YAP INTRODUCTION TO ST. LOUIS

APR 2023
Youth Advocate Programs Inc. (YAP) is a high-impact social change nonprofit that provides community-based alternatives to youth incarceration, congregate placements and neighborhood violence.
WHAT WE DO

YAP Target Populations and Services
Target Populations

Highest need young people and families who are most at risk of violence and/or out-of-home placements

- Secure Settings (e.g. youth prison, detention facilities)
- Congregate Care (e.g. group homes)
- Residential Treatment Facilities
- Violence in Communities
PARTICIPANTS

- Age:
  - 21+ (21%)
  - 18-20 (20%)
  - 10-13 (10%)
  - 14-17 (20%)
  - <10 (39%)

- Male: 61%
- Female: 39%

63% people of color

20% full-time
80% part-time

16,000 families served in 2020
Scope of Services*

- Youth Justice: 32%
- Child Welfare: 25%
- Behavioral Health: 19%
- School: 10%
- Other: 7%
100% of our programming occurs in the home communities of the people we serve.
HOW WE WORK WITH FAMILIES

YAPWrap
Individualized Service Planning

Focus on Strengths

Partnership with Parents

Cultural and Linguistic Competence

Team Work

Community-Based Care

Unconditional Caring

Giving Back

Corporate and Clinical Integrity

Core Principles
YAP Wrap Model

Match Individuals and Families to **Advocates (Staff)**

who serve as:

**Catalysts for Change**

**Connectors to Community**

YAPWrap is rooted in best practice in wraparound, mentoring, and positive youth development.
Advocates (Staff)
Time Limited, Credible, Trusted

Continually assess needed level of support

Do For (Significant)
Do With (Moderate)
Cheer On (Mild)
Catalyst for Change

Purpose: Help participants and families be open to and accelerate the pace of growth and change; to help to build skills and unlock potential.
**Connector to Community**

Purpose: To connect youth and family with positive people, places, activities and services
The YAP Program Team

- Director
- Administrative Manager
- Advocates*
YAP Staff: Neighborhood-based Advocates

- GED to PhD
- Connect to supports
- Implement the family’s plan
- Build skills
- Available 24/7
- Work in home, school, and community
- Meet when needed, intense dosage
- Group, family, and individual

Advocates: Credible Messengers

YAP Staff: Neighborhood-based Advocates
YAPWrap

• Engages youth and families as equal partners
• Learns about needs, strengths, and preferences through holistic assessment process
• Builds a Family Team of community supports
• Develops an Individualized Service Plan with emphasis on safety planning
• Matches participants and families with Advocates
• Trauma-informed and healing centered
Core Components

• Dosage: 10 hrs a week
• Contact: Avg 3-4 days/wk
• Length of Stay: 6 mos
• Services at times most needed and/or convenient to families from within their homes and community
  – Transportation
  – 24/7 Crisis Support
• Flex Fund
• Individual, Family and Group* Interventions
YAP Wrap

PHASES OF SERVICE

Referral & Engagement
Assessment & Planning
Service Delivery
Transition & Discharge
## YAP Wrap

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Phase of Service</th>
<th>Action Steps</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Referral and Engagement</strong></td>
<td>• Receive and Process Referral&lt;br&gt;• Schedule First Visit&lt;br&gt;• Introduce Self and YAP&lt;br&gt;• Introduce Advocate/Staff&lt;br&gt;• Develop Schedule</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Assessment and Planning</strong></td>
<td>• YAP Assessment&lt;br&gt;• Provide services to build rapport and address immediate needs&lt;br&gt;• Family and Team Preparation&lt;br&gt;• Develop Initial Service Plan</td>
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<td><strong>Delivery</strong></td>
<td>• Implement Plan&lt;br&gt;• Support Purposeful Transition&lt;br&gt;• Build Community Support</td>
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<td><strong>Transition</strong></td>
<td>• Identify and Celebrate Success&lt;br&gt;• Plan for Cessation of YAP Services&lt;br&gt;• Follow-up with Youth and Family</td>
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SPARCS: Structured Psychotherapy for Adolescents Responding to Chronic Stress
Trauma Informed, Healing Centered Approach

4 Goals of the Program:
• Cultivate Awareness
• Create Meaning
• Cope Effectively
• Connect with Others
Building Economic Opportunities

- YAPWORX
- Supported Work
- Tom Jeffers Endowment Fund for Continuing Education
Study and Evaluation
University of Chicago Crime Lab
Randomized Control
Study of over 500 youth served

- 32% fewer misconduct incidents in school
- 48% fewer violent-crime arrests at discharge
- 38% fewer violent-crime arrests 18 months after program
Participant Outcomes

- Decrease in open protective services cases from entry to discharge: 26%
- Were regularly attending school or graduated/GED at discharge: 83%
- Living safely in the community at discharge: 86%
- Not convicted/adjudicated of a new offense while in the program: 97%
Currently seeking Full-Time Director and Part-Time Advocates.