



The Juvenile Justice System

What will be happening and what you can expect while your child is with us

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Hello!

Your child is now a ward of the court. This means you and your child and your family and/or significant others in your child's life, will be working with us to fulfill court ordered requirements as well as identifying and working to meet your child's needs.

Bridgeway Services Inc. is one of the five Care Management Organizations (CMO) who are contracted by Wayne County to develop, implement, and monitor a Treatment Plan of Care for each youth ordered to receive services and be monitored for their compliance while in the Juvenile Justice System.

HOW YOU GOT TO US

The Juvenile Assessment Center (JAC) is a Wayne County contracted agency which is responsible for being the single-point of entry into juvenile justice services for eligible youth and their families. The JAC receives referrals from the Third Circuit Court Family Division following Juvenile Court Delinquency Proceedings.

Juveniles are assigned to Bridgeway by the JAC based on the parent/guardian's zip code. At Bridgeway, we may deliver services ourselves or contract with other treatment providers in order to ensure the best resources for your child and you.

The JAC will provide the initial assessment services for your child.

Primary responsibilities of the JAC include:

- Completing clinical assessments; (such as a psychological evaluation)
- Obtaining youth/family social history;
- Completing substance abuse screening and assessments;
- Assignment of youth to a service agency or Care Management Organization;
- Providing in-home counseling services (Choices Program)

Once the JAC Assessments are completed, they will be provided to Bridgeway. Bridgeway will then use the assessments as a starting point in creating a Treatment Plan of Care, to be the guide to your son or daughter's treatment services. This Plan is what is called a Person Centered Plan and all parties have input into deciding what is to be in that Plan. This treatment plan is specific to your son or daughter.

YOUR CHILD'S LEGAL STATUS

When your child is adjudicated (found guilty) and assessments are completed, your child will be placed on either Probation Level 1 or Probation Level 2 by the jurist (may be a judge or referee).

Probation Level 1 means that your child will remain in the community, generally living at home with you/your family, while receiving treatment services.

Probation Level 2 means that your child will be placed out of home in a residential treatment facility. Your child will most likely be kept at the Juvenile Detention Facility (JDF) until he or she is placed at the residential facility best suited for meeting his or her needs while also meeting the Court ordered requirements. While your child is at JDF, you will be contacted by their staff to both obtain information from you as well as provide you with information about them. You will also hear from Bridgeway's Juvenile Justice Specialist, who will be your child's probation worker while he or she is a ward of the court.

There are documentation requirements to help in our moving through the treatment process. Documentation that will be needed from you includes but may not be limited to:

Birth certificate, social security card/number

Medicaid/insurance information

Immunization records

School records, such as report cards

Most recent physical, dental, etc.

Consents to release/share information that will help your child get the right treatment services

Court Involvement/Process

The Third Judicial Circuit Court of Michigan is the referral source for juveniles entering the juvenile services network. While your child is a ward of the court, there will be on going contact with the courts.

There are several types of juvenile hearings that you and your child will be required to attend. How often the hearings occur may vary, but will generally be about every three months.

Preliminary Hearing- is used to determine whether the evidence is enough to justify detainment (locking up) of a juvenile.

Disposition or Dispositional Hearings- are conducted to decide what steps the court will take concerning juveniles who fall within the jurisdiction (or responsibility) of the court regarding a new charge.

Progress Review Hearings- A review of your child's progress with meeting the Court ordered requirements and receipt of treatment services.

Violation of Probation Hearings/Escalation Hearings- refers to an increase in security level for the juvenile where youth will be removed from the community for residential placement or go to a higher security level placement.

De-escalation Hearings- refers to a decrease in security level of a juvenile's placement where youth will step down to a lesser secure placement or return home in the community. Youth may also be released and no longer be a ward of the court.

The jurist's court order may include a number of requirements to be met by your child, which may include:

Restitution

This means that the juvenile will make full repayment to the Collections Unit (313-833-0798) for any victim of the juvenile's course of conduct, which resulted in harm or damage.

