

*Note: These are extracts from the 2006 Essex County RFP, pertaining to alternative to detention programs.*

**County of Essex, New Jersey  
Department of Citizen Services  
Division of Youth Services  
Youth Services Commission**

**REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL (RFP)  
FY 2006 JUVENILE JUSTICE PROGRAMS**

PREPARED BY  
Department of Citizen Services  
Office of the Director

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## 2.0 SERVICE CATEGORIES

### 2.1 ALTERNATIVES TO DETENTION

Programs designed to provide an alternative to secure detention for youth awaiting disposition of a juvenile case in the Family Court. Detention Alternative programs provide a level of supervision sufficient to safely maintain appropriate youth in the community while awaiting the final disposition of their case or their court authorized release from the program. Eligible populations under this category include court referred male in-school and out-of-school youth and youth participating in home detention and electronic monitoring programs. Essex County anticipates funding at least two Evening Reporting Centers (described below) with a capacity of serving 20-25 juveniles each. The maximum time of service for this activity should not exceed 60 days unless otherwise directed by the court. These services will be targeted to youth residing in Newark, and Irvington, East Orange, Orange.

Evening Reporting Center (ERC) - A highly structured program that focuses on the provision of supportive services and extensive community supervision for male juveniles who otherwise would be in detention. Bidders must identify a facility (owned or leased) that would house the program. This facility must have the following resources:

- Compliance with all building and regulatory codes;
- Snack area of eating facilities;
- Adequate washroom facilities;
- Recreation supplies;
- Program resources, i.e., tables, chairs;

Program activities should be designed to aid participants in remaining arrest-free pending disposition of their court cases and to ensure their appearance at all required court hearings.

The program design should include case management services, as well as a mix of some of the services listed below:

Evening Reporting Center Program Curriculum:	
Conflict Resolution	Street Law
Health & Hygiene	STD/AIDS Education
Civics	Teen Pregnancy
Parenting Skills	Employment Counseling
Victim Awareness	Animal Therapy
Art Therapy	Violence Intervention

Services under this program model must be provided at minimum from Monday through Friday from 4:00 pm to 9:00 pm. Moreover, meals and snacks must be provided to program participants along with transportation to and from the program site. The County of Essex reserves the right to either alter or waive the transportation requirement.

### **3.0 PRIORITY POPULATIONS**

The Essex County Youth Services Commission has as its primary goal the planning, administration and monitoring of community-based services designed to provide at-risk youth with the skills necessary to promote their development into productive, law-abiding citizens. Accordingly all bidders must be committed to providing and coordinating services designed to address the needs of troubled youth, including activities and services to offset, whenever possible, the need for youth to be negatively terminated from program services.

#### **The following youth populations have been targeted for priority service:**

Youth in secure detention while awaiting disposition of juvenile delinquency charges. Service Category - Alternatives to Detention

Youth pending disposition (sentencing) in the Family Court. Service Category – Dispositional Options

Juveniles and young adults returning home from Juvenile Justice Commission placements. This populations includes both probationers and parolees. Service Category – Re-entry

Youth charged with sexual offenses or adjudicated delinquent on sexual offenses. Service Category – Treatment for Sexual Offenders

Youth with low-level court involvement or at risk of formal court involvement. Service Category – Court Diversion Services

Youth exposed to societal risk factors that are known precursors of delinquent behavior. Service Category – Delinquency Prevention

#### 4.0 APPLICANT REQUIREMENTS

Respondents to this RFP must have:

- 4.1 At least one year of experience in providing direct services to at-risk or court-involved youth. “Social services” may include, but are not limited to, one or more of the following: physical or mental health, vocational-occupational training, individual or group counseling, anger management training, education (standard or remedial), recreation, advocacy, custodial, referral and rehabilitative.
- 4.2 Demonstrated experience and knowledge with the social service delivery system in the State of New Jersey and its local jurisdictions used to prevent delinquency, to assist families and to rehabilitate youth involved or at risk of involvement with the juvenile justice system.
- 4.3 The ability to recruit qualified social service professionals and to document that all the proposed staff will be available for engagement on the effective date of the contract award.
- 4.4 Knowledge of and ability to comply with New Jersey State Statutes, Administrative Codes, corresponding rules and regulations regarding the juvenile justice system as promulgated by the Administrative Office of the Courts, the Juvenile Justice Commission, the New Jersey Department of Human Services, the Division of Youth and Family Services, Essex County Government, the Superior Court of the State of New Jersey – Chancery Division, Family Part, and the New Jersey Juvenile Justice Commission.