



Information Packet 2010

180° Juvenile Diversion
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Please read this information packet completely. If you have any questions regarding the contents of this document, please contact 180° Juvenile Diversion.

The Agency

180° Juvenile Diversion provides a valuable program opportunity for positive change in the lives of young adults who have had contact with law enforcement and the legal system. The agency offers a voluntary alternative to the criminal justice system for individuals ages 14-20, and their families. Through the completion of a strict 9-month program, young offenders will learn from their mistakes, make positive changes in their lives, and take responsibility for their actions.

180° Juvenile Diversion recognizes that a family support system is an integral component to diversion efforts. By working together, young adults and their families support each other while completing program requirements and accomplishing identified goals. As a result, 180° Juvenile Diversion is able to intervene in the lives of Waukesha County young adult offenders and their families at a critical time by providing a variety of interventions designed to meet the individual needs of a particular adolescent. The outcomes for diversion include: 1) an immediate intervention, 2) building stronger families, 3) promoting accountability, 4) being solution-focused, 5) alleviating the impact on the criminal justice system, 6) reduction in young adults re-offending and 7) helping program participants engage in a 180 degree turn towards a positive future.

General Program Considerations

Eligibility

Participation in 180° Juvenile Diversion is voluntary. To become eligible, candidates will be referred to the program by a recognized referral source. Eligible candidates will be those young adults between the ages of 14-20 facing misdemeanor or low-level felony charges. Additionally, candidates must not have a lengthy prior criminal record and/or will be first time offenders. Offenses of a sexual nature, as well as violent felonies, will not be considered.

Referrals

Numerous collaborations exist that serve as a recognized source of referrals for 180° Juvenile Diversion. These individuals/organizations include the Office of the District Attorney, the Department of Health and Human Services, the State Public Defender's Office, the courts, local law enforcement, private attorney's and parents.

Application Process

Once referred to 180° Juvenile Diversion, an application will be sent to participants. The application **must be returned to 180° Juvenile Diversion within 10 business days along with a \$25 nonrefundable application fee**. If an individual does not complete the application process within the specified time, or declines to participate, he/she will be referred back to the referral source for formal processing.

Completion

Participants complete the program by fulfilling all program requirements (see Mandatory Program Components), remaining drug-free and by making decisions that will not result in subsequent contact with law enforcement and the criminal justice system. Once a young adult meets all of the program components,

he/she will receive a certificate verifying completion. Upon completion, the organization which referred the young adult to 180° Juvenile Diversion is notified.

If an agreement has been previously reached by the District Attorney's Office and/or referring organization, formal charges may be reduced and/or dismissed. The young adults' records remain clean and they are able to make a fresh start.

***Note:** It is the responsibility of the referring organization to reach an agreement with all parties involved as to the specific outcome of a participant's charges upon successful program completion.

Mandatory Program Components

Initial Interview

In order to determine if a client is eligible for 180° Juvenile Diversion services, an in-person interview will be conducted for each individual case. This helps to ensure that the needs of young adults are appropriately matched with the proper interventive/preventive services. Upon receipt of an eligible participant's application and application fee, an initial interview will be scheduled by 180° Juvenile Diversion staff. **For applicants age 17 and under, a parent/guardian is REQUIRED to attend the initial interview with his/her child.** For applicants who have reached the age of majority, a parent/guardian is **ENCOURAGED** to attend the initial interview.

***Note:** Upon conclusion of the initial interview and formal acceptance into 180° Juvenile Diversion, clients should be prepared to make a down payment of \$300. (See Program Fees for more information regarding the payment schedule.)

Contract

Once a young adult has been accepted to 180° Juvenile Diversion, he/she must sign a contract that outlines a specific set of participation agreements. The agreement includes information regarding attitude, confidentiality, dress code, class attendance, assignments, case management, community service, drug screening and payments. A violation of, or failure to comply with, the contract may result in disciplinary action or removal from the program.

Class Sessions

Participants are required to attend evening classes held 2 nights a week for 2-3 hours, lasting for 12-14 weeks. The foundations of the classes are the Creating Lasting Family Connections (CLFC) and Strengthening Families Program (SFP) curricula which focus on effective communication, alcohol and other drug abuse and strengthening family relationships.

Additional classes include information about: anger/stress management, budgeting/personal finance, nutrition/wellness, college/continuing education, employment and navigating the court system. Young adults are separated based on gender, age and level of offense whenever possible. Class size is limited to 20 students. Program participants and parents evaluate supplemental classes, as well as the primary course, on a regular basis.