Community Services

Community Services may be ordered as a form of restitution. An example is working a set number of hours in a Soup Kitchen.

Victim Notification

The victim of a crime may be kept informed of a juvenile's progress and movement within the juvenile system if requested by that victim.

Generally, your child will not be a ward of the Court and with the CMO system beyond age 19. However, depending on the seriousness of the crime, court jurisdiction may be extended until age 21 (called Extendable Offenses).

While a ward of the juvenile court, it is possible your child may be involved in both the juvenile and adult court systems at the same time and will have court orders from both systems to meet, as well as hearings in both systems to attend.

Out of state travel must be approved by the jurist in advance. This includes trips to Cedar Point, a family funeral that is out of state, etc.

You should also be aware that in addition to some of the court ordered services and/or activities above, some jurists may have their own unique requirements included in their order for your child. Examples - the youth having to read a book or watch a video and complete a written report for presentation at the next hearing; or youth must attend a special program that focuses on guns or drugs.

PROBATION LEVELS

We have talked about how your child is a ward of the court now and on probation. When he/she was made a ward of the court, he/she was placed on either probation level 1 or probation level 2.

Probation level 1 means your child can remain at home while working to meet all the court ordered requirements.

Probation level 2 means your child will be placed in a residential facility. The length of time a child is in a residential facility is driven by the type of crime they committed, and the type of services/treatment they need or are Court ordered to receive. Also a factor in how long a child is in residential placement is if your child's security level is non-secure or secure (will talk more about what this means later).

Whichever probation level your child is on, your Bridgeway probation worker will be closely involved with your child and you to coordinate all the necessary services and monitor the case. We want the greatest opportunity for success for your child, so please know that the services and requirements are based on scientific evidence that have proven to work when consistently followed. If your child is on probation level 1, our goal is to help your child complete it successfully and be released from the juvenile justice system. We do not want to see your child have their probation violated and be placed on probation level 2 and have to leave your home for a residential placement. If your child is on probation level 2, our goal is to work with your child and their residential placement staff to successfully complete the program in the shortest time possible and return home.

We want to make sure your child becomes a positive, productive, and healthy young adult who is law abiding. We often hear from parents that they just want their child to listen better. We are only a part of your lives for a short time, and we want you as the parent to be able to manage your child without assistance. Our approach is considered 'systems based'. This just means that we work with the most powerful influences that surround children. Changing those influences around the child will help force change in the child's behavior. Parents are most important in this effort as parents have the most influence with their children. Other influences include the child's friends, who they like to 'hang' with and school.

Whatever probation level your child is on, they will have a Treatment Plan. This Plan is the roadmap of how your child will complete his/her probation successfully. This Plan, with goals specific to your child, will be developed from all the information gathered from you and your child, from the assessments completed by the JAC, and from the court order. This Plan will be a living document that will constantly be monitored and updated as circumstances change. Each person is unique in how the goals in the Plan are accomplished.

Probation Level 1

As a probation level 1 youth, your child continues to live at home with you and his/her family. If your child follows the Court order, does what is required by the treatment plan and meets expectations, probation level 1 should not last longer than 6 – 9 months (keeping in mind the Jurist has the final say in this). During this time, your probation worker/staff are required to see your child, face-to-face, at least once a week – every week. These visits may happen in the home, at school, at our office, or other places as appropriate.

The first few visits must take place in the home. The probation worker is required to make sure the home's condition is in good order for the child and family. There will also be numerous forms for the parents to sign, and a lot of information to be gone over, explained and discussed. In these first few visits, the JAC assessments and the court order will be used by the probation worker with you and your child to shape the Treatment Plan. We will have a pretty good idea of where your child and family need to go, but with the completed Treatment Plan (roadmap), we will then know how your child and family can get there.

