**Welfare Benefits**

Families should be able to receive welfare benefits and still homeschool their children using any of the legal options, including operating a home-based private school. As soon as a homeschool family is denied welfare benefits based on a truancy allegation, a verification of enrollment and attendance in school should be provided to the agency, together with a copy of the private school affidavit, if you operate your own school. Under most circumstances, no additional school records or information should be given to the agencies. Your local legal aid office can help you keep your benefits. If the attorney needs information about the legality of homeschooling, he or she can contact HSC Legal at info@hsc.org (or 1-888-HSC-4440) for further information. Most of these cases can be handled quickly and easily at the first contact, but become more complicated if not handled effectively at the beginning.