

Incorrigibility Programs in Erie County: A User's Directory

November 2003



**Prepared on behalf of the Erie County Office of Children & Youth and
the Erie County Policy & Planning Council for Children & Families**

**This directory can also be accessed at:
<http://civicinstitute.mercyhurst.edu/>**

Foreword

The purpose of this directory is to acquaint users with an understanding of the Erie County Policy and Planning Council for Children and Families and the Incurrigibility Initiative including its' programs and lead contacts. Our hope is that users will be able to navigate through the system of incurrigibility services to determine the most appropriate referral source and contact person.

The Erie County Policy and Planning Council for Children and Families was established as an attempt to provide comprehensive planning on important issues facing families and children in Erie County. One issue of significant concern was the fragmented nature of the incurrigibility programs in Erie County. As a result, the Policy and Planning Council created the Incurrigibility Program Managers Committee. This committee developed what we refer to as the "Incurrigibility Initiative".

The mission of the Incurrigibility Initiative is to work toward the development of a system of services for incurrigible youth in Erie County that is accessible, coordinated, effective, and accountable and minimizes the need for formal child welfare or juvenile probation involvement with affected children and families.

In an effort to accomplish these goals, the Program Managers formed the Incurrigibility Work Group. The Work Group provides information and recommendations to the Program Managers. They have also been instrumental in the completion of this Directory. For quarterly program/staff changes, please check out the Mercyhurst College Civic Institute website at <http://civicinstitute.meryhurst.edu/>

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Incorrigibility Initiative

The mission of the Incorporrigibility Initiative is to work toward the development of a system of services to incorrigible youth in Erie County that is accessible, coordinated, effective, and accountable and that minimizes the need for formal child welfare or juvenile probation involvement with affected children and families.

The team has adopted the Juvenile Act's definition of incorrigibility which is defined as a youth who has committed a specific act or acts of habitual disobedience of the reasonable and lawful commands of his/her parent, guardian or other custodian and who is ungovernable and found to be in need of care, treatment or supervision.

The incorrigibility initiative is just one project coordinated by the Erie County Policy and Planning Council for Children and Families.

Erie County Policy and Planning Council for Children and Families

The Erie County Policy and Planning Council for Children and Families was established on September 11, 1996 by Erie County Resolution #44. The Council was initiated as an attempt to provide comprehensive planning on important issues facing families and children in Erie County. The Council represents human service leaders, community representatives, non-profit organizations, government agencies, consumers of service, and educators.

The Policy and Planning Council has agreed upon and is currently using a shared vision, purpose, and principles to guide its actions in making decisions for the well being of children and families throughout Erie County.

The Mission of the Policy and Planning Council is to strengthen families and children in Erie County.

The duties and responsibilities of the Policy and Planning Council are:

- A. To provide a setting in which concerned agency representatives, consumers, and the public can come together in a common concern for the well-being of families and children;
- B. To act as a network to enhance communication and mutual understanding among social service professionals, governmental leaders, the service and religious communities and the public at large;
- C. To be guided by an appreciation of the strengths that are inherent in children, families and communities and the role that social, cultural and religious traditions play in fostering those strengths;
- D. To adopt and promote a more holistic and less fragmented approach to services for families and children by broadening input into the planning process, by conducting careful policy analysis and by engaging in cross-system and outcome-based planning;

- E. To gather baseline information, to organize and conduct analyses and research, to do evaluations, and to seek grants and thereby build the policy and program development necessary for the strengthening of families and children in Erie County;
- F. To promote services that seek to prevent negative behavior among children and families, that focus on early intervention, that are cross-categorical and innovative in nature, that have been shown to be effective through quantitative analysis, that are highly accessible and can be provided at the neighborhood or community level;
- G. To sponsor and promote any other activities that is deemed by the Policy and Planning Council to strengthen families and children in Erie County.

**Coordinated Incurrigibility Resources, A Community Linked for Effectiveness -
C.I.R.C.L.E.**

Patty Strickenberger

Phone: 480-5930

Fax: 454-8670

Email: pstrickenberger@perseushouse.org

Eligibility:

For families in need of professional services for dealing with incurrigibility, a referral program is now available. Incurrigibility refers to youth who are out of the reasonable control of parents, teachers, and other legitimate authorities, but not yet delinquent. The CIRCLE Program accepts referrals from Erie County agencies, schools, and citizens, Monday through Friday, from 8:30 am to 4:30 pm.

Mission:

Developed in response to the need for a centralized screening, intake, referral, and tracking service for incurrigible youth, the CIRCLE Program provides assistance through a referral process. From the initial request for assistance from/of a family, a Community Resource Specialist tracks each case. The Community Resource Specialist will conduct a phone assessment with the parent or guardian of the troubled adolescent. Through the assessment process, an appropriate referral resource will be identified and recommended. The family will then be responsible to contact the recommended resource. A 72-hour follow-up phone call will be made to the initial caller to review what actions they have made to engage the recommended referred resource.

After-School Student Support Program/STARS

Program Description:

The program is a combination of individual and group counseling. Some areas of focus are: problem-solving and coping skills; social and interpersonal relationship skills; effective and appropriate communication of feeling/emotions; concerns with personal issues; anger replacement and conflict resolution; behavior management; and community living. The program also uses academic enrichment and recreational activities to achieve its goals.

