

DUTCHESS COUNTY
DEPARTMENT OF
COMMUNITY & FAMILY SERVICES,
YOUTH SERVICE DIVISION

The mission of the Division of Youth Services is to assure every youth an equal opportunity to attain his/her full potential. We provide services to youth & families in order to strengthen community and family support with the overall goal of attaining positive youth development.

We provide, free, confidential short-term supportive services for Dutchess County Youth ages 4 to 21 years, who are dealing with personal, family, or school difficulties. We also provide workshops to community and youth groups on various topics such as diversity education, how to express anger, communication skills, and healthy relationships.



For additional information:
scan the QR code or
call (845) 486-3024



Dutchess County Department of
Community and Family Services
Division of Youth Services
85 Civic Center Plaza
Poughkeepsie, New York 12601
(845) 486-3024
(845) 486-3288 (fax)



Raising The Lower Age of Juvenile Delinquency

A Differential Response for Children & Their Families



Youth Services
Dutchess County
Department of
Community and Family Services

RAISING THE LOWER AGE OF JUVENILE DELINQUENCY – A DIFFERENTIAL RESPONSE FOR CHILDREN AND THEIR FAMILIES.

Children 7 through 11 years old, in most circumstances, are no longer being sent to probation department or family court through the juvenile justice system related to behaviors that would otherwise be considered crimes.



These eligible children and their families will be offered a differential response to best support their needs. Family participation is voluntary. When safety concerns are identified, the family will be offered interventions to resolve these.

THE DIFFERENTIAL RESPONSE WILL INCLUDE:

- Contact with the family to gather information to make an eligibility determination (if not eligible, the family would be provided other assistance based on their needs).
- Assessment of the child's and family's strengths and needs,
- Development of a supportive plan with the eligible child and family. Differential Response plans are voluntary in nature.
- Support the family as they make initial contact with agreed upon service providers, including services to address any identified safety concerns,
- Check-ins with the family and service providers regarding the child's progress.



POSSIBLE SUPPORTS FAMILIES MAY BE CONNECTED TO INCLUDE, BUT ARE NOT LIMITED TO:

- Positive youth development opportunities.
- Restorative practices and programs.
- Mediation services.
- Clinical interventions.
- Wraparound supports for children with complex needs.
- Peer supports.
- Assistance with food/clothing/shelter needs.
- Respite services

