

# CLALLAM COUNTY JUVENILE & FAMILY SERVICES

---

At-Risk Youth

CASA

Detention

Diversions

Drug Court

Probation

Truancy

True Star Behavioral Health

Peter A. Peterson  
Director

1912 West 18th Street  
Port Angeles, WA 98363  
(360) 417-2282  
FAX (360) 457-4875  
Detention (360) 417-2421  
Detention FAX (360) 457-4871

## PROGRAM DESCRIPTIONS

Clallam County Juvenile & Family Services offers a wide variety of services to both offender and non-offender youths and their families. What follows is a brief description of the programs we offer. We also have a web site on the internet with more information about specific programs. Please visit our web site at <http://www.clallam.net/JuvenileServices>. There you will find our home page, detailed program descriptions, and pictures of our facility. You can even take a pictorial tour of "A Day in the Life of Detention."

### **OFFENDER SUPERVISION** – Funded by County and State

**Local Sanctions Disposition/Probation:** Supervision of court-ordered juvenile offenders. There are three Juvenile Probation Officers who cover Clallam County. POs have the power of arrest for youth under court supervision if there are violations with terms that typically include community service, fines, restitution, and may include 30 detention days to be served during the period of supervision. Terms may also include following certain special conditions ordered by the court or imposed by the probation officer. These may include curfew, travel, residency, school attendance/performance requirements, and counseling. Probation Violations can result in additional sanctions including 30 days in detention for each violation.

**Probation Officers also supervise juvenile offenders sentenced by the court under the following special disposition options that are funded by the State:**

**Special Sex Offender Disposition Act (SSODA):** First time sex offenders who are evaluated as amenable to treatment and a reasonable community risk may be sentenced under this option. They are required to register as sex offenders and submit to DNA identification and HIV testing. Conditions imposed under this program usually include twenty-four (24) months of community supervision as well as on-going professional sex offender counseling or therapy.

**Suspended Disposition Alternative (SDA):** Some juveniles are eligible for a suspended commitment to Juvenile Rehabilitation Administration (JRA). Under this disposition a juvenile is sentenced to strict community guidelines, treatment, education, and accountability. Failure to successfully complete can result in the juvenile fulfilling the original sentence in a state institution.

**Chemical Dependency/Mental Health Disposition Alternative (CD/MH) (RCW 13.40.165):**

Chemical Dependency Disposition Alternative provides qualifying youth with accountability and funding for chemical dependency treatment as an alternative to institutional commitment or as a requirement of community supervision.

Mental Health Disposition Alternative provides an alternative sentence for committable offenders with a current mental health diagnosis if an appropriate treatment option is available in the community. The commitment time is suspended and the youth is placed on community supervision for one year and required to comply with the recommended treatment program which may include Multi-systemic Therapy (MST), Functional Family Therapy (FFT), Family Integrated Treatment (FIT), or Dialectic Behavior Therapy (DBT).

Probation Officers also provide mediation, conflict resolution, and other counseling services to clients and their families. They also coordinate the provision of support services for a variety of available community resources.

**Other State-funded programs and services include:**

**Risk Assessment/Treatment Plan:** Clallam County Juvenile Services is fully participating in the state-of-the-art WAJCA Risk Assessment project wherein all adjudicated juvenile offenders are administered the comprehensive risk assessment tool. This instrument asks 103 questions covering 10 sections: 1) Criminal History, 2) School, 3) Free Time, 4) Employment, 5) Family, 6) Relationships, 7) Alcohol and Drugs, 8) Mental Health, 9) Attitudes/Behaviors, 10) Skills. Among other things, the process is designed to identify risk level to reoffend for newly convicted youth. Information developed out of this process is designed to be used by the court in making sentencing decisions and by Juvenile Services in assigning youth to supervised programs with assessed level of risk. The program is fully computerized and can generate case plans targeting identified risk factors and can suggest specific treatment strategies. Reassessments are conducted periodically and can document changes, progress, or shifts in risk levels. Agency resources and/or professional services can be adjusted to address changing needs.

**“We’re In This Together” (WITT Seminars)** – Peninsula Dispute Resolution Center (PDRC), as a State-funded contractor and partner with Juvenile Services, facilitates our Coordination of Services Program through WITT Seminars.

This program is designed to serve youth offenders, at-risk youth, and the parents or other connected adults involved in the lives of these youth in an effort to prevent recidivism and risk behaviors while increasing supportive relationships between youth and parents/caretakers. The program requires that youth and their parent or other connected adult attend the two-day seminar together thus providing an opportunity to instill the same skills and learning in each party simultaneously.

The seminar consists of five to eight interactive sessions presented by community organizations such as mental health, juvenile justice, drug and alcohol, violence prevention, DSHS, YMCA, 4-H, and employment skills development/placement agencies. Topics cover areas such as conflict resolution, asset building, adolescent development, youth suicide, decision making, and communication. At the same time, participants learn about resources available in the community and how to access them.

