



State of Maryland Executive Department

Robert L. Ehrlich, Jr.
Governor

Michael S. Steele
Lieutenant Governor

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Executive Director

January 8, 2007

The Honorable Thomas V. Mike Miller, Jr., President
State House, H-107
Annapolis, MD 21401 – 1991

The Honorable Michael Busch, House Speaker
State House, H-101
Annapolis, MD 21401 – 1991

Re: MSAR # 5886 SB882/ Ch. 445, Sec. 3, 2006

Dear Senator Miller and Delegate Busch:

The Governor's Office for Children (GOC) has been supporting the work of both the Advisory Council to the Children's Cabinet and the at risk youth prevention planning of the Local Management Boards as outlined in SB 882 (2006 Legislative Session).

The Advisory Council to the Children's Cabinet has met twice and was given an overview of the Results Accountability framework as it relates to the Child Well Being Result Areas. The Council was also given information on their role as it connects with the local prevention planning process.

The Governor's Office for Children has been working with and providing technical assistance for Local Management Boards (LMBs) as they convene planning groups focused on the needs of at risk youth in their communities as described in SB 882. The following has been accomplished:

- The Positive Youth Outcomes Director of GOC has met with 24 LMBs to review SB 882 and ensure a comprehensive prevention planning entity has been identified.
- LMBs have begun assessing the adequacy, availability and accessibility of current community based services for at risk youth by convening youth, parents and public and private agencies and organizations.
- Throughout this assessment and planning process, LMBs are using the Results Accountability framework and are preparing to respond to an Invitation to Negotiate with the Governor's Office for Children which will include a request for

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funds for prevention programming. The Invitation to Negotiate (ITN) will be released by the Governor's Office for Children in January 2007.

- LMBs are receiving technical assistance on youth development strategies that are designed to focus on problem reduction and full preparation for adult roles and responsibilities by youth. An emphasis has been placed on ensuring programs provided will be designed to:

Protect youth from harm (and providing logical consequences for youth when they harm society);

Prevent a range of negative outcomes, from drug abuse to gang involvement;

Promote positive outcomes, such as academic success; and

Ensuring that youth are both fully prepared and fully *participating* in their community in positive ways.

A list of funded at risk youth prevention programs will be provided to the legislature in September 2007.

Sincerely,



Arlene F. Lee
Executive Director

Cc: David Treasure, Department of Budget and Management
Steve McCulloch, Department of Legislative Services
Sarah Albert, Department of Legislative Services (5 copies)
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