Parent/Guardian Participation

180° Juvenile Diversion offers the opportunity for parents/guardians to become actively involved in evening classes and work one-on-one with their child. A **parent/guardian component, lasting for 10 class sessions, is integrated into the program.** Parent classes are taught separately but held at the same time and location as young adult classes. Additionally, one hour each class is set aside for family interaction. By involving parents/guardians, the program treats a wider social system than just the young adult alone. The family unit is in a unique position to support their child and work together to help make sure that no new offenses occur.

Drug Testing

Drug testing deters risky behavior, and is used at staff discretion throughout the entirety of the program. Upon acceptance into 180° Juvenile Diversion, participants will be required to authorize the release of alcohol and drug abuse treatment records. After the authorization paperwork has been submitted, random drug screenings may be requested at any time. A failure to remain drug-free may result in disciplinary action or removal from the program.

For all drug testing, 180° Juvenile Diversion contracts with La Casa de Esperanza - La Clinica. La Clinica is located at 210 NW Barstow Ave - Suite 110, Waukesha, WI 53188. All costs associated with drug testing at La Clinica are covered by 180° Juvenile Diversion.

***Note:** Participants who wish to utilize drug testing facilities other than La Clinica will need to receive prior approval from 180° Juvenile Diversion staff. It is the responsibility of the participant to cover all associated costs with alternative facilities for drug testing.

Case Management

Program participants are required to schedule case management sessions to allow for 180° Juvenile Diversion staff to monitor participant progress. Young adults will be required to schedule semimonthly appointments (two times per month) for the duration of the nine-month program either prior to the start date of a class session and/or after the class session ends. Participants will not be required to schedule case management sessions during the 12-14 week class session.

During case management sessions, young adults will meet with 180° Juvenile Diversion staff to follow up on the completion of program requirements and other related concerns. In addition to the community service requirement, any of the following individualized action plans may be required of participants on case by case basis, which will be monitored by program staff:

- Academic checks
- Participation in extracurricular activities
- Referral to counseling/treatment
- Restorative justice
- Setting short-term & long-term goals
- Tutoring

Restorative Justice

Along with class participation, young adults will be required to participate in restorative justice initiatives whenever applicable. This includes payment of monetary restitution, writing a letter of apology to the victim and/or a Victim Impact Conference.

For all Victim Impact Conferences, 180° Juvenile Diversion collaborates with the Mediation and Restorative Justice Center, a program of Wisconsin Community Services. The Mediation and Restorative Justice Center is located as 414 W. Moreland Blvd, Suite 204, Waukesha, WI 53188.

Community Service

All participants must complete 40 hours of community service restitution, regardless of their offense. Community service hours may be completed through county agencies as well as area non-profit organizations. 180° Juvenile Diversion staff provides support for youth to complete this requirement and class time is devoted to explaining the benefits of community service. Participants complete the 40 hours outside of class time and have the duration of the 9-month program to fulfill their obligation.

Program Fees

180° Juvenile Diversion is a non-profit organization and is dependent upon program fees and external funds for support. Participants are charged a \$1000 fee and offered payment plans to make their participation financially feasible. The program seeks to help all who are in need.

PROGRAM PAYMENT SCHEDULE

Due Date	Amount	Explanation
Submit w/ application	\$25	Application Fee
Initial interview	\$300	Down Payment
2 nd Tuesday of class	\$175	1 st Payment
5 th Tuesday of class	\$175	2 nd Payment
8 th Tuesday of class	\$175	3 rd Payment
11 th Tuesday of class	\$150	4 th Payment

Please note the following:

1. Payments must be made by check or money order. **No cash please.**
2. Scholarships may be offered for participants who qualify.

Program Fee Refund Policy:

1. Participant withdrawal due to serious illness or death in the family will receive a refund of costs minus program specific nonrefundable costs, where applicable. A certificate of inability to participate in 180° Juvenile Diversion programming, from a doctor or a funeral home, is necessary in making claims for a refund.
2. If participant withdrawal is for any other reason, all program fee payments are nonrefundable.

Program Support Services

As a participant of 180° Juvenile Diversion, young adults and their families can expect to receive the following support services while enrolled in the program:

- Initial Interview
- Drug screening
- Individualized case management plan
- Class Sessions – (2 nights/week for 12-14 weeks)
- Case management sessions (Maximum 12 sessions over 6 months)
- Assistance with community service placement
- Staff support at court appearances, upon request
- Completion certificate
- Communication with referral source about client progress/success/completion
- Program evaluations