


DC DEPARTMENT of HUMAN SERVICES

DC Department of Human Services Youth Services Division



- ACE Diversion Program
- PASS Program
- STEP Program
- TPAP Program
- Youth HOPE Program
- Youth Homeless Services

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Alternatives to the Court Experience

Alternatives to the Court Experience (ACE)



Youth from Golf Program with NBC News 4 Sports Anchor Sherree Burruss

ACE works to reduce the number of court-involved youth by linking them with clinically appropriate behavioral health services and community supports in place of arrests and prosecution.

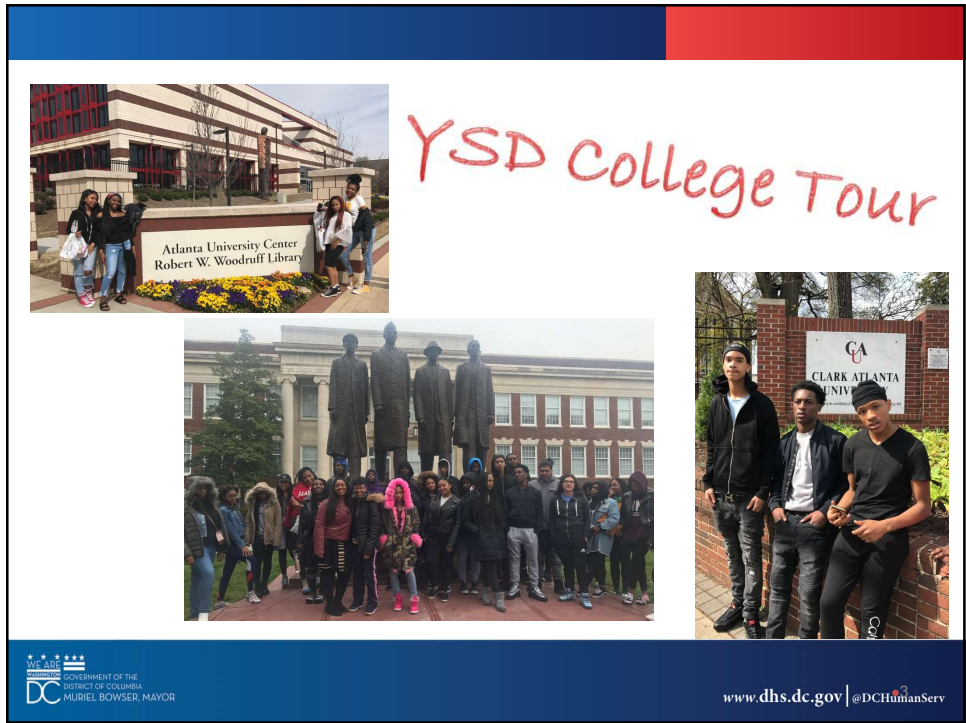
- The Alternatives to the Court Experience Diversion Program (ACE) is the City's diversion program for youth 17 yrs. and under.
- The program serves youth who have committed delinquency and/or status offenses.
- Referrals come from the Metropolitan Police Department (MPD), Court Social Services (CSS) and the Office of the Attorney General (OAG).
- While participating in the program, youth can receive case management, mentoring, tutoring, restorative justice, and other services as needed.

ACE is a voluntary program, but declining to participate results in potential arrest/prosecution

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A collage of three photographs from a 'YSD College Tour'. The top-left photo shows a group of people standing in front of the Atlanta University Center Robert W. Woodruff Library. The bottom-left photo shows a group of people posing in front of a building with several statues. The right photo shows three young men standing in front of a brick wall with a sign for Clark Atlanta University. The text 'YSD College Tour' is written in red cursive across the top right of the collage.


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Parent and Adolescent Support Services

Parent and Adolescent Support Services (PASS)



A photograph showing a group of people, including youth and adults, sitting around a table in a meeting. There are pink boxes and papers on the table.

The Parent and Adolescent Support Services (PASS) Program works to reduce status offenses, including truancy, curfew violations, running away, and extreme disobedience.

