

Mission, Vision and Goals

Our mission is to advance the safety of our diverse community by aiding in the development of youth, instilling within them the fundamental principles of responsibility and accountability, and garnering an appreciation of the consequences of their actions through education, encouragement and positive reinforcement.

Youth Diversion is committed to supporting youth exhibiting at-risk behaviours and encouraging them to reach their full potential. Our programs encourage youth to develop skills that promote a positive response to self, others and the community. We are focused on fostering values such as integrity, responsibility, commitment and caring for young people and their families in our community. We promote and encourage changed attitudes and behaviours by providing challenging, accommodating programs and services in a variety of inviting settings. We support youth who are experiencing difficulties at home, school or with the law.

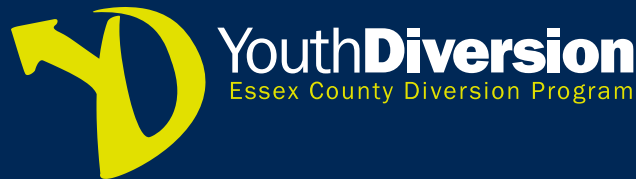
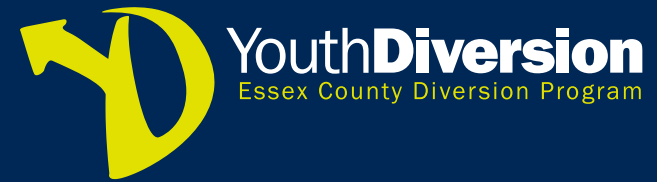
Information for Parents

It can be hard for young people to approach their parents about issues they're facing and oftentimes, many adults are not always sure about the best way to talk to or approach youth about difficult subjects, which is why we outline some general guidelines to keep in mind. Access our website for helpful tools on addressing concerning behaviour with your son or daughter.

How to Refer

You can refer a youth into any of the Essex County Diversion Programs by filling out a referral form online. You can also call the Youth Outreach Staff and have a referral form filled out over the phone. If you already have a hard copy of the referral form you can fax it to **519-253-6476** or send by email to youthoutreach@essexcountyddiversion.com

Referrals are also accepted from Police & Courts and can be done via fax at **519-253-6476** or by email at executivedirector@essexcountyddiversion.com



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www.ecyouthdiversion.ca

Strengthen Our Youth, Strengthen Their Future

519-253-3340

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Programs

Youth Diversion provides a series of eight youth programs that focus on building confidence, making healthy decisions and improving communication.

Rebound Life Choices - The Rebound Life Choices program, a 10 week social skills program, is designed to meet the needs of youth by utilizing a variety of evidence-based practices that promote and encourage personal growth. Program facilitators utilize interactive activities, behaviour rehearsals, guest speakers and video clips to illustrate the weekly topics, changing program stimuli every 20 minutes to attend to a variety of learning styles.

Youth Justice Committee - The Youth Justice Committee Forum is a one-time mediation session that is comprised of a trained staff, the victim, victimizer and parents of both parties if desired. The purpose of this forum is to give the victim an opportunity to repair the harms inflicted upon him/her and address the reasons for the hurt caused.

M.E.S.S.A.G.E - The acronym M.E.S.S.A.G.E. stands for "Motivational Educational "Sexting" Seminars for At-Risk Girls Everywhere". The M.E.S.S.A.G.E program is an innovative program designed to address the dangers and consequences associated with "sexting" and to raise awareness to the seriousness of this increasingly prevalent social epidemic among our youth. The two-session program is targeted towards at-risk females' between 12-17 years of age in the Windsor-Essex County area.

R.E.S.P.E.C.T. - The acronym stands for "Relationship Education Seminar The R.E.S.P.E.C.T. Program stands for Relationship Education on Sexting, Promoting Ethical Conduct in Teens. The Program has been established to address young males between 12-17 years of age in the Windsor-Essex County area. The R.E.S.P.E.C.T. Program is designed to address the dangers and consequences associated with "sexting" and to raise awareness to the seriousness of self/peer exploitation. The R.E.S.P.E.C.T. Program also addresses related issues such as peer pressure, cyberbullying, and online safety. Ultimately, this Program strives to promote healthy digital relationships amongst youth.

L.O.S.S. - L.O.S.S is a one-time session geared towards educating young people about the consequences of shoplifting on themselves, their families, the victim(s), and the community at large. The educational session is comprised of interactive discussions and video presentations aimed at deterring youth from shoplifting and/or stealing in the future.

Beyond Bullying - Beyond Bullying is an evidence based program that is designed to help teens understand the risks involved to self and others when as they pertain to bullying. Bullying behavior has been linked to other forms of anti-social behavior such as vandalism, shoplifting, skipping and dropping out of school, fighting and the use of drugs and alcohol.

Teen Intervene - Teen Intervene is a tested, time efficient, evidence-based program for teenagers 12-17 suspected of experiencing mild or moderate problems associated with alcohol or other drug use; the program can also include their parents or guardians. The Teen Intervene program integrates the stages of change model, motivational interviewing and cognitive-behavioral therapy.

Substance Abuse - Coming in Fall of 2013, the Essex County Diversion Program will be offering a new Substance Abuse Program. The substance abuse program will utilize a comprehensive cognitive-behavioral treatment model, including coping skills, relapse prevention, and risk factors management tools. The ultimate goal of the program is harm reduction. The program will be tailored to individual youth needs.



Our Sponsors

The Essex County Diversion Program is able to serve Windsor and Essex County with core funding from:

Ministry of Children and Youth Services

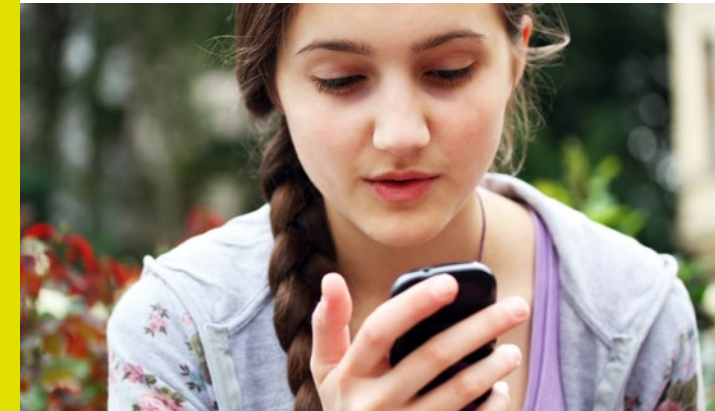
Ministry of the Attorney General

The Ontario Trillium Foundation

Donations

Donations to our organization are always appreciated. Financial donations or volunteering your time is critical to the growth of the Essex County Diversion Program.

If you would like to make a donation, please contact Joanna Conrad, Executive Director at **(519) 253-3340 ext. 225** or by email at **executivedirector@essexcountdiversion.com**



Join Our Team

If you are looking to get involved, you can visit our website at **www.ecyouthdiversion.ca** and fill out our online volunteer form.