

Juvenile Justice Resource Guide 8th Judicial Circuit of Florida, 2007

This Resource Guide was made possible by the Office of the State Attorney & Project Payback.

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To order a copy of the
“Juvenile Justice Resource Guide,”
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Alphabetical Mini-Guide:

Agency	Phone	E-mail
A. Quinn Jones Center	(352) 955-6840	weissli@sbac.edu
Alachua Substation	(386) 462-5150	gail@acha-fl.com
Alachua Regional Juvenile Detention Center	(352) 955-2105	Charles.parkins@djj.state.fl.us
Alligator Creek Juvenile Residential Facility	(904) 964-1581	jim.hughes@djj.state.fl.us
Alternative Dispute Resolutions	(352) 491-4417	rkd@circuit8.org
Big Brothers and Big Sisters	(352) 375-2525	joy@bbbsmidflorida.org
Boys and Girls Clubs of Alachua County	(352) 372-5342	bgcnw@alltel.net
Bridge House (Meridian Behavioral Healthcare)	(352) 374-5600	mlabarta@meridian-healthcare.org
Central Florida Community Action Agency	(352) 373-7667	cfcaa@afn.org
Child Abuse Prevention Project	(352) 334-1330	mcphea@peds.ufl.edu
Child Protection Team	(352) 334-1300	ferrikj@peds.ufl.edu mohrba@peds.ufl.edu gallolf@peds.ufl.edu
Children's Home Society	(352) 334-0955	helpfloridachildren@chsfl.org
Corner Drug Store	(352) 334-3800	dfc@cornerdrugstore.com
Crisis Center	(352) 264-6789	mlk@alachuacounty.us
Cultural Arts Coalition	(352) 372-0216	Njah52@hotmail.com
Dignity Project	(352) 371-6792	thedignityproject@gmail.com
Diversified Human Services Inc.	(352) 870-5795	sheri@drsheri.biz
Dropout Prevention	(352) 955-7634	hallcf@sbac.edu
Eckerd Youth Alternatives Camp E-Kel-Etu Eckerd Aftercare Program	(352) 625-1323 (352) 369-2265	sfesta@eckerd.org dwilliams@eckerd.org
Exceptional Community and Employment Linkages (EXCEL)	(352) 955-7671	jacksovl@sbac.edu
Fearnside Family Service Center	(352) 955-6875	crowelma@sbac.edu
First Step Adolescent Services	(352) 264-9825	swashington@firststepadls.com
Florida Department of Juvenile Justice	(386) 418-5236	wayland.clifton@djj.state.fl.us
Florida Sheriff's Youth Ranches: Boys Ranch, Live Oak Youth Villa Youth Ranch at Bradenton Youth Ranch at Safety Harbor	(386) 842-5555 (863) 533-0371 (941) 776-1777 (727) 725-4761	bgregory@youthranches.org rhutcherson@youthranches.org swright@youthranches.org shalbach@youthranches.org
Florida Youth Challenge Academy	(904) 682-4000	danny.brabham@fl.ngb.army.mil
Focus On Leadership	(352) 338-7390	Lmcd8@yahoo.com

Alphabetical Mini-Guide:

Agency	Phone	E-mail
Forestry Youth Academy	(352) 489-6400	kingb@doacs.state.fl.us
Gainesville Family Institute	(352) 376-5543	gainesville_familyinstitute@yahoo.com
Gainesville Wilderness Institute	(352) 466-3800	gwi-ed@amikids.org
Gator Team Child	(352) 273-0800	rawls@law.ufl.edu
Girls Club of Alachua County	(352) 373-4475	girlscלב@gator.net
Guardian Ad Litem Program	(352) 374-3656	Pam.pearce@gal.fl.gov
Hippodrome Improvisational Teen Theater	(352) 373-5968	education@thehipp.org
Horizon Center	(352) 955-7250	anderslm@sbac.edu
Intensive Delinquency Diversion Program	(352) 486-5340	whfutch@aol.com
Job Corps of Gainesville	(352) 377-2555	www.jobcorpsregions.com/jcCenters/gainesvilleJCC.html
Juvenile Assessment Center, Detention Screening Unit	(352) 375-2125	tammilynn.Jones@djj.state.fl.us
Loften High School	(352) 955-6839	sanderccs@sbac.edu
Marion Juvenile Correctional Facility	(352) 840-8240	searsnorth@yahoo.com
Marion Youth Development Juvenile Residential Facility	(352) 671-2777	n/a
Officer Friendly	(352) 334-2441	gatesjl@ci.gainesville.fl.us
PACE Center For Girls	(352) 374-8799	Pacekatie@aol.com
Partnership for Stronger Families	(352) 393-2747	www.pfsf.org
Pleasant Place	(352) 373-6993	arzella@bellsouth.net
The Preserve	(352) 372-2549	thepreserveinc@yahoo.com
Project Payback	(352) 337-6174	Gch@sa.co.alachua.fl.us
Reichert House	(352) 371-2347	schubertpa@ci.gainesville.fl.us
Rodeheaver Boys' Ranch	(386) 328-1281	rodheaverboys@aol.com
SHOCAP	(352) 367-4126	jlevy@alachuasheriff.org
Take Stock In Children	(352) 955-7246	duffieldjm@sbac.edu
Teen Court	(352) 367-4125	jholthus@alachuasheriff.org
Therapeutic Courts	(352) 384-3094	ltc@circuit8.org
Union Juvenile Residential Facility	(386) 431-1999	hollisk@union.k12.fl.us
Vocational Rehabilitation	(352) 955-3200	chancea@vr.fldoe.org
YES! Program	(352) 955-2216	jrichardson@floridaworksonline.com
YMCA of North Central Florida	(352) 374-9622	c.crimmins@ncfymca.org

Prevention Programs:

A. Quinn Jones Center

Leonard Weiss, Ph.D, Principal
weissli@sbac.edu
www.sbac.edu/~aqjones/

(352) 955-6840
Fax: (352) 955-7138
1108 NW 7th AVE
Gainesville, FL 32601

- ❖ A. Quinn Jones is a special day school that provides a therapeutic environment for severely emotionally disturbed students from kindergarten through the twelfth grade.
- ❖ Students who attend have not succeeded in the regular classroom environment because of problems in individual behavior and social interaction skills.
- ❖ Students are staffed into this program from other schools in the district, as well as from other districts and residential centers.
- ❖ The administration, faculty, and staff are committed to giving students the personal attention required to develop their social, academic, creative, and vocational skills.

Alachua Substation

Gail Monahan
gail@acha-fl.com

(386) 462-5150
Fax: (352) 373-4097
15305 Merrillwood Drive
Alachua, FL 32615

- ❖ Alachua Substation is a goal oriented program that provides low income housing to adults.
- ❖ Resource officers, tutors, and other on-site education and prevention resources are available for residents.
- ❖ These services are provided free of charge.

Big Brothers & Big Sisters

Joy M. Race, Executive Director
joy@bbbsmidflorida.org

(352) 375-2525
Fax: (352) 375-0319
1155 NW 13th ST
Gainesville, FL 32601

- ❖ The Big Brothers and Big Sisters Mission is to help children reach their potential through professionally supported, one-to-one relationships.
- ❖ The Big Brothers and Big Sisters Vision is to provide successful mentoring relationships for all children who need and want them, and to contribute to brighter futures, better schools, and stronger communities for all.
- ❖ Youths are referred by partner schools or parent/guardians may enroll their youth.

- ❖ Informational workshops are provided to parents, including topics on helping your child with anger management, how to avoid power struggles with your youth, and other topics designed to provide parents additional resources to draw upon.

Boys and Girls Club

Keith Blanchard, Chief Professional Officer
 bgcnw@alltel.net
<http://www.bgca.org/>
www.myboysandgirlsclub.com

(352) 372-5342
 Fax: (352) 373-3885
 P.O. Box 532
 Gainesville, FL 32602

- ❖ Services are designed to provide youths ages 6-18 with a safe place to participate in fun activities, mentoring, and after school tutoring.
- ❖ Volunteers will assist youths in after school homework (one-on-one tutoring), computer technology, internet and web page design, FCAT preparation, etc.
- ❖ Other daily activities include multi-cultural celebrations, arts and crafts instruction, story time, various field trips, and organized recreational activities (kickball, football, basketball, volleyball, ballet, modern dance, etc.).
- ❖ Kids at higher risk of developing certain problems can be placed in more specific programs as well, such as Smart Moves, a drug prevention program, Smart Choices, a violence prevention program, and Project Learn, a program focusing on kids struggling with their academics.
- ❖ Annual membership fee is \$50/yr at both the NW and SE Units and \$5/yr at the Woodland Park Unit.
- ❖ Special sports programs for children with mental and physical disabilities are available including “Endeavor Baseball and Soccer.”