**Victim Offender Mediation** – The Peninsula Dispute Resolution Center (PDRC) provides mediation for juveniles using a Victim Panel made up of volunteers who sit in place of the victim. In a discussion between the offender and the Victim Panel, this Restorative Justice process reviews the harm done to individuals and the community by juvenile crime. It is designed to help the juvenile understand the extensive impacts of their actions and assist in the offender’s reintegration of being accepted back into the community after amends are made for their crimes.

**Educational Classes** – Funded by State and other revenue

*Substance Abuse Awareness:* Taught by a True Star Certified Chemical Dependency Counselor, this class provides current information on the effects and consequences of drug and alcohol use and drinking while driving.

*ABC’s of Restorative Justice:* Taught by Peninsula Dispute Resolution Center staff, this class teaches youth about the need for commitment and responsibility to their community and the effects and consequences crime has on individuals as well as the community as a whole.

**DIVERSION PROGRAM** – Funded by County

Diversion is a legal process whereby first time offenders alleged to have committed certain misdemeanors are offered an alternative to the formal court process. The goal of Diversion is to hold youth accountable for their criminal behavior with consequences that are fair, proportional, and consistent across the State, provide due process, provide for dispositions in a timely and equitable manner, provide for restitution to victims, and encourage community involvement through community accountability boards.

In holding youth accountable, Diversion may impose 0-150 hours of community service, up to 20 hours of Educational classes and ten (10) hours of counseling as well as a process fee to help fund the program. All diverted youth charged with a drug or alcohol related offense are required to have a formal drug and alcohol evaluation and are required to follow the treatment recommendations based upon the results of the evaluation. The educational classes are assigned depending upon the needs of the individual.

**Teen Court** – Funded by County and Other Revenue

Teen Court is a Diversion Program in which offenders are questioned, defended, and sentenced by their peers. It is available to first time (misdemeanant/gross misdemeanor) juvenile offenders who are accepting responsibility for their actions. Teen Courts are the fastest growing crime intervention programs in the nation. They offer ways to engage the community in a partnership with the juvenile justice system to respond to juvenile crimes by increasing the awareness of delinquency issues at the local level and by mobilizing youth to take an active role in addressing the problem.

Teen Court is a volunteer program that affords community service hours to youth involved and provides an option for greater flexibility in handling first offense cases, including a wide range of outcomes within the Restorative Justice Process refocusing the overall process on the needs of the offender and the offender’s responsibility to repair the harm to self, family, community, and school. It provides the opportunity for youth to weigh the effects of criminal behavior in their community and have a voice in responding to the behavior of their peers.

## **TRUANCY** – Funded by State

Public schools are mandated to file truancy petitions with the Juvenile Court upon the seventh absence in a month or upon the tenth absence in a school year. Youth experiencing attendance problems in school are referred to Juvenile Services for processing and court intervention. If a youth is found to be truant, sanctions can be imposed for non-compliance. Detention or community service can be assigned. Case coordination is assisted by a Juvenile Truancy Officer and school district representatives. Petitions may also be filed on parents of younger children and the parent can be held in contempt of court for failure to support the court order and getting their children to school.

## **AT RISK YOUTH** – Funded by State

The purpose of At Risk Youth legislation is to assist and enable parents to gain control of their children and to empower parents to keep their children at home or in an alternative placement of their choice through the use of court intervention. Youth who are demonstrating self destructive or high risk behavior but who are not under the official supervision of the court can, through an "At Risk" petition filed by the parent, be brought under the supervision of the court. Our Youth-at-Risk Probation Officer provides liaison and case work services for these youth and their families. Youth served through this program are usually 12 to 17 years old who have serious conflict with parents, school issues with academics or attendance, frequently run away from home, may have drug/alcohol issues, or be assaultive towards family members.

## **PREVENTION/INTERVENTION**

Many youth and/or their parents refer themselves to our office for assistance in dealing with difficult situations or relationships. Services for these clients are provided with the purpose of avoiding an escalation that could lead to later delinquency or family breakdown.

## **LEGAL PROCESS/DEPUTY COURT CLERKS** – Funded equally by County and State

The administrative unit's Legal Processing Assistants also serve as Deputy Court Clerks, being sworn and deputized by the Clallam County Superior Court Clerk. Legal Process Assistants work simultaneously with the Superior Court Clerk's Office, mirroring a majority of the Clerk's Office duties but only as it relates to children under the age of eighteen. All juvenile court filings covering the areas of Juvenile Offender, Truancy, Children In Need of Services, At Risk Youth,

Native American Validation/Certification, Dependency, Guardianship, and Termination of Parental Rights matters are received and processed by our clerks/legal processing assistants.

