

JUVENILE JUSTICE PROGRAMMING HANDBOOK

Mayor LaToya Cantrell | 2022



Mayor's Office of Youth & Families



FOR GENERAL QUESTIONS REGARDING DETAILS CONTAINED IN THIS HANDBOOK, CONTACT:

Mayor's Office of Youth & Families at youthandfamilies@nola.gov, 504-658-4926

FROM THE MAYOR

DEAR FRIENDS,

I'm excited to share the Juvenile Justice Programming Handbook with the residents of New Orleans. Produced by the Office of Youth and Families, in partnership with the Office of Criminal Justice Coordination, Orleans Parish Juvenile Court, and the Juvenile Justice Intervention Center, this resource provides our community with detailed information on programs and services available for system-involved youth in Orleans Parish.

Since day one, my administration has sought to redefine public safety as public health and expand services for youth who interact with the criminal justice system. Over the last several years, we have created multiple programs including the Evening Reporting Center, Summer Success, the Pathways Internship Program, and the Intensive In-Home Supervision Program. These services have impacted hundreds of system-involved youth.

In this handbook, you will find information on programs offered by the City of New Orleans as well as the Orleans Parish Juvenile Court. The handbook contains detailed information such as program descriptions, eligibility criteria, and key contact information.



As our community continues to face challenges created by the COVID-19 pandemic, these programs are essential in connecting our young people to mentors, wraparound services, and skills development.

I encourage young people, parents, program staff, and advocates to utilize this resource to support system-involved youth and empower them to participate in the programs included in this handbook.

Sincerely,

LaToya Cantrell
Mayor, City of New Orleans

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of Youth & Families



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Recidivism rates across the Pathways internship program and Evening Reporting Center program is less than 15%

EVENING REPORTING CENTER (ERC)



PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

The ERC is a 45-day alternative to detention program designed to provide individualized supervision to youth who would normally be held in secure pre-trial custody. Youth referred to the ERC participate in structured activities during afterschool hours in order to monitor behavior and occupy youth during hours of the day when they are at high risk of offending.

PROGRAM GOALS

- Offer safe and structured programming to youth participants
- Occupy youth's time during hours of the day when youth are at a higher risk of offending
- Increase the likelihood that youth will appear in court
- Connect youth with appropriate and longer-term community-based services
- Reduce the number of youth in secure detention

REFERRAL CRITERIA

- Pre-adjudicated youth are mandated to the ERC by Juvenile Court Judges
- Ages 11-17
- Risk Assessment Instrument (RAI) score that falls between the range of 12 and 30
- Youth is pending adjudication and a petition has been filed to bring charges against the participant
- Youth would otherwise be in detention if not for placement in the ERC

PROGRAM ACTIVITIES

- Group activities and interventions
- Strengths-based case management
- Individual mentoring and counseling
- Educational support
- Transportation support
- Monthly reporting to CNO/Juvenile Court Judges

PROGRAM TIMELINE & CAPACITY

- Program length is 45 days
- Schedule: Monday-Friday 4pm-8pm
- Program capacity is 15 youth at any time

PROGRAM CONTACT & ENROLLMENT

Reverend Pat Watson | Family Center of Hope | familycenterofhope@hotmail.com | 504-259-7642

FAMILIES IN NEED OF SERVICES (FINS)



PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

FINS is a legal process designed to focus on the family unit, rather than just the child. Each case is assigned a caseworker that assesses family needs and engages the entire family unit in services.

PROGRAM GOAL

FINS goals are to serve as an early intervention to reduce formal juvenile court involvement while generating appropriate community services to benefit the child and improve family relations.