Children Abuse Prevention Project

Annie McPherson, Program Director
 UF Department of Pediatrics
 mcpha@peds.ufl.edu
<http://capp.peds.ufl.edu>

(352) 334-1330
 Fax: (352) 334-1543
 701 SW 16th AVE,
 Bldg A
 Gainesville, FL 32608

- ❖ Designed for parents considered to be at risk for abusing or neglecting their children.
- ❖ Home visitors, called Parent Educators, assist the families with parent education and support.
- ❖ Families can be referred by DCF Protective Investigators. There is a limited capacity for referrals from: health department, hospitals, children medical services, doctor’s offices, or self referral. Referrals must meet program guidelines in order to be eligible.
- ❖ The Child Abuse Prevention Project is a voluntary program available for any parent who would like to try different ways of coping with their children ages birth-10.
- ❖ The program is free to those families who are accepted.
- ❖ This program is designed as a child abuse prevention program and therefore does not accept families with signs of existing abuse.

Cultural Arts Coalition

Nkwanda Jah
njah52@hotmail.com
www.culturalartscoalition.org

(352) 372-0216
Fax: (352) 372-0876
321 NW 10th ST
Gainesville, FL 32605

- ❖ “Environmental Ambassador” Program is an employment program for youths 14-21. This program helps teens to learn how to work taking care of the environment.
- ❖ The “Girl Power” program is an after school program for girls.
- ❖ Enrichment programs are designed to get youth involved in community events. These programs are offered free of charge to their participants.

Dignity Project

Jack Butler, Program Director
Jackbutler42@yahoo.com
thedignityproject@yahoo.com
www.thedignityproject.com

(352) 371-6792
Fax: (352) 371-6707
1125 SE 4th Street
Gainesville, FL 32601

- ❖ The Dignity Project is a private, non-profit agency in southeast Gainesville engaged in the provision of hands-on vocational training, after school mentoring and tutoring services, and community service activities for at risk, young adult volunteers.
- ❖ Participants gain practice training and/or experience in the fields of automotive and computer repair by working on donated vehicles and computer equipment that is refurbished and subsequently awarded to eligible, economically disadvantaged recipients.
- ❖ Since the programs’ inception, more than 550 donated vehicles have been repaired and given-away. Refurbished computers that have been awarded to date number nearly 600.
- ❖ After school program services are also offered to area middle school youth who participate in supervised recreational and educational activities sponsored by the agency. A summer program is also available.

Dropout Prevention

Dr. Charles F. Hall, Director
Title I/Migrant Education/Dropout Prevention
hallcf@sbac.edu

(352) 955-7634
Fax: (352) 955-7131
620 E University AVE
Gainesville, FL 32601

- ❖ Dropout Prevention programs differ from traditional educational programs in their scheduling, administrative structure, philosophy, and curriculum setting. They employ alternative teaching methodologies, curricula, and assessment activities in order to meet the interest, talents, and needs of qualifying students. Programs and services include:

- ❖ **Alternative academic programs** designed to improve the performance of students in reading, writing, and math. The program also prepares students to take and pass the Florida Comprehensive Assessment Test (FCAT).
- ❖ **Alternative behavioral programs** to improve the behavioral and social skills of students so that they can be successful in the regular school environment and to reduce and eliminate discipline referrals.
- ❖ **Department of Juvenile Justice programs** to provide academic and behavioral services to students that are placed in the department of juvenile justice for violation of laws or probation. They include prevention programs, detention services, and day treatment programs.
- ❖ **Teen parenting programs** to male and female students that have become parents. It is designed to offer parenting skills and daycare to allow students to complete school.
- ❖ **Substance abuse programs** designed to provide counseling and referral services to students that are abusing alcohol or drugs.
- ❖ **Attendance and truancy** services designed to keep students in school and to assist families in resolving attendance issues that lead to truancy and to reduce the number of students that may dropout of school.
- ❖ **Horizon School** alternative placement for students who have a history of disruptive behavior, have been charged with a felony, or have committed a level IV violation of the Student Code of Conduct.

Exceptional Community & Employment Linkages (EXCEL)

Bruce Tomlinson, Supervisor
tomlinbw@sbac.edu

(352) 955-7676
 Fax: (352) 955-7129
 620 E University AVE
 c/o Manning Building
 Gainesville, FL 32601

- ❖ EXCEL provides support for young adults with disabilities as they prepare for transition from school to work and life in the community.
- ❖ EXCEL uses strong interagency links and collaborative efforts with the community to remove barriers for students in transition.
- ❖ EXCEL maximizes youth's life choices, meaningful vocational, social, residential, educational and recreational opportunities.
- ❖ active members of the EXCEL council are: ARC of Alachua County, Agency for Persons with Disabilities, Blind Services, (CARD) Center for Autism & Related Disorders, Center for Independent Living, Children's Medical Services, Corner Drug Store, One Stop Career Center, Santa Fe Community College Disability resource Center, Santa Fe Community College Construction & Technical programs, Santa Fe Community College Work Exploration, School Board of Alachua County, Social Security Administration, Vocational Rehabilitation, SEDNET, University of Florida Transition Center.
- ❖ The following are business partners of the EXCEL program: Target, Big Lots, Wal-Mart, Palm Gardens Nursing Home or Gainesville, Shands at AGH, Little Foxes Day Care, Wards Supermarket, TJ Maxx, Alachua County Library

District, Holy Trinity Day Care, Archer Road Auto Shop, UF Law Library, Earth Pets, Pumpkin Patch Day care, Blue Star Nursery, City of Hawthorne Library, Gator Landing, Hawthorne Motorcycle, Lake Area Animal Hospital, hair corral, Schrader's Smokers Service, Inc., Wendy's, Subway, McDonalds, McCall's TV, High Springs Day Care, Woodland's Care Center, Cato's, Center for Independent Living, Dollar Tree, Small World Day care, Caring & Sharing Learning Center, School Board of Alachua County, PetCo

Fearnside Family Service Center

Ann Crowell, Director
crowelma@sbac.edu
www.sbac.edu/~famsvcs/

(352) 955-6875
Fax: (352) 955-6965
3600 NE 15th ST
Gainesville, FL 32601

- ❖ Head Start is a federally funded nationwide program for preschool children, age three to five from low income families, and children with special needs.
- ❖ Children who attend Head Start participate in a variety of educational experiences; receive medical, dental, social, parent involvement, nutrition, mental health and disability services and also receive meals and snacks in a safe family style indoor and outdoor environment.
- ❖ The comprehensive child development program's overall goal is to increase the social competence and self-esteem of young children. Four major components ensure that every Head Start program provides the services necessary to meet these goals: Education, Health and Disabilities, Nutrition, and Family and Community Partnerships (parent involvement and social services).
- ❖ Head Start benefits include classrooms located on designated elementary school sites in Alachua County; extended hours at designated sites.
- ❖ Fearnside Family Services Center is the central office for federal and state funded Early Intervention Services offered by the School Board of Alachua County.
- ❖ School Readiness is a state-funded preschool program for special-needs children and children from low-income families designed to promote comprehensive educational services to young children. Services are available on a sliding fee scale to eligible families. Full day and/ or part day services are available.
- ❖ Families of young children can receive coordinated services to help them achieve economic and social independence, with assistance from family services liaisons. Other onsite services include adult education/GED preparation, Women, Infant and Children (WIC) services, and emergency referral services.

Focus on Leadership

Larry McDaniel
Lmcde8@yahoo.com

(352) 338-7390
Fax: (352) 338-3299
PO Box 2413
Gainesville, FL 32602

- ❖ *Young women on the Rise* – Mentoring program for girls 10-14.
- ❖ *Monitor One* – Youth Basketball for kids 9-16. League provides additional training by providing seminars. Athletes talk to youths about making positive choices, drug and alcohol abuse, and self respect, and they serve as a positive role model.
- ❖ *Mentorship Program* – Targets middle school girls ages 10-15 from Alachua, Gainesville, Hawthorne, High Springs, and Newberry.
- ❖ The majority of the young ladies are identified by school guidance counselors, law enforcement, and criminal justice agencies as exhibiting potential for experiencing difficulties in establishing themselves as good citizens and students.

Girls Club of Alachua County

Renaе Clements, Executive Director
girlsclub@gator.net
www.girlsclubnet.org

(352) 373-4475
Fax: (352) 373-5550
2101 NW 39th AVE
Gainesville, FL 32605

- ❖ Program targets females in the Alachua County area. The Girls Club provides four main programs that are available for members.
- ❖ The first is an after school program, costing \$49 per week for elementary age children or \$41 per week if the child qualifies for free or reduced lunch at school. Middle school age girls pay \$25 per week.
- ❖ The second is a summer day camp, costing \$75 per week for girls of all ages or \$65 if the child qualifies for free or reduced lunch at school.
- ❖ The third is an athletic league, which runs seasonal sports such as volleyball, basketball, and softball at a cost of \$75 for an 8-10 week season.
- ❖ The final program offered is a series of specialty classes, which include girl scout troops, coin collecting classes, and piano lessons to name a few. There usually is not a fee associated with the specialty classes.
- ❖ The annual fee for membership is \$20 and \$15 for a second child (sibling).

