

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS:

What is the Surry County Office on Youth?

The Surry County Office on Youth is a department of the Surry County government. It aims to enhance the quality of life for Surry County youth and families by promoting positive youth development, increasing developmental assets, and reducing risk factors. The department addresses youth concerns, assesses needs for services, increases community collaboration, assists in the establishment of effective programs for youth and their families, and provides information and referrals to those in need. The department is advised by a nine member Youth Services Citizen Board.

What types of programs are provided by the Office on Youth?

The Surry County Office on Youth offers programs for youth and families based upon the needs that have been identified through data, statistics and assessments. The department offers an array of programs to meet the needs of children, youth, and adults. Programs are provided in the areas of youth/mentoring, families/community, education/training, and health/public safety.

Can individuals participate in programs offered by the Office on Youth who are not residents of the county?

Yes, many of the services provided by the Office on Youth are open to the public. However, certain programs may have restrictions based on funding requirements or space availability.

Are there any fees to participate?

The majority of the programs and services are free. On some occasions, there may be a fee for special events.

How do I participate? Does the department accept referrals? Youth or adults who would like to participate in programs or services offered by the Office on Youth may contact the department at 757-294-5278, Monday through Friday, between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m. A program participation form must be completed by parents for their child(ren). Volunteers are also needed on a regular basis but an application and back ground check will need to be completed before individuals are allowed to assist us. Yes, referrals are accepted from other agencies, groups, parents, and individuals. Court Services, School, and Social services referrals are accepted on an ongoing basis.

Who is eligible for services?

Occasionally, some of our programs may have a specific focus based on funding, but the majority of the Surry County Office on Youth programs are open to "all" individuals, regardless of income, race, age, sex, religion, disability or national origin.

Where are programs delivered?

The Office on Youth is available upon request to assist agencies, schools, organizations, churches, and other groups at their site. Our primary service area is Surry County; however, services may be provided in other areas on a case by case basis. Through our collaborative partnerships with other regional, statewide, and national entities we are able to provide services to a broader audience.