

Penalties

In choosing a consequence, the JAD Board will consider the nature of the offense(s), behavior(s), and any special circumstances. The Board will then decide on a plan for the youth and give a deadline for the youth and the parent/guardian to fulfill the requirements. Activities to complete could include one or more of the following:

- ◆ Complete one-on-one counseling sessions
- ◆ Evaluation/therapy referrals
- ◆ Completing community service
- ◆ Attending awareness/educational programs
- ◆ Writing a letter(s) of apology
- ◆ Writing an essay(s)
- ◆ Attending group counseling
- ◆ Other services deemed appropriate by the Board.

Juvenile Assistance and Diversion Board Members and Staff

- ◆ Meriden Health Department, Youth Services Division
- ◆ Meriden Police Department
- ◆ Meriden Public Schools
- ◆ Department of Children and Families
- ◆ Superior Court for Juvenile Matters
- ◆ Non-profit agencies
- ◆ Volunteers
- ◆ Citizens of Meriden

The Youth Services Division Caseworker will:

- ◆ Process all cases referred to the Board
- ◆ Watch the progress of youth in the program
- ◆ Start prevention and intervention services
- ◆ Complete follow-ups with youth that have successfully finished the requirements that will close their case



Meriden Health Department

Youth Services Division

Juvenile Assistance and Diversion Program (JAD)

165 Miller Street
Meriden, CT 06450

www.meridenhealth.com

The Meriden Juvenile Assistance and Diversion Board, also known as JAD, provides a community-based alternative and diversionary program for youth offenders that are at-risk of being referred to Juvenile Court.

Program Goals:

- ◆ Reduce the number of youth referred to Superior Court, Juvenile Matters, for minor offenses.
- ◆ Provide timely and appropriate options to youth that addresses their at-risk and/or illegal behaviors.
- ◆ Provide prevention and intervention services that promote positive personal growth and development.

Who Is Eligible for the Program?

JAD is designed to serve Meriden youth under the age of 18. Youth are referred by the Meriden Police Department or the Board of Education for offenses, infractions, or City ordinance violations.

Confidentiality

Once the case is closed, the Board will not disclose at any meeting or hearing:

- ◆ Conversations
- ◆ Records
- ◆ Information reviewed or heard

Information at meetings and hearing will be kept confidential and will only be used to help the Board carry out its duties.

There will be no further release of the above items, except where allowed by state law or with a properly executed written release done by the Board.

Role of Parents/Guardians

Parents and guardians should know the expectations of the JAD program:

- ◆ The child must admit to the charge(s) or behavior(s) in order to be considered to be seen by the JAD Board.
- ◆ The parent or guardian must complete consent and liability forms for program participation.
- ◆ A brief family background will be completed by the JAD Board Caseworker.



Important!

It is very important that parents/guardians understand that if the choice is made for the child's case to go before JAD, all due process rights will be waived, including legal council. The child must accept his or her consequences and not argue the case.