

For more information about our programs, or to volunteer, please call the office in your community.

Local Offices

All in area code 248

Avondale	852-3716
Berkley	837-8229
Birmingham	203-4300
Bloomfield	341-5680
Brandon/Groveland	627-1873
Clarkston	623-4319
Clawson	655-4401
Farmington	489-3434
Ferndale	586-8700
Hazel Park.....	582-9125
Holly	328-3181
Huron Valley.....	676-8492
Lakes Area	956-5070
Madison.....	589-6860
Novi	347-0410
Oak Park	336-7679
Orion	693-6878
Oxford	969-5186
Pontiac	451-7549
Rochester.....	656-3558
Royal Oak	546-8282
South Lyon.....	573-8189
Southfield	746-7658
Troy.....	823-5095
Waterford	618-7383
West Bloomfield	592-1278
Central Office	858-0051
Volunteer Programs	858-0041

Oakland County Youth Assistance

Administration

The Oakland County Youth Assistance Program is administered under the auspices of the Oakland County Circuit Court-Family Division. Principal funding is provided through the Oakland County Board of Commissioners.

Kevin Oeffner
Court Administrator

David Bilson
Deputy Court Administrator

Mary Schusterbauer
Chief of Youth Assistance

Oakland County does not discriminate on the basis of disability in admission or access to its programs, activities or services as required by Title II of the Americans With Disabilities Act of 1990. Oakland County is an Equal Employment Opportunity Employer.



Oakland County

Strengthening Families
Through Community Involvement

Oakland County Youth Assistance
1200 N. Telegraph Road
Building 14 East
Pontiac, Michigan 48341-0452
Phone: (248) 858-0051
Fax: (248) 858-1493

Mission Statement

To strengthen youth and families and to reduce the incidence of delinquency, abuse, and neglect through community involvement.

Program Structure

Youth Assistance programs are community-based, and developed by volunteers who live and/or work in the communities in which they serve. The Circuit Court provides the professional staff to work with the volunteers and to provide direct casework services. Each local Youth Assistance program operates under the sponsorship and financial support of its local school district, the municipalities therein, and Circuit Court-Family Division. Additional funding is obtained through grants, donations, and local fund-raising efforts.

The Oakland County Youth Assistance Coordinating Council, Inc. provides advice, consultation, and support to the Central Office and to the local Youth Assistance Boards. The Council provides training for local officers and coordinates county-wide events. It seeks and distributes grant monies to the local Boards and facilitates in an insurance policy for all Boards.

Casework Services

Youth Assistance provides confidential, short-term, family-centered counseling and referral services for young people, 16 years of age or younger and their families, who live or attend school in Oakland County. Referrals are accepted from schools, police, neighbors, and parents themselves with concerns about their child. The Family Division's Intake Unit diverts cases when, in their judgment, Youth Assistance services are most appropriate. Typical reasons for referral include retail fraud, school and home problems, assault, alcohol and other drug abuse, and violations of local ordinances.



Family Education

Youth Assistance offers a variety of programs all aimed at improving communication between parents and their children, understanding child development, and enhancing parenting skills. By offering a variety of programs, families can choose the program that meets their needs at the time, and can continue to attend sessions as their children grow and change, presenting new issues that need to be addressed. These programs are frequently co-sponsored by other community groups, libraries and/or the local schools.



Mentors Plus



Adult volunteers are matched with a youngster, age 5 to 17, on a one-to-one mentoring basis. Adult applicants are screened and trained prior to placement. Additional training and consultation are provided throughout the match period.

Each adult volunteer is asked to commit 1-2 hours per week with a match for at least one year. In addition, group and countywide activities are held. Many matches extend far beyond the initial commitment.

Skill Building

Youth Assistance provides scholarships to youth who would benefit from a positive learning experience, designed to enhance their self-esteem, and a specific skill such as math and reading tutoring, dance, voice, musical instrument or art lessons. The scholarships are tailored to meet the unique needs of each youth who participates.



Recreation and After-Schools Programs

Youth Assistance offers enjoyable recreational activities for young people and their families throughout the year, e.g., Teen Centers, After-School, and Field Trip programs. Often, these are conducted in conjunction with other groups or institutions in the communities, including local school districts and Municipal Parks & Recreation Departments.



Youth Recognition

Young people are recognized for making positive, volunteer contributions to their communities. Nominations come from schools, hospitals, churches, fire and police departments, and private citizens who have been helped by a youth. Local, county, and state dignitaries participate in making these events very special.

Camping

Camp scholarships are provided to young people who are in need of either a day camp or overnight experience. Some camps are right in the community, while others require transportation. They include specialty camps, such as basketball clinics and music camps, to those designed to improve math, science, and computer skills, and others where young people learn to interact while fishing, hiking and sitting by a camp fire roasting marshmallows.



Youth Involvement

Young people with adult guidance take on projects in their communities to assist senior citizens and other youth and families. In doing so, they make their communities better places to live.