

JUDICIAL AND ENFORCEMENT REGIONAL STRATEGY CONFERENCE

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 15, 2011

Cyndi Desrosiers, CPS, CASA\gal

WHAT IS COURT DIVERSION?

Diversion is an alternative to traditional court processing. It is a procedure that refers a youthful offender, who might otherwise be dealt with in juvenile court, to an alternative community-based program. Diversion programs deal primarily with the first-time low-risk offender and are based on the assumption that some offenses are more effectively dealt with by sanctions other than prosecution.

WHAT DIVERSION IS

Diversion involves and represents the members of the community harmed by the crime. It holds youth responsible and accountable for the offense they have committed and demands reparation to the community, and when feasible, the victim.

WHAT DIVERSION ISN'T

Diversion is not a slap on the wrist as a way to avoid real punishment. Youth who do not perform satisfactorily face the reality of being returned to the juvenile justice system for their original offense.

NH JUVENILE COURT DIVERSION NETWORK

Belknap County Youth Services
64 Court Street
Laconia, NH 03246

City of Keene - Youth Services
3 Washington Street
Keene, NH 03431

Peterborough Police Department Juvenile Diversion
Program
73 Grove Street
Peterborough, NH 03458

Seacoast Youth Services
867 Lafayette Road
Seabrook, NH 03874

Northern Strafford County Juvenile Court Diversion
356 Main Street
Farmington, NH 03835

Youth Alternatives – a Tri-County Community Action
Program
30 Exchange Street,
Berlin, NH 03570

Valley Court Diversion Programs, Inc
211 North Main Street, PO Box 474
White River Junction, Vt. 05001

Greater Derry Juvenile Diversion
A Program of the Upper Room, a Family Resource
Center
36 Tsienneto Road
Derry, NH 03038

Office of Youth Services
61 West Main Street, PO Box 550
Hillsboro, NH 03244

The Youth Council
112 West Pearl Street
Nashua, NH 03060

Merrimack County Juvenile Diversion Program
4 Court Street, 2nd Floor
Concord, NH 03301

Rochester Police Department
Juvenile Diversion Program
23 Wakefield Street
Rochester, NH 03867

APPROVED THROUGH MARCH 31ST OF 2012.

Community Alliance
of Human Services
P.O. Box 188
Newport, NH 03773

Youth Assistance Program of Northfield, Sanbornton
and Tilton, Inc.
P.O. Box 3068
Northfield, NH 03276

Carroll County Restorative Justice Center
448 White Mountain Highway
Tamworth, NH 03886

CADY Restorative Justice
94 Highland Street
Plymouth, NH 03264

Office of Youth Services
City of Manchester
1045 Elm Street, Suite 204
Manchester, NH 03101

Community Alliance of Human Services
P.O. Box 188
Newport, NH 03773

Family Mediation and Juvenile Services
16 Academy Avenue
Atkinson, NH 03811

NEW HAMPSHIRE DIVERSION LAW CHANGES ON JANUARY 1ST, 2011

As of January 1, 2011 programs which offer juvenile diversion in the state of New Hampshire now have to be accredited by the office of the Administrative Judge of the Judicial Branch Family Division. All programs which are currently court approved will remain conditionally approved throughout the review process. If your program provides diversion services and you have not contacted the Accreditation Committee about becoming accredited, please call Diane Casale at 603-432-8882.

DIVERSION IS AN INTERVENTION

Diversion is considered an early intervention program. Typically, a youth enters diversion after an offense has occurred. However, since the intent of the intervention is to prevent further offenses, the action is considered early intervention. Intervention programs are typically offered to individual youth or targeted groups.

PREVENTION IS...

Prevention programs are much broader efforts aimed at keeping youth from committing dangerous or criminal acts by using education, positive reinforcement, and positive example.

Types of prevention programs include after school enrichment programs, Guiding Good Choices, Life of an Athlete, Strengthening Families, Health Rocks, 4H Life and other efforts aimed at keeping youth from committing offenses in the first place.

PREVENTION IN SULLIVAN COUNTY

Communities United in Prevention: Communities United is an umbrella organization made up of businesses, community support organizations, government and law enforcement, and nonprofit organizations. We are united in our commitment to work for a better, healthier community. We know alcohol and drug abuse is draining our communities of valuable resources.

UNH Cooperative Extension

Newport Revitalization

Newport Out of School Time

Recreation Departments in Claremont, Newport and Sunapee

BB/BS in Claremont

And others...

EFFECTIVE PREVENTION

- Scare tactics DO NOT WORK

RESEARCH SHOWS THAT THE SHELF LIFE OF A SCARED STRAIGHT TACTIC LASTS **36 HOURS** IN THE LIFE OF A YOUTH.

- EVIDENCE BASED PROGRAMS WORK!

EFFECTIVE, MEASURED, REPLICATED...FUNDED

SULLIVAN COUNTY APPROVED DIVERSION PROGRAM

Organization: Community Alliance of Human
Services

Address: PO Box 188, 27 John Stark Highway,
Newport NH 03773

Phone: (603) 863-7708

FAX: (603) 863-9554

Email: msanborn@communityalliance.net

Website: communityalliance.net

legal entity: 501.c.3 non profit

Board size: 9-15 elected for up to two three-
year terms

of sites : 2

Contact: Michael Sanborn

Title: Director

FT Staff 1 PT Staff 1

Does the organization do fundraising? Yes

Communities

Served:

Acworth

Charlestown

Cornish

Claremont

Croydon

Goshen

Grantham

Lempster

Langdon

Newport

Plainfield

Springfield

Sunapee

Unity

Washington

SULLIVAN COUNTY...why, why not?

Is there enough Diversion programming here? If so, is it being fully utilized?

Do we have enough Prevention programming in the community?

Are there enough programs to support victims?

Do we have evidence based practices in the jails, in the community, in the schools?

Are there enough treatment options for PTSD, trauma, offenders, co-occurring disorders? Should we be using the same assessment tools?

Do our systems collaborate enough to be truly effective?

Should we form subcommittees to address our needs?

Should prevention programming start earlier?

Are parents engaged enough?

*Are policies and procedures standardized in our County? **Should they be?***

SULLIVAN COUNTY

What is **YOUR** goal?

What is working?

What are opportunities for **growth** ?

What will **EACH** of you do to make that happen?

THANK YOU

Cyndi Desrosiers, CPS, CASA\gal

Independent Consultant

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