Chapter 11	Family Support

A. Description of Family Support
B. Family Support Questions and Answers

Description of Family Support	11A

Family Support services focus on increasing social supports, parenting knowledge and skills, and child and family access to high quality child development services, medical and dental care, and safe environments. Using culturally competent, family centered supports, staff provide role modeling, counseling and mentoring aimed at successful development of parent and child life skills. Young adults are encouraged to plan for and achieve their health, education, economic, inter-personal, social, and parenting goals as well as receive assistance to learn about and connect with community resources as needed.

Services include:

- On-going screening and assessment to determine individual and family growth and development status;
- Assessment and identification of basic needs and mitigation of family risk factors; and
- Facilitation of family connections with center-based or other community resources that promote school success; support learning and literacy, and development of life skills, such as self-care, parenting and child care, meal planning, money management; and addressing social-emotional/mental health, relationship issues, safety, and/or environmental concerns:
  - Identification of and providing access to job training;
  - Support and education for parenting and family planning;
- Ongoing support to ensure the child and/or parent/guardian has access to health insurance and utilizes their medical and dental home appropriately;

- Maintaining linkages with health and other community provider systems to ensure coordinated planning and service delivery for the maternal child health population, including addressing:
    - Barriers to health care access or other community services; and
    - Emerging population risks and/or trends
- Providing health-focused prevention, promotion, and anticipatory guidance based on:
    - Growing Up Healthy (http://dcf.vermont.gov/sites/dcf/files/pdf/cdd/dev/GUH.pdf); and
    - American Academy of Pediatrics Bright Futures Guidelines for Health Supervision (3rd edition).