percentage employed pre-program: 50% • Pre-program wage average: \$7.30 • Percentage of graduates employed post-program: 75% at 3 months (some participants are still completing the program and have not yet been placed in jobs). • Post-program wage average: \$10.12 • Pre-program use of government assistance: 43% • Six month post-program use of government assistance: 27% <p>Program results were consistent with projected results, which were based upon CLIMB's past program performance. The vast majority of participants are better off because they have received education, training, counseling, and numerous other support services. Even though some participants have not yet met all of the program goals, they have still been exposed to intensive life skills training, mental health services, and additional support services. CLIMB Wyoming is successfully reaching one of the hardest target populations to serve and is consistently improving lives.</p>			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Through years of direct service and its own internal data collection and research on over 1,000 women and their families, CLIB Wyoming has built and fine-tuned its evaluation system to carefully track program results. • CLIMB Wyoming's performance measures show a very high success rate due to each program's ability to tackle the underlying forces that contribute to the desperate situations of so many impoverished single mothers. • While these outcomes are encouraging, CLIMB staff members are always driven to improve on these results. • Staff members thoroughly analyze program results, pinpoint performance gaps and areas for improvement, and formulate plans for improvement that are incorporated into the program model. • In addition, results will be used to formulate individualized post-program support for each participant. This follow-up support has been proven to improve overall success rates. • Data analysis will also allow CLIMB to continue to identify the community partners that can assist CLIB in its mission and to attract organizations and individuals that will provide support. Additional collaboration within the community can only serve to further benefit the target population. 		