Your probation worker must get a well-rounded view of how your child is functioning in all areas of his/her life. They must also gather evidence as proof of how your child is functioning and behaving. This evidence will be measurable – such as school records (attendance, grades) drug screen results, medical/clinical records or reports. This evidence is then part of what is given during court hearings to help the Jurist make his/her decision regarding your child (continue probation, change what is ordered, or release from probation).

While under the court's jurisdiction and with Bridgeway Services, there will be program requirements to be followed:

Obey the law: your child is already a criminal justice ward of the court and any further criminal acts will get him/her into a lot more trouble. You and your child need to know the local ordinances, curfews and not use substances (alcohol, drugs). You and your child must be at each hearing your Jurist schedules.

Successfully complete each school term: attend school, do not be tardy and get passing grades with no behavior problems.

Participate in treatment and services: this can include community service, mental health services, substance abuse services, drug screens, family counseling, parenting classes, anger management, life skills, etc. Your probation worker is required to help you in finding the treatment and services ordered/needed. As the parent, you are required to transport your child to where they need to go for the services and activities.

Obey the rules of the home: this will mean if you do not have in place, a written document will be created that lays out the rules of home, chores for your child, rewards for meeting what is required and consequences for not. Curfew and bed time are two very important rules. Curfew ties in with the Law, and bed time ties into school success as they must have enough sleep to function well. As a parent, being consistent is very important or you will lose all credibility and authority.

Associate with peers that do not get into trouble: if your child hangs out with ‘troublemakers’, they will get into more trouble themselves. Your child cannot hang out with youth they have gotten in trouble with before, or with whom they have engaged in negative behaviors. If they are spending time with positive peers, who are doing well in school and being productive – your child will also become more positive and productive and stay out of trouble.

Participate in pro-social activities: your child should be involved in activities such as organized sports, church events, school clubs, hobbies, volunteering or employment. The activities need to be adult supervised.

Supervision and monitoring: your child needs to be supervised and monitored 7 days a week, 24 hours a day. You should always know where your child is, what he/she is doing and who they are with. Your probation worker can help you understand how to do this.

Probation Level 2

If your child is placed on Level 2 Probation, he/she will be placed in a residential facility. The facility will be dependent on your child’s security level (non-secure or secure) and their treatment needs (substance abuse, mental health, sex offender focus, female specific, juvenile delinquency, specialized treatment foster care or intensive supervised group treatment). Non-secure facilities are generally an open campus setting with 24 hour supervision. Secure facilities provide a more controlled, restrictive setting where youth cannot move about the facility/closed campus without direct staff supervision. Both settings provide a variety of services which can include: educational services; vocational service; individual, group and family counseling; life skills; medical care; anger management; grief counseling; substance abuse education/services; mental health services; medication management; and reintegration (return to home) planning.

How long your child will be in placement will be dependent upon his/her treatment and how he/she progresses through their specific program. If in a substance abuse program, he/she may be released after 90 days; if in a sex offender focused program, he/she may be in placement for 18 – 24 months; secure programs are generally 9 – 12 months and non-secure 6 – 9 months. However, your child’s jurist will make the final decision on when your child will be released (to home or to another setting).

While in placement, your child will be required to follow facility rules and program expectations. You, as the parent, will also need to be involved and be supportive of your child. They need to know they have not been forgotten and rejected. All the providers have scheduled visitation days/times. You will need to be involved in the treatment planning process with the provider, and may be required to participate in family counseling. This is important for working toward bringing your family back together when it is time for your child to be released from the facility. Your probation worker will continue to be in communication with you while your child is in placement, and will meet with your child and the provider treatment team at least once a month.

While your child is in placement and receiving treatment, after care planning will also be occurring. You will receive help from your probation worker and the treatment team to plan for your child's return home. This will be linked to your child's treatment plan and will include as needed:

Living arrangements

Family relationships

Peer groups and support networks

Recreational and pro-social activities

School enrollment, vocational training, etc.

Treatment services (mental health, substance abuse, group, counseling, etc.)