Location: The following City of Erie Elementary and Middle Schools: Burton, Jo Anna Connell, Diehl, Edison, Emerson-Gridley, Harding, Irving, McKinley, Perry, Pfeiffer-Burleigh, Roosevelt, Wayne, Wilson.

Goals/Purpose:

To assist students in developing stability in school, home and community settings; and to improve impulse control, social skills, school attendance, academic achievement and self-esteem. In order to obtain these goals, each program has five (5) distinct components: snack/socialization; structured free time; supervised homework time; recreational therapy; and social skills group.

Eligibility:

The after-school support program focuses on children and adolescents (grades 1-8) who manifest emotional and behavioral problems. In order for a student to be accepted, he/she must meet program criteria and both parent(s) and student must be willing to participate in the program. This program is geared for students who:

- Have DSM-IV diagnosis.
- Have out-of-home placement history.
- Are experiencing problems with academics, attendance and social adjustment.
- Are migrant.
- Are coming back to school from Alternative Education Program.

Referral Process:

Students can be referred to the program by calling the staff at the site-specific schools.

AFTER SCHOOL PROGRAM - STARS/ASSP

Supervisor: Mary Jo Cline

Phone: 451-6630

Fax: 451-6565

Email: mjcline@ecocy.org

Migrant Education Coordinator

Darlene Morales
836-0870 ext. 261

IU Coordinator

Roberta Gill
836-0870 ext. 237

Program Secretary

Mia Lien Casey
Phone: 874-6037
Fax: 874-6039

Burton 2:30-4:00 Tue-Wed-Thu (NO BUS)

Teachers: Gina Lopez, Renee Wright (STARS)
Phone Number: 874-6850 Fax Number: 874-6856

Connell 2:30-4:30 Tue-Wed-Thu

Teachers: Kristine Klapsinos, June Johnson
Phone Number: 874-6785 Fax Number: 874-6789

Diehl 2:30-4:30 Tue-Wed-Thu

Teachers: Desiree Ward, Barb Jones
Phone Number: 874-6585 Fax Number: 874-6589

Edison 2:30-4:30 Mon-Tue-Wed

Teachers: Patrick Babay, Ellen Bizezicki (STARS)
Phone Number: 874-6470 Fax Number: 874-6475

Harding 2:30-4:30 Tue-Wed-Thu

Teachers: Laurie Riccomini, Donna Wall
Phone Number: 874-6550 Fax Number: 874-6556

Irving 2:40-4:45 Tue-Wed-Thu

Teachers: Deborah English, Logan Popoff
Phone Number: 874-6770 Fax Number: 874-6775

McKinley 2:30-4:30 Mon-Tue-Thu

Teachers: Carol Laskowski, Sue Rupp, Mary Lynn Ganska (sub)
Phone Number: 874-6870 Fax Number: 874-6489

Perry 2:30-4:30 Tue-Wed-Thu

Teachers: Amy Rodriguez, Joyce Moon
Phone Number: 874-6485 Fax Number: 874-6489

Pfeiffer-Burleigh 2:30-4:30 Mon-Tue-Wed

Teachers: Maria Gaeckle, Kim Markley, Larry Pardini (STARS),
Phone Number: 874-6750 Fax Number: 874-6756

Roosevelt 3:00-5:00 Mon-Tue-Wed

Teachers: Nina Siggia-Boam, Bill Kuhar
Phone: 874-6800 Fax Number: 874-6807

Wayne 3:00-5:00 Mon-Tue-Wed

Teachers: Marsha Tome, Jim Gray, Mr. Lewis (sub)
Phone Number: 874-6700 Fax Number: 874-6707

Wilson 3:00-5:30 Mon-Tue-Wed

Teachers: Pat English, Miki Martin, Beverly Sugden (sub)
Phone Number: 874-6600 Fax Number: 874-6607

Alternative Education Program

Program Description:

The Alternative Education Program is designed to provide for the behavioral, emotional, and educational needs of the disruptive student in a school setting. Through the use of small group Academic Instruction, Technology Enhancement, and Life Skills Counseling, each student's most serious behavioral and academic needs will be addressed.

Location: Boys & Girls Club of Erie, Perseus House, and Trinity Center.

Goals/Purpose:

To provide each student with a variety of opportunities to experience success through a humanistic approach that addresses individual needs with the goal of providing positive reinstatement of students into an appropriate school setting. The Alternative Education Program is to serve as an intervention. Its focus is the development of positive social behaviors.

- **Academic Instruction:**

The focus of the educational program is on providing the skills and knowledge necessary to be successful in a school setting. Basic skills instruction in grades 6-8 takes place in the five core subject areas: math, science, English, social studies, and reading. Grades 9 through 12 receive instruction in English, Math, Social Studies and Science, as well as elective courses.

- **Technology Enhancement:**

Academic instruction is offered through the Academic Learning System (ALS) program creating objective-based or interdisciplinary-based lesson plans for particular subject areas. Teachers can custom design courses meeting the student's individual needs and matching the district's curriculum. Computers are accessible in all classrooms, as well as in the state-of-the art technology center.