REFERRAL CRITERIA

- Ages 10-18
- Youth and guardians must be willing to participate (unless in the formal FINS process)
- Referred on one of the legal grounds in Children's Code Article 730

PROGRAM TIMELINE

- Family agreements are initiated for 6 months and can be extended up to 1 year

PROGRAM ACTIVITIES

- Case management experience to support youth and family in setting a plan with set goals
- Identification and coordination of resources and services
- Educational resources and social supports
- Support with parenting tips and life skills

PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

- Knowledgeable and trained staff
- Coordination with strong community-based resources

PROGRAM CONTACT & ENROLLMENT

Janelle Temple LMSW | FINS Program Coordinator | jantemple@nola.gov | 504-658-9591

GIRLS REACHING OUT WORKS WONDERS (GROWW)



PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

GROWW is an evidence-based program designed to provide an educational and inspirational environment for young girls who are already involved with the Orleans Parish Juvenile Court or who are engaged in high-risk behaviors.

PROGRAM GOAL

The goal of the program is to prevent young girls from being further involved in the juvenile justice system. GROWW encourages girls to carefully reflect on their thoughts, feelings, and actions to increase self-awareness and boost confidence. Through one-on-one and group intervention, GROWW creates opportunities for young ladies to see their own potential and make positive choices.

REFERRAL CRITERIA

- Ages 10-18
- Youth and guardians must be willing to participate
- Youth is either court-involved or is engaging in behaviors that are deemed as high-risk

PROGRAM TIMELINE

- Program length is 30-60 days

PROGRAM ACTIVITIES

- Career interest exploration and development
- Community social support presentations
- Journaling, yoga and meditation
- College preparation
- Vision board development

PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

- Soft skill training aimed at improving self-esteem, complex reasoning, exploration of career options, and paths to success
- Incorporates effective methods for monitoring female youth while holding them accountable as they continue to engage with school, community, and relationships
- Incorporates culturally competent group counseling

PROGRAM CONTACT & ENROLLMENT

Connie Smith MSJJ | GROWW Coordinator | connie.smith@nola.gov | 504-658-9585



"I enjoy coming to work because it's like having a second family."

"I like coming to work because it's fun and it keeps me out of things."

INTENSIVE IN-HOME AND COMMUNITY SUPERVISION PROGRAM (IIHCSP)



PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

The Juvenile Justice Intervention Center's Intensive In-Home and Community Supervision Program (IIHCSP) substitutes electronic monitoring with wraparound supportive services to meet the needs of the family by using evidence-based intervention tools.

PROGRAM GOAL

IIHCSP's goal is to restrict the youth's movement in the community and association with negative influences by monitoring their behavior. Caseworkers support the youth's involvement in school, encourage his/her engagement in pro-social activities, and assist the parent/guardian in re-establishing control and structure in the home. Individual cases will be completed on the judge's decision. The primary intended outcome is to prevent youth from deepening involvement in the juvenile justice system.

REFERRAL CRITERIA

- Court-mandated by Juvenile Court Judges
- Ages 10-16
- Must possess a RAI score of 14 or lower [exceptions may be granted on a case by case basis]; Charged with nonviolent offenses
- No more than 3 detentions administered at JJIC or any other facility
- Must attend school and adhere to program attendance guidelines
- Youth and guardian must be willing to participate in IIHCSP

PROGRAM TIMELINE AND ACTIVITIES

- Program length is 90-days
- Intensive face-to-face supervision in the home, school, and community
- Connection to pro-social activities such as music, dance, theater, art, sports, and community services, etc.

PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

- Weekly in-home visits from caseworkers
- Mental health and counseling support
- Prevents association with negative influences
- Provides youth with opportunities to connect with services in the community
- Program capacity is 15 youth at any one time

PROGRAM CONTACT & ENROLLMENT

Lee Reisman LCSW | Superintendent Youth Supportive Services | lee.reisman@nola.gov | 504-648-3418

MEN ENGAGING IN LEADERSHIP OPPORTUNITIES WORKS (MELOW)



PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

MELOW is a pre-adjudication delinquency intervention and prevention program that supports at-risk youth and families. MELOW utilizes evidence-based practices and community-based resources along with intervention and prevention strategies to strengthen youth self-esteem, entrepreneurship, and decision-making skills.

