

What is the Juvenile Review Board?

The Juvenile Review Board consists of local professionals from youth serving organizations. The purpose of the Board is, to offer meaningful alternatives to the Criminal Justice System through intervention strategies that are community-based.

The Board designs alternatives that:

- (1) promote responsible behavior by offenders
- (2) help solve problems that may be at the root of delinquent behavior
- (3) take into consideration the needs of the victim.

How does a case come before the JRB?

Youth under the age of 18 who have no prior arrests that have committed a misdemeanor offense are referred to the JRB case manager. Referrals are first filtered through the Norwalk Police Department. If deemed appropriate by the case manager, the family is notified and given the opportunity to choose the diversion process. The JRB will also accept F.S.W.N cases which may be referred by either the school or parent(s).



How does the JRB process work?

The Youth Services case manager presents a case including recommendations to the Board. After discussion, the Board decides upon a meaningful and appropriate alternative that will divert the case from the Connecticut Criminal Justice System. The Board is not involved in determining guilt or innocence.

The Juvenile Review Board presents the diversion alternatives to the offender and his/her family who must be present at the hearing. If they agree with the diversion alternatives, the caseworker becomes responsible for overseeing the agreement and reporting back to the Board. If the offender and family comply with the diversion alternative, they will not have to appear in court and the offender will NOT have a juvenile record regarding the offense.

All cases that do not accept or comply with the diversion alternative are referred to Juvenile Court.

All proceedings of the Juvenile Review Board are bound by confidentiality.

What is a diversion alternative?

Diversion alternatives generally consist of a combination of elements from the following areas:

- **Personal Responsibility** – restitution, apology, JRB supervision, probation, community service.
- **Education** – drug and alcohol workshops, educational-supportive counseling, research projects.
- **Prevention** – individual and family counseling, drug and alcohol counseling/treatment, positive youth development activities.

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What is Norwalk Youth Services?

Norwalk Youth Services is a municipal Youth Service Bureau serving the city of Norwalk. Norwalk Youth Services' mission is to provide positive youth development services, which assist children, young people, and their families in creating a supportive and caring environment for them to reach their maximum potential as members of society.

Other Youth Services:

Our professional staff offers counseling and referral services for adolescents and their families.

Problems frequently dealt with involve parent-child conflict, anger management, school difficulties, depression, and substance abuse

City of Norwalk

Juvenile Review Board



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A free service for Norwalk residents!

City of Norwalk Juvenile Review Board



**Offers juveniles a positive
alternative to the
Juvenile Justice System**