



Zalee Harris  
5505 Joel Lane  
Temple Hills, MD 20748  
(301) 894-0750  
[www.ihavestandards.net](http://www.ihavestandards.net)  
[zopsmgmt@aol.com](mailto:zopsmgmt@aol.com)

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The mission of the Family and Youth Services Bureau (FYSB) is to provide national leadership on youth and family issues. The Bureau promotes positive outcomes for children, youth, and families by supporting a wide range of comprehensive services and collaborations at the local, Tribal, State, and national levels.

#### Services Provided

**Curricula developed or selected for use in the Community-Based Abstinence Education Program must address all eight A- H Standards of Section 510 of Title V of the Social Security Act was established under Section 912 of the Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act of 1996 (Public Law 104-193). Abstinence education is defined as "an educational or motivational program which:**

**(A) Has as its exclusive purpose, teaching the social, psychological, and health gains to be realized by abstaining from sexual activity;**

**(B) Teaches abstinence from sexual activity outside marriage as the expected standard for all school age children;**

**(C) Teaches that abstinence from sexual activity is the only certain way to avoid out-of-wedlock pregnancy, sexually transmitted diseases, and other associated health problems;**

**(D) Teaches that a mutually faithful monogamous relationship in the context of marriage is the expected standard of human sexual activity;**

**(E) Teaches that sexual activity outside of the context of marriage is likely to have harmful psychological and physical effects;**

**(F) Teaches that bearing children out-of-wedlock is likely to have harmful consequences for the child, the child's parents, and society;**

**(G) Teaches young people how to reject sexual advances and how alcohol and drug use increases vulnerability to sexual advances; and**

**(H) Teaches the importance of attaining self-sufficiency before engaging in sexual activity."**

Specific objectives for the Community-Based Abstinence Education Program are to:

- (1) support programmatic efforts that foster the development of abstinence education for adolescents, ages 12 through 18, in communities across the country;
- (2) develop and implement abstinence programs that target the prevention of teenage pregnancy and premature sexual activity;
- (3) develop abstinence education approaches that are culturally sensitive and age-appropriate to meet the needs of a diverse audience of adolescents; and
- (4) implement curriculum-based community education programs that promote abstinence education and positive youth development to adolescents.