

FAMILY MEDIATION & JUVENILE SERVICES

Of Southern Rockingham County

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About the Agency:

Family Mediation and Juvenile Services is a non-profit social service agency serving the youth and families in the following six towns: Atkinson, Danville, Hampstead, Newton, Plaistow, and Salem. Our mission is to provide quality resources to youth and families in order to reduce delinquency and out of home placements, and to empower them as individuals, family members, and citizens of the community. We are engaged in a variety of activities that relate to that mission, including collaboration, outreach, and programming. We encourage community members and other agencies and organizations to contact us.

Programs Offered:

Parent-Child Mediation

Families in conflict work with two trained volunteer mediators to identify underlying issues associated with their problems and to create a contract of agreement to be followed until the next session. Mediation provides a neutral setting in which families can strengthen their communication and conflict resolution skills while gaining insight into each other's needs.

Objective: to assist families in solving their own conflicts. (Free of Charge)

Peer Mediation Training

This 14 hour training targeted to elementary, middle, and high school students reviews positive ways to resolve conflicts and teaches youth improved communication skills. Objective: To encourage the use of conflict resolution skills in and out of the classroom in order to reduce the probability of violence or need for adult intervention. (Free of Charge)

S.S.T.O.P. (Stop Shoplifting-Teens Option Program)

S.S.T.O.P. is an eight hour course designed specifically for youth who are caught shoplifting.

The program focuses on the effects of shoplifting on the individual and on society. Teens are encouraged to explore their own motivation for stealing while learning the risks involved with such an activity. Objective: to assist youth in discovering how shoplifting affects everyone and the risks involved with shoplifting; and to assist youth in developing their own personal strategy to stop shoplifting. (\$50 participant fee)

The Challenge Course

Through this 12 hour substance abuse awareness class, youth learn how alcohol and other drugs affect the body, the mind, and the family unit. Youth are guided through the process of evaluating the role of substances in their lives and of learning healthy alternatives to using substances. Objective: to assist youth in self-evaluation and to give youth the tools to make positive decisions concerning substance use. (\$75 participant fee)

T.L.C. (Teens Learning self-Control)

T.L.C. is an 8 hour course in which teens explore anger and the role it plays in their lives. Youth learn conflict resolution skills and positive ways to express their emotions. Objective: to assist youth in developing healthy coping mechanisms. (\$50 participant fee)

Up In Smoke (Tobacco Education)

This is a structured three hour tobacco education program in which youth evaluate their tobacco use, examine the health, financial, and social risks of smoking, and explore the media's role in the tobacco market. Objective: to assist youth in self evaluation and to give youth the tools to make positive decisions concerning tobacco use. (\$20 participant fee)

Community Service

This program provides an opportunity for youth to "work off" their consequences while contributing to the community where the offense was committed. Youth are involved in activities, which are supervised by community volunteers. Objective: to encourage accountability, responsibility, and community awareness.

Restitution

Youth who are required to pay monetarily for property damage are referred to this program. A payment plan is established, and, once collected, the sum is then forwarded to the victim(s). Victims are notified of the process ahead of time and are encouraged to call the agency with any questions. Objective: to promote personal responsibility and to empower the victim.