# West Virginia Division of Juvenile Services



**Youth Reporting Centers** 

## **Current Locations**

We currently have 12 Youth Reporting Centers Covering 15 Counties:
Berkeley, Jefferson, Cabell, Mason, Brooke/Hancock, Marion, Mercer, Putnam, Kanawha, Harrison, Wood, Tri-County (Boone, Lincoln and Logan)
(Home Detention Program Boone/Kanawha)

#### **Future Locations**

In accordance with Senate Bill 393 the Division has planned for fiscal year 2015-2016 to open Reporting Centers in the following counties:

- Greenbrier
- Raleigh
- Fayette
- Monongalia
- Wetzel

# Youth Reporting Centers

The Division of Juvenile Services Youth Reporting Centers (YRC) are established to provide positive alternatives to detention, make available a wide variety of skill based mental, physical, and social instruction, provide effective case management, expose at risk youth to instruction and reinforcement for proactive, acceptable social behaviors and protection of the community and the youth.

Youth Reporting Centers will be a safe place where select youth will report while on probation or as part of a commitment and where the youth receives an increased intensity of services. The youth will continue to receive educational services, vocational training, treatment, and other service deliveries while remaining in his or her community.

## GOALS

- Assisting youth to focus on becoming more responsible and productive citizens.
- Promote activities that address public safety concerns and provide clear structure for juveniles.
- Promote the imposition of strict accountability requirements by incorporating best practices, specific scheduling, and monitoring of daily activities, through intensive assessments and treatment.
- Promote quality aftercare supervision and reintegration plans for those juveniles reentering the community from a placement facility.
- Promote the idea that successful completion of the program will result in the realization of all mutually agreed upon service goals that may include payment of restitution and/or participation in community service, in addition to drug free urinalysis and education recuperation.

# Who is eligible?

- Minors who have committed crimes and/or misdemeanor offenses.
- Juvenile offenders may be adjudicated for a violation of West Virginia Code Chapter 61 or a reasonably related offense.
- Juvenile Offenders placed on improvement period by the court and are in need of intensive supervision and additional sanctions.
- Resident of said county.
- Referred by probation and or as a direct sentence from the court. (Circuit Judge and/or magistrate)
- Participants must also be between the age of 12 and 18 years. (Unless transitioning from out of home placement/aftercare)
- Youth participating in the Supreme Court of Appeals Drug Court Programs.
- Youth participating in a pre-petition diversion program in accordance with 49-4-702.

#### **Educational Component**

- The following Reporting Centers have partnered with the local Board of Education to provide on-grounds schools services to the youth attending the program.
- Kanawha County, Boone County, Marion County, Brooke/Hancock County, Wood County, Putnam County, Mason County
- This allows youth to participate in a school setting with more one on one instruction and additional supervision.
- Centers without an on-grounds school assist with tutoring, work directly with the local schools, coordinate and link to GED prep and testing, and work with the families to identify any barriers regarding the youths educational needs.

# Assessment/Service Planning

- All referrals will be screened thoroughly by the YRC staff.
- The following assessments are currently used in our YRC programs: The (JASAE) Juvenile Automated Substance Abuse Evaluation, Psychosocial Summary, YLSCMI, and CANS
- Once assessments have been completed recommendations are made to the referring entity in regards to the level of participation of the youth
- The assessments initiate service planning for the youth and is the mechanism that drives the treatment for the participants.
- Each participant will have a comprehensive service plan developed with the youth and the treatment team (family, youth, counselors, educators, probation, DHHR, other key players)

- Counseling Services- both individual and supportive group are provided daily
- Transportation- provided by the Center to promote attendance and assist families
- Meals are provided to the youth each day
- Hours of Operation 8am to 8pm Monday through Friday
- Community Service (nursing homes, parks/recreation, churches)
- Tutoring and Homework provided to the youth

#### **Violence Intervention and Prevention**

- Unhealthy relationship behaviors can begin early and last a lifetime.
- Adolescents and young adults are the primary victims and perpetrators of violence in our society. This violence includes aggressive behavior such as bullying and more serious acts such as assault, homicide, and suicide.
- Participants learn to take responsibility for their own actions and resolving conflicts with positive communication skills. The program promotes nonviolent values and conflict resolution skills.

#### Parent Responsibility (Family) Counseling

- This counseling provides parents with effective parenting skills designed for these at-risk youth.
- Parents are required to exercise beyond the most basic and minimal parenting supervision such as forbidding their children to keep and possess illegal weapons, drugs, etc.
- Specific parenting techniques are taught and parents are encouraged to use these parenting styles in a given situation.
- These methods go beyond a parent's responsibility to require the basic supervisory control as stated above.
- The goal of this service is to provide a plan to maximize each child's development and to improve parent-child relationships whenever possible. Cognitive Behavior Intervention is also incorporated into this program

Specific topics covered in group and individual counseling include:

- Bullying
- Decision Making
- Shop lifting
- Life Skills
- Substance Abuse Education
- Trauma
- Smoking Cessation
- Restorative Justice
- Career opportunities and job related skills

#### **Job Training / Employment Placement-**

 Those participants who are eligible are referred to the Division of Rehabilitation Services for assessment of job development skills. A program is prepared to meet each juvenile's individual needs and prepare them for the workforce. Assistance is also provided to procure employment, to enter college, or obtain a vocational skill. Workforce WV, HRDF, KISRA, Garnett and other vocational opportunities are explored as well.

#### Wrap Around Case Management Services-

- Case Management services are intended to offer support in terms of education, employment, housing, health, relationships, and accessing resources.
- Professional staff provides case management services to those youth referred to the program.
- Case managers perform assessments, plan and manage the youth's services and care, conduct/facilitate treatment team meetings, address issues in the community, provide linkage to resources available to each youth, monitor each youth's progress and areas of concern, in addition to the maintenance of positive behavior.
- Case managers integrate the standards of practice, develop case management methods and merit measurement in a multidisciplinary approach that includes all members of the treatment team in the promotion of quality of life.
- This includes our After Care services (CM) provided to youth leaving placement

# Organizational Chart

- Our Goal is to staff each program with credentialed competent staff:
- Staffing Pattern consists: Program Director, Case Managers, MA level therapist, Bachelors Level Counselors,
- Each YRC will have a community advisory board responsible for monitoring and assisting the YRC with local needs.
- Contractual staff will be utilized for GED prep, special topics and other educational needs for those programs with out an on grounds school.

# Drug Court

- DJS has partnered with the Supreme Court to offer services to the Youth Drug Court Programs.
- This program targets youthful offenders with substance abuse related issues.
- We currently have a Memorandum of Understanding in the following counties: Wood, Kanawha, Cabell, Harrison, Putnam, Brooke/Hancock, Tri-County and Mercer

# Outings and Activities









#### Conclusion

Community-based programs are costeffective solutions for a large number of delinguent youth. These alternatives to secure detention/placement are intended to: reduce crowding, cut the costs of operating juvenile detention centers, shield offenders from the stigma of institutionalization, help offenders avoid associating with youth who have more serious delinquent histories, and maintain positive ties between the juvenile and his or her family and community.