- PASS is a voluntary program that helps youth ages 10 - 17, and their families reduce challenging behaviors referred to as "status offenses."
- Referrals can be made to PASS by anyone (parents, schools, organizations, etc.) [PASS Referral link](#)
- The PASS Case Management Program works with families to identify and implement appropriate supports, such as therapy, after-school programming, parenting classes and mentoring, to help reduce the problematic behaviors.
- Families/Youth may not have open cases with Child & Family Services Administration (CFSA), Court Social Services (CSS) or the Dept. of Youth Rehabilitation Services (DYRS).

Referrals: Anyone can make a referral to PASS by phone, email or via electronic referral form for District youth who are committing status offenses. If you would like to receive a referral form to have on-hand, or make an immediate referral, please contact PASS.

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Functional Family Therapy (FFT)



Functional Family Therapy (FFT) is an intensive, short-term in-home family counseling program designed specifically to address status-offending behaviors and juvenile delinquency from a relational/family based perspective

- FFT therapists utilize a national, evidence-based model to work with the referred youth and their families.
- FFT services target adolescents who are experiencing a high level of conflict in the home, exposure to domestic violence, substance abuse, or status offending behaviors.
- This model assesses the family dynamics that have contributed to the youth's behavior, modifies strained family communication, improves parenting skills, and supports positive reinforcement within community contexts and relationships.

Eligibility: FFT is a voluntary program for DC residents with youth 10 -17 years of age.

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PASS Crisis And Stabilization Team (PCAST)

PASS Crisis and Stabilization Team (PCAST) is a brand new program within the Parent and Adolescent Support Services (PASS), which provides crisis assessment, intervention, and stabilization services to youth and their families. PCAST provides support to enhance coping skills and empower the youth and their families to return to the level of functioning before the crisis.

- The program serves youth (age 10-17) dealing with the following: chronic running away, gang involvement, human trafficking, psychiatric hospitalization, and other severe crises deemed appropriate for services.
- Referrals come from internal YSD Programs, DCPS, DCPCS, CFSA, Parents/Guardians and other government or community agencies.
- While participating in the program, youth receive intensive and therapeutic case management to stabilize the youth and family before receiving another service.



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Teen Parent Assessment Program (TPAP)



Referrals: TPAP receives referrals from ESA, community agencies, other government organizations, parents, etc.

Teen Parent Assessment Program (TPAP) works in partnership with the Economic Security Administration (ESA) to promote self-sufficiency through attainment of education.

Eligibility:

- ❑ Pregnant and Parenting teens who are 18 years old and under.
- ❑ Youth must be receiving TANF or be TANF eligible.
- ❑ Youth must be a DC resident.
- ❑ Teens below the age of eighteen must be under the supervision of a responsible adult.

Services:

- Youth receive case management services including: referrals for day care vouchers, educational programs, vocational training, higher education supports, parenting skills, behavioral and physical health services, housing stability, family mediation, safe sex education, etc.
- Case Managers also work with pregnant youth to ensure that there is follow up with prenatal and well baby care.
- Case Management services are provided using the Transition to Independence Process (TIP) Model, an evidence based intervention that aids youth in successfully transitioning into adulthood.

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A collage of four photographs. Top center: A chalkboard with a gold frame that reads "SMITHSONIAN PUBLIC HOUSE WELCOME to the TPAP Graduation Dinner". Top left: A group of four women, some holding babies, standing together. Top right: A woman in a pink top and white skirt standing next to a man in a white shirt and khaki pants. Bottom center: A group of women and babies sitting on a yellow sofa.

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Youth Housing Options and Prevention Education (Youth HOPE)

Youth HOPE is a stabilization and reunification program that works to divert youth from the shelter system, and reunite them with their families or other identified supports.

HOPE Objectives: HOPE aims to strengthen and stabilize family-relationships to promote safe and stable living conditions; identify community resources; and provide educational workshops to the community about youth focused resources in the District.