Hippodrome Improvisational Teen Theatre

Christine Sellers
education@thehipp.org

(352) 373-5968
Fax: (352) 371-9130
25 SE 2nd PL
Gainesville, FL 32607

- ❖ Using improvisational theatre as a vehicle, teens discuss and explore issues such as drugs, teen pregnancy, safe sex, STDs, and violence.
- ❖ Teens are first trained in theatre basics through performance workshops and later actually perform scenes and hear feedback from other teens. Participation in theatre help kids work out their problems and make better decisions.
- ❖ HITT goes into area schools for a 7-9 week prevention program administered through theatre class (school credit given).
- ❖ Theatre specialists and a prevention specialist are on staff at HITT.
- ❖ HITT is based on sociological principles of social influence, and expressive therapy. Through creating, kids learn to understand the human condition, self-balancing, and self-understanding.
- ❖ HITT uses prevention strategies including Education and Skill-building to help teens combat negative peer pressure and to problem solve.
- ❖ By learning about contemporary issues, teens learn to grow and become successful individuals in their community. These lessons are passed from HITT participants directly to their peers through theatre and social interaction.
- ❖ Local participants in HITT include: Alachua Halfway House, Loftan High School, Hoggetowne Middle School, Union County Residential Facility, Horizon Middle School, Gainesville High School, and Horizon Middle School.

Horizon Center

Michael Monaghan
anderslm@sbac.edu
www.sbac.edu/~horizon/

(352) 955-7250
Fax: (352) 955-7251
2802 NE 8th AVE
Gainesville, FL 32641

- ❖ The Horizon Center is a dropout precaution, disciplinary program for middle school and high school students (grades 6-12) who have been disruptive in the traditional school environment.
- ❖ The program provides a behavioral modification component to encourage students to modify their behavior through principles of positive reinforcement, consistency, structure, goal setting, and rewards for good behavior.
- ❖ Volunteer speakers, tutors, and mentors are a significant part of the program. Community service projects, hands on activities, and various speakers representing law enforcement in the community at large are integral parts of the Horizon Center's program.
- ❖ Students are involved in a Learn and Serve grant program that integrates some vocational training with service to the community. Horizon also has a work program at the high school level that allows students to work a portion of the week or school day. They earn high school credits for the work portion of the program as well.

Job Corps of Gainesville

Paul Wykoff, Center Director

www.jobcorpsregion3.com/jcCenters/gainesvilleJCC.html

(352) 377-2555

Fax: (352) 374-8257
5301 NE 40th Terrace
Gainesville, FL 32609

- ❖ Job Corps is the nation's oldest and largest federally funded residential job training and education program for economically disadvantaged youth, ages 16-24.
- ❖ Gainesville Job Corps Center offers education and training opportunities to help train for long-term, specialized careers.
- ❖ Job Corps offers on-site job skills training in office technology, carpeting, plastering, tile setting, painting, facilities maintenance, auto technician, phlebotomy, culinary arts, health occupations, and pre-law enforcement.
- ❖ Programs offer a personalized career development plan with hands-on training in your chosen trade.
- ❖ Provides opportunity to get a GED or high school diploma. Gainesville Job Corps Center is a partner with Santa Fe Community College, the University of Florida, and has a charter High School (SiaTech) on center.
- ❖ Up to 350 Participates live in dorm style housing on the center's campus.

Officer Friendly

Officer John Gates

gatesjl@ci.gainesville.fl.us

www.gainesvillepd.org/Community_Resource.htm

(352) 334-2441

Fax: (352) 334-2493
P.O. Box 1250
721 NW 6th ST
Gainesville, FL 32601

- ❖ Officer Friendly speaks at Alachua County public schools to students grade K-5 (primarily in Gainesville).
- ❖ Officer Friendly discusses law enforcement issues in a preventative, yet understandable way.
- ❖ Officer Friendly provides a "friendly" individual who kids can relate to and trust.
- ❖ Officer Friendly provides classroom instruction on the following topics: stranger danger, bullying awareness, drug education, conflict resolution (anger management), laws, personal safety, peer pressure, and the role of the police officer in the community.

The Preserve

Ronald Hall, Executive Director
thepreserveinc@yahoo.com
www.ACHA-FL.com/~preserve

(352) 372-2549
Fax: (352) 373-4097
P.O. Box 357116
Gainesville, FL 32635
703 NE 1st ST
Gainesville, FL 32601

- ❖ Pride, Respect, Education, Safety, Encouragement, Responsibility, Values, and Evaluation.
- ❖ This program's goal is to give unaccompanied youth a safe place to live and develop the skills necessary for independent living.
- ❖ The Preserve provides 24- hour supervision, a neutral arena for family reunification, health, educational, and vocational assessments with referrals to local community agencies.
- ❖ The target population for this program is male youth ages 16 to 18 who have been denied access to their homes, are runaways, facing custodial abandonment, termed unadoptable, and/or aged 18 without a stable place to live. Applicants must be classified as Low Risk and capable of moving into Independent Living within a 6 month to 2 year period
- ❖ The Preserve also offers access to mentors and tutors, shelter, educational opportunities, social development, leisure time activities, problem solving outlets, character development activities, family-like situation, family reunification, job skills training, employment opportunities, medical examinations, peer mediation, and counseling.

Reichert House

Officer Robert King
schubertpa@ci.gainesville.fl.us
www.gainesvillepd.org/reichert_house.htm

(352) 371-2347
Fax: (352) 334-2166
1704 SE 2nd Ave.
Gainesville, FL 32601

- ❖ An after school program designed to reach the needs of at-risk male juveniles.
- ❖ The Reichert House is a military style program that seeks to help at risk youth learn about themselves, create and maintain a life free from substance abuse, violence and crime. The Reichert House is based around three elements: Respect, Restraint, and Responsibility.
- ❖ Programs available through the Reichert House are as follows: Athletics, Life skills, Young marines program, Educational enhancement, Beta Sigma Alpha, and Rites of Passage.
- ❖ *Beta Sigma Alpha* is a youth fraternity that provides service to the house, and the community. This program teaches kids leadership skills.
- ❖ *Rites of Passage* is a program that teaches kids about their heritage.
- ❖ To be a member at the Reichert House a student must be an Alachua County resident, enrolled in school, between the ages of 11-18, complete an application and submit a letter of recommendation.

- ❖ Referrals into the program can be through school staff, parents, self-referral, and neighborhood crime watches. There is no cost to participate in the program.

Take Stock in Children

Jodi Duffield, Program Coordinator
duffieldjm@sbac.edu
www.takestockinchildren.com
www.acpsf.org

(352) 955-7246
Fax: (352) 955-7240
1725 SE 1st AVE
Gainesville, FL 32641

- ❖ Take Stock in Children is an incentive scholarship and mentoring program administered locally by the Alachua County Public Schools Foundation.
- ❖ Take Stock Scholars are accepted in the 7th grade and remain in the program until they graduate from high school, assuming they remain drug-and-crime free, keep up their grades, stay in school, and meet weekly with a volunteer mentor.
- ❖ All 6th graders attending an Alachua County public middle school that has at least a 2.5 GPA and is on free or reduced lunch is invited to apply. Please contact the program for application information.

Vocational Rehabilitation

Angie Chance, Supervisor
ChanceA@vr.fldoe.org
www.rehabworks.org

(352) 955-3200
Fax: (352) 955-3223
2610 NW 43rd ST
Suite 1-A
Gainesville, FL 32606

- ❖ Vocational Rehabilitation provides services for eligible persons with physical and/or mental impairments. Juveniles must be classified as physically and/or mentally impaired in order to participate.
- ❖ Services are designed to assist individuals in their quest to obtain and maintain employment. Programs are tailored to individual needs on a case-by-case basis.
- ❖ Participation begins with a referral to your local Vocational Rehabilitation Office.

Youth Employment Start Program (YES! Program)

Jerri Richardson, Lead Career Coordinator
jrichardson@floridaworksonline.com

(352) 955-2216
Fax: (352) 334-3860
4800 SW 13th ST
Gainesville, FL 32608

- ❖ YES! is a year round program serving youth 14-21 who live in Alachua or Bradford County. Youth specialists work in the area high schools and middle schools, but it is not necessary to be attending school in order to receive their services.
- ❖ The program includes employability skills training, summer work experience, job assessments, and job listings.
- ❖ To be eligible for a summer work experience students must be 14 before January 1st. Students are required to attend a workshop, take the TABE test, turn in completed application and attend an intake along with parent or guardian. Once this process is completed students are then given a job lead for summer employment.
- ❖ Anyone over 21 can be referred to Florida Works in Gainesville/Starke, along with parents of youth, who need employment assistance.

YMCA of North Central Florida

Candi Crimmins
c.crimmins@ncfymca.org
www.ncfymca.org/

(352) 374-9622
Fax: (352) 372-5247
5201 NW 34th ST
Gainesville, FL 32605

- ❖ North Central Florida YMCA programs offer a wide range of resources to the community, including recreational & competitive sports, after school programs, Leadership in Training programs, camps, enrichment programs, mentoring, child care, fitness, dance & gymnastics, aquatics, and more. We fundraise each year so that we can offer scholarship programs to low income families who need our services but cannot them. We work to build strong kids, strong families, and strong communities wherever we are located. No one is turned away from the YMCA due to an inability to pay.
- ❖ Family membership: \$90 joining fee and \$55 per month; Single Parent Family \$70 joining fee and \$46 per month; Youth membership (under 18): \$50 joining fee and \$24 per month.

