E.  **Youth and Child Services**

**INTENT**

The intent of services for youth and children is to use partners and prevention services to enable young people to be successful in school, gain life skills and make the transition to a self-sufficient adulthood.

**Expectations:**

- Address the needs of children and youth in case plans for the whole family;
- Assess, with partners, for risk factors that could increase the likelihood of substance abuse, delinquency, teen pregnancy, school drop-out and physical/sexual abuse;
- Work with partners to identify and support individual family strengths, and broker for prevention services.

**Services:** Case plan services can include Life Skills training, mentoring programs, managing children’s health and development, improving school attendance, performance and behavior, increasing positive decision-making skills and preventing pregnancy and escalation of criminal behavior. Most services involve joint planning with other partners, such as Child Welfare, local juvenile departments, counseling and treatment agencies, schools, child care and medical providers and other local resources and coalitions. In some cases, such as medically fragile children or where no adults are participating in JOBS, services to children or youth may be the focus of the case plan. See the Youth/Child Issues focal point in the Case Management chapter worker guide for examples of assessment, case planning and brokering.

1. **Job preparation and entry for teens**

   See Section B of this chapter for appropriate basic education, life skills and employment preparation for teens. Employment preparation and education services are offered by local WIA Youth Program agencies, and usually include life skills as well. Community colleges also offer basic education services for teens.

2. **Self-Sufficiency services**

   See Section D of this chapter for self-sufficiency services and other services in the community. Any of these services might apply to children and youth where the case plan includes case management and brokering to address one of these issues. When
working with partners to address children’s needs, use the most appropriate service code to record client hours of participation, based on local district procedures.

✔ FOR PREGNANCY PREVENTION SERVICES, SEE THE TEEN PARENT SECTION F, OTHER SERVICES IN THE COMMUNITY.