Monitoring plans (i.e., tether, drug screens)

To work toward your child returning home, at the appropriate time during his/her treatment at the facility, reintegration (or home) passes will be arranged. This is a "test-drive" to see how well your child uses the skills they have been learning while in placement. This may be a day pass, or may be overnight with you/your family. Your child will need to be supervised for the duration of the pass, and there will be specific goals for you and your child to work on while he/she is on the pass.

When it is determined your child is nearing completion of the treatment program and the after care plan is established, your probation worker will submit a petition to the court for de-escalation. Once the Court date is obtained, all will be informed of when the hearing is to occur and that their attendance is required. The youth actually being released is completely dependent upon the Court's approval. The Jurist may approve the release, may order youth to continue in the current program or may even order the child to another program/residential setting.

If your child is de-escalated and returns home with you, then all the elements in the **Probation Level 1** section become the focus for you, your child and your probation worker.

PARENTS/GUARDIANS – WE NEED YOUR HELP!

Your child's success depends on it.

We are committed to helping you/your child get out of the juvenile justice system, and most importantly become a productive member of society. BUT - we need your input, your time and your commitment to make it happen!

Being there for your child is important when he/she is suspected of breaking - or has broken - the law. It may seem like your child's behavior is beyond your control, but this can be a time when you and your child can rebuild your relationship, and find a better direction for his/her life. Being there means:

Attending and arriving on time for meetings and Court hearings

Remember that your presence at court hearings is very important and it is required by the Court. Your presence at scheduled meetings is also very important. You want to be actively involved with your child's case.

Participating in all decisions about your child

While it may sometimes feel awkward or intimidating, you should speak up at meetings to provide additional information or to give input on what your child needs. In court, be prepared to participate by providing important information (such as home behaviors, school issues, etc.). Tell your probation worker you want to be included in all planning meetings and decisions about your child, even if it has to be by phone.

Building respectful relationships with people involved with your child

Regardless of how you may personally feel about your child's situation, or the individual juvenile justice staff person, probation worker, lawyer or judge, you should always communicate respectfully with them. It may be very difficult at times, but it will help your child. In turn, you can expect to be treated with respect. It is important to stay calm, and ask questions. You can help build mutual respect by letting the Court and probation worker know that you are concerned for the welfare of your child, and that you are very willing to work with them to ensure your child's success. Make sure they know about your child's problems as well as any circumstances that may have contributed to their juvenile justice involvement. Be sure to share positive information as well. The strengths of your child and family are very important in helping him/her build a good future.

Setting rules

Many parents report that most household arguments involve rules and chores. The first step in fixing this problem is clear communication. Having all household members on the same page by knowing what the rules and responsibilities are goes a long way towards preventing arguments. As a parent, you will need to spend time with your son or daughter discussing the rules and responsibilities. It really works best to have this documented in a schedule format and placed on the refrigerator. Placing the information in writing on the refrigerator is key because everyone goes to the refrigerator. If everyone goes there, then everyone can see it. You should make rules that are clear and sensible. Sit down with your child and discuss rules, chores, incentives, and consequences together. Some areas in which you should set rules include:

Friends and what they do with them. Friends are a strong influence on children. If a child hangs out with people that get into trouble, then he/she will get into trouble. This is why it's important for you to know who your child is with and what they are doing. As a concerned parent, you should have a list of your child's friends including contact information. You should also know the parent(s) of those friends. Your child should only be hanging out with people of whom you approve.

Use of drugs, alcohol, and tobacco. Children are less likely to use drugs, alcohol, or tobacco if you set clear rules about what will happen if they do, and explain why they shouldn't.

Dating. Discuss when they can start, what kinds of activities are allowed, your rules about meeting the people they date, and how your child can contact you if he/she needs to be picked up from a date.

Use of media such as computers, television, books, magazines, and music. Decide what sites, shows, or songs are allowed. Include the appropriate time(s) that your child can spend on these activities. Consider keeping your computer in a public place and restricting access to times when everyone is awake to avoid the increasing danger to children of online sexual predators and inappropriate web sites. If necessary, put a web filter on the computer.

