



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 a record 8846 students in 2017-18, forty-five 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 \$15,000 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.

Awards

The 2012 South Carolina Rural Summit Partnership Award was presented to City of Laurens, City of Walterboro, and South Carolina Department of Juvenile Justice, in recognition of the combined efforts to enrich the lives of teens through the successful implementation of the Teen After-School Centers.

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

Elaunda Jenkins

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

DJJ County Office Directory

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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
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Fairfield
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803-276-8243

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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

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864-878-7560

Charleston
843-740-1649

Hampton
803-943-4296

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803-253-4050

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864-487-2564

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803-778-2368

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843-623-2378

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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.