Intervention Programs:

Alachua Regional Juvenile Detention Center

Charles Parkins, Superintendent
Charles.parkins@djj.state.fl.us
www.djj.state.fl.us/detention/detentioncenters.html

(352) 955-2105
Fax: (352) 334-1609
3440 NE 39th AVE
Gainesville, FL 32609

- ❖ The Alachua Regional Juvenile Detention Center is a 72 bed, hardware secure facility that serves youth detained by various circuit courts. This facility serves Alachua, Baker, Bradford, Columbia, Dixie, Gilchrist, Hamilton, Lafayette, Levy, Suwannee, and Union counties.
- ❖ Services provided for the youth include: Education, mental health, substance abuse, and health care. Education is provided by the Department of Education through local school districts. All other services are contracted out.
- ❖ Typical day in secure detention involve hygiene, meals, school, structured physical and educational activities and court appearance as scheduled. The average stay in secure detention is approximately 12 days.
- ❖ Approved visitors include parents, grand-parents, and legal guardians. Others may only visit if so ordered by the court or specifically approved by the superintendent or designee. Legal counsel, probation, law enforcement, clergy and other professionals may visit detainees as necessary, but are subject to the same requirements regarding signing-in and contraband. All visitors must have a photo ID.

Bridge House (Meridian Behavioral Healthcare)

Maggie Labarta, President
mlabarta@meridian-healthcare.org
www.meridian-healthcare.org/

(352) 374-5600
Fax: (352) 374-5652
4300 SW 13th ST
Gainesville, FL 32608

- ❖ Meridian provides services for adults and children in North Central Florida who are suffering from serious mental illnesses, and substance abuse problems.
- ❖ Addiction services and counseling are available. Fees are based on income or are subsidized; depending on the program.
- ❖ A Residential program is available for pregnant moms with kids up to 2 years old.
- ❖ Meridian offers both acute and extended care services. HIV services are available to those who need them.
- ❖ Outpatient counseling for substance dependent and substance abusing adults is provided.
- ❖ Children's services through Meridian include: Home and school based services, Therapeutic foster care, early enrichment programs, Children's outpatient programs, and Challenges ropes course.
- ❖ Programs run from 6 to twelve months.

Central Florida Community Action Agency

Robert Wilford, Executive Director
cfcaa@afn.org
www.afn.org/~cfcaa/

(352) 373-7667
Fax: (352) 378-2168
1130 NE 16th AVE
Gainesville, FL 32601

- ❖ CFCAA is a private non-profit community-based organization designed to represent the public, poor, and private sector. The agency's purpose is to reduce poverty, and help low-income individuals to become self-sufficient in Alachua, Levy, and Marion counties.
- ❖ Programs at CFCAA are volunteer-based. Participants must be eligible for certain programs.
- ❖ *Utility Assistance*-Prevention from turning off utilities with cash assistance.
- ❖ *Home Weatherization*-Application process is necessary for this program.
- ❖ *Self Sufficiency Program*- Help people improve themselves by going back to school, improving employment/job skills, and working towards promotions.
- ❖ *Emergency Assistance*- Limited funding available to help with one-time financial emergencies.

Child Protection Team

Kelly Ferrigno, M.D., Medical Director
ferrikj@peds.ufl.edu
Bethany Mohr, M.D, Medical Director
mohrba@peds.ufl.edu
Linda Galloway, Team Coordinator
gallolf@peds.ufl.edu
www.cms-kids.com/CPTHome.htm

(352) 334-1300
Fax: (352) 334-1521
1701 SW 16th AVE
Bldg. A
Gainesville, FL 32608

- ❖ Works with The Department of Children and Families Protective Investigations, Law enforcement, and other professionals on cases of child abuse and neglect.
- ❖ Joint services of The University of Florida Pediatric Department and Department of Children's Medical Services are available.
- ❖ Medical, psychological, legal, and social services are provided using a multidisciplinary approach of diagnosis, evaluation, treatment, and case coordination.
- ❖ CPT is available 24 hours a day, free of charge. Referral is from DCF/Law enforcement.

Children's Home Society

Jennifer Anchors, Executive Director
helpfloridachildren@chsfl.org
www.helpfloridachildren.org
www.chsfl.org

(352) 334-0955
Fax: (352) 334-0957
605 NE 1st ST
Gainesville, FL 32601

- ❖ Programs offered at CHS are adoption, mentoring, family visitation center for Lake City, Ocala and Gainesville, healthy families, in-home parenting, and a residential group home in Ocala.
- ❖ Services are free.

Corner Drug Store

Sam Clark, Chief Operations Officer
Sam_clark@cornerdrugstore.org
www.cornerdrugstore.org

(352) 334-3800x3823
Fax: (352) 334-3817
1300 NW 6th ST
Gainesville, FL 32601

- ❖ Corner Drug Store Inc is a local agency aimed at combating addiction, substance abuse, and reunifying families with troubled youth. It has been serving the community for more than thirty-five years.
- ❖ Most services are offered free of charge to participants.
- ❖ Corner Drug Store Inc provides prevention programs in Alachua and surrounding counties.
- ❖ Alpha & Beta (Williston Elementary and Middle) - Corner Drug Store, Inc. Contact Gwen Love 334-3800 ext.3831. Counselors work within classroom environment to help elementary and middle school students to develop new strategies for academic success while getting along with others. Provides mentoring, life skills, community service, and teaches the importance of remaining drug-free. Works to build a partnership with parents, students, and school-based personnel.
- ❖ Reichert House services high-risk African American middle school and high school males in an after school program in Alachua County.
- ❖ Drug Court Program – Court alternatives- treatment for adults in Alachua County.
- ❖ Project Magic Mediation (Eastside High School) - Peer Mediation conflict resolution program.
- ❖ Independent Living- a program for youth in and aging out of Foster Care. Contact Rhonda Lockwood 1-386-758-5780.
- ❖ Programs at Corner Drug Store Inc utilize strategies specifically designed to promote self-awareness, self-esteem, and rehabilitation.

Corner Drug Store, Cont.

Youth Talk:

Cassandra Evans
cassandra_evans@cornerdrugstore.org

(352) 334-3833
Fax: (352) 334-3832

- ❖ *Youth Talk* – For information on important issues. Youth Talk is running 24 hours a day, and is completely confidential. Call 352-334-3838 ext.555 to access counselor.
- ❖ *Interface* – A temporary residential shelter for teens ages 10-17. Provides a safe and caring environment for youth in crisis. Staff will help youth develop ways to make better choices about school and how to deal with family, school, or personal problems.

Family Action & Drug Free Communities:

Leslie Frost
leslie_frost@cornerdrugstore.org

(352) 334-3800x3829
Fax: (352) 334-3849

- ❖ *Family Action* – A nonresidential counseling service provided on a 24-hour basis. Family Action works to reestablish communication between parents and teens through family interventions.
- ❖ *Drug Free Communities Project* – Provides counseling alternatives for substance abusing youths and their family.

Safe Place:

Sam Clark
sam_clark@cornerdrugstore.org

(352) 334-3800x3823
Fax: (352) 334-3845

- ❖ *Safe Place* – A network of local businesses and organizations that provide assistance to youth in crisis. Each Safe Place location displays the yellow and black signs and is trained to assist youth in need and then to call *Interface Youth Shelter* to provide counseling and further assistance.

Crisis Center

Marshall Knudson, Ph.D. Director
mlk@alachuacounty.us

(352) 264-6789
Fax: (352) 264-6777
218 SE 24th ST
Gainesville, FL 32641

- ❖ The Crisis Center is a counseling center for families, couples and/or individuals in crisis. Services are provided free of charge.
- ❖ The Crisis Line is offered 24 hours a day and is operated by trained volunteers.
- ❖ The Care Team is an emergency mobile outreach team of volunteers who respond to people in crisis on a face-to-face basis.
- ❖ Crisis Counseling is offered from 8:30am-5:00pm Monday through Friday by appointment or on an emergency walk-in basis.

- ❖ Rumor Control is a hotline that responds to concerns on any type of actual or potential tragedy, or disaster that might impact our community.
- ❖ The Crisis Center also offers after-hours emergency mental health outreach services, after-hours information and referral, survivors of suicide services, and speaker's bureau.
- ❖ The Crisis Center is part of the National Suicide Prevention Network and can be contacted by calling 1-800-273-TALK.

Diversified Human Services, Inc.

Sheri A. Wallace, Ph.D., LMHC
 President / Clinical Director
 sheri@drsheri.biz

(352) 870-5795
 Fax: (866) 372-0203
 2603 NW 13th St. #309
 Gainesville, FL 32609

- ❖ Diversified Human Services contracts with the Florida Department of Juvenile Justice to provide adolescent and family counseling services.
- ❖ This program specializes in anger management, conflict resolution, and communication skills. Other issues can be addressed as needed.
- ❖ *Delinquency Intervention Program*: The Adolescent must be on probation and referred by their Juvenile Probation Officer to qualify for free services.
- ❖ Limited slots available for private/pay clients.
- ❖ Onsite services are provided at the home and school of each client.
- ❖ 10-person panel drug screens by appointment for a fee.