Eligibility for Youth HOPE, youth must be:

- ❑ Unaccompanied and 24 years of age and younger
- ❑ A DC resident
- ❑ Homeless or unstably housed
- ❑ Open to returning to family or other supports
- ❑ Open to conflict resolution with family or supports

Youth HOPE offers case management services for up to 6 months which includes referrals to:

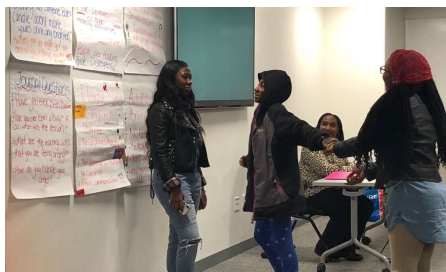
- Individual and/or family counseling
- Functional Family Therapy (FFT)
- Substance abuse counseling and treatment
- Workforce development
- Education assistance



Referrals: HOPE receives referrals from street outreach teams, community, and other government agencies.

Strengthening Teens Enriching Parents (STEP)

One missing youth is one too many. The STEP program was created in September of 2017 partnership with MPD, CFSA, CSS, OAG, DYRS, DBH, Sasha Bruce Youthwork, and together work to stabilize families and break the cycle of youth leaving home.



- The STEP program is voluntary and serves youth under the age of 18. Youth come to the attention of STEP via official missing persons reports filed with MPD.
- STEP and partner agencies provide immediate outreach to assess why the youth is leaving home and, together with the family, implement services to reduce the likelihood of future missing persons reports and increase family stability.
- While participating in the program youth receive case management and a range of services based on the youth's and families' needs, including, among others, stabilization services, temporary housing for youth, mentoring, mediation, and behavioral health interventions.

Youth Homeless Services



- Youth Homeless Services partners with non-profit agencies to provide a variety of individualized services to youth under the age of 25. These services include:
 - Transitional Housing
 - Extended Supportive Housing*
 - Street Outreach
 - Emergency Shelter
 - Rapid Rehousing
 - Permanent Supportive Housing
 - Drop-in Centers
 - Stabilization Services
- **Extended Supportive Housing offers intense support services for up to 6 years.*
- Housing matches are made through Coordinated Assessment Housing Placement (CAHP), co-led with The Community Partnership (TCP). CAHP provides standardized access and assessment for all youth by establishing a system where housing placement isn't a matter of talking to the right person, at the right agency, at the right time; A coordinated referral and housing placement process ensures that youth experiencing housing instability receive appropriate assistance with both immediate and long-term housing and service needs.
- Youth Services Division Program Analyst, Tamara Mooney, co-chairs the ICH Youth Committee.

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YSD Internal Groups/Initiatives



Youth Services Division Tenets

- ✓ Every youth is an individual.
- ✓ Every youth deserves to be part of a family, traditional or non-traditional.
- ✓ Youth deserve the opportunity to tell their story without being judged.
- ✓ Youth are growing and changing and the circumstances that brought them to our attention do not define them.
- ✓ Youth develop more positively when not involved in the juvenile justice system.

The Youth Services Division leverages the interests and expertise of staff to design and facilitate internal and unique programs such as:

- Groups: I Am King, Flower Girls, Street Law
- Initiatives: College Tour, Summer Camping; Graduation Ceremonies

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YSD Contact Information

Phone: (202) 698-4334

Fax: (202) 478-5747

Social Media: [@dcyouthserv](#) (Instagram and Twitter)

Additional Program Information:

- ACE Diversion Program: ace.diversion@dc.gov; sheila.clark@dc.gov
- PASS Program: dhs.pass@dc.gov; eddie.lindler@dc.gov
- STEP Program: leonora.hansford@dc.gov
- Youth Homeless Services: tamara.mooney@dc.gov

For referrals (PASS, TPAP & HOPE):

- PASS Program: dhs.pass@dc.gov
- TPAP (Teen Parent): michelle.maringe@dc.gov
- Youth HOPE Program: marquita.smith@dc.gov or deborah.harper@dc.gov