- **Life Skills Counseling:**

Each student receives anger management (to teach them what they can't do); social skills building (to teach them what they can do); and moral reasoning (to help them understand why doing the right thing is the best choice every time).

Eligibility:

The program is designed for students in grades 6 through 12 who have been removed from the regular school program because of serious disruptive behavior. Serious disruptive behaviors are defined in the middle and high school discipline policies for immediate referral to the program.

Referral Process:

For City of Erie student referrals, contact Danny Jones (874-6324); for Erie County student referrals, contact Chris Primavera (480-5915); and for all special education referrals, contact Marlene Chrisman (874-6050).

Alternative Education Program Contacts

Danny Jones, Assistant Supervisor of Student Assistance

City of Erie Student Referrals

Erie School District

Phone: (814) 874-6324

Email: djjones@eriesd.iu5.org

Nick Viglione, Site Supervisor

Erie County Student Referrals

Perseus House, Inc.

Phone: (814) 480-5915

Email: nviglione@perseushouse.org

<u>Location</u>	<u>Last Name</u>	<u>First Name</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Phone Number</u>
Boys/Girls Club	Dombkowski	Mike	Middle School Teacher	459-1977 ext. 232
Boys/Girls Club	Hahasy	Kathy	Middle School Teacher	459-1977 ext. 232
Boys/Girls Club	Swope	Holly	MS Teacher's Aide	480-5914
Perseus House	Abate	Angela	High School Teacher	480-5943
Perseus House	Angerer	John	High School Teacher	480-5943
Perseus House	Bounds	Damian	High School Teacher	480-5953
Perseus House	Buckoski	Nicole	MS/HS Teacher's Aide	480-5914
Perseus House	Collins	Aaron	Middle School Teacher	480-5949
Perseus House	Druzak	Laurie	High School Teacher	480-5946
Perseus House	Eisert	Mark	Middle School Teacher	480-5947
Perseus House	Howard	Lester	MS/HS Behavioral Specialist	480-5954
Perseus House	Jordan	Alice	Administrative Assistant	480-5914
Perseus House	Kuhar	Mary	Middle/High School Teacher	480-5952
Perseus House	Laska	Lorna	Erie County Prison Teacher	451-7586
Perseus House	Linden	Karol	MS/HS Nurse	480-5911
Perseus House	Mechtley	Linda	Middle School Teacher	480-5948
Perseus House	O'Neal	Stephanie	High School Behavioral Specialist	480-5945
Perseus House	Primavere	Chris	Site Supervisor	480-5915
Perseus House	Reidel	Jennifer	Middle School Behavioral Specialist	480-5914
Perseus House	Rositer	Shelly	Middle School Teacher	480-5942
Perseus House	Sambuchino	Nicole	Admissions/School Psychologist	480-5911
Perseus House	Sementilli	Margaret	MS/HS Teacher's Aide	480-5914
Perseus House	Stewart	Larry	MS/HS Teacher's Aide	480-5914
Perseus House	Sushereba	John	ESD SAP MH Specialist	480-5910
Perseus House	Sweeney	Jeff	High School Teacher	480-5950
Perseus House	Vona	Pat	Security/Attendance	480-5907
Perseus House	Warmbrodt	Trisha	Project Coordinator	480-5911
Trinity Center	McErlane	Charles	ITP Teacher	461-9661
Trinity Center	Mitchell	Susan	ITP Behavioral Specialist	461-9661
Trinity Center	Reim	Tim	ITP/Expelled Teacher	461-9661

Delinquency Prevention Program

Program Description:

The Delinquency Prevention Program (DPP) is an innovative therapeutic approach to stabilizing, maintaining, enhancing and supporting at-risk youth. Through collaborative efforts, Perseus House, Inc. and the Erie School District provide preventative strategies to students within the Erie School District.

Location:

The following Edison, Pfeiffer-Burleigh, Glenwood, Grover Cleveland, Lincoln, Wayne and Wilson. Each program has been adapted to accommodate the requests of the Erie School District.

Goals:

The Delinquency Prevention programs have various program designs that are implemented at different sites. Providing Alternative Thinking Strategies (PATHS) is a curriculum-based program, which focuses on cognitive-emotional intelligence. This program is located at two (2) sites and is directed towards elementary students. Intervention Specialist/Case Managers are yet another distinct component which encompasses the Delinquency Prevention Program. These positions have their roles partly shaped through insights from the building principals to meet building needs. The structure, routine and operational definition for these positions varies at each site. The Delinquency Prevention staff has various responsibilities and objectives.

The main goals are as follows:

- A. Increasing academic success
- B. Increasing pro-social behavior
- C. Increasing self-esteem
- D. Providing support systems
- E. Reducing barriers to learning

To reach the program goals, similar techniques are implemented, such as: collaborating with school administration, faculty, and support staff; working with outside agencies when necessary; collaborating with Student Assistance; using sound instruments (Aggression Replacement Training, Life Space Crisis Intervention and Safe Physical Management Theory) and similar process features (parent support, documentation materials and supervisory support from Perseus House). These techniques and tools provide the foundation from which the Delinquency Prevention Programs can be distinguished.

Eligibility:

Criteria for accessing services in the identified schools vary from site to site.

