

Legal Responsibilities for the Division of Prevention and Early Intervention

Statutory References

Federal: Title XX, Social Security Act
 Federal: Title IV-B, Part 2, Social Security Act
 State: Texas Family Code, 264.301
 State: Senate Bill 1574, 76th Legislature
 State: Human Resources Code, 40.0561

The **Division of Prevention and Early Intervention (PEI)** was created to consolidate prevention and early intervention programs within the jurisdiction of a single state agency. Consolidation of these programs is intended to eliminate fragmentation and duplication of contracted prevention and early intervention services for at-risk children, youth, and families. Budget cuts eliminated eight programs during the FY04-05 biennium. Another program – Communities In Schools – was moved to the Texas Education Agency.

- **Community Youth Development (CYD) Program** - This program assists communities in designing comprehensive approaches to support families and enhance the positive development of youth. Using legislative appropriations, grants are made available for developing juvenile delinquency prevention approaches in communities with high incidences of juvenile crime. Fifteen communities are being served.
- **Services To At-Risk Youth (STAR) Program** - These services are offered to youths under the age of 18 who are runaways and/or truants, living in family conflict, have allegedly been involved in, or committed delinquent offenses, and have allegedly committed misdemeanor or state felony offenses but have not been adjudicated delinquent by a court. Contracted community agencies offer family crisis intervention, short-term emergency residential care, individual and family counseling, other support services, and universal child abuse prevention services.
- **Texas Families: Together and Safe** - Grants are allocated for family support services to community based prevention programs. The services are designed to alleviate stress and promote parental competencies and behaviors that will increase the ability of families to successfully nurture their children; enable families to use other resources and opportunities available in the community; and create support networks that enhance child-rearing abilities of parents.
- **Texas Youth and Runaway Hotlines** - Hotline staff and volunteers work closely with social service agencies and juvenile delinquency prevention programs. Their goal is to provide callers with 24-hour crisis intervention and telephone counseling; information and referral for callers in need of food, shelter and/or transportation home; conference calls to parents and shelters; and a confidential message relay service between runaways and parents.

- **Community Initiatives for Prevention and Early Intervention** - Community Initiatives for Prevention and Early Intervention develop and implement special projects and initiatives across all PEI program areas. Projects and programs have been developed that focus on prevention of child abuse and juvenile delinquency. One such project is a Child Abuse Prevention Media Campaign. Public service announcements were developed referring people to a website -- www.itsuptoyou.org -- dedicated to offering the community resources to help them keep kids safe.
- **Community-Based Family Resource and Support (CBFRS)** - The program seeks to develop community and statewide provider networks and involve parents in preventing child abuse and neglect. The CBFRS program also supports respite care programs and the development of a parent education resource network, and the Infant Mortality Prevention Education Program.
- **Dan Kubiak Buffalo Soldiers Heritage Program** - This program provides services to develop honor, pride, and dignity in minority and at-risk 10 to 17 year old youths. Service components include mentoring, tutoring, Buffalo Soldier history classes, character development, self-esteem and life skills training, field trips to state parks, encampments, and community service.
- **Tertiary and Secondary Child Abuse Prevention** – This program provides services to families who no longer require the support of Child Protective Services. The program is volunteer-driven and seeks to prevent recurrences of child maltreatment by strengthening families.

Notes: