
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE BILL

No. 264 Session of
1993

INTRODUCED BY PESCI, GERLACH, FAJT, FREEMAN, TRELLO, DALEY,
VAN HORNE, HERMAN, LAUGHLIN, STEELMAN, TIGUE, PISTELLA,
JOSEPHS AND STURLA, FEBRUARY 8, 1993

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON HEALTH AND WELFARE, FEBRUARY 8, 1993

AN ACT

1 Providing grants for residential drug and alcohol treatment
2 programs for mothers and pregnant women.

3 The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania
4 hereby enacts as follows:

5 Section 1. Short title.

6 This act shall be known and may be cited as the Residential
7 Drug and Alcohol Treatment for Pregnant Women, Mothers and Their
8 Children Act.

9 Section 2. Definitions.

10 The following words and phrases when used in this act shall
11 have the meanings given to them in this section unless the
12 context clearly indicates otherwise:

13 "Department." The Department of Health of the Commonwealth.

14 Section 3. Grants for residential drug and alcohol treatment
15 programs for mothers and pregnant women.

16 (a) Grants.--The department shall have the power to provide
17 grants to programs that provide residential treatment for

1 alcohol and other drug addictions and related services for
2 mothers and pregnant women who have custody of their children or
3 who have lost custody of their children. Grants shall be used
4 only for treatment and related services provided to residents of
5 this Commonwealth by treatment programs for alcohol and other
6 drug addictions, licensed by the department, which provide at a
7 minimum the following services:

8 (1) residential treatment services for women and their
9 children, subject to reasonable limitations on the number and
10 ages of the children, provided in a drug-free, residential
11 community setting;

12 (2) onsite addiction and substance abuse education,
13 counseling and treatment;

14 (3) onsite individual, group and family counseling;

15 (4) onsite educational programs designed for children
16 and focused on preventing abuse of alcohol and other drugs;

17 (5) involvement with Alcoholics Anonymous, Narcotics
18 Anonymous, support groups for children of parents who are
19 addicted to alcohol and other drugs, and other support
20 groups;

21 (6) activities which enhance self-esteem and self-
22 sufficiency;

23 (7) onsite counseling and training in parenting skills;

24 (8) access to school for children and mothers where
25 appropriate, including, but not limited to, securing
26 documents necessary for registration;

27 (9) job counseling and referral to job-training
28 programs;

29 (10) onsite day care for children under the following
30 circumstances:

1 (i) when the mother is receiving counseling;
2 (ii) when the mother is attending school or a job-
3 training program;
4 (iii) when the mother is employed or seeking
5 employment; and
6 (iv) at such other times as the department deems
7 appropriate;
8 (11) referral and linkage to other needed services for
9 mothers and children, including, but not limited to, health
10 care;
11 (12) onsite reentry counseling and activities;
12 (13) outpatient counseling on abuse of alcohol and other
13 drugs, provided on a regular and predetermined schedule upon
14 discharge from the residential program; and
15 (14) other services deemed necessary by the department.
16 (b) Information.--The department shall require programs
17 receiving funds under this act to collect and provide to the
18 department information concerning the number of women and
19 children denied treatment or placed on waiting lists. The
20 department shall require additional information which it deems
21 useful in determining the effectiveness of the treatment
22 programs. Confidentiality of records regarding identifiable
23 individuals enrolled in treatment programs funded under this
24 section shall be strictly maintained.
25 (c) Reports.--Within one year following adoption of this
26 act, and every year thereafter, the department shall submit a
27 report to the General Assembly regarding the programs created by
28 the grants provided under this section, including the number of
29 women and children served, the number of women and children
30 denied treatment or placed on waiting lists, recommendations of

1 providers, consumers and the department, and the department's
2 findings relating to the effectiveness of the treatment
3 programs.

4 Section 4. Staff training and referral mechanisms.

5 The department shall establish programs to provide training
6 on the identification of mothers and pregnant women who are in
7 need of drug or alcohol treatment and the referral of such
8 individuals to appropriate drug and alcohol treatment programs.
9 Such training shall be rendered to health care providers, to the
10 staff of county children and youth programs, shelters for
11 victims of domestic violence, rape crisis centers and community
12 health centers.

13 Section 5. Effective date.

14 This act shall take effect immediately.