Referral Process:

Contacting the Delinquency Prevention Program staff, school administrator and/or CIRCLE program is the first step to seeking out these services.

Delinquency Prevention Program Contacts

Nick Viglione, Director of Community-Based Programs

Phone: 480-5928

Fax: 454-8670

Email: nviglione@perseushouse.org

<u>School</u>	<u>Staff</u>	<u>Phone Number</u>
Edison Elementary	Cheryl Maloney	874-6470
Diehl/McKinley Elementary	Evan Tucker	874-6670
Lincoln Elementary	Alexander Thompson	874-6685
Northwestern	Lisa Andrews	814-756-4116
Pfeiffer-Burleigh Elementary	Wilfredo Velez	874-6750
Wayne Middle School	Shannon Lofton	874-6700
Wilson Middle School	Joe Kujkowski	874-6600

Families ToGether

The mission of the Erie County Office of Children and Youth is to provide for the care and protection of children and youth while preserving the unity of the family whenever possible.

Program Description:

Families ToGether utilizes a service model designed to empower families by providing services which are intensive, crisis oriented, home based, and time limited in nature and which focus on an ecological approach to client problem solving, based largely on systems theory.

Primary Treatment Approach:

Families ToGether utilizes a psycho-educational approach to assist parents in personal and parenting skill development, coping strategies, problem solving skills, and common areas of parental management including the handling of adolescent mood swings, tendencies toward the inappropriate expression of anger and related conduct oriented difficulties. In addition it emphasizes a family system perspective with the ultimate goal of empowerment. Other treatment approaches deemed necessary to accomplish the above stated goals include, but are not limited to; Structural Family Therapy, Reality Therapy and Behavior Modification techniques.

Community resources are maximized and referrals are made to community resources for families and/or individuals experiencing medical and/or mental health problems, drug and alcohol problems, domestic problems, child abuse and neglect problems, etc.

Families ToGether is constructed to strategically assist families in their linkage and relationships with the primary systems they encounter, such as the community, extended family, school, the work place, courts, welfare institutions and social agencies. The client receives specific instruction on how to relate to these systems that are necessary and appropriate for their specific family and/or individual problems. Concurrently there is also instruction and support in seeking solutions to problems within the family structure and subsequently avoiding unnecessary assistance from outside sources.

Direct Client Service Program:

The direct service program is provided by the Family Services Agency.

Families ToGether employs one supervisory social worker and up to four (4) full time social workers to provide direct services to adolescents and their families.

The service program is designed to be intensive and comprehensive. Intensive services are offered up to 90 days. The Families ToGether staff provides a minimum of two scheduled direct contacts per week with the family. Additional services such as adolescent groups, referrals to parenting skills classes, parent support groups or community agency services are offered to designated families. The services offered are family focused and home based unless otherwise indicated by the type of service i.e., the nature of a particular problem that may require a neutral and separate setting to enhance intervention, or the home environment not being conducive to therapeutic and safe intervention.

Goals:

The program service goals for the Families ToGether Program are as follows:

- A. Protect children while preserving families
- B. Reduce the incidence of placement of children
- C. Reduce the length of placement services
- D. Improve parental adaptive functioning

This will be accomplished by providing 24-hour crisis intervention on active cases, counseling, preventive education and support services to assist parents in dealing with family problems. In addition, networking activities and a team approach of agencies will integrate and enrich Erie County's system of services to troubled adolescents and their families.

Client Characteristics:

The presenting problems of this client group serviced by Families ToGether vary due to each individual situation. However, the families serviced by this program will most often exhibit some combination of the following list of presenting problems:

Adolescent Focused Problems:

1. Continued parental disobedience
2. Chronic runaway behavior
3. Seriously disruptive conduct in the school setting
4. Drug and alcohol involvement
5. Ungovernable behavior

Parent Focused Problems:

1. Extreme parent child relationship conflict
2. Parent, management skills, problem solving and parenting skill problems
3. Isolation, developmental deprivation, and environmental stressors
4. Single parent issues
5. Marital conflict

Family Focused Conflicts:

1. Interpersonal (intrafamilial) problems
2. Crisis/disruption
3. Inadequate access to helping systems
4. Lack of family resources

Systemic Stressors:

1. Poor relationships with primary institutions
2. Lack of appropriate community resources or unwillingness to be involved with community resources

Eligibility:

Adolescents between the ages of ten and fifteen will be prioritized for service as they appear most likely to respond appropriately to this service model. On a selective basis adolescents sixteen years of age may also be considered for the service.

Parents must be willing to have the adolescent live at home. At least one parent must consent to the involvement of the intensive service and express a willingness to be involved with any collateral services deemed necessary to provide treatment to the family.

Referral Process:

Referrals to the program are made through the Erie County Office of Children and Youth using a referral form with further screening to be completed by the Family Services Agency.

Families Together Contacts

Joe Haas, Program Supervisor

Phone: 866-4551

Fax: 454-8670

Email: joeh@familyserviceserie.org

<u>Last Name</u>	<u>First Name</u>	<u>Phone Number</u>	<u>Fax Number</u>
Gibson	Mary	866-4520	864-2677
Jackson*	Angela	866-4554	864-2677
Lundell	Freide	866-4591	864-2677
Majczyk*	Rob	866-4536	864-2677
McLaughlin	Amber	866-4531	864-2677
Weislogel*	Kathy	866-4513	864-2677

*These staff members work in the Brief Services Program but often times carry a Families Together Caseload.

