

How to Start a Youth Services Committee

Youth Services Possible Issues:

Substance use and abuse, stress management, depression and suicide, child abuse prevention, tobacco use, teen driving issues, eating disorders, steroid use, after school programs, safety issues (biking, walking to school, fire safety, bus safety, predators, internet dangers, dating dangers, bullying and teasing) prejudice and discrimination issues,, high school dropouts, absenteeism, runaway/missing children, peer pressure, teen sexuality issues, terrorism, school discipline, violence in school, etc.

Youth Services Committee Responsibilities:

Identify the issues in your school that need to be addressed by surveying the students. They will be eager to let you know the issues that are important to them. Use the results from the survey to create a plan for your school. Provide resources and services to meet the needs of the students in your school.

Learn all you can about the issues facing our young people in today's society. Research, attend workshops, visit relevant websites and seek out leaders in these areas in your community. Be sure to check out the Leadership Resources- Committees Chairs section of the Georgia PTA website (www.georgiapta.org) for suggestions of activities that can be done at the elementary, middle and high school level.

Collaborate with other leaders:

Talk to others interested in supporting the students. Counselors, social workers, teachers, administrators, parents and community leaders should be involved in your planning. Consider coordinating your activities with other local units and councils.

Share your programs and activities with other PTA leaders

Contact other youth services leaders in Georgia to spread the good things you are doing. In order to truly make a difference, we must all work together. Let me know what you are doing so that I may support you and highlight your programs on the Georgia PTA website.