PROGRAM GOAL

Through this program, young men will be provided with support and mentorship services to help them be successful and to prevent further involvement in the juvenile-justice system.

REFERRAL CRITERIA

- Ages 10-18
- Community referral
- Youth and guardians must be willing to participate
- Youth is either court-involved or is engaging in behaviors that are deemed as high-risk

PROGRAM TIMELINE

- Program length is 30-45 days
- After the youth graduate from the program, they are able to participate in a volunteer capacity as mentors for other youth. They are identified as successfully completing the program. However, they are still engaged and have the ability to receive services while being provided with the opportunity to increase their leadership capacity.

PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

- The program provides a structured, supervised environment during out of school hours
- Weekly group counseling with professional counselors
- Tailored life skills sessions
- Homework assistance
- Guest speakers
- Home visits
- Referrals for mental health services

PROGRAM ACTIVITIES

- Sports, Arts and Crafts, Archery, NORDC facilitated activities
- Carpentry classes
- Mentoring
- Job-related support
- Education support
- Community resources

PROGRAM CONTACT & ENROLLMENT

Ira Coleman | MELOW Director | ira.coleman@nola.gov | 504-658-9554

ORLEANS DETENTION ALTERNATIVE PROGRAM (ODAP)



PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

ODAP is a pre-adjudication alternative to detention program that seeks to ensure youth return for court appearances and do not re-offend while under supervision. ODAP wraps services around the family and the child through the use of Victim Advocates and face-to-face contact.

PROGRAM GOAL

The program is committed to family-focused programming that empowers youth and families to lead healthy, safe, and productive lives. Designed as an intensive supervision program to ensure youth are meeting curfew, attending school, and are present at court hearings.

REFERRAL CRITERIA

- Ages 10-18
- Youth and guardians must be willing to participate
- Court-involved youth with an RAI score of 10 or above
- Pre-adjudicated youth who require intensive supervision in the community

PROGRAM TIMELINE

- Program length is 45-60 days
- Services offered while youth are involved in open court case

PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

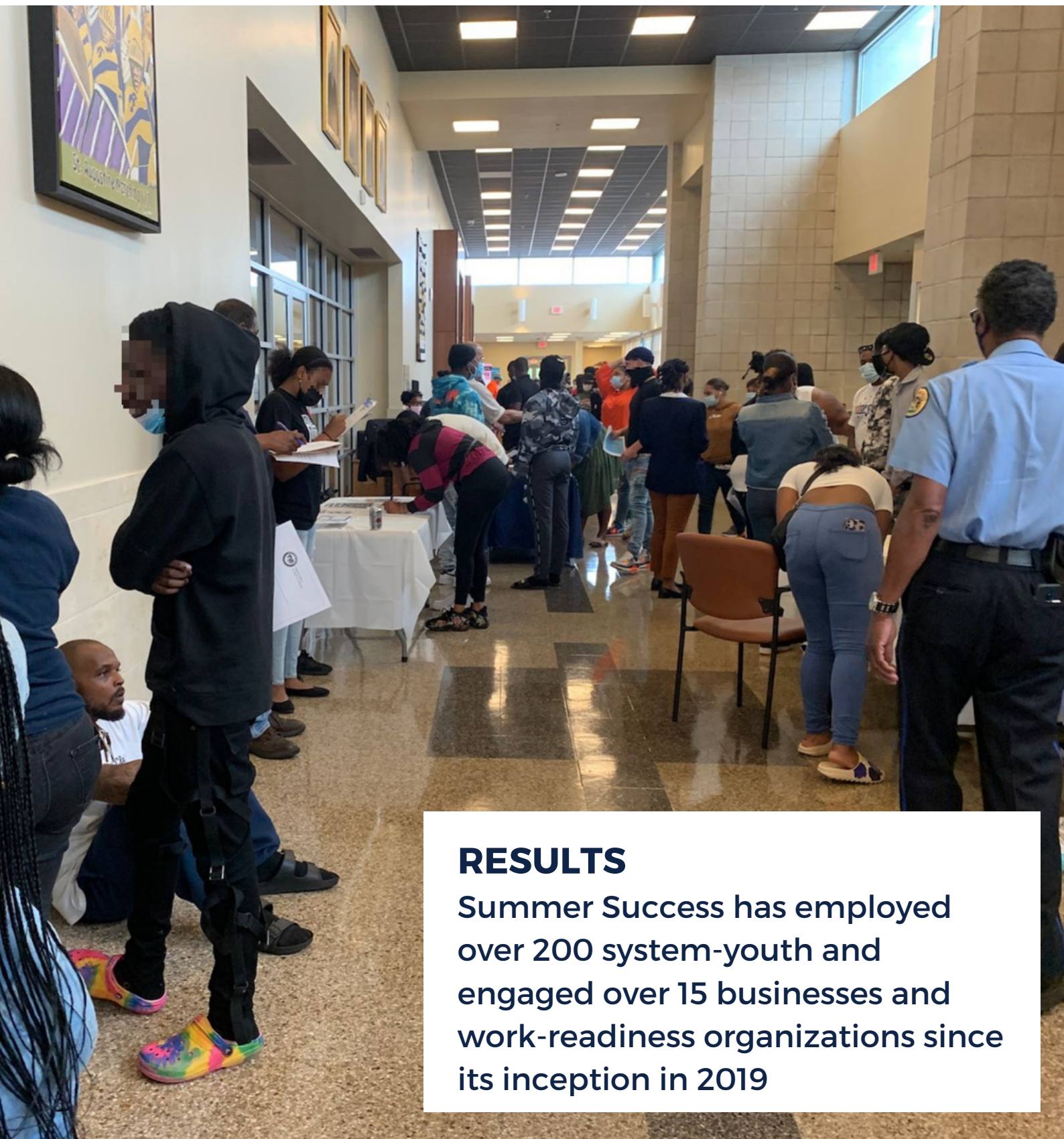
- Weekly in-home visits from case workers
- Provide referrals to community services and other needed resources
- Phone check-ins with youth and families

PROGRAM ACTIVITIES

- Supervision in-home, in the community, and at school
- Ensure that youth return to court while simultaneously not reoffending
- Curfew checks
- Connection to community services and other pro-social activities

PROGRAM CONTACT & ENROLLMENT

Kendra Alexis | ODAP Director | klalexis@nola.gov | 504-658-9541



RESULTS

Summer Success has employed over 200 system-youth and engaged over 15 businesses and work-readiness organizations since its inception in 2019

ORLEANS PARISH JUVENILE COURT CALMING STUDIO



PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

The Calming Studio is a unique concept designed to provide a therapeutic atmosphere for children and youth who attend court hearings at the Orleans Parish Juvenile Court (OPJC,) focusing on youth who have survived traumatic experiences, such as trafficking, abuse, and neglect. The Calming Studio is staffed with a Trust-Based Relational Intervention (TBRI) Practitioner and cross-trained OPJC staff.

PROGRAM GOAL

The TBRI® model is designed to meet the basic relationship and developmental needs of youth from “hard places” as well as the needs of the caregivers who seek to help them heal, learn, and grow. The Calming Studio serves as a peaceful place where children and youth can come to help diminish any stress and trauma associated with a participant's appearance for court proceedings.

REFERRAL CRITERIA

- Any ages accepted
- Youth and guardians must be willing to participate
- Youth who have been identified as experiencing traumatic events and/or youth that have a history of sensory-processing difficulties

PROGRAM TIMELINE

Once referred to the Calming Studio the youth will be allowed to visit the studio until the court proceedings have ended or the desired outcome has been achieved. The visits to the Studio will last no more than 45 minutes per family. Youth can be referred from court programs, the Defense Attorneys office, the Juvenile Justice Intervention Center, or any section of court.

