

The Washington County Youth Service Bureau/Boys & Girls Club

The Washington County Youth Service Bureau/Boys & Girls Club is a private, non-profit organization that has assisted young people and families since 1974. The Bureau is governed by a 9-member volunteer Board of Directors and is supported by private, local, state, and federal grants, Medicaid and other insurance, donations, and fundraising. Most of our services are free. For those requiring payment, we accept some private insurances and Medicaid, and offer a sliding fee scale. No one is turned away because they cannot pay.

The Bureau offers prevention services to help young people succeed; intervention services to help them negotiate challenges; and treatment services to address problems that are interfering with their health and development. The Bureau achieves this through a variety of programs including: youth & family counseling; a program for runaway youth; a transitional living program for homeless youth; an adolescent substance abuse treatment program; a teen parent program; a transitional living program for young men returning from jail; two teen centers; and a 24 hour crisis service. Each year, the Bureau serves approximately 1500 youth and their families in Washington County.

The WCYSB values an approach that includes a high level of youth participation, is responsive to community needs, and offers assistance when and where it is needed. The Bureau's mission is: "To provide a wide range of innovative and effective programs that empower and enrich the lives of youth and families in Washington County, and to provide leadership and support to other youth programs throughout Vermont."

In the role of providing leadership and support to youth programs throughout Vermont, The WCYSB operates a number of statewide coalitions and programs that deliver resources, train staff and connect providers under strong unified leadership. The Vermont Coalition of Runaway & Homeless Youth Programs helps develop community-based capacity to serve runaway and homeless youth. The Youth Development Program assists youth in the transition from foster care. Vermont Youth Tomorrow and the Vermont Youth Development Corps places AmeriCorps and VISTA members at youth and family service sites across the state. Through our statewide program, we dramatically impact local community capacity to serve approximately 25,000 youth and families throughout Vermont.