American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 Impacts to the Temporary IV-E Program

Prepared for the Governor's Office and the AARA Recovery Team by Dana Ward, Social Services Consultant, Protective Services Division, Department of Family Services April 6, 2009

Executive Summary

The Federal Medical Assistance Percentage (FMAP) rates are published annually in the Federal Register. These rates, which vary by State, are used for title IV-E purposes to compute the Federal share of maintenance assistance payments made under the Foster Care, Adoption and Guardianship Assistance Programs. Under ARRA, the FMAP rates are being temporarily increased to provide additional funding to States and Territories. These temporary increases will affect rates for FY 2009, FY 2010 and the first quarter of FY 2011 only (ie. October 1, 2008 – December 31, 2010).

Policy and Implementation Issues

The additional funding will allow the state to provide additional dollars to support the foster care and adoption programs. It should be noted that these are one time funds. It is projected Wyoming will receive \$199,000 under this temporary increase.

Funding Issues

IV-E funds are available to the State as a reimbursement. The funds provide the State with more spending authority. The funding associated with the temporary increase in the FMAP will be used as a one time investment in necessary foster parent, adoptive parent and Child Protection staff training.