Where they spend their free time. You should check in at regular intervals when they are away from home or school, using a cell phone if necessary, and consider having a signal if he/she needs to be picked up from a bad situation.

Curfews. Set a curfew, but be willing to negotiate for special circumstances. Know your local city ordinances as any curfew limits must not be later than the law allows.

Setting limits

Enforcement of the rules comes down to limit setting. Lots of parent and guardians are uncomfortable about setting limits. There is often a fear that it will simply lead to conflict and build a wall between parent and child. In truth, setting effective limits actually builds a healthy relationship and shows your child that you care. There have been many studies that

have found when parents set clear, consistent rules but also give their children some freedom, they score higher on tests; are more mature, have positive attitudes, and are much less likely to use alcohol and drugs than other children. Setting good limits is about offering choices. Keys to setting effective limits:

Know what your teen values (i.e. phone, time with friends, \$)

Keep limits clear and simple.

Make sure the limits are reasonable.

Only set consequences that you can and will enforce.

Make sure limits and consequences are age appropriate.

Take time to listen to your child and be flexible.

Avoid taking things your child says personally (i.e. button-pushing).

Avoid power struggles. It is bait - don't take it.

Stay focused on the topic.

Have incentives established for positive behavior. This is very powerful.

Remember that limits are about influence, choices, and consequences, **not** control.

Substance Abuse

Numerous studies show that the traditional substance abuse treatments that work well with adults do not have the same success with young people. This is due to several factors:

Adults have likely been involved with full blown addiction and will admit that he/she has suffered as a result of drug and/or alcohol use.

Most children are abusers and will not admit to negative consequences even when they exist. For example a child often will not admit to drug use causing a drop in grades.

Children are at a stage where immediate gratification is very desirable. Unfortunately drug use often provides an immediate "high" which the child will protect and defend.

The child's brain is not fully developed. The prefrontal cortex is most important for thinking ahead about sequences of events, behavior, and its consequences. This part of the brain is not completely formed until a person reaches the early to mid 20's.

MYTHS AND FACTS ABOUT MARIJUANA

MYTH

Marijuana is not addictive.

FACT

When people use the myth about marijuana not being addictive, they are ignoring the fact that there are two forms of addiction. Physical addiction/dependence is when the body gets accustomed to the presence of a substance and actually starts to need it. Alcohol, heroin, and other drugs certainly lead to physical addiction/dependence. Marijuana has not been shown to cause physical addiction/dependence; however, marijuana does lead to very strong psychological addiction/dependence. The psychological addiction is no less powerful than the physical addiction. With psychological addiction the person believes they must use in order to function and be happy. Without the substance, the person believes that their life would have no meaning or happiness. This type of addiction is the same type of addiction that people suffer from with gambling, porn, sex, or the internet. Those things are not drugs at all, but the people suffering from those addictions believe that they cannot live without them.

MYTH

Marijuana is safe; it comes from a plant.

FACT

While under the influence of marijuana, brain function, including thought processing and reflexes, are slowed down. A child's IQ is reduced by 10 points while using marijuana. Inhibitions and motivation are nearly gone. Countless people have been harmed while under the influence (or because someone else was under the influence) and did something that he or she might not otherwise have done. Lastly, smoking, just like cigarettes, still leads to respiratory problems like asthma, bronchitis, and pneumonia.

MYTH

Marijuana does not have negative long term effects like alcohol.

FACT

Please keep in mind that our program is not just about stopping young people from committing crime. We want your son or daughter to become a positive and productive adult. The latest studies show clearly that chronic, long-term use of marijuana causes the temporary impacts on the brain to become permanent. That means that intelligence will always be lower and learning ability will be reduced. Brain processing speed and reflexes will always be slower. The long term impact of reduced brain function plus low motivation to achieve will mean your son or daughter will have wasted his or her potential. Please also keep in mind that the most common form of marijuana use is smoking. Smoking, just like cigarettes, still leads to the same long term dangers of emphysema and lung cancer.

