

Juvenile Diversion Staff

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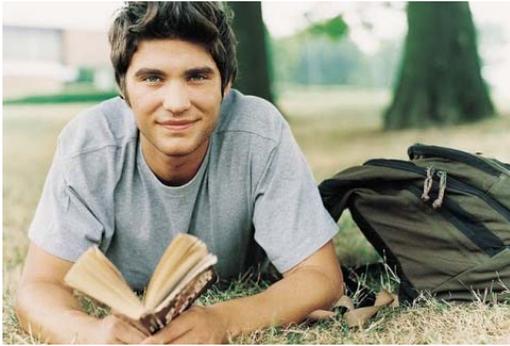
Juvenile Diversion

Lincoln/ Lancaster County
Human Services



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Juvenile Diversion Services

An alternative to traditional justice proceedings for youth ages 11 to 17 who have committed certain types of legal violations.

Our goal is to prevent crime by teaching youth the skills they need to become more productive citizens. Services provided are based on the principle of restorative justice. Educating youth on the harm his/her actions have caused others and ultimately themselves; and to restore the youth's right place in the community.

Juveniles interested in Juvenile diversion Services do not have to make a plea of guilt, but must accept responsibility for the offense; acknowledge the extent of their involvement; and be willing to comply with Diversion requirements.

Program requirements for juveniles participating in Diversion services may include:

- Participating in educational classes as assigned;
- Writing an apology letter;
- Participating in mediation;
- Receiving no additional law citations while enrolled in the program;
- Paying restitution to victims;
- Completing community service;
- Paying the program fee of \$60 (payment plan option and/or fee reduction/waiver available for qualified individuals); and
- Engaging in pro-social activities in the community.

Diversion services are tailored to the individual. The duration of involvement depends on the juvenile and the nature of the offense committed.

Participation shall be long enough to affect a change in the juvenile

After completing the program, the prosecuting attorney agrees not to file any charges on the offense that was diverted.

Withdrawal from the program without successfully completing the requirements will lead to the prosecuting attorney filing criminal charges on the offense(s). Additionally, the fees paid to the program will not be reimbursed.

Eligibility Requirements

- Between 11 and 17 years of age
- Legal violation must be of a certain type
- Accept responsibility for offense and acknowledge extent of involvement
- Willing to comply with all program requirements

Intensive Diversion

Youth referred to Intensive Diversion are given the opportunity to participate in diversion for a second time. Youth must have a minimum of a nine month lapse between the date of successful completion of regular diversion and the date of the new offense. Intensive Diversion has more requirements than regular diversion along with a fee of \$100.

