

133). Using federal grants and some State general funds, the Program provides housing counseling and manages aftercare in several jurisdictions. The Program also oversees programs for housing the homeless and preventing eviction.

**GOVERNOR'S ADVISORY BOARD ON
HOMELESSNESS**

Margaret I. Diem, *Chair*, 1997

Staff: Joan Burns (410) 767-7182

The Advisory Board of the Shelter, Nutrition, and Services Program for Homeless Individuals was created in 1984 (Chapter 777, Acts of 1984). In 1988, it became known as the Governor's Advisory Board on Homelessness. The Board coordinates the Homeless Services Program.

Appointed by the Governor, the Board consists of sixteen members who serve two-year terms (Code 1957, Art. 88A, secs. 134-137).

EMERGENCY FOOD ASSISTANCE

(410) 767-7213

Emergency Food Assistance began in March 1983 under federal law as the Temporary Emergency Food Assistance Program (P.L. 98-8). The Program formalized the distribution of surplus dairy commodities begun in January 1982. Originally administered by the Food Distribution Section of the State Department of Education, the Program moved to the Department of Human Resources in January 1988. The Program became the *Emergency Food Assistance Program* in 1990 (federal Food and Agricultural Resources Act of 1990). In 1996, the Program, for administrative purposes, was placed under Homeless Services.

Emergency Food Assistance distributes food from the U.S. Department of Agriculture to needy people in situations of emergency and distress. Food from surplus federal commodity inventories is delivered quarterly to local emergency organizations and food pantries for distribution to individuals. Eligibility for assistance is based on income and household size, or prior certification in any of the following programs: Maryland Energy Assistance; Food Stamps; Medical Assistance (Medicaid); or Public Assistance.

LEGAL SERVICES

Joanna L. Armentrout, *Director*

311 West Saratoga St.
Baltimore, MD 21201—3521 (410) 767-7127

Legal Services, then known as Judicare, was created in 1971. Legal Services pays court-appointed attorneys to represent persons subject to Adult Protective Services proceedings, and children in Child in Need of Assistance (CINA) and other juvenile causes in which the Department of Human Resources is involved.

With the Maryland Legal Services Corporation, Legal Services has a contract that funnels to the Corporation each year the half million dollars of State support provided by the Maryland Legal Services Corporation Act.

**MARYLAND OFFICE FOR
NEW AMERICANS**

Frank J. Bien, *Director*

311 West Saratoga St.
Baltimore, MD 21201—3521 (410) 767-7021

The Maryland Office For New Americans was established in 1980 by the Department as the Maryland Office of Refugee Affairs. In 1994, the Office was reorganized as the Maryland Office for New Americans (Executive Order 01.01.1994.26). The Office helps refugees residing in Maryland to become economically and socially self-sufficient. It provides employment services, English language and vocational training, cultural orientation, and other services.

The Office also administers the Citizenship Promotion Program formed in 1995 (Chapters 162, 163, Acts of 1995). The Program encourages and assists eligible Maryland residents to become naturalized citizens of the United States and participate in civic life.

**MARYLAND ADVISORY COUNCIL FOR
NEW AMERICANS**

Vacancy, *Chair*

The Maryland Advisory Council for New Americans was formed as the Maryland Refugee Advisory Council in 1980. In 1994, the Council received its present name (Executive Order 01.01.1994.26). The Council assists the Maryland Office for New Americans in carrying out its mandates and identifying the problems and needs of new Americans living in Maryland.

The Council has twenty members. Fifteen are appointed for two-year terms by the Governor. Five serve ex officio.

WOMEN'S SERVICES

Susan C. Selig, *Director*

311 West Saratoga St.
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The Women's Services Program was created in 1983 by the Department and the Community Services Administration. Renamed the Women's Advocacy Program in 1991, it received its present name in 1992. Women's Services coordinates help for battered spouses, displaced homemakers, victims of crime, victims of rape, and homeless women.

The *Battered Spouse Program* aids victims of spousal abuse and their children who must leave home to safeguard their lives and welfare. The Program began as a model shelter in 1971. Through a network of community organizations,