MYTHS AND FACTS ABOUT ALCOHOL

MYTH

Alcohol is not a drug and is safer to use than real drugs.

FACT

Alcohol is a drug. The body reacts to alcohol just like it does to any other drug: to treat it like poison. Drinking too much alcohol too quickly can lead to alcohol poisoning, which can kill you. Alcohol increases your risk for many deadly diseases, such as cancer and can damage the brain.

Early and longtime use can cause addiction. Withdrawal can be painful and may lead to depression and thoughts of suicide.

MYTH

Adults drink, so kids should be able to drink too.

FACT

A young person's brain and body are still growing. Drinking alcohol can cause learning problems or lead to adult alcoholism. People who begin drinking before age 15 are five times more likely to abuse or become dependent on alcohol than those who begin drinking after age 21.

MYTH

Parents cannot prevent their kids from drinking. It is just a phase all kids go through; they'll grow out of it.

FACT

Actually, many don't grow out of it. The earlier someone begins drinking, the more likely they are to be alcohol dependent in later life. More than 40 percent of individuals who start drinking before the age of 13 will develop alcohol abuse or alcohol dependence at some point in their lives. Ninety-five percent of the 14 million people who are alcohol dependent began drinking before the legal age of 21. And remember, you can make a huge difference when it comes to their decision to drink or not. According to a new study, 80 percent of teens said their parents were the leading influence on whether or not they should drink.

MYTH

Teen drinking is OK as long as they're not driving.

FACT

It's still illegal. Drinking impairs judgment whether or not you're getting behind the wheel. Only 32 percent of teen drinking deaths are related to driving; 68 percent are related solely to other causes, from homicide to suicide to alcohol poisoning. Non-driving accidents are also quite common, and four out of ten teens who drown have been drinking alcohol. A young person's brain and body are still growing. Drinking alcohol can cause learning problems or lead to adult alcoholism. Teens who drink also are more likely to get poor grades in school, and are at higher risk for being a crime victim.

MYTH

It is not a big deal if teens drink beer or wine – they are safer to drink than liquor.

FACT

Alcohol is alcohol ... it can cause you problems no matter how you consume it. One 12-ounce bottle of beer or a 5-ounce glass of wine (about a half-cup) has as much alcohol as a 1.5-ounce shot of liquor. Alcopops—sweet drinks laced with malt liquor—often contain more alcohol than beer.

MYTH

Sobering a teen is easy – they just need to take a cold shower, drink coffee, vomit or sleep it off.

FACT

On average, it takes 2 to 3 hours for a single drink to leave the body. Nothing can speed up the process, including drinking coffee, taking a cold shower, or “walking it off.” When you pass out or vomit after drinking, your body is trying to tell you it’s had too much alcohol and it’s trying to get rid of the toxin. Anyone who has passed out or vomited needs to be watched carefully and should never be left alone. Sometimes people die from drinking too much; it’s called alcohol poisoning. If you can’t wake them up, their skin is pale or blue, or their breathing is short and shallow (10 seconds or more between breaths) call 911 immediately.

Preventing substance abuse with children is most effective when the opportunities for its abuse are removed. As a parent, you must operate with the assumption that if given the opportunity, your son or daughter will make an unhealthy decision. To that end a seven day a week supervision and monitoring plan should be developed that covers twenty four hours per day. This is usually not as difficult as it at first appears. During the school year much of the youth’s day is spent at school. Other times the youth should be at home doing chores and school work. For a large portion of time, your son or daughter should be asleep. While it is understood that it is unrealistic for you to be in the presence of your son or daughter 24/7, a monitoring plan can be established. Monitoring means that there is a responsible adult that is in the presence of your son or daughter. As a parent, you can monitor the situation by contacting that adult and checking up. Getting your child into a pro-social activity like sports is an excellent example of monitoring. In a sport the coach is the responsible adult. You know where your child is, who he or she is with, and what he or she is doing. Other examples of monitoring situations are having your child find a job, do volunteer work, or go to the home of a close friend or relative after school instead of being home alone.



