

The background of the slide features a series of stylized, 3D human figures in shades of blue, holding hands in a line. The figures are rendered with a slight perspective, giving them a three-dimensional appearance. The overall color scheme is a gradient of blues, from a deep navy blue on the left to a lighter, sky blue on the right.

Travis County Juvenile Probation Department
*High School Completion and Workforce Development
Services*



*High School Completion
&
Workforce Development Services*

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High School Completion Program Summary



- The high school completion programs provided by Juvenile Probation target:
 - Improved School Performance
 - Credit Recovery
 - Credit Acceleration
 - Improved Grades
 - Improved School Attendance
 - TAKs test preparation

High School Completion Programs



- **DAY ENRICHMENT PROGRAM**

provides intensive substance abuse treatment and educational instruction of 15 or more hours through AISD teachers for youth age 13 to 17

- **CLASS PROGRAM**

provides life skills instruction and community service activities for juveniles who are on probation and have been suspended from school

- **TRUANCY COURT**

provides intervention services to chronic truants in middle school through supervision and referrals to community services to ensure youth remains in school and transitions successfully to high school

High School Completion Programs



- **SUMMER SCHOOL**

provides credit recovery through a collaboration with AISD who offers a limited number of tuition free slots dedicated to youth who are behind in credits

- **GED**

provides an opportunity for students age 16 to 18 who are significantly behind in meeting the credit requirement for graduation to enroll in a GED program

- **RESIDENTIAL SERVICES**

provides continuing education services using AISD curriculum, ARDS for special education services, TAKS testing preparation, and tutoring through Austin Learning Center

Workforce Development Services



- **SUMMER YOUTH EMPLOYMENT PROGRAM**
juveniles meeting the eligibility requirements are referred to the summer youth employment program
- **SAVE OUR YOUTH (SOY)**
dedicated to the development of emerging writers and the promotion of literature providing outlets and mechanisms for cultural exchange and sharing of history. Youth create a collection of Poetry and Artwork and compile the work in a chap book. SOY provides job opportunities to youth from the workshop
- **MOBILE FILM SCHOOL**
Creative Works, the American Institute for Youth Justice from the UT School of Social Work, partner with Mobile Film School to host a a 4-day public service announcement workshop with 14 youth.
- **GIRLS SCOUT OF CENTRAL TEXAS**
provides services for females on a variety of topics including relationships and decision making skills, career prep, and vocational training

Workforce Development Services



- **YOUTH EMPOWERMENT SEMINARS**
hosted by AISD brings Motivational Speakers to visits each of the residential classrooms and provide information to the residents
- **ART OF LIVING FOUNDATION**
hosts a Youth Empowerment seminar to challenge youth to learn and embody the Art of Living, discover their potential and be the change they wish to see. Tapping their inner wisdom, they become a model of inner strength, joy and caring for the world
- **MEN AND BOY'S AFRICAN AMERICAN CONFERENCE**
bring together successful African-American men as mentors and partners with young men while doing so within a structured, educational environment and with a specific focus upon reducing the academic achievement gap between African-American boys. At a conference one of our youth was awarded a \$250 scholarship from Aramark Education Cooperation.
- **OTHER WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT SERVICES**
 - Job Readiness Training
 - Theatre Action Project (focus on improving social, communication and self-efficacy skills)

FY09 Measured Program Outcomes



Outcome measures for the HS Completion programs such as Class, Day Enrichment and Truancy Court in FY09 are outlined below:

- Total Number of Youth Served in a HS Completion Program is 591
- Total Number of Youth Completing a HS Completion Program is 485
- Average Success Rate for HS Completion Programs is 80%

Workforce Development Outcomes



- Hands on Training
 - Filmmaking (3 public service announcement)
 - Music (1 CD)
 - Poetry & Creative Writing (chapbook)
- Minimum 15 hours Job Readiness Training
- Scholarships
- Career Exposure
- Community Service Restitution Credit/Paid Opportunities

Needs for HS Completion Program Improvement



- **Correlation Between Delinquency and Education:**
 - Many of our referrals come from school police due to behavior that occurs on campus (*literature review on matter*)
- **Successful in Alternative Learning Environment:**
 - Youth do well while in education services through our programs but problems start again once they return to home campus
- **Smaller Classroom Environment:**
 - Juveniles self report that they do better in smaller classrooms with more individual attention, and they do not want to leave the supportive structure

Needs for HS Completion Program Improvement



- As it relates to the education services in our residential facility, the following would positively impact outcomes:
 - Nova-net Teacher
 - Tutors during school hours
 - Mentoring Program
 - GED Teacher & Program
 - Community Partnerships & Leverage of Resources

Needs for Workforce Development Improvement



As it relates to the workforce development services, the following would positively impact outcomes:

- Increase Vocational Program Capacity
- Trade Certification Programs
- Labs for Trade Workshops
- Case Management Services
- Vocational Resource Center
- Transitional Housing options
- Job Shadowing Opportunities
- Trade Instructors/Mentors
- Expand Wraparound Services

Solutions to HS Completion Challenges



- We believe that many juveniles under our supervision would perform better academically and have fewer behavioral issues if they could:
 - Attend a designated school with smaller classrooms;
 - Lower student to teacher ratio;
 - Have therapeutic support for juveniles with mental health or substance issues available; and
 - Receive transition planning services.
- Other solutions include:
 - Community Awareness & Engagement
 - Volunteers
 - Mentors
 - Work-based Learning Opportunities

Solutions to Workforce Development Challenges



- We also believe the solutions to the workforce development challenges should start with:
 - Community Awareness & Engagement
 - Volunteers
 - Mentors
 - Work-based Learning Opportunities
 - Outreach & Service Coordination
 - Expansion of Partner Agencies

Summary of Solutions



- **AUSTIN INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT (AISD)**
 - As AISD is a major referral source to the Juvenile Probation Department, the Department supports continuous collaboration with AISD
 - The Department in conjunction with AISD have started discussions regarding the development of a campus with specific academic and vocational services to include to transitional support services
 - The initiative would include students enrolled in the programs offered by the Juvenile Probation Department would satisfy the requirement for graduation
- **AUSTIN TRAVIS COUNTY INTEGRAL CARE**
 - Prioritize this school for co-location of treatment staff
- **SUBSTANCE ABUSE TREATMENT**
 - Providers could also co-locate staff at this alternative location in order to provide treatment at a convenient location
- **WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT**
 - Offer vocational assessments & training and hands-on opportunities at our current Day Enrichment Program location
- **COMMUNITY AWARENESS AND ENGAGEMENT**
 - Belief that effective, comprehensive communication will positively impact the community's engagement with furthering the development of our youths education and employment opportunities

Contact Information



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