

Douglas County **Statistics***

Top 3 offenses committed by Juveniles in Douglas County:

- ✓ Theft by Shoplifting
- ✓ Disorderly Conduct
- ✓ Alcohol/Drug Related

Top three Risk Factors:

- Use of Leisure Time
- Peer Relations
- Education

*From 2006 JAC
Calendar Year Evaluation

JAC

Partially funded by
Nebraska Crime Commission

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DOUGLAS COUNTY

JUVENILE ASSESSMENT CENTER



The Douglas County Juvenile Assessment Center is dedicated to improving the lives of juveniles by helping to strengthen and support children and families who are involved, or at risk of becoming involved with the juvenile justice system.

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WHAT IS THE JUVENILE ASSESSMENT CENTER?

The **Douglas County Juvenile Assessment Center (JAC)** is designed to serve as the focal point for comprehensive assessment and case management. The JAC Specialists assess the youth's risks and needs and provide the County Attorney with recommendations for services. Juveniles arrested or cited and released by law enforcement are scheduled for an appointment within a few weeks of the initial contact with law enforcement. By facilitating earlier and more efficient prevention and intervention services at the front end of the system, the potential to impact the lives of youth positively and divert them from the path of serious delinquency improves.

Douglas County

JAC's Approach

- Juvenile is arrested/cited with law violation or referred to JAC with a status offense.
- Juvenile are assessed using standardized, objective assessment instruments (YLS/CMI and MAYSI-2) to identify risk of re-offense, needs, education-related problems, strengths and protective factors.
- Assessment results drive the justice system's response to the juvenile.
- JAC recommends a response to the County Attorney which accounts for the juvenile's individual circumstances.
- County Attorney reviews all JAC recommendations and provides final approval for Diversion Case Plans.
- Emphasis is on matching the juvenile's needs with treatment, rehabilitation, and supervision, which diminishes the likelihood of re-offense, as well as providing support and tools to enable each youth to become a more responsible and productive citizen.
- Community Agencies and Service Providers develop program capacity which gives the justice system a wide selection of options for juveniles to meet each individual youth's specific and unique needs.
- Philosophy is to intervene as early, effectively and often as possible to disrupt the juvenile's progress as a law violator.

Referral Programs, Services and Activities In the Community

- ✓ Anger Management
- ✓ Apology Letters
- ✓ Chemical Dependency Evaluations
- ✓ Chemical Dependency Treatment
- ✓ Community Service
- ✓ Counseling
- ✓ Decision Making Classes
- ✓ Defensive Driving Classes
- ✓ Detention Facility Tours
- ✓ Drug and Alcohol Testing
- ✓ Essay Assignments
- ✓ Fire Starter Programming
- ✓ Gang Intervention
- ✓ Gender Specific Programming
- ✓ Mediation (Victim/Offender)
- ✓ Mentoring
- ✓ Psychological Evaluations
- ✓ Recreational Activities
- ✓ School Activities
- ✓ School Success Class
- ✓ Teen Court
- ✓ Tutoring
- ✓ Tracking
- ✓ Victim Empathy Classes
- ✓ Wrap-Around Service