

COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS

The **Community Connections** program is designed to provide highly effective case management services that prevent at-risk youth from repeat violations that could result in juvenile probation and/or detention. Youth and families are provided with case management and a unique combination of support services designed to address the needs of their specific circumstances, discourage future acts of delinquent behavior, and promote youth development.

The level of service provided in the Community Connections Program is tailored to the individualized need of the particular youth and family referred to the program. The individualized approach to the delivery of case management services allows each youth and family to receive the precise combination of services needed in response to their particular circumstances.

The Community Connections Program addresses the multiple contributing factors to a youth's potential detention including, but not limited to multiple violations, failure to attend school and curfew violations. Contractor's casework staff work in partnership with the youth and family to address and overcome these factors, ultimately supporting their efforts to lead law-abiding and productive lives. Youth referred to the Community Connections Program have low to medium risk levels, indications of mental health and substance abuse issues and a violation of conditions of probation. Primary reasons for their violating juvenile probation include truancy, curfew violations and substance abuse.

Description of Services

The Community Connections Program model includes the use of case management, structured and intensive supervision, therapeutic support, crisis intervention, and supplemental services to assist the youth in preventing repeat violations of probation and detention.

- Case Management
- Supervision & Tracking
- Individual Counseling
- Group Counseling
- Event Support Group Sessions
- Family Development & Counseling
- 24-hour Crisis Intervention
- Linkage to Community Resources



Outcomes

The following are some of the outcomes for youth involved with Community Connections:

In Orange County

- **91%** of children were not rearrested for a crime during their enrollment in the program.
- **82%** of children exhibited improvement in school attendance.
- **93%** of families expressed overall satisfaction with Southwest Key services.
- **88%** of youth completed the program without having an out of home placement.

In Erie County

- **97%** of clients received immediate intervention services within 24 hours of referral.
- **93%** of youth completed the service without being placed in an institutional setting.
- **95%** of youth completed the service without having an AWOL petition.