Intensive Juvenile Delinquency Prevention Program

Program Description:

The Intensive Juvenile Delinquency Prevention Program (IJDPP) was developed to provide early preventative services that will assist high-risk youth and their families. Intensive case management services are a primary focus to prevent future delinquent behavior and subsequent involvement in the juvenile justice system. The program collaborators for the project include: Erie County Office of Children and Youth, Erie County Juvenile Probation, Erie County Human Services, the School District of the City of Erie, Perseus House, Inc., and Sarah A. Reed Children's Center.

A holistic approach to client intervention will be emphasized. The program will provide a comprehensive multimode treatment model that can best be described as metapsychoeducational. Interventions will include individual and group counseling, educational opportunities and remediation, behavior modification, and the inclusion of the family through involvement in individual, family, and group therapy.

Perseus House, Inc., and Sarah A. Reed Children's Center will provide case management services and clinical supervision for the program.

Clients will be expected to attend scheduled classes at their home school during normal school hours. The case managers will monitor and track attendance, discipline, and academic performance of assigned clients. After school, student support will be provided at the four-targeted schools for all project clients. This will occur two-days per recreational therapy and tutorial remediation.

A parent program (two-days per week) will be provided for clients and their families. This program will be family-focused to engage parents and their children. Parents will be provided training and support through structured learning groups. In addition, children and their parents will participate together in social skills training and recreational therapy.

Summer programming will provide several options available to the youth in this project depending on their individual needs, interests and developmental levels. Clients will be linked with existing resources in the community including camping experiences, sports clinics, art activities and other programs. Tutorial remediation and recreational activities will be provided throughout the week. Parent training and support groups will also be facilitated on weekends.

Location:

The City of Erie School District will provide training and supportive services at four schools: Emerson-Gridley, Wayne, Roosevelt, and Strong Vincent. Each target school will maintain a maximum client population of ten. Approximately 80 -120 clients and families per year will be served at the four schools.

Goals:

The purpose of this program is to introduce a collaborative approach to create effective diversion strategies from delinquent behavior for at-risk youth within the community. The specific goals for the program are:

- To expand the current collaborative continuum by utilizing community resources to provide focused delinquency prevention services for youth who are chronically truant, incorrigible, abused and/or neglected, have histories of drug and/or alcohol abuse, and/or exhibited pre-delinquent behaviors.
- To provide interventions and services that decrease and prevent truancy, status offenses, and other behaviors that may lead to delinquency.

Eligibility:

This program is primarily targeted for students presenting truancy issues in one of the following schools; Emerson-Gridley, Roosevelt, Wayne, and Strong Vincent. Other secondary targeted behaviors may also include a decrease in Grade Point Average. and an increase in school discipline referrals. Students may also be eligible due to significant changes in either behavior or attitude.

Referral Process:

Clients can be referred to the program through a Court Order from a local District Justice, staff evaluation process, a Building Level Team, and/or the "CIRCLE" initiative.

Intensive Juvenile Delinquency Prevention Program Contacts

Nick Viglione, Director of Community-Based Programs

Phone: 480-5928

Fax: 454-8670

Email: nviglione@perseushouse.org

and

Kathy Bierley, Coordinator of Residential Aftercare Services

Phone: 453-4309 ext. 120

Fax: 459-1191

Email: Kbierley@sarahreed.org

<u>School</u>	<u>Agency</u>	<u>Case Manager</u>	<u>Phone Number</u>
Emerson Gridley Elementary School	Sarah Reed	Brian Eastman	874-6461
Roosevelt Middle School	Perseus House	Bridget Mooney	874-6812
Strong Vincent High School	Perseus House	Mik Trayer	456-9880
Wayne Middle School	Sarah Reed	Michael Jozwiak	874-6713

Project Intercept

Program Description:

Project Intercept is a prevention, intervention and collaborative program with the Erie County Office of Children & Youth. This program provides counseling and support services to individual youngsters and their families experiencing severe difficulties at home, in school, and in the community.

Location:

This program operates at the Boys & Girls Club of Erie at 1515 East Lake Road.

Goals:

The goals of Project Intercept are to:

- A. Prevent placement of youngsters outside the home
- B. Prevent involvement with the juvenile court system
- C. Respond to survival needs (food, shelter, clothing, etc.) of youth and families when the need arise
- D. Provide family intervention counseling services to enhance family function
- E. Provide tutoring and homework assistance to youth who are experiencing educational difficulties
- F. Work with schools and other community agencies to assure that the youngsters and their families receive proper services
- G. Provide life skills support
- H. Involve youth in programs at the Boys & Girls Club to develop behaviors, attitudes and values that will enable them to function successfully

Eligibility:

The target group for this program is youth between the ages of 8 and 17 who are experiencing difficulty at home, in school, and/or in the community.