WE NEED TO HEAR FROM YOU WHEN...

Your probation worker will meet with you/your child at least once a week if he/she is at home, and at least once a month if he/she is in residential placement. However, you will need to talk to your probation worker in between those phone calls and visits when 'those things' DO happen. While it is not possible to list all the 'things' that may happen – the following should be a helpful guide for you.

ALWAYS if a life threatening, emergency or seriously dangerous situation – you should call 911 for help before making ANY other calls. Such situations include but are not limited to:

Medical emergency, such as severe bleeding, unconscious/not responsive, seriously injured (bad accident, shot, stabbed, etc.), seizures that don't stop, not able to breath

Youth showing suicidal behavior (trying to seriously hurt self, or serious threat to kill self)

Youth acting in very threatening manner such as attacking others with some type of weapon or fighting and injuring another person

Youth showing destructive behavior such as breaking up furniture, windows, etc.

Suspicion or allegations of abuse or serious neglect of youth (within the home, at school, or at placement/residential setting)

Home emergency such as a fire, flood, etc.

If something really significant is going on, please call your probation worker if during business hours (Monday – Friday, 8:30 am to 5:00 pm) or call the emergency number you were given by your worker. Such situations include but are not limited to:

Police involvement (arrested, called to the home, a report/complaint filed, youth ticketed, etc.)

Youth leaves without permission and doesn't return

Youth is suspended/expelled from school

Serious family medical situation (such as parent or sibling seriously injured or hospitalized)

Death of a close family member, or close friend of youth

Youth taken to the emergency room for medical issue, injury, etc.

For those situations that are not critical, please call your probation worker during business hours. Such situations include but are not limited to:

Youth is sick, cannot attend school (or day treatment, or scheduled activity/service)

There are transportation issues for getting to a required destination (such as Court, therapy/group session, drug screens, etc.)

Home problems (such as with utilities, pending eviction, etc.)

Youth not doing as he/she should be - not going to school, not abiding by curfew, seems to be drinking/using drugs, etc.

Problems with tether; needing to change tether schedule, etc.

Questions/concerns re: care and or a situation with youth at their placement/residential setting

RELEASE/TERMINATION FROM JUVENILE JUSTICE

When will your child – and you – be done with the Juvenile Justice System?

Your child can *only* be released (have their legal status terminated) from probation, no matter what level, by his/her jurist. This will generally require a hearing in front of the jurist which will be scheduled after your probation worker has filed a petition requesting to terminate youth's wardship.

The decision to petition the Court for release will be the result of how successful your child is during their probation and if they have met the requirements of their Court order. For example:

At least six months in the community without a new conviction or pending criminal charges, and

Restitution (if applicable) has been resolved or there is a plan to complete restitution, and

The juvenile has completed or made a lot of progress in working on his/her treatment goals, such as:

- Has consistent negative drug screens,
- Has completed counseling sessions,
- Is medication and treatment compliant
- Has completed community service hours,
- Is attending school/progressing well with grades

A youth may simply 'age out' of the Juvenile Justice system. If he/she is going to turn 19 and is not extendable or a designated ward (refer to Page 3, Your Child's Legal Status) he/she could be released shortly before or on their 19th birthday.

At times the Jurist may release a youth when it is not the recommendation of the Bridgeway worker, such as at a Progress Review Hearing. Your child may also be released from the juvenile justice system if he/she winds up in the adult system, is found guilty of a crime and goes to jail/prison.

Your youth's probation worker will help you and your child put together a plan for services and activities as necessary for when your child *is* released from the Court's jurisdiction. You will also be offered ideas for resources that can help your child stay successful in your home and in the community, as well as provide you with support.