Florida Department of Juvenile Justice, Probation Unit

Wayland Clifton, Chief Probation Officer, Circuit Eight
 wayland.clifton@djj.state.fl.us
 www.djj.state.fl.us/probcommcorrections/index.html

(386) 418-5236
 Fax: (386) 418-5277
 14107 US HWY 441
 North Bldg. Suite 200
 Alachua FL, 32615

- ❖ Juveniles placed on probation must complete court-ordered sanctions and services. For example, the juvenile may be ordered to work at a local community center. Or the juvenile may be ordered to pay money to the victim, if the victim was harmed or suffered losses as a result of the crime. The juvenile may also be ordered to abide by a curfew or attend substance abuse or mental health counseling.
- ❖ Each juvenile is assigned a Juvenile Probation Officer, who monitors compliance and helps the juvenile obtain the appropriate services.

Florida Sheriffs Youth Ranches

Boys Ranch, Live Oak

Brad Gregory
BGregory@youthranches.org
www.youthranches.org

(386) 842-5555
Fax: (386) 842-1012
P.O. Box 2000
Live Oak, FL 32064

- ❖ Provides residential care for 80 troubled dependent or neglected young boys, ages 8-18.
- ❖ A well-rounded program to help youth grow physically, emotionally, spiritually, educationally, socially, and vocationally.
- ❖ The boys either attend school on campus or they go to public school in Live Oak Florida. The objective is to return the youth to the family or independent living.
- ❖ Applications are available at the local Sheriff's Offices.
- ❖ This program is voluntary. Fees are determined on a sliding scale.

Youth Villa

Renee Hutcherson
Rhutcherson@youthranches.org

(863) 533-0371
Fax: (863) 533-7006
3350 SR 60 E
Bartow, FL 33830

- ❖ Provides residential care in five cottages for troubled, dependant, or neglected girls, ages 8-18. Family counseling is included.
- ❖ A well-rounded program to help youth grow physically, emotionally, spiritually, educationally, socially, and vocationally.
- ❖ The objective is to return the youth to the family or independent living.
- ❖ This program is voluntary. Fees are determined on a sliding scale.
- ❖ Applications are available at the local Sheriff's Offices.

Youth Ranch at Bradenton

Steven Wright
SWright@youthranches.org

(941) 776-1777
Fax: (941) 776-2812
751 Rye Wilderness RD
Bradenton, FL 34212

- ❖ Program has three cottages, a community center, administration building, maintenance/ vocational building, and a livestock pavilion on 65 acres.
- ❖ The current capacity is twenty-eight boys, but the long term goal is to serve sixty children in a total of six cottages.
- ❖ A well-rounded program to help youth grow physically, emotionally, spiritually, educationally, socially, and vocationally.
- ❖ Applications are available at the local Sheriff's Offices.
- ❖ This program is voluntary. Fees are determined on a sliding scale.

Youth Ranch at Safety Harbor

Scott Halbach
Shalbach@youthranches.org

(727)725-4761
Fax: (727) 799-9243
3180 Enterprise Road
Safety Harbor, FL 34695

- ❖ The Youth Ranch consists of an administration building, tennis courts, multi-purpose activity center, swimming pool, maintenance building, chapel and three cottages.
- ❖ A well-rounded program to help youth grow physically, emotionally, spiritually, educationally, socially, and vocationally.
- ❖ The current capacity is 30 youth.
- ❖ Applications are available at the local Sheriff's Offices.
- ❖ This program is voluntary. Fees are determined on a sliding scale

Florida Youth Challenge Academy

Danny Brabham, Program Director
Danny.brabham@fl.ngb.army.mil
James R. Ransom, Deputy Director
James.ransom@fl.ngb.army.mil
www.ngycp.org/state/fl

(904) 682-4000
1-866-276-9304
Fax: (904) 682-3990
5629 SR 16 West
Bldg. 3800
Starke, FL 32091

- ❖ Florida Youth Challenge Academy is a residential school for juveniles who have dropped out of high school but wish to continue their education.
- ❖ Applicants must be 16-18 years of age, not in school (dropped out, expelled, or not enrolled), citizen or legal resident of the US and Florida, unemployed/underemployed, not currently on probation or parole for anything other than misdemeanor offenses, not charged/under indictment/awaiting sentencing/convicted of a felony, free of illegal drugs, physically and mentally capable of completing the program, and applying on their own free will.
- ❖ This program consists of three phases: Pre-Challenge phase, Challenge phase, Post-residential phase.
- ❖ The Pre-Challenge is two weeks and consists of mentally and physically challenging exercises in order to evaluate the cadets and determine if they are prepared for the next phase.
- ❖ The Challenge phase consists of a demanding and highly regimented motivational period. This phase daily utilizes academic excellence (GED completion), Community service, job skills, responsible citizenship, leadership/fellowship, life-coping skills, physical fitness, and health education. This phase is 5 months.
- ❖ The Post residential phase is a mentorship program beginning immediately after graduation in each of the cadet's home community. This phase is 12 months.
- ❖ The Florida Youth Challenge provides a highly disciplined and motivational environment, free from outside distractions, which fosters academics, leadership, development, personal growth, self-esteem, and physical fitness for qualifying high school dropouts.

- ❖ This program is provided free of charge for those who apply and are accepted. Staff consists of an operational staff with in-depth military experience, certified instructors from Clay County School Board, a registered nurse practitioner, counselors and recruitment/placement personnel.
- ❖ Class cycles begin in January and July of each year.

Gainesville Family Institute,

Dr. Herbert Steier
Gainesville_familyInstitute@yahoo.com

(352) 376-5543
Fax: (352) 376-2042
1031 NW 6th ST
Suite C2
Gainesville, FL 32601

- ❖ GFI is a private practice counseling center that provides help for individuals, couples, and families.
- ❖ Gainesville Family Institute works with families to find the best interest of children in divorce cases. GFI offers a court approved parenting class for those divorcing or seeking custody re-evaluation.
- ❖ There is up to a forty dollar fee, unless court fee waiver is provided (fee may be reduced to five dollars).
- ❖ GFI do not discriminate against any applicants for any reason.

Gainesville Wilderness Institute

John Davidson
gwi-bm@amikids.org

(352) 466-0543
Fax: (352) 466-3800
100 SE 134th Ave.
Micanopy, FL 32667

- ❖ GWI is a non-profit organization affiliated with the Associated Marine Institutes (AMI).
- ❖ Accredited school that provides alternative education for youths in the juvenile court system and kids referred by the school board.
- ❖ Students participate in a core curriculum including academics. They also participate in physical education and life skills education. GWI assists kids earning their GED.
- ❖ There is a 10:1 student to teacher ratio allowing for an individually oriented curriculum for each student.
- ❖ GWI uses a differentiated classroom instruction method that caters to all three learning styles.
- ❖ Court ordered program for males and females ages 15-18.
- ❖ GWI has a 22.2% recidivism rate, and a 77.8% success rate.
- ❖ Programs offered include day treatment and conditional release. Day programs usually last four to six months. Conditional release is designed for youth transferring from a residential program back into the community.

Gator TeamChild

Meshon Rawls
rawls@law.ufl.edu
www.law.ufl.edu/centers/juvenile

(352) 273-0800
Fax: (352) 392-0414
Box 117626
Gainesville, FL 32611

- ❖ Gator TeamChild is a legal service program that represents indigent children regarding a variety of issues including dependency, emancipation, delinquency, and school discipline. It is operated at the University of Florida's Levin College of Law.
- ❖ This program uses an Interdisciplinary representation model. Children are referred by courts, guardians ad litem, school personnel, public defenders, prosecutors, state agency case workers, and/or other agencies.
- ❖ Law students work in teams with graduate students in social work to determine needs of each child client, assess strengths and weaknesses of the child and family, and then advocate for the provision of services.
- ❖ Student teams collaborate with other professionals in the community, including caseworkers, psychiatrists, and physicians. Teams also prepare treatment and dispositional plans that address the needs of the child and family.

Guardian Ad Litem Program

Alachua County:

Pam Pearce
pam.pearce@gal.fl.gov
www.gal.fl.gov

(352) 374-3656
Fax: (352) 491-4598
105 SE 1st ST, Suite 7
Gainesville FL 32601

- ❖ The Guardian Ad Litem Program recruits, trains, and supervises volunteers who represent the best interests of abused, neglected, and abandoned children in court proceedings.
- ❖ Guardians are certified on state standards which include a background check and specialized training.
- ❖ The judge orders the appointment of a GAL. The order of appointment will state the duties and rights of each specific Guardian Ad Litem. Parties can request the appointment of a GAL or the Court may order on its own.
- ❖ A Guardian Ad Litem can be appointed at anytime during the proceedings, whenever the Court decides that one is appropriate.
- ❖ Anyone who is interested in becoming a part of the dependency court process can become a Guardian Ad Litem. It is not necessary to have any prior court or law experience. Guardians must commit to working for one year.

Guardian Ad Litem Program, Cont.

