

## CHAPTER 1057

### CHILD ABUSE AND NEGLECT PREVENTION COUNCILS

#### §3871. Purpose

The purpose of this chapter is to encourage and maintain coordinated community efforts in each county to prevent child abuse and neglect through the provision of family-strengthening programs, including, but not limited to, public awareness activities, child safety education, parent education, support and information for parents, referral to services and training for professionals, and to ensure adequate intervention and treatment for abused and neglected children and their families. [PL 2009, c. 204, §1 (AMD).]

#### SECTION HISTORY

PL 1985, c. 483 (NEW). PL 1993, c. 142, §2 (AMD). PL 2009, c. 204, §1 (AMD).

#### §3872. Definitions

As used in this chapter, unless the context indicates otherwise, the following terms have the following meanings. [PL 1985, c. 483 (NEW).]

##### 1. Community coordinating committee.

[PL 1993, c. 142, §2 (RP).]

**1-A. Child abuse and neglect prevention council.** "Child abuse and neglect prevention council" means a community organization that provides continuous year-round service as a county's primary organization that serves to encourage and coordinate community efforts to prevent child abuse from occurring. Services may include public awareness activities, child safety education, parent education, support and information for parents, referral to services and training for professionals. [PL 2009, c. 204, §2 (AMD).]

**2. Fiscal agent.** "Fiscal agent" means an incorporated community organization, agency or institution designated by the child abuse and neglect prevention council and authorized by the Department of Health and Human Services to receive and distribute grants to that child abuse and neglect prevention council. [PL 2009, c. 204, §3 (AMD).]

**3. Maine Child Abuse Prevention Councils.** "Maine Child Abuse Prevention Councils" means the statewide organization composed of a majority of the child abuse and neglect prevention councils. The organization must have at least one representative from each member council. The organization shall work collaboratively to maintain a list of core activities offered in each of the counties represented by its membership and shall also maintain a statewide network that works to develop statewide plans and effective implementation strategies. [PL 2009, c. 204, §4 (AMD).]

#### SECTION HISTORY

PL 1985, c. 483 (NEW). PL 1993, c. 142, §2 (AMD). PL 2003, c. 689, §B6 (REV). PL 2009, c. 204, §§2-4 (AMD).

#### §3872-A. Child abuse and neglect prevention council's responsibilities

**1. Duties.** A child abuse and neglect prevention council shall review existing data to assess and monitor the extent and causes of child abuse and neglect in its county and carry out the following activities:

A. Coordinate services, utilizing community, state and federal resources to ensure that direct services are being provided to children and families, including education and support services; [PL 2009, c. 204, §5 (AMD).]

B. Provide training to professionals who work directly with children and families; and [PL 2009, c. 204, §5 (AMD).]

C. Provide education and awareness concerning child abuse and neglect and its prevention. [PL 1993, c. 142, §3 (NEW).]  
[PL 2009, c. 204, §5 (AMD).]

#### SECTION HISTORY

PL 1993, c. 142, §3 (NEW). PL 2009, c. 204, §5 (AMD).

#### **§3873. Authorization for expenditure of funds**

The department and other state agencies shall, from funds authorized to the department and state agencies, make grants to, or purchase services from, the child abuse and neglect prevention councils or fiscal agents to further the purposes of this chapter. [PL 2009, c. 204, §6 (AMD).]

**1. Funding authorized.** Grants or funds must be made on a competitive basis and allocated to child abuse and neglect prevention councils according to rules adopted or amended by the commissioner. Grants or funds in excess of \$15,000 must be made on a one-to-one matching basis with contributions from the community. Community contributions may be donations of cash or may be in-kind contributions, as determined by departmental rule.  
[PL 2009, c. 204, §6 (AMD).]

**2. Distribution of funds.** Grants or funds must be awarded or allocated to support existing child abuse and neglect prevention councils and to assist the establishment of new child abuse and neglect prevention councils. It is the intent of this chapter to support a statewide network of child abuse and neglect prevention councils in each county as resources permit. Nothing in this chapter requires the department to fully fund the activities of any child abuse and neglect prevention council.  
[PL 2009, c. 204, §6 (AMD).]

**3. Consultation with Maine Child Abuse Prevention Councils.** The Maine Child Abuse Prevention Councils, in conjunction with the department, shall develop a plan, updated annually, establishing a statewide strategy for child abuse and neglect prevention in local counties and communities. Grants or allocated funds must be awarded in accordance with the goals and strategies set out in the plan.  
[PL 2009, c. 204, §6 (AMD).]

#### SECTION HISTORY

PL 1985, c. 483 (NEW). PL 1993, c. 142, §4 (AMD). PL 2009, c. 204, §6 (AMD).

#### **§3874. Fiscal agents**

A fiscal agent receiving grants or funds under this chapter shall act only in an administrative capacity to receive and distribute grant or fund money to the child abuse and neglect prevention councils, as described in the rules adopted by the department for regulating the local administration of these programs. [PL 2009, c. 204, §7 (AMD).]

#### SECTION HISTORY

PL 1985, c. 483 (NEW). PL 1993, c. 142, §4 (AMD). PL 2009, c. 204, §7 (AMD).

#### **§3875. Community coordinating committee; membership (REPEALED)**

#### SECTION HISTORY

PL 1985, c. 483 (NEW). PL 1993, c. 142, §5 (RP).

**§3875-A. Child abuse and neglect prevention councils; membership**

The child abuse and neglect prevention councils are responsible for facilitating the community programs under this chapter. Each council shall establish a governing or advisory board of directors. The board must be diverse with broad-based participation in each county. Terms of the directors and methods of appointment or election of members must be determined by the child abuse and neglect prevention council's bylaws or by rules of procedure adopted for the advisory board if an advisory board is established. [PL 2009, c. 204, §8 (AMD).]

**SECTION HISTORY**

PL 1993, c. 142, §6 (NEW). PL 2009, c. 204, §8 (AMD).

**§3876. Waiver of certain requirements**

**(REPEALED)**

**SECTION HISTORY**

PL 1985, c. 483 (NEW). PL 1993, c. 142, §7 (RP).

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