Being an extension of the Clerk's Office mandates that duties include but are not limited to record maintenance, update and correction, publications, warrants, notice and summons, discovery information, DOL abstracts, acting as courtroom clerk, abiding by local court rules, and maintaining confidentiality and accuracy of all aspects of the judicial records.

Working closely with the County's Prosecuting Attorney's Office, members of the local bar association, Tribal Representatives, the State Department of Social & Health Services and the State's Attorney General's Office necessitates the continuous updating of legal knowledge and procedures as mandated by the local and State judicial representatives.

## **COURT APPOINTED SPECIAL ADVOCATE (CASA)** – Funded by County and State

The CASA program is coordinated by two Probation Officers assigned to this unit. Coordination involves recruitment, training, and supervision of community volunteers for two purposes:

- 1) Appointment by the Court to represent the best interests of the minor child in dependency actions in juvenile court (RCW Title 13).
- 2) Appointment by the Court to investigate and provide information needed by the court for making decisions regarding the best interests of the minor child in paternity, dissolution, and other actions in family court (RCW Title 26).

The community volunteers servicing these assignments commit as many hours as are needed to investigate and report to the Court on their findings – some cases requiring hundreds of hours in one year. They attend all court hearings and are a party in most actions. These volunteers are highly screened, trained, and supported as they interact closely with the community agencies involved in the lives of the families to which they are assigned. As “the eyes and ears of the court” these professional quality volunteers render services to their assigned youth and to Superior Court in the most cost-effective manner possible.

## **FAMILY COURT** – Funded by County

The unified Family Court system was developed in January, 1991. It deals with offender, dependency, paternity, adoptions, and domestic issues. The purpose of this system is to consolidate all juvenile and family services under one system. Focusing on issues as family concerns rather than individual provides better coordination and treatment applications. Accountability and treatment are the main focus. Swift accountability is essential in dealing with youth and this system provides that as well as more complete knowledge of the family dynamics.

## **LIFT COURT/FAMILY THERAPUETIC COURT** – Funded by County

LIFT (Living In Families Together) Court is a specialized court for families in the dependency process. With a unified team approach extra emphasis is put on parents and children to assist in reunification of families. Similar in some respects to Drug Court approach but different as this is non-criminal and the focus is on addiction, housing, children, and family reunification.

## **DRUG COURT** – Funded by County and State

The first juvenile drug court in the Northwest started July 1, 1997, in Clallam County. Initially, a federal grant was received to apply this specialized approach to drug/alcohol cases. Drug Court uses a team approach to provide individual case management and treatment needs. The Judge is actively involved in staffing’s and weekly hearings with the clients. A Juvenile Services Case Manager is an integral part of the Drug Court Team and provides case management services to Drug Court clients.

## **JUVENILE CORRECTIONS** – Funded by County and State

The juvenile corrections facility is a secured facility with 22 single offender beds and up to 32 when doubled. Juveniles who are admitted are court ordered into our facility or meet our intake screening criteria. Our major responsibilities are to provide a safe and secure facility for youths held in custody as well as services such as food, clothing, medical care, educational opportunities, recreational opportunities, religious opportunities, and necessary resources for other specific needs. Structured activities are scheduled and limited free time is available.

Our corrections facility is staffed by highly-trained professional Juvenile Corrections Officers who all meet state requirements and are certified by the Juvenile Corrections Academy. In addition, ongoing training keeps officers updated on the latest standards and techniques assuring safety and security of incarcerated youth.

**Orientation:** Once a youth is admitted into our facility, they go through an orientation procedure to familiarize them with our facility and what is expected of them. We currently operate a level system which ties expectation with behavior. Youth move up or down the level system based on their attitude, behavior, cooperation and interaction with staff and other detained youths. Higher levels allow the youths more time out of their rooms in the later afternoon, evenings, weekends, and supervised work and/or school release.

**Medical:** A contract with Correctional Healthcare Companies, specializing in correctional medicine, provides nursing services five days per week for medical consultation and screening, and general medical services to ensure all medical needs of detained youth are addressed in a timely manner. A physician is on-call for consultation, treating advanced medical conditions, and provides complete physicals as needed.

**Mental Health:** All youth admitted to Detention receive a mental health screening. Crisis intervention services are provided by Peninsula Behavioral Health; and clients may see an in house True Star Mental Health Counselor upon request.

**School:** The school program is operated by the ESD114 and available to all youths and operates five days a week. Periods 1-5 in the morning cover the academics. Afternoon classes involve crafts, drug/alcohol, anger management, and health. Our school program achieves one of the highest rates of completion for those qualified to take the GED. Special coordination for students that are in public school is also a structured program to help assure studies are managed while in detained in the corrections facility.