Baker, Bradford, & Union Counties:

Larayne Engram
larayne.engram@gal.fl.gov
P.O. Drawer B
Starke, FL 32091

Baker: (904) 259-2992
Fax: (904) 259-0281
Bradford: (904) 966-6237
Fax: (904) 966-6329
Union: (386) 496-4933
Fax: (386) 496-4932

Gilchrist & Levy Counties:

Deanne Castell
deanna.castell@gal.fl.gov

Gilchrist: 119 E. Wade ST
Trenton, FL 32693
(352) 463-3135
Fax: (352) 463-3136
Levy: 295 S. Court Street
Bronson, FL
(352) 486-3308
Fax: (352) 486-3309

Juvenile Assessment Center, Detention Screening Unit Contract Provider: Human Services Associates, Inc.

Tammilyn Jones, Director
Tammilynn.Jones@djj.state.fl.us
www.djj.state.fl.us/detention/index.html

(352) 375-2125
Fax: (352) 375-0074
3436 NE 39th AVE, #2
Gainesville, FL 32609

- ❖ Booking unit for arrested youth, providing assessment for substance abuse, mental health, suicide, and risk to community (whether the child needs to be held in a detention center).
- ❖ Youth are held no longer than six hours in assessment center. On average 250 youth are served per month.
- ❖ Open 24 hours/ 7 days a week. Referrals from law enforcement agencies only. Serves 11 counties.

Loften High School

Dr. Chet Sanders, Principal
sanderchs@sbac.edu
www.sbac.edu/~loften/

(352) 955-6839
Fax: (352) 955-6999
3000 E University AVE
Gainesville, FL 32614

- ❖ *Accept Program* – Provides an Alternative school for pregnant teens. Courses include parenting, pre and post natal health courses. Infant care is available on a limited basis, up to three years of age.

- ❖ *Professional Academics Magnet Program* – Designed for students who are currently enrolled in one of the county high schools and are interested in developing job skills. This program requires an application and is open to all Alachua County students 8-12 grades.

PACE Center for Girls

Kathie Southwick
Pacekatie@aol.com
www.pacecenter.org/Alachua.htm

(352) 374-8799
Fax: (352) 378-6602
1010 SE 4th AVE
Gainesville, FL 32601

- ❖ PACE is a nonresidential, gender-specific program for girls ages 12-18 who are not meeting with success in the public school and are experiencing difficulty and conflict in school or at home.
- ❖ PACE provides intensive educational and therapeutic services to these girls for 12-15 months in an effort to help them make better choices and turn their lives around.
- ❖ Reasons for referrals include (but are not limited to) academic underachievement, delinquency, substance abuse, truancy, depression, abuse and suspension/expulsion. Referrals are accepted from any source.
- ❖ PACE's purpose is to intervene and prevent high school drop-outs, juvenile delinquency, teen pregnancy, drug and alcohol addiction and welfare dependency.
- ❖ PACE's caring staff (1:12 staff/student ratio) work individually with each girl, focusing on her strengths and potential, helping her to build personal, social and family relationship skills, helping each girl to understand the consequences of her choices and to make better choices, set realistic goals for her future and accomplish those goals.
- ❖ There is no charge for students to attend the center. Length of stay is determined by the needs of the individual girl. Girls are furnished with Regional Transit Bus passes. Parent meetings for each student take place each month. Most girls return to their home school after successfully transitioning from the program.

Partnership for Strong Families

Steven J. Murphy
www.pfsg.org

(352) 393-2740
Fax: (352) 393-2747
515 North Main Street
Gainesville, FL 32601

- ❖ Partnership for Strong Families mission is to enhance the community's ability to protect and nurture children by building, maintaining and constantly improving a network of family support services.
- ❖ PSF is charged with management of the organization, enhancement, coordination, and oversight of foster care and related services to ensure the safety, well-being and security of its children and families. These services include prevention services, intake and placement, case management, protective services, kinship

care, foster care supervision, out-of-home placement, post-placement supervision, foster home recruitment, licensing, and retention, independent living, adoption, intensive residential treatment, family preservation, and family reunification.

- ❖ PSF's three partner agencies include Children's Home Society, Meridian Behavioral Healthcare, Inc., and Family Preservation Services.

Pleasant Place

M. Nebhard
mnebhard@bcnassociates.com
www.pleasantplace.net

(352) 373-6993
Fax: (352) 373-6789
732 NW 4th ST
Gainesville, FL 32601

- ❖ Pleasant Place is a safe home for pregnant and parenting teens who need it.
- ❖ Program provides teen mothers with skills necessary for independent living.
- ❖ Teens pursuing high school education with a small child are monitored in their academic life and school attendance.
- ❖ Offers mentorship programs, group counseling and support to all residents.

Project Payback

Gretchen Howard, Program Manager
howardg@sao8.org
www.sao8.org/payback

(352) 337-6174
Fax: (352) 381-0170
201 E University AVE
Gainesville, FL 32601

- ❖ Project Payback is a juvenile, restorative justice, restitution program located within the Victim Services Division of the Office of the State Attorney.
- ❖ In the Eighth Judicial Circuit, juvenile defendants who owe restitution are also Court-ordered to successfully complete Project Payback.
- ❖ The purpose of Project Payback is to monitor and enforce the restitution order.
- ❖ Juveniles who are able to become employed are required to either be employed or actively searching for employment, and they must complete a minimum of three two-hour sessions of job skills training.
- ❖ Juveniles who are not able to become employed are given the opportunity to complete "community restitution service" hours. For every verified hour that the juvenile completes at a nonprofit organization, Project Payback will forward minimum wage to the victim.
- ❖ Most participants are Court-ordered to complete the program. We do accept referrals from other agencies on a case-by-case consideration.

Serious Habitual Offender Comprehensive Action Program (SHOCAP)

Jayson Levy, SHOCAP Coordinator
Alachua County Sheriff's Office
jlevy@alachuasheriff.org
www.alachuasheriff.org

(352) 367-4126
Fax: (352) 374-1809
2621 SE Hawthorne RD
Gainesville, FL 32641

- ❖ Juveniles who are or at risk of becoming Serious Habitual Offenders can be voted in to a highly intensive supervised program to help keep these juveniles from re-offending. Juveniles in this program are encouraged to attend school, not get any new law violations, and abide by sanctions of probation as ordered by the court. Juveniles that violate this are subject to arrest.
- ❖ SHOCAP works with the Juvenile Probation Officers (DJJ), State Attorney, school board, housing authority, and any other service providers to help better the youth.
- ❖ Depending on how many charges they have, juveniles are referred to this program once they are on probation. Juveniles are scored 3 points for misdemeanors and 5 for felonies on charges they are either found guilty or pled guilty or no contest.
- ❖ Juveniles in the SHOCAP program can be removed from the program by turning 18, being crime free for a year, or getting off probation.
- ❖ SHOCAP youth are entered into the Florida Crime Information Center (FCIC) so anywhere a Law Enforcement deputy/officer conducts a name check they are given information as to the SHOCAP sanctions.
- ❖ Juveniles not on SHOCAP-only probation are not entered into FCIC, and this prevents the juvenile from being accountable for probation violations.

Diversion Programs:

Alternative Dispute Resolutions

Robin Davis, Program Director
rkd@circuit8.org
www.circuit8.org/adr/index.html

(352) 491-4417
Fax (352) 381-0109
201 E University AVE
Suite 303
Gainesville, FL 32601

- ❖ Program facilitates the use of mediation and other alternative means of resolving court cases for litigants in Alachua, Baker, Bradford, Gilchrist, Levy, and Union counties.
- ❖ Mediation is an informal, non-adversarial process where parties involved meet with a neutral third party in an attempt to resolve their differences in a mutually agreeable manner. Decision-making lies in the hands of the two parties involved, not the mediator. The mediator does not make a decision for the parties but helps them reach their own.
- ❖ The Eighth Judicial Circuit currently has the following four mediation programs:

County Court Mediation:

Janet Hearn, Mediation Services Coordinator

(352) 491-4645

- ❖ Provides “on the spot” mediation free of charge to small claims litigants at the time of their scheduled pre-trial conference.
- ❖ Provides county mediation at \$40.00 per party

Dependency Mediation:

Nancy Huggard, Mediation Services Coordinator

(352) 337-6121

- ❖ This program serves children and families involved in the court system because of allegations of abuse, abandonment, and/or neglect.

Family Mediation:

Robin Davis, Director

(352) 491-4417

Beverly L. Graper, Program Mediator

Sharon Cooksley, Administrative Assistant II

- ❖ The Family Mediation program provides mediation services to litigants in the Family Court System. Cases involving paternity, dissolution of marriage, custody, visitation, child support, and asset allocation are handled here.
- ❖ Mediators are available to litigants with a combined income of \$100,000 or less, on a sliding scale of \$40 or \$80 per party. A list of private mediators is available for those outside this limitation.

