



Division of Community Services

TEEN AFTER-SCHOOL CENTERS

A Program with Community Youth Serving Partners



About Teen After-School Centers

The hours between the end of the school day and when parents return from work is a risky time for young people, and research has demonstrated that serious and violent crime committed by youth increases between these times.

Teen After-School Centers (TASC) are daily after-school programs based in local churches, community centers, and other public buildings across the state, and are staffed by employees and volunteers with a heart for youth. Often supplementing the normal supervision that DJJ provides, TASC are also designed to reduce the likelihood that program participants will be incarcerated.



TASC provide supervision, structured daily activities, service coordination, and resource development for youth and their families. Individual educational enhancements are also developed for youth that have had academic or social difficulties in mainstream educational settings. They help enhance coping skills, increasing academic, vocational & employability skills, and building on competencies of youth & their families.

Among the most important outcomes of youth involvement in TASC, is that the program has been shown to reduce recidivism (i.e. not receiving additional criminal charges), lessen absences and out of school suspensions, increase school attendance, performance, and grade point averages.

Youth Participation in TASC

Serving over 7,000 students in FY 2023-24, forty TASC sites are currently in operation across the state of South Carolina. The TASC program is designed to serve non-violent male and female youth ages 12-17, who are at risk of incarceration.

Youth can be referred to a TASC program by different sources including the Family Court, law enforcement, local school resource officers and school staff, DJJ staff or their parents. Local DJJ offices help each TASC program screen applicants to verify that they meet the criteria for admission to the program, and special emphasis is placed on youth currently involved with DJJ.

Program Activities/Components

TASC provide youth with many opportunities including:

- Attending sporting events and visiting state parks, libraries, and colleges;
- Educational support and after-school tutoring;
- Development of employability skills and job placement;
- Contact between youth and positive adult role models;
- Spiritual development and recreation;
- Community service and victim restoration;
- Parenting groups and youth life skills development;
- Conflict resolution and anger management;
- Gang prevention and intervention;
- Computer Labs and instruction.

Funding & Support

Each TASC site is awarded \$20,000 to provide services to approximately 10-40 youth per year. It costs about a dollar a day to serve a TASC youth, compared to \$426 a day to incarcerate him/her. Additionally, DJJ's Office of Community Justice provides to each TASC at no cost guidance, training, and other resources, and volunteers and paid staff are screened by SLED, the SC Department of Social Services and the National Crime Information Center.

For more information please contact your local DJJ County Office (full listing on next page) or:

Tiffany R. Howard

Director of Prevention and Intervention
Community Services Division

Central Office, Winthrop Bldg., 220 Executive Center Drive
Columbia, SC 29210

Phone: (803) 792-2324 ♦ Email: tiffanyrhoward@djj.sc.gov

For additional DJJ resources please visit our website:
<http://www.state.sc.us/djj/>

DJJ County Office Directory

Abbeville
(864) 366-5312

Darlington
843-393-5641

Lee
803-484-4550

Aiken
803-641-7735

Dillon
843-774-4147

Lexington
803-359-5526

Allendale
803-584-4751

Dorchester
843-832-4265

Marion
843-431-1110

Anderson
864-260-4041

Fairfield
803-712-6533

Marlboro
843-479-2961

Barnwell
803-259-7114

Florence
843-665-3080

Newberry
803-276-8243

Bamberg
803-245-5184

Greenville
864-467-5875

Oconee
864-638-9537

Beaufort
843-525-1351

Greenwood
864-229-6648

Orangeburg/Calhoun
803-533-6270

Berkeley
843-761-8194

Georgetown
843-546-8723

Pickens
864-878-7560

Charleston
843-740-1649

Hampton
803-943-4296

Richland
803-253-4050

Cherokee
864-487-2564

Horry
843-915-8969

Spartanburg
864-562-4200

Chester
803-377-8104

Jasper
843-726-5666

Sumter
803-778-2368

Chesterfield
843-623-2378

Kershaw
803-432-9171

Union
864-429-1640

Clarendon
803-435-8587

Lancaster
803-285-9447

Williamsburg
843-355-2772

Colleton
843-549-1509

Laurens
864-984-2518

York
803-909-7500

Tri-Counties
(Edgefield, McCormick, Saluda)
864-445-8138

The South Carolina Department of Juvenile Justice (DJJ) is the state cabinet agency responsible for providing custodial care and rehabilitation for the state's children who are incarcerated, on probation or parole, or in community placement for a criminal or status offense. Our mission is to protect the public and reclaim juveniles through prevention, community services, education, and rehabilitative services in the least restrictive environment.