

County Juvenile Court

Judge Van Blanchard II

Program Name

Diversion Program

Program Intervention

Diversion Contract

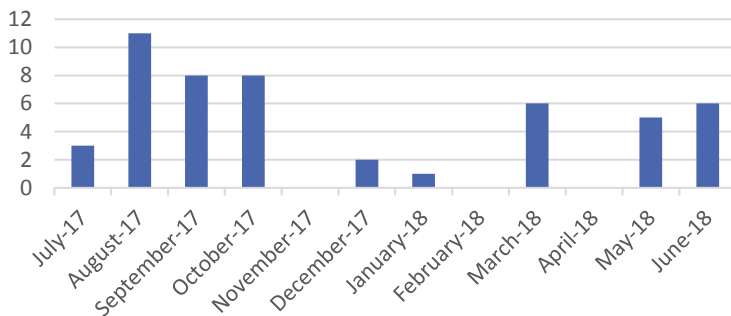
Primary Services Location

Coshocton County

Program Description

Participation is voluntary and involves signing a Diversion Contract, which includes an interview of the youth and family to determine their need and what referral services will be most helpful. All youth abide by a curfew, complete apology letters, home and school progress reports, the nurturing parent program, and 8 hours of community service. Additionally, they could be assigned educational programs and essays. Incentives include later curfew and more freedom. If the youth has restitution to pay they may work the CAP (Community Accountability Program). This is similar to community service but the youth can earn \$5.00's an hour- up to \$250.00. That money is paid directly to the victim.

Community Service- Participants by Month 300 Hours Completed



Program Snapshot

(As of July 2018)

Gender:

Male 28

Female 18

Race/Ethnicity:

African American 2

White 41

Other 3

Age Range:

12-18 with current avg. 16.1

Offense Level:

Misdemeanor & At- Risk

Youth Re-Offense Risk Level:

89.13% moderate risk

Screens & Assessments:

OYAS Diversion Tool

Assessments Ohio Scales

Program Start Date:

7-1-2017

Received Services:

46 Youth & 90 Family Members

Program Completion Successes:

19 Youth & Families

27 Youth & Families Continuing

Average # of Service Units:

442 Direct Service Hours per Youth

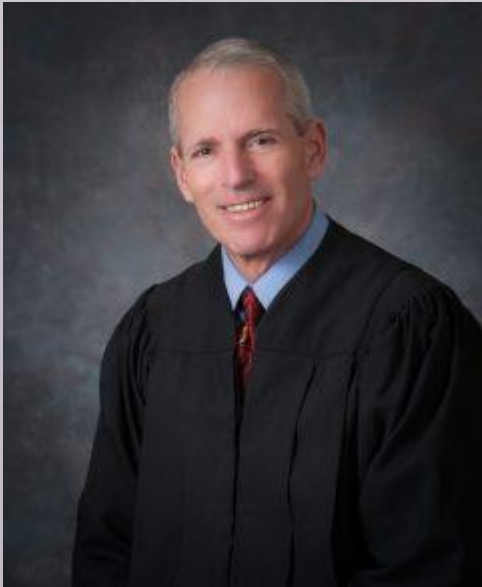
145 Direct Service Hours per Family

386.89 Direct other Service Hours

Program Partners:

- Coshocton Sheriff's Office & WLPD
- Prosecutor's Office
- First Step F.V.I.S.
- Coshocton Behavioral Health Choices
- Allwell Behavioral Health Services
- Family & Children First Council
- Job & Family Services
- Local School Districts
- Opportunity & Alternative School

Coshocton County Early Successes – Diversion Program



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The purpose of the program is to provide an opportunity for youth and families to receive quality services without having a formal juvenile record. As most first-time offenders are at a lower risk of recidivism, this program not only provides accountability during the short term, but also enhances competency to ensure that this will be their last contact with the Court and Law Enforcement.

Quality is not an act, it is a habit. **Quality** is never an accident; it is always the result of high intention, sincere effort, intelligent direction and skillful execution; it represents the wise choice of many alternatives. **Quality** means doing it right when no one is looking.... Aristotle



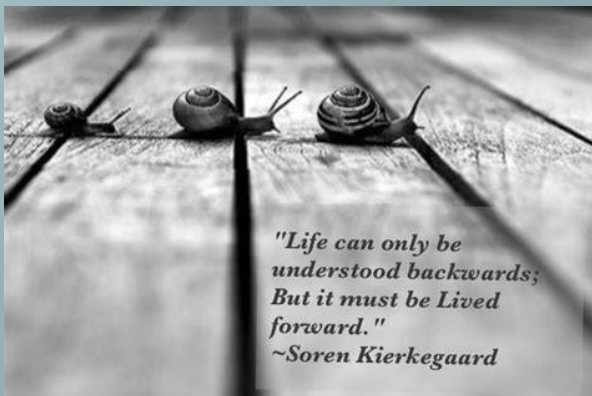
Lessons Learned

We should keep our focus on what we are directing the youth to, not away from. I like the acronym PURE when working toward our goals. Positively Stated, Understood, Relevant & Ethical. In Diversion we know what we are trying to keep the youth away from, but what are we directing them to? I believe a shift of focus is warranted. Our court recently purchased Emotional Bingo from the Social Worker's tool box. All the youth coming through the program have 8 hours of Community Service to do and the thought was to introduce this game during break time. Emotional Bingo not only helps teens learn to recognize various feelings, it also teaches empathy—a trait associated with lower incidence of violent behavior.

Youth Success Story

Testimony of a 16- year-old female who requested to remain anonymous.

Personally, at first I didn't think diversion was for me at all, because, I'm not gonna compare myself to others, but everyone makes mistakes in their lives and I didn't think I made the most worst mistakes to be put on it. But honestly toward the end of diversion everything started to get a lot better. I think it was because of all the resources that diversion was sending my way, they actually started to help me with a lot of the problems that were happening in the home.



*"Life can only be understood backwards;
But it must be Lived forward."
~Soren Kierkegaard*

Kids helping Kids



After assisting with the Kiwanis Food Pantry where 195 families were served, this Diversion Group enjoyed learning how to make survivor bracelets. These bracelets will be used for prizes at the annual Chestnut Crossing (government housing) block party in August.

Program Information Contact

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