WHILE YOU ARE WITH US

This Juvenile Justice Handbook is intended as a guide. It provides you with information as to what you can expect while your child is a ward of the Court. It also is meant to help you understand who will be working with you and your child, and what that work may involve.

The following pages include resources that you may find very handy while your child is a ward of the Court, and even after he/she has been released. There is also a page with your probation worker's contact information, and space to make notes about appointments, when the next Court date is, and so forth.

Please do not hesitate to contact your probation worker with any questions or concerns.



FAMILY RESOURCES

Bridgeway Services

Administration
19265 Northline Road
Southgate MI, 48195
734-284-4819

The Guidance Center

Juvenile Justice Division
13101 Allen Road
Southgate, MI 48195
M – F 8am – 5pm: 734-785-7724
After hours: 734-626-4195
www.guidance-center.org

Southwest Counseling Solutions

Juvenile Justice Division
5716 Michigan Avenue
Detroit, MI 48210
M – F 8am – 5pm: 313-963-2266
After hours: 313-967-7820
www.swsol.org

IMPORTANT NUMBERS

Third Judicial Circuit Court

Lincoln Hall of Justice
1025 E. Forest
Detroit, MI 48207
General information: 313-833-5600, 313-224-526

Wayne County

Juvenile Detention Facility
1326 Saint Antoine
Detroit, MI 48226
313-967-2011

Legal Aid

613 Abbott Street
Detroit, MI 48226
313-967-5800
www.ladadetroit.org
www.michiganlegalhelp.org

Wayne County

Collections Unit
(for restitution)
313-833-0798

Center for Civil Justice

320 South Washington
Saginaw, MI 48607
800-481-4989
989-755-3120
www.ccj-mi.org

EMERGENCY NUMBERS

NSO Emergency Telephone Service/Suicide Prevention

1-313-224-7000 (24 hr. crisis line)
1-800-241-4949 (24 hr. toll free crisis line)
TTY/TTD Line 1-866-870-2599 (hearing impaired)

Adult and Child Protective Services

1-855-444-3911
(If you think someone is being harmed or is at risk
of harm at any time - call)

United Way

Dial 211
(Information hotline for resources in your area)

The Information Center

www.theinfocenter.info
20500 Eureka Road
Taylor, MI 48180
Phone: 734-282-7171
Fax: 734-282-7105

Student Advocacy Center of Michigan

734-482-0489
313-896-1444 (General and special education students)

PARENTING AND FAMILY SUPPORT GROUPS

Detroit

Detroit Parent Network

726 Lothrop Rd. Detroit, MI 48202
313-832-0617

Detroit Hispanic Development Corporation

1211 Trumbull Detroit, MI 48216
313-967-4880
1-800 649-3777 TDD
dhdc1.org

MSU Kinship Care Resource Center

1-800-535-1218 (toll-Free)
Care Resource Center
kinshipcare.net

Parents, Families & Friends of Lesbians and Gays

Detroit Chapter Office
Royal Oak
1-248-656-2875 (helpline)
313-961-8100

Metro Detroit Area

Covenant Community Care Clinic
5616 Michigan Avenue
Detroit, 48214
313-554-1095

Downriver Communities

The Guidance Center

734-785-7700
www.guidance-center.org

Northville Youth Assistance Program

303 W. Main St, Northville MI 48167
1-248-344-1618

Association For Children's Mental Health

1-888-226-4543
Toll-Free: Parent Line
acmh-mi.org

Teen Parenting Support

Children's Aid Society
7700 Second Avenue Suite 402
Detroit, 48202

HEALTH CARE COVERAGE

MI Child

1-888-988-6300
www.michigan.gov/mibridges

Medicaid Coverage- New & Reinstatement

1-888-642-743
Healthy Michigan
www.michigan.gov/healthymiplan

CONTACT INFORMATION FOR YOUR PROBATION WORKER

Probation worker: _____

Probation worker phone number: _____

Emergency contact phone number: _____

Supervisor: _____

Supervisor phone number: _____

Comments/Notes:
