

TRUANCY PROGRAMS



Program Description

The Youth Advocate Programs, Inc. (YAP) Truancy Program is dedicated to working with at-risk youth of all ages struggling with truancy issues. The program incorporates interventions to increase student engagement at school and improve learning, with YAP's wraparound advocacy approach. An individualized plan that focuses on both the needs and strengths of the young person and family is developed with the support of a team of professional and informal supports. The plan is then implemented with the support of the YAP team.

Across a designated span of school days, referred youth work with YAP staff dedicated to improving key areas of functioning relative to truancy: **Morning Accountability; Parental Engagement; Academic Support; Community Engagement.**

Program Elements

- **Morning Accountability** to include the establishment of in-home structure, morning routines, accountability, consistency and competency development
- **Parental Engagement** to include the establishment of a strategy to implement consistency in consequences, effective communication strategies (emphasizing connection with the school), competency development, development of natural supports and crisis/safety planning
- **Academic Support** to include the establishment of academic achievement, tutoring, connection with teachers and school staff, positive and practical attitudes toward education, competency development, accountability of success/failure and self-esteem
- **Community Engagement** to include the establishment of connection to positive people, places and activities within the community based on their individual interests and needs

YAP Core Principles

- An **unconditional commitment** to care through our "no reject, no eject" referral and service delivery policy
- 24/7 crisis on call and response with flexible hours to meet the family's needs
- Individualized service planning based on strengths and needs of youth and families
- Mentoring and Positive Role Modeling

Youth OUTCOMES

83% improvement in attendance

77% improvement in tardiness

71% improvement in grades

71% promoted to next grade level

