

(4) TO THE END OF PREVENTING THE PROBLEMS ASSOCIATED WITH TEENAGE PREGNANCY, SINGLE YOUNG PEOPLE WHO ARE AT RISK OF PARENTHOOD SHOULD HAVE ACCESS TO APPROPRIATE COUNSELING AND HEALTH SERVICES; AND

(5) IF THE FAMILY OF A SINGLE PARENT IS UNAVAILABLE, UNWILLING, OR UNABLE TO PROVIDE FINANCIAL, MATERIAL, AND EMOTIONAL SUPPORT TO A SINGLE PARENT, THEN THIS STATE MUST PROVIDE TIMELY SERVICES THAT WILL:

(I) BE AN EFFECTIVE ALTERNATIVE TO COSTLY LONG TERM FOSTER CARE; AND

(II) PREVENT THE NEGLECT OR ABUSE OF A CHILD OF THE SINGLE PARENT.

REVISOR'S NOTE: This section is new language derived without substantive change from former Article 88A, § 111(a) and (b).

In item (5)(ii) of this section, the phrase "of the single parent" is new language added for clarity.

The Commission to Revise the Annotated Code calls the attention of the General Assembly to the seemingly inexplicable variations "young people", "youths under the age of 18 years", "youth", and "teenage" individuals, which appear throughout this title. Although the General Assembly may have intended all of these references to refer to the same group of individuals, the Commission to Revise the Annotated Code was unable to determine conclusively that this was the legislative intent. Therefore, the General Assembly may wish to consider making these references uniform throughout this title by changing them all to read "young people".

6-103. SINGLE PARENT SERVICES PROGRAM.

(A) IN GENERAL.

IN EACH LOCAL DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES, THE SECRETARY OF HUMAN RESOURCES, WITH THE ADVICE OF THE SECRETARY OF HEALTH AND MENTAL HYGIENE, SHALL ESTABLISH A SINGLE PARENT SERVICES PROGRAM TO CARRY OUT THE POLICIES SET FORTH IN § 6-102 OF THIS SUBTITLE.

(B) AVAILABILITY OF SERVICES.

THE SINGLE PARENT SERVICES PROVIDED UNDER THIS PROGRAM SHALL BE AVAILABLE TO ANY SINGLE YOUTH WHO IS:

(1) PREGNANT;