

Program Structure

The program covers the following topics:

- Juvenile Justice System
- Communication
- Anger Management
- Smart Choices
- Values Awareness
- Substance Use
- Family Systems



Certified by the Department of
Mental Health and
Substance Abuse Services
(ODMHSAS)

Payne County Youth Services, Inc.

What can YOU do?

Businesses and individuals who want to support our services with financial contributions can do so by making a tax-deductible donation to Payne County Youth Services, Inc., by mail, on-line at www.pcys.org or in person. Donations of goods, services and the assistance of volunteers are always welcome.

To become a "Friend of PCYS", with a minimum \$15 annual donation, and to receive a membership packet, please contact us or visit us on our website.



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Skills for Success Program

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Learning the skills for a second chance



Skills for Success

Prevention and Early Intervention for Youth and their Families

The Skills for Success (First Offender) Program began in 1994 with the passage of the Juvenile Reform Act. This Act was passed to begin diversionary programs for first time offenders, or youth who were engaging in activities that were putting them at risk for entering into the juvenile justice system. Such behaviors include truancy, possession or use of alcohol or drugs, shoplifting, assault and battery, burglary, breaking and entering, larceny, run-aways, and etc.

The Skills for Success (First Offender) Program is a life skills enhancement program focusing on increasing the knowledge and utilization of skills to prevent the youth from engaging in future risky or illegal behaviors. Parent/guardian participation is essential in helping the youth acquire these skills and utilize them on a daily basis.

Who is eligible to participate?

Any youth between the ages of 10-17, or in 6th-12th grade, who has been engaging in activities that are putting him or her at risk for entering into the juvenile justice system and who would benefit from the Skills for Success Program.

Juveniles who have already entered the juvenile justice system may also be appropriate, as long as they have not completed the First Offender Program in the past. Juveniles who have committed serious and violent crimes are generally not eligible.

Youth and parents that would like to voluntarily participate in a life skills enhancement program are also eligible.

Participation in Skills for Success

The Skills for Success Program includes an intake interview, 12 to 14 hours of group curriculum, and an exit interview. The group sessions are held on Tuesday or Thursday evenings, or on consecutive Saturdays at the Payne County Youth Services office. To successfully complete the program, the youth and guardian must attend all sessions and participate in the intake and exit interviews.

Goals of the Program

- Increase youth's ability to effectively problem solve.
- Improve communication between the parent/guardian and youth.
- Assist the juvenile in developing improved impulse control.
- Enable the juvenile in understanding the consequences of his or her behavior.
- Enhance the parent's ability to provide structure and set boundaries for the youth.
- Reduce referral rate of juveniles into the justice system.