Referral Process:

Clients are referred by the Erie County Office of Children & Youth, the Erie County Juvenile Probation Office, the CIRCLE Program, the Boys & Girls Club, and other public and private agencies. Project Intercept staff then conduct a preliminary phone interview to determine the service needs of the client. If the staff thinks the client would be appropriate for the Intercept Program, an extensive intake interview is conducted in the home, and, if a slot is available, they are brought into the Intercept Program. Clients and their families are then assigned an Intercept counselor who works with the client and family to develop a Family Service Plan, then works with the family on a daily basis to achieve the objectives of the plan. Project Intercept counselors also initiate and facilitate the use of other existing services in the community. They also provide 24-hour-on-call services, and each of the youths in the program is mainstreamed into the core program at the Boys & Girls Club.

Project Intercept Contacts

Joe Grucza, Supervisor/Counselor

Phone: 459-1977 ext. 235

Fax: 454-5450

Email: jgrucza@bgce.net

<u>Staff</u>	<u>Phone Number</u>	<u>Fax Number</u>	<u>email</u>
Gillian Gavin	459-1977 ext. 237	454-5450	gillian@surferie.net
Joe Grogan	459-1977 ext. 228	454-5450	jgrogan@bgce.net
Joe Grucza	459-1977 ext. 235	454-5450	jgrucza@bgce.net
Matt Morgan	459-1977 ext. 229	454-5450	mmorgan@bgce.net

Truancy Services, Erie County Office of Children and Youth

Program Description:

Through the Compulsory School Attendance Law, the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania recognizes both the need for appropriate educational services and the need to preserve the integrity of family life whenever consistent with the goals of child protection and education. Erie County Office of Children & Youth's (OCY) truancy unit ensures all truant children have a legally assured family that promotes and encourages their educational needs and achievement of academic success. The unit is guided and constrained in its functions by state and federal law and regulation.

The truancy unit conducts its mission through a collaborative team effort with schools and service providers in order to ensure an education for all children and protection of the community. Parents and children are empowered through the unit's commitment of family-centered practice.

Eligibility:

The Truancy Department provides services to all Erie County children between the ages of 12-16. Services and interventions will occur until truancy concerns have been resolved. Children 11 and under can be referred to Erie County Office of Children and Youth's intake department for educational neglect. It has been determined that children and families have a higher success rate when referred for truancy interventions at the onset of the concern.

In most circumstances, truant children who are on formal probation and have been assigned a Probation Officer, will not be opened for services. All school-based programs must have attempted to resolve the truancy concerns prior to acceptance.

Referral Process:

The referring school must fill out the Truancy Document and file notice with the assigned District Justice Office. Truancy Caseworkers cannot accept cases through the school and the child must have been illegally absent at least 10 school days. The District Justice office will determine whether OCY intervention is necessary. If the DJ believes the school and/or community supports have exhausted all attempts to engage the truant, the case will then be referred to OCY.

Goals:

The goals of the Truancy Department are as follows:

- To assure children achieve academic success by attending school regularly, improving grades, and addressing behavioral/emotional concerns.
- To enhance a child's social skills by providing opportunities for exploration and growth.
- To address the truancy problem and child/parent relationship issues, while attempting to preserve the family.
- To utilize placement resources such as kinship care, foster care, group homes, or residential treatment facilities when a child's needs can not be met in the home.
- To provide services that will help with a successful reunification of child and parent. This may include assessments and referrals for Drug & Alcohol programs, Mental Health and Mental Retardation services, educational programs, school-based programs, and parenting components.
- To assist in developing skills to prepare for Interdependent Living.
- To explore alternative educational opportunities (i.e. GED, Job Corp, Home Schooling) when traditional education may not be appropriate.

Truancy Services Contacts

William Hain, Director of Truancy and Reunification Services

Phone: 451-6636

Email: whain@ecocy.org

Karen Heberle, Truancy Supervisor

Phone: 451-6600

Fax: 451-6555

Email: kheberle@ecocy.org

Truancy Worker

Phone number District Justice & School

Sandy Knittel

sknittel@ecocy.org

451-6633

DJ Sue Mack – East, Wayne
DJ Denise Stuck-Lewis - Fairview

Rick Nelson

rnelson@ecocy.org

451-6679

DJ Chris Mackendrick – Girard,
North Western
DJ Patsy Nichols- Corry
DJ Carol Southwick – Union City
DJ Paul Manzi – Millcreek

Tom Siverd

tsiverd@ecocy.org

451-6669

DJ Joseph Lefaiver – Wilson
DJ Sue Strohmeyer – Wattsburg
DJ James Dwyer – Ft. Leboeuf

Stephanie Taylor

staylor@ecocy.org

451-6594

DJ Jay Shimek – Strong Vincent
DJ Mark Krahe - Iroquois/Harborcreek

Reta Tobin

rtobin@ecocy.org

451-7781

DJ Dominick DiPaolo – Central, Roosevelt
DJ Frank Abate – North East

School-Based Probation

A school-based probation officer is a juvenile probation officer with a school as his/her primary work site, whose authority is governed by the Juvenile Act and relevant school policies. The school-based probation officer delivers service using the concept of the "Balanced Approach" to ensure community protection and public safety, client accountability, and the development of client competencies. To that end, the school-based probation officer provides on site supervision and immediate intervention to students under court jurisdiction by coordinating services with the school, community, and family. In conjunction with school personnel, these specialized probation officers promote a drug free, safe environment in which to improve the academic and behavioral performance of their clients and participate in the school's Student Assistance Program (SAP).

