

Agreement Between the Broken Arrow Municipal Court and Youth Services of Tulsa for the Provision of Services to Referred First-time Offenders.

January 8, 2020

The following is an agreement between the Broken Arrow Municipal Court (BAMC) and Youth Services of Tulsa (YST) for referrals of first time juvenile offenders by BAMC to the YST Misdemeanant Alternative Program (MAP) for First Time Juvenile Offenders.

Introduction

On May 26, 1994, the Oklahoma House of Representatives and the Oklahoma Senate passed House Bill 2640 which was subsequently signed on June 3, 1994 by the Governor of the State of Oklahoma. This created the Oklahoma Juvenile Reform Act, which mandated alternative diversion programs for first-time offenders preventing deepening involvement in the juvenile justice system. "Alternative diversion programs for first-time offenders" means programs for juveniles who have been identified by law enforcement personnel, the District Attorney, Office of Juvenile Affairs, school personnel, members of the business community, parents, or the courts. Youth targeted for first offender program services have committed acts which are not serious enough to warrant adjudication, but which do indicate a need for intervention to prevent further involvement in criminal activity leading to juvenile delinquency.

Eligibility

The Youth Services of Tulsa Misdemeanant Alternative Program for First-Time Juvenile Offenders, henceforth known as First Offender Program (FOP) will accept both male and female juvenile offenders ages ten (10) through eighteen (18). Youth are eligible for enrollment in FOP if they have accrued no more than two (2) misdemeanor offenses with prospective merit. All referrals must be deemed appropriate by the program coordinator and the referring agency, school, parent, or business.

In addition, "At Risk" youth-defined as juveniles who have not yet committed a crime, but whose behavior and actions indicate an inclination or propensity to become involved in criminal activity in the future- may be referred to the program by law enforcement, state, local, or private agencies, school, parents, or business.

Referrals for juveniles having been previously enrolled in, but not completing the program will require a meeting including the program coordinator, court representative, referring agency, school, parent, or business, and the juvenile and his/her parents(s)/guardian(s). Upon completion of this meeting the juvenile will be considered for referral to the program.

Ineligibility

Juveniles having accrued more than two (2) misdemeanor offenses with prospective merit or any felony offense with prospective merit will not be eligible for referral to the program.

Referral Process

When a juvenile is arrested or detained for having committed an offense, the referring court, agency school, parent, or business will submit a program referral form (citation Parent or school request) to Youth Services of Tulsa, Inc. for review of eligibility. Once the referral is received and determined eligible YST will contact the juvenile's family and schedule an intake appointment with the juvenile and his/her parents or legal guardians. The juvenile will then be enrolled in the next available service.

Direct Client Services

MAP intake involves an assessment process that is designed to identify areas of youth/family strengths, challenges, and/or concerns. Through this process, the intake counselor and the family tailor an individualized service plan that may include one or more of the following referral sources:

Common referrals/recommendations

The YST First Offender Program (FOP) provides comprehensive intake and assessment through which an individualized service plan is completed, identifying recommended services and activities, completion of which will reduce the likelihood of further involvement in the juvenile justice system. FOP counselors track client participation in all recommended services within service plan designated time frames, which, at closing are noted in a Client Disposition Form that is returned to the court of origin, notifying the court regarding outcomes of client services. The following is a listing of common referrals to services offered youth and families under the auspices of the FOP service planning process:

- *First Offender Program Classes:* FOP skill building classes consist of six two hour sessions for a total of 12 hours of direct service. Parents and youth attend separate sessions at the YST downtown administrative office. FOP groups are limited to 14 families per group. The program covers six major topic areas conveying both skill building and educational material: Consequences of further involvement in the justice system, Communication Skills, Anger Management Skills, Problem Solving/Decision making, and Values Awareness. The final session is a review of all previous sessions and works to solidify the elements of those topics for participating families.
- *YST Family Counseling:* Accessed through referral from a MAP intake counselor. Scope of frequency of sessions is to be determined by the YST Family Counselor.
- *Substance Abuse Group:* The YST substance abuse group provides group education skill building and support with possible referral for higher level of care or treatment when indicated.
- *Crisis Intervention:* Referral due to suicidal behavior or ideation, depression, abuse, and family conflict.
- *Adventure Based Programming (Ropes Course):* Adventure based programming that teaches individual and group decision making and problem solving through outdoor cooperative activities.

- *Youth Court:* A process through which a first time offending youth may have his/her case heard before a court of his/her peers. Sentencing is conferred at time of appearance in court.
- *Restitution:* First time juvenile offenders may be required to make restitution to the crime victim, through compensation and a written letter of apology as appropriate.
- *Community Service:* An offending youth may be asked to complete a certain number of community service hours in anyone of a wide variety of local opportunities.
- *Paperwork/essay, grade checks, attendance checks*
- *Verification of enrollment of enrollment or participation in other programs and services:* Including but not limited to, counseling, school-related programs, parenting classes, work, etc.

Program Completion Requirements

Participants will be required to complete all recommendations given through a service plan developed at intake. If a service plan includes MAP classes, counseling, or youth court, at least one parent must attend each session with the youth.

Absences

Participants are allowed one reschedule date due to serious illness or death in the family. A make-up date must be scheduled and completed prior to the scheduled court date, if the youth is referred by any of the Municipal Courts of Bixby, Broken Arrow, or Owasso. If a youth has been referred to FOP by the Juvenile Bureau of the District Court, a make-up date must be scheduled within one month from the originally missed date. If possible, the program coordinator is to be notified at least 24 hours in advance of the absence.

Termination

A juvenile or parent may be terminated from the program due to excessive behavior problems, unexcused absences, failure to make up absences within the given time, alcohol, drug, or tobacco use during program hours.

In the event of a participant's termination from the program, the referring agency, court, school, parent, or business will be notified through a formal Client Disposition Form as to the reason for termination, corresponding with the next scheduled court date or within one month of termination.

Feedback

Each participant will complete a Client Satisfaction Form upon completion of services; The Client Satisfaction Form provides participants the opportunity to offer feedback on the program.

The facilitator will complete an evaluation of each juvenile participant, in the form of a disposition letter to be sent to the court of origin, referring agency, school, or parent indicating participant's completion or failure to complete the program.

Signed,

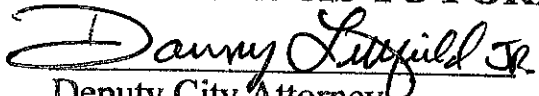
City Manager
City of Broken Arrow

Date

David Grewe
Executive Director
Youth Services of Tulsa

Date

APPROVED AS TO FORM:


Deputy City Attorney