PROGRAM ACTIVITIES

- Activities will involve the use of therapeutic tools such as weighted blankets, bubble tubes, kinetic sand, and an assortment of other tools to help the youth become or remain calm and focus on the task at hand.
- Uses Correcting Principles to teach participants daily social skills that will help them to successfully problem-solve challenging situations.

PROGRAM CONTACT & ENROLLMENT

Brian Davis | TBRI Practitioner | brian.davis@nola.gov | 504.658.9553

PATHWAYS INTERNSHIP PROGRAM



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of Youth & Families

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

Pathways is a 15-week work readiness program for system-involved youth, ages 14-17 years old. The program combines soft skill workshops with paid internship experiences in order to increase work readiness and connect to opportunities that align with youth's interests. Youth earn \$10/hour and work up to 10 hours a week.

PROGRAM GOALS

Reduce recidivism, enhance economic stability, and prepare/connect youth to meaningful work opportunities.

REFERRAL CRITERIA

- Youth are referred to the program by justice system partners and participate voluntarily
- Ages 14-17
- Must have been arrested or detained for a non-violent offense

PAID INTERNSHIPS

- Internship sites are predominantly black or minority-owned small businesses located in New Orleans East, Algiers, Central City, 9th Ward, 7th Ward, and the CBD
- Internship tracks include:
 - Construction
 - Hospitality
 - Retail
 - Computer Coding/IT
 - Creative Media/Arts

PAID WORKSHOPS

- Workshops include:
- Goal setting
 - Career mapping
 - Anger management
 - Mindfulness
 - Financial education
 - Resume writing
 - Interview skills

PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

- Program length is 15 weeks (internship schedule determined according to youth schedule)
- Youth paid \$10/hour for 10 hours per week
- Transportation assistance provided
- The current program capacity is 15 youth per cohort; three cohorts per year
- Youth participate in group camping retreat and end of cohort graduation

PROGRAM CONTACT & ENROLLMENT

Anamaria Villamarin-Lupin | Program Manager | anamaria.villamarin-lupin@nola.gov | 504-351-2713

We Dat's

NEW ORLEANS STYLE
Chicken & Shrimp

WINGS

SEASONS

- Hot Buffalo \$9.99
- Hot Honey Mustard \$12.99
- Hot BBQ \$12.99
- Hot Cajun \$12.99
- Hot Lemon Pepper \$12.99
- Hot Ranch \$12.99
- Hot Teriyaki \$12.99
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10% Off Military & 1st Responders / Police

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6PC WINGS
W/FRIES
& FOUNTAIN DRINK

\$8.99

We Dat's

HELP WANTED
per

Wearing a black face mask and a dark jacket, a person is seated at a table in the foreground, looking towards the camera.

Back of a person's head with curly hair, wearing a camouflage patterned shirt, is visible in the foreground.

RESPECT, INVEST IN, SUPPORT, AND EMPOWER (RISE)



PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

Respect, Invest in, Support, & Empower (RISE) is an initiative at OPJC to improve the juvenile justice system's capacity and infrastructure to better identify and respond to court-involved youth who are victims of human trafficking and trauma. The RISE Director reviews all Intake Placement Assessments each day. If risk or abuse is indicated on this form, the RISE Director will request a 'Tier 2' screening take place. The RISE initiative then works to refer individuals to specialized services.

PROGRAM GOAL

Improve the capacity and infrastructure of the juvenile justice system to better identify and respond to court-involved youth who are victims of human trafficking and trauma.

REFERRAL CRITERIA

- Any ages accepted
- While the program was designed to work with court-involved youth, the program can also facilitate coordination of services for youth in the community
- Youth and guardian must be willing to participate
- Youth is a suspected victim of trafficking or engaged in high-risk behavior.
- The program does a needs assessments in order to identify youth/family needs and make referrals to community-based services.

