

Ethan Allen School Short-Term Re-Entry Program

Purpose:

The Ethan Allen School Short-Term Re-Entry Program was designed to provide intensive treatment in 90 to 120 days for adjudicated delinquent males. The program provides individualized treatment and educational services along with a network of re-entry services for participants. Program goals include increasing pro-social behaviors, improving decision making skills, developing or maintaining positive family and community connections, increasing academic skills, developing appropriate coping strategies and preparing youth and family for successful reunification.

History of Establishment and Funding:

In response to the Division of Juvenile Corrections-sponsored County Listening Sessions of 2003-2004, Ethan Allen School developed the Short-Term Re-Entry Program for male juvenile offenders. The program was implemented on July 15, 2004. During the 2005 calendar year, fourteen juveniles were accepted into the program. These juveniles were from Dane, Kenosha, Milwaukee, Rock, and Waukesha County. All fourteen participants successfully completed the Ethan Allen School Short-Term Program.

Target Population, Geographic Region, Eligibility Criteria

The EAS Short-Term Re-Entry Program is available throughout the state of Wisconsin for adjudicated delinquent males ages 10-17, who are mentally stable and capable of developing the skills necessary to return to their home community within a maximum of 120 days. Entry into the program is open-ended. Youth may enter the program by a direct commitment from the juvenile court or with a judge's recommendation for placement in the EAS Short-Term Re-Entry Program.

Exclusionary Criteria:

The program is not appropriate for youth with a serious or chronic mental illness, history or adjudication for Sexual Assault, or adjudication for First or Second Degree Homicide.

Program Staffing:

Youth will participate in an abbreviated reception process upon their arrival at Ethan Allen School. They will be placed in the Marquette Cottage Reception Unit and receive health, academic and clinical assessments and evaluations. Youth will then be transferred to Juneau Cottage to participate in the EAS Short-Term Re-Entry Program. A multidisciplinary team will work closely with the youth and his family throughout his placement in the program.

Youth Counselors

Youth counselors work with the youth to provide a safe, stable and secure environment in the cottage. These staff members provide direction to the youth and supervise the daily routines of movement, meals, showers, recreation, chores and count times. Each youth is assigned a primary counselor. The primary counselor works with the youth individually to ensure that daily living tasks are completed, progress is being made on academic and treatment goals, and that the youth's clothing and hygiene needs are met.

Social Workers

Provide group treatment, case management, and individual counseling for youth. Plan, facilitate and supervise the Adventure Based Ropes and Challenge Program. Coordinate services, maintain contact with families, facilitate team meetings, participate in transition meetings, write progress summaries and court reports, make referrals and recommendations and represent Ethan Allen School at Juvenile Progress Review Committee meetings and at court hearings.

Clinicians

Psychologists, Psychology Interns, Licensed Clinical Social Workers, and Licensed Professional Counselors provide individual, family, and group therapy for youth.

Teachers

Youth are provided with the full range of middle school and high school classes and services as noted below. Each youth is assigned an individual education case manager as well. The education case manager ensures the youth has the appropriate schedule for his academic track; which would be middle school, HSED, or high school diploma classes. The education case manager meets on a monthly basis with youth to monitor progress. Education Reports to the Juvenile Progress Review Committee are written prior to the youth's progress review meetings. If a youth needs Special Education services, he is assigned to a case manager certified in his specific disability. That case manager is responsible for facilitating Individualized Education Plan meetings and ensuring that the youth's goals and classes are appropriate for his needs.

Health Services Unit

Youth receive comprehensive medical care throughout their placement at Ethan Allen school as noted below. A physician, psychiatrist, nurse practitioner, dentist and nurses provided on-site medical evaluations and treatment.

Services Provided:

Reception Unit Assessment and Evaluation Services

- Wisconsin Delinquency Youth Assessment
- Family and Home Assessment
- Wisconsin Delinquency Family Assessment
- WIAT II Reading Test
- WIAT II Math Test
- Adolescent Alcohol and Drug Involvement Scale
- Adolescent Diagnostic Interview-Light (if AADIS indicates a more comprehensive assessment is necessary)
- Masy II Questionnaire (psychological test)
- Suicide Assessment
- Health Assessments: Intake Screening/Medical History, physical, vision screen, dental exam, immunizations, STD testing

Clinical Services:

- Individual therapy
- Family therapy
- Group therapy
- Psychiatry

Education Services:

- Diagnostic services
- HSED/GED preparation
- Core academic classes
- Parenting Program
- Life/Work Education Portfolio
- Special Education Services
- Vocational classes
- Career Scope
- Computer Lab
- Library
- Restorative Justice Program
- WIA Sports – soccer, basketball, baseball

Treatment Services:

- Juvenile Cognitive Intervention Program Phase 1- “Choices”
Youth learn about the “Thinking Cycle” of beliefs, thoughts, feelings, behaviors, and consequences. This concept assists youth in understanding how his beliefs, thoughts and feelings influence his choices and outcomes. Participants complete “Thinking Reports” and learn to identify their own patterns that result in problematic situations and self-destructive behaviors. Writing the Thinking Reports provides youth with the opportunity for corrective self-reflection.
- Juvenile Cognitive Intervention Program Phase 2- “Changes”
During Phase 2 of JCIP, participants learn about the change process. Youth learn to recognize their own internal and external reactions to situations, how to examine and reflect upon interpersonal problems and how to make healthy choices to interrupt their own self-defeating thought/behavior problems.
- Juvenile Cognitive Intervention Program – “Families Count”
Youth assist facilitators in addressing “coming home” issues for the youth and family. Youth demonstrate the skills they have learned to interrupt destructive thinking or behavior patterns. Together with parents, they identify communication techniques that will engage the family in supporting the youth’s new behaviors. By acknowledging a sense of hope and creating a shared language for JCIP concepts, the youth and his family work together to maintain the gains of the EAS Short-Term Re-Entry Program.

- Anger Management
The Anger Management group is facilitated by psychology interns at Ethan Allen School. Youth will participate in small groups designed to help them understand and manage feelings and behaviors that accompany anger. Participants will identify their emotional and physical reactions to stress and establish goals and self-control plans.
- AODA Treatment
Youth identified by screening and assessment as demonstrating a need in the area of alcohol/drug abuse treatment will participate in the AODA treatment program offered by Ethan Allen School. These youth will complete two or three stages of the Foundations of Recovery Program. Due to their abbreviated placement, they will not be able to complete the full four stage program. It will be essential that youth continue AODA treatment in the community as part of their aftercare plan.
- Adventure Based Ropes and Challenge Program
This experientially-based program will provide participants with the opportunity to learn creative-problem solving strategies, enhance trust, improve teamwork, practice communication skills and develop an understanding of safe and healthy risk-taking.

Transition Services:

- Reentry planning
- Transition Team Meetings including youth, parents/guardians, social worker, aftercare agent or county liaison, education staff, Corrective Sanctions youth counselor or alternate care provider and other community service providers
- Family Counts Group for youth, parents/guardians, and siblings 10 years and older.