

Youth Treatment Center (YTC)

Tara Hobbs, MRC., PCC-S, YTC Administrator

The mission of the Lucas County Youth Treatment Center (YTC) is to rehabilitate juvenile offenders and their families by developing prosocial attitudes, values, beliefs, and skills, to increase community safety, reduce victimization, and support youth reintegration with opportunities to demonstrate accountability and responsibility.

YTC uses a cognitive-behavioral and systems-based approach to correction that believes, “*Everything together is treatment.*” Thoughts, feelings, behaviors, moral development, social skills, substance abuse, relationship issues, and traumatic histories are addressed in individualized treatment planning.

All residents work to identify and correct criminal thinking errors; they participate in individual and family therapy, and attend school. The group counseling curricula used are: Thinking for a Change; Aggression Replacement Training’s skill streaming, advance practice in skill streaming, anger control and moral reasoning components; Voices for female residents; Gang Intervention; and Boosters skill streaming for residents as they reenter the community. In 2018, the Girls Circle/Boys Council curriculum were implemented to add gender responsive intervention for boys as well as for girls. Substance abuse is addressed through youth participation in the Seven Challenges curriculum. Public service and completing any court ordered restitution assist residents in addressing the harm caused to their victims and to the community.



YTC staff show solidarity with the Court’s Family Violence Intervention Program’s hosting of “Wear Orange4LOVE” campaign in February (see pg. 62). From left: Tara Hobbs, Administrator; Alisha Yeager, Residential Specialist; Chris Martinez, Primary Counselor; and Dorcas Person, Auditor Assistant Specialist.

Trends:

- 6 out of 41 (14%) had been previously placed at YTC
- 21 out of 41 (51%) scored High on the risk assessment at placement
- 37 out of 41 (90%) scored High or Moderate on the risk assessment at placement
- 24 out of 41 (58%) of youth were placed at YTC on a felony 1 or felony 2 as their most serious placing charge
- 8 out of 41 (19%) of youth were placed at YTC on a felony 4 or felony 5 as their most serious placing charge



YTC youth made public service announcements (PSA) during YTC’s second Film Camp, in partnership with community partner, The Ridge Project. Youth learned communication and video production skills by doing the writing, designing, filming, and producing of a 30 second PSA. Links to 2018 PSAs on pg. 23.

Accomplishments for 2018:

1. Continued Community Partnership with:
 - Chess Club with Warren and Yolanda Woodberry
 - Public Service Announcement (PSA) film camp and festival with The Ridge Project
 - The Ridge Project's TYRO character building curriculum as part of health education
 - Personal Responsibility Education Program (PREP) in collaboration with the Lucas County Health Department and the Ohio Department of Youth Services
2. Gender Responsiveness practices:
 - Enhanced gender specific programming for girls by adding the Girls Circle curriculum
 - Implemented gender specific programming for boys by adding the Boys Council curriculum
 - Implemented policy and procedures through a Sexual Orientation Gender Identification and Expression (SOGIE) lens
3. Developed and implemented a Victim Impact/Empathy Packet: a specific treatment intervention that targets the resident's understanding of the impact of harm caused to specific victims and the community at large and how to repair that harm.

Goals: 2019

1. Quality Assurance:
2. Include quantitative data for exit survey
3. Review/Revise YTC performance measures
4. Norm pre and post assessment for YTC population
5. Continue Seven Challenges implementation by integrating it on the resident living units with Residential Specialist staff and unit activities
6. Examine and revise Mission Statement

YTC Youth and Families served	65
Total Placements:	41
OYAS Risk Level at placement:	
High	21
Moderate	16
Low	4
Gender:	
Male	34
Female	7
Race	
Black	32
White	5
Latinx	1
Other/Bi-Racial	3
Total Discharges/Releases	35
Successful 29 out of 35 (85%) did not commit new felony offenses within a year of being successfully discharged.	32
Unsuccessful (DYS)	3
Other Provider	0
Youth assessed, referred to other providers:	8
DYS	2
Residential Mental Health Placement	4
Community (Non-Residential) Programming	1
Another Community Corrections Facility (CCF)	1



Reentry Support Service (RSS)

Cheryl Bath, RSS Program Coordinator

Re-entry Support Services (RSS) began in May of 2011. It is an initiative from the Ohio Department Youth Services Targeted RECLAIM Fund Initiative and Annie E. Casey Foundation Juvenile Detention Alternative Initiative assessment (JDAI) to implement evidence based community programming for youth being released from our local community correctional facility (CCF): the Youth Treatment Center (YTC). Youth transitioning back to the community are at risk for commitment to the Ohio Department of Youth Services. Youth range in age from 12 to 21. Based upon the JDAI assessment to engage local community supports, the court contracted with the University of Cincinnati and The Youth Advocate Program (YAP) to provide a highly structured, nonresidential, community based program to support successful reentry that focuses on Cognitive Behavioral Interventions (CBI), such as Pathways to Self Discovery, skill streaming, and the Effective Practice in Community Supervision (EPICS) model of probation supervision

Reentry Support Services are individualized and family driven. Youth are assigned a Reentry Advocate through the Youth Advocate Program during the third phase (reentry preparation) of treatment at YTC. Advocates meet with each assigned youth an average of 10 hours per week upon reentering the community. Hours per week are individualized and based on the case plan. Once released, family team meetings are held to address and support youth and family's work on the case plan. Family meetings are either conducted in the family's home or at designated place in the community of family's choice. Youth are held accountable through the court's Graduated Responses process, which includes but is not limited to family accountability, Reentry Support Advocate hours increased (temporarily as an intervention), review hearings, violation being filed, community detention (house arrest) and detention.

Accomplishment for 2018:

- Progressing with implementation of Aftercare Support Group meeting twice a month
- Continuing - Community Service Project - individually with youth.

Youth and Families Served: RSS	38
OYAS Risk Level at placement:	
High	11
Moderate	22
Low	5
Gender:	
Male	36
Female	2
Race	
Black	33
White	3
Latinx	1
Other/Bi-Racial	1
Total Terminations:	26
Successful.	19
Unsuccessful 7 youth new felony charges, 1 remained in the community, 6 placed @ YTC	7
Other	0

Goals for 2019:

- Continuing to implement educational support for youth in Reentry Support Services
- Continue youth participation in a Group Community Service Project
- Provide ongoing training in Aggression Replacement Therapy Training (ART) and Cognitive Behavioral Intervention Training (CBI) for all CTC staff yearly
- Pilot - YapWorx Program Curriculum (work force development) – with 2-3 RSS youth
- Research Gang Intervention curriculum