



YOUTH AT RISK



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Please visit our website (www.caastlc.org) to find out more about our agency. It contains information on our programs and services, eligibility and income guidelines, required documentation, outreach sites, directions, upcoming events, employment opportunities, and more!

If you do not have Internet access at home, stop by your local library. The internet is available to use with a valid library card or current form of identification. Library cards are easy to obtain and are free to those living and paying taxes in their library district.

**CAASTLC, Inc. is the
Community Action Agency for
St. Louis County**



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YOUTH AT RISK

The purpose of the Risk Program is to prevent young people from becoming involved with gangs and illegal or violent activities. Prevention and intervention services are offered to youth and their families in their communities. This program sets the foundation for a community-based comprehensive nonviolent/gang prevention approach. This program is intended for youth that are *at risk* of involvement in, or are involved in, gang activities, violence, illegal acts and/or other related activities.

PROGRAM COMPONENTS

Education - Presentations in the classroom

Intervention - Home-based case management

Stabilization - Continual home visits and special activities

Empowerment - Program participants becoming role models and mentors

Education

Our program utilizes preventative services that teach children in the early stages of development. Our preventative services include classroom presentations that focus on five topics that youth are faced with today:

1. Violence Prevention
2. Gang Prevention
3. Conflict Resolution
4. Peer Pressure
5. Communication Among Peers/Adults

Currently we are in our fifth year of conducting services to youth in the St. Louis County area.

Intervention

Individual case management is provided for a limited number of families. We assist youth and their families with goal setting, behavior modification plans and positive activities to increase self-esteem and decrease problematic behavior.

Additionally, children work on their own goals which they chose. This family strength intervention is coordinated and supported by the child's teacher, school counselor, and other support services staff involved with the family.

Stabilization

Individual case management services continue for the family as long as needed. Services continue throughout the summer in conjunction with summer school schedules and follow the children into their new grade in the fall. Referral services are also provided to establish a holistic approach with connecting our participants with other social service providers. Services we assist our families with include housing, employment, food, tutoring, summer enrichment programs (youth substance counseling, 3-on-3 basketball tournaments) and other related stabilization programs.

Empowerment

Once our participants have gone through our program, they may become peer mentors to others in their school or community. The philosophy behind this mentoring approach is we are investing in the future by empowering our youth participants to take an active role in changing their lives and the lives of others.

COLLABORATION

Currently we are working with four school districts in the St. Louis County area: Hazelwood, Hancock Place, Ritenour and Riverview Gardens. Other collaboration partners include: St. Louis County Police Department; Deputy Juvenile Officers; St. Louis County Juvenile Detention Facility in Clayton, MO; St. Louis County Youth Services; Ceasefire Initiative in St. Louis; and St. Louis County, Missouri Juvenile Justice Associations.

For more information about these programs, please contact:

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