The goal of these programs is to increase the probability that clients provided with school-based probation services will function successfully in the school environment and reduce their delinquent behavior. To the end, program objectives include the following:

- Decreasing school disciplinary referrals.
- Decreasing the number of days and frequency of detention and suspensions.
- Decreasing absenteeism.
- Increasing the number of positive school reports as evidences by teachers' quarterly comments, and increase in percentage of completed homework assignments, and, ultimately, an improvement in grades.
- Reducing recidivism (defined as re-arrest or a "new" juvenile court referral).
- Reducing the number of clients going into out-of-home placements as a result of delinquent behavior.

School-Based Probation Contacts

Supervisor: Mike Carrig

Phone: 451-6040

Fax: 451-7454

<u>School</u>	<u>Probation Officer</u>	<u>Phone Number</u>	<u>Fax Number</u>	<u>Email</u>
AEP- Peach St.	D. Clemente	480-5906	454-9879	dclemente@eriecountygov.org
Central High School	Jon Berkeley	874-6213	874-6207	jberkeley@eriecountygov.org
Corry	Dan Dudenhoeffer	665-8297	664-3650	ddudenhoeffer@eriecountygov.org
East High School	T. Antolik	874-6413	874-6407	tantolik@eriecountygov.org
McDowell High School	Scott Boyd	835-5421	835-5531	sboyd@eriecountygov.org
McDowell Intermediate	Scott Boyd	835-5547	835-5519	sboyd@eriecountygov.org
Roosevelt Middle School	Doug Meyner	874-6813	874-6807	dmeyner@eriecountygov.org
Strong Vincent High School	Chris Whitman	874-6513	874-6507	cwhitman@eriecountygov.org
Wayne Middle School	Reuben Smith	874-6713	874-6707	rsmith@eriecountygov.org
Wilson Middle School	Vern Gambill	874-6613	874-6607	vgambill@eriecountygov.org

Student Assistance Program Behavioral Health Services

Program Description:

All schools in the Erie School District have an assigned Mental Health Specialist who is available to provide a variety of intervention services to students, parents, and school staff. The primary focus of the mental health staff is to serve as a link between the family, school and community-based services. The Mental Health Specialists are available to consult on health assessments with students referred through the Student Assistance Team and facilitate referrals to community agencies when appropriate. The Mental Health Specialists are trained masters level mental health professionals and receive weekly clinical supervision from Dr. Charles Joy, Child Psychiatrist.

Locations: All Schools

Specific Behavioral Health Services offered by SAP Mental Health Specialists:

- Consultation to student assistance teams
- Mental health assessments with referred students (K -12)
- Behavioral assessments
- Crisis assessments and consultation
- Post-vention and critical incident response
- Short-term counseling
- Situational intervention and mediation services
- Direct referrals for county funded mental health services
- Referrals to community agencies
- After-care and transition support services
- Consultation with school staff and administrators
- Consultation regarding social skills training and other school-based intervention and prevention programs
- In-services/presentations to school staff and students
- Participate in Child Family Teams of the Erie County Wrap-around Initiative
- Group facilitation including: Anger management, stress management, grief and loss, relationships/communication, problem solving, social skills and transition.

All Student Assistance Behavioral Health services are confidential, voluntary and free of charge.

The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act gives parents and students specific rights regarding confidentiality and access to student records. The Protection of Pupil Rights Act gives students and parents specific rights in regard to participation in any program or service, which requires the sharing of personal information. These regulations are available from any Erie School District Student Assistance Team.

Student Assistance Program Mental Health Liaison Northwest Tri-County Intermediate Unit #5

Program Description:

The IU 5 SAP includes two components. One is a training component, approved by the Pennsylvania Department of Education, that is designed to provide school staff with basic education and training in how to help students and families in the area of mental health and substance abuse problems. The second component delivers mental health professional services in twelve school districts in Erie County. Mental health professional staff provide screening, consultation and referral services in all secondary schools in the county school districts with the exception of the City of Erie School District.

Location:

This program operates in all secondary schools in Erie County.

Goals/Purpose:

To help schools eliminate/reduce barriers to students school performance, including social, emotional, and behavioral difficulties.

Eligibility:

Any student identified by a school's Student Assistance Team who is in need of support.

Referral Process:

Parents and faculty can refer youth to the program by contacting the school's Core Team.

