

## **CHAPTER II: LEGAL BASES**

### **II. LEGAL BASES**

#### **A. The Philippine Constitution Article II. Declaration of Principle and State Policies**

1. Section 12. The State recognizes the sanctity of family life and shall protect and strengthen the family as a basic autonomous social institution. It shall equally protect the life of the mother and the life of the unborn from conception. The natural and primary right and duty of parents in the rearing of the youth for civic efficiency and the development of moral character shall receive the support of the Government.
2. Section 13. The state recognizes the vital role of the youth in nation-building and shall promote and protect their physical, moral, spiritual, intellectual, and social being.
3. Section 15. The State shall protect and promote the right to health consciousness among them.

#### **B. National Legislations:**

1. Republic Act (RA) No. 11518 or the General Appropriations Act (GAA) for Fiscal Year 2021 - Under the Special GAA provisions on Social Protection Program for Teen-Aged Mother and their Children, the DSWD, in consultation with the Commission on Population and

Development, was mandated to develop a social protection program specifically for teen-aged mothers who are minors and their children.

2. **RA No. 11639 or the General Appropriations Act (GAA) for Fiscal Year 2022** - Under Section 11 Special GAA provisions, the amount of Ten Million Pesos (10,000,000) was appropriated for the Social Protection Program for Adolescent Mothers and Their Children (SPPAMC) which shall be used for the implementation of the approved strategies and interventions under such program developed by the DSWD, the CPD and other relevant agencies. The fund shall also cover the Conditional Cash Transfer as part of the Social Protection Services for Adolescent Mothers based on approved criteria and mechanism by DSWD and CPD.
3. **RA No. 7610 or the Special Protection of Children against Child Abuse, Exploitation and Discrimination Act** - Under Section 4, it was specified that there shall be a comprehensive program to be formulated, by the Department of Justice and the Department of Social Welfare and Development in coordination with other government agencies and private sector concerned, within one (1) year from the effectivity of this Act, to protect children against child prostitution and other sexual abuse; child trafficking, obscene publications and indecent shows; other acts of abuse; and circumstances which endanger child survival and normal development.
4. **Implementing Rules and Regulations of RA No. 10354 or the Responsible Parenthood and Reproductive Health (RPRH) Law of 2012** - Under Section 12. 03., the DSWD is mandated to review and strengthen modules for family development sessions and other community-based programs for families to ensure incorporation of responsible parenthood and reproductive health concepts; facilitate retooling of service providers, particularly the local social welfare and development officers, through the DSWD Field Offices, and perform other functions to achieve the objectives of the RPRH Act.
5. **Implementing Rules and Regulations of RA No. 11908 or the Act Mandating the Establishment and Implementation of the Parent Effectiveness Service Program to Strengthen Parental Involvement in their Children's Development and Learning and Appropriating Funds Therefor of 2022** - to assist Filipino parents and parent-substitutes in strengthening their knowledge and skills in responding to their parental duties and responsibilities, protect and promote children's rights, foster positive early childhood development and advance their educational progress.

**C. National Issuance:**

*Executive Order No. 141, series of 2021, Adopting as a National Priority the Implementation of Measures to Address the Root Causes of the Rising Number of Teenage Pregnancies, and Mobilizing Government Agencies for the Purpose* - this mandates the Human Development and Poverty Reduction (HDPR) Cabinet Cluster, all government agencies and instrumentalities to identify and implement practicable interventions related to the prevention of adolescent pregnancies, including comprehensive sexuality education, education and livelihood opportunities for young people, and health promotion through media and communications. It was further specified in the Executive Order (EO) that in the implementation of the identified programs and interventions, all concerned agencies and instrumentalities shall maximize the use of digital and online platforms to reach adolescents and young people, and raise awareness on the protection and promotion of reproductive health and rights.