**Secure Crisis Residential Center (SCRC):** The State-funded SCRC is a separate six-bed unit in the corrections center and provides a secure, safe environment for non-offender youth who are runaways or in family crisis. This unit also holds non-offender contempt cases. During the youth's stay an assessment is administered to determine and coordinate needed services with community agencies. Our center is one of only two SCRC units within a corrections facility.

**Religious Coordinator:** Non-denominational religious counseling is available to all youth through the Port Angeles Ministerial Association. The chaplaincy service helps youth with counseling topics that are religion based as well as generic issues.

## **TRUE STAR BEHAVIORAL HEALTH SERVICES** – Funded by Other Revenue

True Star Behavioral Health is a state licensed Behavioral Health Program (certified 8/1/98) with several components serving juveniles through 18 years of age. Managed by a Clinical Director who is licensed as a Marriage & Family Therapist, (LMFT), Mental Health Counselor (LMHC), and as a Chemical Dependency Professional (CDP), True Star Behavioral Health provides youth and families with excellent chemical dependency, mental health and family treatment services provided by highly trained and licensed CDPs and MFTs. In the past few years services have been expanded due to an increase in state and Medicaid funding as well as a DBHR/SAMHSA grant collaboration. This expansion includes care management services and funding to support recovery support services for youth enrolled in CD treatment.

True Star is also answering to the need for more intensive residential treatment services by providing extensive treatment to True Star clients when they are being detained in custody. Our detention based services have even been utilized by out of county youth who were unable to access residential treatment in a timely manner. While in detention these youth receive up to 3 hours a day of counseling as well as recovery support services. These “treatment” youth also receive the benefits of regular detention programming such as education, structure, medical attention and outside programming.

### **True Star Behavioral Health Services offers the following services:**

**Alcohol/Drug/Mental Health Assessments:** We assess youth aged 12-18 for alcohol, drug and mental health problems and make recommendations based upon these findings.

**Chemical Dependency Assessments and Treatment Placements:** This program provides assessment and referral to inpatient and/or outpatient programs for one year of treatment services.

**Outpatient Treatment:** Includes three phases of a recovery program with attendance of one to three days per week depending on the need of the youth. Anger management and life skills groups for youth as well as job referrals may be included as part of the treatment plan.

**Co-Occurring Treatment, Mental Health Counseling, Family & Individual Counseling:** True Star offers a wide variety of assessment and counseling options to better serve juveniles and families with chemical dependency and mental health needs. This program includes collaboration with Peninsula Behavioral Health and West End Outreach. Funding for these services is provided by the 1/10 of 1% MHDA tax implemented by Clallam County.

**SAMHSA/DBHR Grant Project:** In October of 2012 True Star was awarded a multi-year grant to implement enhanced treatment services for youth. The grant project was designed to validate the belief that young people are best able to maintain their recovery if their addiction is treated as a chronic condition rather than an acute one. When treated as an acute condition, the young person is sent through a course of treatment until sobriety has been maintained for a determined period and then they are released from treatment. Often relapse occurs because the youth has never found resources and a new healthy lifestyle to replace their prior addiction.

Various Evidence Based Practices (EPBs) are implemented as part of treatment as well as the development of community and family resources, and other support services.

True Star treatment includes the Adolescent Community Reinforcement Approach (ACRA) treatment model as well as the GAIN co-occurring conditions assessment and screening tool. These combined services help us to identify the youth's mental health and chemical dependency diagnosis and needs, upon which a treatment plan is built. Treatment includes individual, group and family sessions to help guide the youth toward replacing unhealthy choices for healthy and pro-social ones.

The grant includes funding for a care management coordinator as well as recovery support services funding for each client in the program. With this personal support and funding we are able to identify and address individual needs for and barriers to successful recovery.

It is our hope that youth in recovery will be best served when they find sober life at least as, if not much more, rewarding than ever before.

### **True Star Recovery Intensive Program (TRIP)**

True Star offers a middle step between "Intensive Out Patient" (IOP) and residential Services for True Star clients who are eligible to be court ordered to detention. These youth may sometimes be able to postpone or avoid youth inpatient by serving their recovery time in custody while receiving detention based treatment services. These youth may also take advantage of parent visitation and family counseling; something that would be otherwise very challenging if they were to go to a residential program outside the county. These youth also receive recovery support services and care management while they are detained,

### **VOLUNTEERS**

Juvenile & Family Services encourages and uses volunteers in several of our programs including CASA, Diversion Accountability Boards, Teen Court, Ministry Services, and through support groups such as Alcoholics Anonymous and Narcotics Anonymous.

Volunteer hours number in the thousands each year and we have approximately 100 volunteers actively participating in our programs. With the help of these community members who want to make a difference in the lives of children and families, we are able to provide services that would not otherwise be possible. In appreciation, an annual volunteer recognition dinner is sponsored by the agency and staff and occurs in April.