**Northwest Tri-County Intermediate Unit # 5 (IU5)
Student Assistance Program Mental Health Liaison Contacts**

Dennis Valone, Ed.D., Program Director

Phone: (814) 734-8462

or

(800) 677-5610 ext. 262

Fax: (814) 734-5806

Email: dennis_valone@iu5.org

Staff	Assignment	Phone/Voicemail
Kitty Beaman	Wattsburg MS	838-1954 ext. 329
Kathleen Beaulieu	McDowell SHS	835-5409
Nancy Bennett	McDowell Intermediate	451-9691
Mary Ann DeSarro	Westlake MS	835-5334
Kathleen Dougherty	McDowell SHS	835-5409
Ayrn Herron	Seneca HS, Iroquois SD	1-800-677-5610 ext. 7718
Christine Kalie	Harborcreek SD	1-800-677-5610 x. 7740
John Kennedy	Parker MS	459-2755 ext. 142
Kathleen Malinowski	North East MS/HS	1-800-677-5610 ext. 7744
Heidi Martin	Northwestern SD	1-800-677-5610 ext. 7721
Cheryl Mogavero	General McLane HS & Fariview SD	1-800-677-5610 ext. 7717
Tom Murabito	JS Wilson MS	835-5334
Kim Quirk	Walnut Creek MS	835-5334
Richard Read	Corry Area SD	665-8297 ext. 116
Andrea Schwab	Union City HS/MS	1-800-677-5610 ext. 7745
Diane Szklenski	Chestnut Hill/Ridgefield	1-800-677-5610 ext. 7742

Student Assistance Teams

Program Description:

The purpose of the Student Assistance Team is to help identify barriers to learning so students can become more successful in school. Students may be referred to the Team by parents, teachers, friends or they can refer themselves. Every middle and high school has a team of school staff who has been trained to work with students and parents through the student assistance process. Student Assistance Teams are being formed on the elementary level. The Student Assistance Team is charged with identifying student strengths and needs, and working with the child and family to identify and access the necessary supports that will help each referred child to become more successful in school. All Erie School District Student Assistance Teams comply with the guidelines and practices established by the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, Department of Education.

Location: All elementary, middle and high schools in the City of Erie.

Program Design:

Student Assistance Teams meet on a weekly basis in the middle and high schools. Typically the teams include: principals, guidance counselors, teachers, the school nurse, mental health specialist and school-based probation officer. The teams review each referral then join with parents to develop intervention plans based on each individual students' strengths and needs. These plans focus on school-based efforts to address identified areas of concern. When problems extend beyond the scope of the school, a referral may be made to the Mental Health Specialist for assessment and/or referrals to community services. The mental health specialist works with students, parents and the school staff to coordinate district and community services to help students who may need specific supports in order to be successful in school. A variety of school-based services may be accessed through the Student Assistance Team including: mental health and behavioral health assessments, drug and alcohol assessments as well as a variety of prevention and intervention groups and activities.

All Student Assistance Team services are voluntary, confidential and free of charge.

Parent permission is required before any student may participate in any Student Assistance Team services.

Student Assistance Team Contacts

Christina Christiansen, Supervisor of Mental Health Services

Phone: 874-6323

Fax: 874-6307

Pager: 878-6302

Email: cchristiansen@eriesd.iu5.org

<u>School</u>	<u>Last Name</u>	<u>First Name</u>	<u>School Phone</u>	<u>Fax</u>	<u>Pager</u>	<u>Schedule</u>
Alternative Education	Primavere	Chris	480-5915	454-9859	879-8331	5 Days
Alternative Education	Sambuchino	Nicole	480-5911	454-9859	879-8331	5 Days
Alternative Education	Sushereba	John	480-5910	454-9859	879-8331	5 Days
Burton	Palotas	Patti			879-8146	On-Call
Central	Komar	Victoria	874-6250	874-6257	879-8167	5 Days
Central	Tirpak	Angela	874-6200	874-6207	879-2266	3 Days
Cleveland	Chrostowski	Christine			879-2268	On-Call
Connell	De Sanko				461-3310	On-Call
Diehl	De Sanko				461-3310	On-Call
East	De Sanko		874-6420	874-6407	461-3310	5 Days
Edison	Palotas	Patti		874-6470	879-8146	On-Call
Emerson-Gridley	Ruhl	Chris			879-2265	On-Call
Erie Family Center	Brown	Debra	874-6990	874-6994	879-9934	Wednesday
Glenwood	Chrostowski	Christine			879-2268	On-Call
Harding	Chrostowski	Christine		874-6650	879-2268	On-Call
Irving	Miller	Carrie			879-5487	On-Call/MTW
Jefferson	Chrostowski	Christine			879-2268	On-Call
Lincoln	Kujkowski	Joe			878-0633	On-Call
McKinley	Kujkowski	Joe			878-0633	On-Call
Northwest PA Collegiate Academy	Chrostowski	Christine	874-6325	874-6307	879-2268	3 Days
Northwest PA Collegiate Academy	King	Erica	874-6300	874-6307	-	2.5 Days
Perry	Miller	Carrie			879-5487	On-Call/MTW
Pfeiffer Burleigh	Brown	Debra		874-6750	879-9934	Tue (M/W/T/F-am)
Pfeiffer Burleigh	Tirpak	Angela			879-2266	Tue (M/W/T/F-am)
Roosevelt	Miller	Carrie	874-6814	874-6807	879-5487	3 Days: M/T/W
Strong Vincent WRAP						
Liason	Ruhl	Chris	874-6525	874-6507	879-2265	5 Days
Wayne	Palotas	Patti	874-6717	874-6707	879-8146	5 Days
Wilson	Kruszewski	Margaret	874-6600	874-6607	879-2269	2 Days: T/Th
Wilson	Kujkowski	Joe	874-6600	874-6607	878-0633	5 Days