PROGRAM ACTIVITIES

- Provide screenings and assessments for trafficking, trauma, and other mental health needs
- Refer youth to trauma-focused or specialized community programs and resources
- Provide community training on trafficking, trauma, mandated reporting, and trauma-informed care

PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

- RISE provides services and referrals for youth that are high-risk or identified as victims of trafficking and trauma
- Provide trauma-specific case management services

PROGRAM TIMELINE

- Services provided as needed

PROGRAM CONTACT & ENROLLMENT

Dr. Jerrelde Sanders, MCJ, LMSW | Rise Director | 504-658-9597

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

Summer Success is a 5-week paid summer internship program for system-involved youth. Summer Success seeks to address youth poverty, unemployment, and recidivism by matching youth with community-based, paid work experiences. In addition, youth are provided with case management services and workforce development training.

PROGRAM GOAL

Summer Success's goal is to reduce recidivism for non-violent offenders, provide work readiness training, and increase economic opportunities for youth during critical summer months.

REFERRAL CRITERIA

- Youth are referred to the program by justice system partners and participate voluntarily
- Ages 14-17
- Must have been arrested or detained for a non-violent offense
- Required documentation includes: ID (i.e. Birth Certificate, SS Card, State ID), Proof of Household, Checking Account, Proof of Residence in Orleans

PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

- Program length is 5 weeks
- Youth are paid \$10 per hour for 20 hours per week
- Summer internship placements range from work readiness programs to on-the-job work experience depending on youth needs and interests
- Transportation assistance
- Case management and connection to community-based services
- Capacity to serve 100 youth

PROGRAM CONTACT & ENROLLMENT

Anamaria Villamarin-Lupin | Program Manager | anamaria.villamarin-lupin@nola.gov | 504 351-2713

...ing NOEA
Taking Back our Youth
The Black School
New Orleans Technical Assistance Program
Administration of Mayor LaToya Cantrell
May 11th, 2021



TEEN COURT



PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

Teen Court is a specialized program that aims to help decrease juvenile delinquency by interrupting the beginning stages of potential criminal behavior by focusing on low-level charges (disturbing the peace, trespassing, criminal damage to property, and simple battery). Studies have found lower rates of re-offense among former teen court participants, which is thought to be due to the positive peer influence provided in the program. Teen Court provides an opportunity for court-involved teens to circumvent the formal court adjudication process while still being held accountable for their actions.

PROGRAM GOAL

Through Teen Court, youth have the opportunity to participate in trials held by their peers that allow them to simultaneously take responsibility for their actions, engage in the community, and learn about the juvenile justice process.

REFERRAL CRITERIA

- Ages 10-18
- First time non-violent offenders
- Youth and guardian must be willing to participate
- Youth must be court-involved and charged with a low-level offense

PROGRAM TIMELINE

45-60 days is the timeline for the Teen Court program. This time period includes the number of trials the respondent has to complete as a juror in Teen Court as well as any other requirements (writing an apology letter, a composition report, community service, etc.). A jury of the youth's peers unanimously decides on the sentencing. The program offers a seven (7) week curriculum called The CORE Project which addresses the multiple needs of at-risk youths in their adolescent development.

PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

- Weekly in-home visits from caseworkers
- Provide referrals to community services and other needed resources
- Provide phone check-ins with youth and families
- Local volunteer attorneys train youth advocates in Criminal Justice and trial procedures
- Youth volunteers receive training as Judge, Defense Attorneys, Prosecuting Attorneys, Bailiffs, and Jurors
- Local Criminal and Civil Court Judges visit and sit in on various cases

PROGRAM ACTIVITIES

- Supervision in-home, in the community, and at school
- Ensure that youth return to court while simultaneously not reoffending
- Curfew checks
- Connection to community services and other pro-social activities

PROGRAM CONTACT & ENROLLMENT

Dr. Clarence Bickham | Teen Court Program Coordinator | cjbickham1@nola.gov | 504-658-9583



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YOUR FIRST CAREER RESOURCE

FOR GENERAL QUESTIONS REGARDING DETAILS CONTAINED IN THIS HANDBOOK, CONTACT:

Mayor's Office of Youth & Families at youthandfamilies@nola.gov, 504-658-4926