

Article 83C - Juvenile Services

2-127.1.

(A) (1) IN THIS SECTION THE FOLLOWING WORDS HAVE THE MEANINGS INDICATED.

(2) ~~"STEP-DOWN AFTERCARE" MEANS A PROGRAM IN WHICH INDIVIDUALIZED SERVICES AND SUPERVISION, INCLUDING EDUCATIONAL AND REHABILITATION SERVICES AND TREATMENT, ARE PROVIDED BY THE DEPARTMENT TO CHILDREN WHO ARE COMMITTED TO THE CUSTODY OF THE DEPARTMENT AND WHO ARE DISCHARGED FROM A RESIDENTIAL PLACEMENT TO EASE THE TRANSITION OF THE CHILDREN FROM THE CUSTODY OF THE DEPARTMENT TO THEIR HOMES AND COMMUNITIES;~~

(I) A NETWORK OF PROGRAMS PROVIDING EDUCATION AND REHABILITATION; AND

(II) SERVICES AND TREATMENT TO EASE THE TRANSITION OF CHILDREN FROM THE CUSTODY OF THE DEPARTMENT TO THEIR HOMES AND COMMUNITIES.

(3) "STEP-DOWN AFTERCARE PLAN" MEANS AN INDIVIDUALIZED PLAN FOR EACH CHILD IN STEP-DOWN AFTERCARE THAT PROPOSES SPECIFIC ASSISTANCE, GUIDANCE, TREATMENT, SERVICES, AND SUPERVISION.

~~(4) "STEP-DOWN AFTERCARE TEAM" MEANS A GROUP OF CHILD WELFARE PROFESSIONALS EMPLOYED BY THE DEPARTMENT AND ASSIGNED TO A PARTICULAR CHILD IN STEP-DOWN AFTERCARE TO THAT:~~

~~(I) PREPARE~~ PREPARES THE CHILD FOR REENTRY INTO THE SPECIFIC COMMUNITY TO WHICH THE CHILD WILL RETURN;

~~(II) ENSURE~~ ENSURES THE DELIVERY OF PRESCRIBED SERVICES TO THE CHILD IN THE COMMUNITY; AND

~~(III) MONITOR~~ MONITORS CONDUCT IN THE COMMUNITY TO ENSURE PUBLIC SAFETY.

(B) (1) A CHILD DISCHARGED FROM A COMMITTED RESIDENTIAL PLACEMENT SHALL RECEIVE STEP-DOWN AFTERCARE FOR A PERIOD TO BE DETERMINED BY THE DEPARTMENT.

(2) A CHILD IN STEP-DOWN AFTERCARE SHALL RECEIVE:

(I) A STEP-DOWN AFTERCARE PLAN;

(II) SUPERVISION BY A STEP-DOWN AFTERCARE TEAM STAFF IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE STEP-DOWN AFTERCARE PLAN;