Delinquency & Adult Criminal Mediation:

Janet Hearn, Mediation Services Coordinator

(352) 491-4645

- ❖ One attorney refers the case for mediation after both have agreed, with the victim and the defendant, that mediation is the best course of action for the case.
- ❖ A case may be referred at any stage of the criminal process.
- ❖ In juvenile cases referral to mediation is at the discretion of the State Attorney's Office.
- ❖ A list of private mediators can be obtained at the Florida State Courts website under Alternative Dispute Resolution/Mediation
http://www.flcourts.org/gen_public/adr/index.shtml

Intensive Delinquency Diversion Services

William Futch, Program Director
whfutch@aol.com
www.hrwhite.org

(352) 486-5340
Fax: (352) 486-5345
397 Hathaway Ave
PO Box 729
Bronson, FL 32621

- ❖ This program is based on a model from Orange County California and is designed to focus on first time juvenile offenders at risk of becoming repeat and/or serious offenders.
- ❖ This approach looks at juveniles with an arrest at age 16 or younger and whether they have at least three of the four high-risk characteristics.
- ❖ The high risk characteristics are: academic failure, suspensions and truancy, lack of family stability, mental health and substance abuse problems, Pre-delinquent behaviors including running away, gang affiliation, acting disruptive, and stealing.
- ❖ In this program juveniles and their families receive counseling, supervision, and services for five to seven months. This program provides individualized resources that meet the needs of the particular juvenile and family. These include mental health counseling, substance abuse treatment, tutoring, and parenting skills.

Teen Court

Jason Holthus, Coordinator
jholthus@alachuasheriff.org
www.alachuasheriff.org

(352) 367-4125
Fax: (352) 374-1809
PO Box 1210
Gainesville, FL 32602

- ❖ Juveniles are screened to determine eligibility to Teen Court. Participants typically include first time offenders (mainly misdemeanors; felonies on case by case).
- ❖ Sanctions issued in Teen Court include: jury duty, letter of apology, strike jail tours, community service, individual/group counseling, essay, etc.
- ❖ Teen Court takes place at the Alachua County Family and Civil Courthouse every Tuesday afternoon from 4pm-7pm.

- ❖ This program provides individual and family counseling, aggression management, theft awareness classes, peer accountability and intervention.
- ❖ Defendants up to age 18 are allowed to participate. Volunteers in the program come from local middle and high schools.
- ❖ Teens see both sides of the legal system by serving on juries for new defendants entering the program.

Therapeutic Courts

Lina Catasus, Specialty Courts Manager
 ltc@circuit8.org
<http://circuit8.org/family/Therapeutic%20Courts.htm>

(352) 384-3094
 Fax: (352) 491-4667
 201 E University AVE
 Suite 400
 Gainesville, FL 32601

Juvenile Drug Court:

- ❖ This Court serves 9 substance abusing youth who are enrolled in Drug Court.
- ❖ Primary goal of this program is to provide community-based substance abuse treatment to juvenile offenders.
- ❖ Juveniles are referred to drug court by the assistant state attorney and/or the assistant public defender assigned to juvenile court.
- ❖ Juvenile must have pled to a drug charge or a drug related charge, as well as a documented pattern of history of alcohol and/or drug abuse or addiction.
- ❖ The average length of program is one year, as a condition of juvenile probation.

Dependency Drug Court:

- ❖ Program works with chemically dependent parents who are involved in the dependency court system.
- ❖ Program provides opportunities to break the cycle of addiction with early intervention, intensive treatment, and weekly court sessions for both success and failure to comply with program policies.
- ❖ Parents are referred to this court by the Dependency Drug Court Judge. Parents referred must be an active client of the Department of Children and Families, with a petition for dependency filed with the court. Parents must also have a current pattern of alcohol and/or drug abuse or addiction.
- ❖ The average length of stay in this program is one year.
- ❖ Program provides support and treatment for the purpose of family reunification and permanency planning for children.

Mental Health Court:

- ❖ Works with defendants arrested for qualifying third degree felony and/or non-violent misdemeanor offenses who are mentally ill or developmentally disabled.
- ❖ Provides defendants access to the least restrictive treatment, training, and support services in order to reduce recidivism and ensure public safety.
- ❖ This program is designed to divert the mentally ill and developmentally disabled defendants from jail.
- ❖ Defendants are referred by judges, Alachua County court services, defense attorney, prosecutors, law enforcement officers, mental health providers, and Forensic Program Director at the Alachua County jail.

- ❖ Accepted defendants must have been diagnosed with an Axis I mental health illness or a developmental disability, who have been arrested on non-violent misdemeanor charge.
- ❖ This is a voluntary program. The average length of this program is nine to twelve months.

Commitment Programs:

Eckerd Youth Alternatives

Karen V. Waddell, President and CEO
www.eckerd.org

(727) 461-2990
1-800-554-HELP
Fax: (727) 442-5911
100 N Starcrest DR
Clearwater, FL 33758

- ❖ Eckerd Youth Alternatives is a private, not-for-profit organization nationally recognized for its programs to help youth. Programs serve boys and girls ages 8-18 who are at risk for or exhibit emotional and behavioral problems at home, at school and in the community.

Camp E-Kel-Etu

Francine Hazel

(352) 625-1323
19185 NE 13th ST
Silver Springs, FL 34488

- ❖ Camp E-Kel-Etu is a low-risk residential treatment center for males.
- ❖ They use a therapeutic alternative education in an outdoor residential treatment program.
- ❖ Ages 10-17 are accepted into EYA programs. There are 20 beds available
- ❖ Psychological or psychiatric evaluation (DSM IV axis I or Axis II diagnostic groupings) are required of all youth.
- ❖ All youth entering Camp E-Kel-Etu must have functional intelligence with an IQ of at least 75 and the capacity to relate to the concept of cause and effect.
- ❖ Youth must also have ability to benefit from peer and or adult relationships.
- ❖ Youth who enter Camp E-Kel-Etu demonstrate behavioral problems such that continuation in home environment is no longer feasible or practical unless a significant intervention takes place.

Eckerd Aftercare Program

Mark Jordan, Director
Dwayne Williams and Steve Festa (Gainesville contacts)
dwilliams@eckerd.org
sfesta@eckerd.org

(352) 369-2265
(352) 258-3869
2215 SE Fort King ST
Suite B
Ocala, FL 34478

- ❖ Aftercare planning begins while the youth is still in residential placement. Transition usually begins 60-90 days prior to youth's return home.
- ❖ During transition aftercare counselors will: participate in residential transition meetings, contact youth monthly, contact youth and family during home pass, and be available 24 hours a day throughout home pass, initiate services in the community in preparation for youth's release.
- ❖ When a youth is released aftercare counselors will: meet with youth and family within 24 hours of return home, finalize the Eckerd Aftercare Supervision Plan with family, confirm school enrollment within 24 hours of return home, initiate all Aftercare services, see youth 4-5 days per week for

the first 30 days, then gradually reduce or increase the frequency of contacts depending on individual need, maintain on going contact with the family, arrange opportunities for community service for the youth, arrange support for youth's achievement, encourage youth to complete all legal sanctions, make contact with the DJJ Probation Officer, provide the a monthly written summary of the youth's progress, support the family and be available all day every day.

- ❖ Graduation requires the approval of the court. The aftercare counselor must provide a written verification that all sanctions have been completed, including treatment summaries, receipts, certificates of completion, etc.
- ❖ The youth and parents are invited to participate in graduation celebrations, typically held three times a year. Aftercare staff will stay in touch with the youth quarterly for the year following graduation to offer support and to see how things are going.

First Step at Alachua

Shileatha Washinton, Program Director
swashington@firststepadls.com

(352) 264-9825
Fax: (352) 264-9826
3430 NE 39th AVE
Gainesville, FL 32609

- ❖ Structured, privatized, residential program for female offenders ages 15-18.
- ❖ Offers specialized counseling services (group and individual), in house education, and community involvement. The program supplies clothing.
- ❖ First degree misdemeanor and 3rd degree felony offenses preferred.
- ❖ Serves Northeast, Northwest, and East Central regions.
- ❖ Budgeted Capacity: 22 & Operating Capacity: 22.
- ❖ Level 6 (Moderate)

Forestry Youth Academy

Bob King
kingb@doacs.state.fl.us
www.fldof.com/About_Forestry/youth_academy.html

(352) 465-8533
Fax: (352) 465-8544
14251 SE Glass RD
Inglis, FL 34449

- ❖ Low Risk Residential Program: Joint Division of Forestry & Department of Juvenile Justice wilderness forestry program for selected residential program graduates.
- ❖ Statewide program for boys ages 15-19.
- ❖ Teaches fire fighting, landscaping forestry maintenance, small engine repair, construction skills, environmental restoration, carpentry, heavy equipment operation, welding, landscaping, horse training, and academics. Placement in jobs with the forestry division is possible upon completion of program.
- ❖ Other instruction is provided in life management, work ethics, employment seeking skills, social skills, and independent living skills.
- ❖ Average length of stay is one to two years.
- ❖ This program is located in Goethe State Forest, Levy County, near the town of Ingles.

- ❖ Youth must be in excellent health, have average IQ and no assaults with weapons, or adjudications for arson or sex offenses. Youth cannot be prescribed psychotropic medication.
- ❖ Program provides life, medical, dental, and counseling needs. FYA serves the entire state.
- ❖ Budgeted capacity: 40 and Operating capacity: 40.

Marion Juvenile Correctional Facility

Linda Lucas, Program Director
www.djj.state.fl.us/rescorrfacilities/nefacilities.html

(352) 840-8240
 Fax: (352) 840-8256
 10420 NW Gainesville RD
 Ocala, Florida 34482

- ❖ Sponsored by the Department of Juvenile Justice, this Program provides individual/group counseling, and in-house school. This is a High-Risk level Commitment program.
- ❖ School offers G.E.D.
- ❖ Offenders are provided uniforms, but must bring shoes and underclothing.
- ❖ The key program concept is “Responsible Living.”
- ❖ Length of stay is 9-12 months.
- ❖ This facility serves males ages 14-18 and has an operating capacity of 42.

Marion Youth Development Juvenile Residential Facility

Timothy Eatman, Program Director

(352) 671-2777
 Fax: (352) 671-2776
 4055 NW 105 ST
 Ocala, Florida 34482

- ❖ This is a Moderate-Risk level commitment program that serves males ages 13-18. It has an operating capacity of 96.
- ❖ This facility provides mental health/substance abuse, overlay services, group counseling, medical, and psychiatric evaluations.
- ❖ This program provides other activities such as poetry classes, religious services, and arts and crafts. Educational services are provided by the Marion County School System through the Phoenix Center. Uniforms and shoes are provided. The offender must bring underclothing.
- ❖ The length of stay is 6-9 months.

Rodeheaver Boy’s Ranch

Ken Johnson, Executive Director
rodeheaverboys@aol.com
www.rbr.org

(386) 328-1281
 Fax: (386) 328-9958
 380 Boys Ranch RD
 Palatka, FL 32177

- ❖ Rodeheaver is a home for dependant/neglected boys ages 8-18.

- ❖ At the time of admission, boys must be between 7-14 years old, but they may stay until age 18.
- ❖ Admission is granted to boys who have not been adjudicated delinquent and are mentally and emotionally sound. Referral is by parents, guardians, and/or youth counselors from all over the state and nation.
- ❖ This is a long term program, with commitments of at least one year.
- ❖ The boys attend public school in Palatka and live on a working ranch. They work either at the farm, in the dining hall, with maintenance, the vehicle shop, grounds crew, or trash detail.
- ❖ Recreation includes horseback riding, swimming, baseball, fishing, canoeing, boy scouts, 4-H, and woods activities.
- ❖ The boys in this program attend church by cottage in Palatka. The Ranch is a Christian based nondenominational program.
- ❖ There is also a full-time teacher on staff.
- ❖ There are ten boys per cottage with cottage parents.
- ❖ Fees are determined on an individual bases. Serves other counties as well.

Union Juvenile Residential Facility

Anthony Adams, Director
anthony.adams@threesprings.com

(386) 431-1999
 Fax: (386) 431-1089
 14692 County Rd. 199
 Raiford, FL 32083

- ❖ This is a fence secure program designed to house first time sex offenders ages 12-19. This program serves youth from all of Florida.
- ❖ This program does not accept offenders with sexual battery charges where force or violence was used, offenders with multiple victims, or pedophiles.
- ❖ Offenders must have a completed psychosexual evaluation.
- ❖ This program provides sex offender treatment which includes individual and group therapy, and family counseling.
- ❖ Behavioral Health Overlay Services are provided, with on-site education, including General Education Diploma and limited vocational services.
- ❖ Clothing is provided but offenders need to bring underwear and athletic shoes.

Definitions:

Prevention Programs:

The Department of Juvenile Justice considers all prevention efforts (Prevention, Diversion, and Intervention programs) an investment in public safety. Prevention efforts help stop or divert a juvenile from entering the juvenile justice system as a delinquent. Prevention includes arbitration, diversionary or mediation programs, community service work or other treatment available subsequent to a child committing a delinquent act. Delinquency prevention programs typically focus their efforts on those youths most likely to become chronic juvenile offenders as well as towards those communities where most youths live who are referred for delinquency charges. Programs or services that interrupt the delinquency process and prevent a youth from penetrating further into the juvenile justice system generally recognize the need for a comprehensive, front-end assessment of a youth's needs when they enter the juvenile justice system. On the average, fewer than 10 percent of youth served in a prevention program are referred for delinquency within six months of completing the program. Prevention programs can be state-run, privately operated, or nonprofit organizations. In 2000 DJJ released its Delinquency Prevention Plan. This plan has a framework of three main elements:

- **Targeting:** Targeting at risk juveniles, at risk communities, and targeting funding toward research based programs.
- **Cooperation:** Developing and implementing a coordinated statewide juvenile prevention strategy and encouraging community-based programs to work together toward a comprehensive approach to troubled youth and families.
- **Accountability:** Collecting data on youth served by delinquency prevention programs and measuring how successful prevention programs are in keeping youth in school and crime-free.

Intervention Programs:

Intervention programs divert youth from continuing their involvement with the juvenile or criminal justice system. Effective intervention programs both facilitate referrals to appropriate services and track the youth's progress. Intervention programs are all those non residential programs provided by the Department of Juvenile Justice. Intervention programs specifically include case management, juvenile assessment centers, non-residential programs, aftercare, independent living, intensive work programs, early delinquency intervention programs, and specialized early delinquency intervention programs. Intervention includes substance abuses programs, anger management, mental, and family health counseling.

Diversion Programs:

A program designed to divert or keep a juvenile from entering the system and/ or as an alternative to court; used at intake prior to adjudication. The goal of diversion is to stop juveniles who have committed a crime from being handled in a judicial manner. Diversion programs can be structured alternatives to community control and commitment programs. Diversion can occur from the time a juvenile comes in contact with a police officer to just prior to adjudication. Most Diversion programs require that the juveniles committed misdemeanors and/or non-violent felonies, and whose prior history and family or individual needs do not indicate a need for more intensive interventions. Common types of diversion programs are Juvenile Alternative Services Programs (JASPs), civil citation, community arbitration, and Teen Courts. These programs employ a variety of non-judicial sanctions, including restitution (payment) to the victim(s); community service hours; letter of apology to the victim; a curfew; a jail tour; forfeiture of a drivers license; a warning to avoid contact with co-defendants, friends or acquaintances who are deemed to be inappropriate relationship; referrals to local social service agencies; and counseling.

Definitions:

Commitment Programs:

Commitment programs for delinquent juveniles range from the least restrictive to the most restrictive. Higher restriction levels compare to incarceration within the adult system, but with rehabilitative components. In Florida commitment programs are described as low-risk, moderate-risk, high-risk and maximum-risk.

- **Low-Risk:** Youth classified as low-risk to public safety, yet require 24-hour supervision. Current offenses range from first degree misdemeanors to third degree felonies. Patterns of offending are infrequent, non-violent, and often oriented toward property crimes rather than crimes against people. These offenders have usually performed unsuccessfully in prevention and diversion programs. The program models included in Low-Risk Commitment programs are: family home, host home, group treatment home, short-term outdoor expedition program, short-term wilderness program, and family development.
- **Moderate-Risk:** Moderate-risk to public safety and require 24-hour supervision. Majority of these juveniles have serious property offenses and their offending is characterized by frequent and repeated law violations. Program models for this risk level are: halfway houses, short-term adolescent rehabilitative treatment center, long-term therapeutic wilderness camp, dual diagnosis program, intensive vocational work program, boot camp, and wilderness program.
- **High-Risk:** High-risk to public safety and require close supervision in a structured residential setting that provides 24-hour secure custody, care and supervision. Program models for this risk level are: serious habitual or offender program, boot camp, intensive residential treatment for offenders less than 13 years, developmentally disabled offender program, long-term environmentally secure program, sex offender program, intensive halfway house, clinical program, and training school/youth development center.
- **Maximum-Risk:** Serious risks to public safety. 24-hour custody, care and supervision in a maximum secure setting. These are chronic offenders committing serious and violent felonies. Maximum-risk program model houses 25 all male or all female youths 13-19 years of age, with provisions to hold youth until 21 years of age. These programs emphasize public safety by employing maximum physical security and utilizing a highly structured behavior management system. The length of stay is a statutory required minimum of 18 months and a maximum of 36 months.

Juvenile offenders in Florida can be ordered by the court to serve time in a juvenile residential or correctional facility. Depending on the severity of their crime and their behavior in the program, they will lose their freedom for anywhere from several months up to three years. Juvenile residential facilities range from wilderness and marine camps to halfway houses, boot camps, drill academies, youth development centers, sex-offender programs and maximum-security correctional facilities. Juvenile offenders in residential programs must receive educational and vocational services. They must complete an individually designed treatment plan, based on their rehabilitative needs, as one of the requirements for release. Basically if they follow the rules and change their behavior, they have a chance of getting out sooner. The average stay in high-risk residential programs is now 15 months, and the average stay in maximum-risk programs is 24 months. Private providers operate most of the residential facilities for juveniles in Florida under contracts with the Department. The providers are regularly monitored and evaluated through the Department's Quality Assurance program.

Definitions from Department of Juvenile Justice: <http://www.djj.state.fl.us>

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