

Mission Statement

The Vernon Youth Services Bureau is a Town of Vernon Department dedicated to providing:

Program Coordination

Information and Referral

Prevention Services

Early Intervention Services

Resource Development

Community Involvement

Youth Advocacy

YSB Staff Members

Alan Slobodien—Director

Kim McTighe—Prevention Specialist

Oz Ramos—Youth Counselor

Kendra Drew—Program Assistant

Office Hours:

Monday—Wednesday
8:30a.m. — 4:30p.m.

Thursday
8:30a.m. — 6:30p.m.

Friday
8:30a.m. — 1:30p.m.

Vernon
Youth
Services
Bureau



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Vernon, CT 06066
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Building Success Through Community Collaboration

Youth Services Goals

I. COORDINATION OF SERVICES

Through coordination with local, regional and state services, Vernon Youth Services Bureau will guide youth and their families to needed services such as:

- **Mental Health Counseling**
- **Early Childhood Education Services**
- **Nutrition Programs**
- **Problem Assessment**
- **Education on Youth Issues**
- **Prevention Programs**
- **Substance Abuse Counseling**
- **Juvenile Court Process**
- **Other Services as Requested**

II. Community Networking

The Youth Services Bureau takes a leadership role in creating a coordinated network of community services. This goal is accomplished through the YSB involvement and membership on a variety of boards and commissions. Examples include membership on:

- Vernon School Readiness Collaborative
- Vernon Drug & Alcohol Prevention Council
- Vernon Community Network
- CT Youth Services Association

III. Youth Services Programs

The Vernon YSB advocates for the healthy development of children, youth and families through providing a variety of programs that focus on preventing problem behaviors.

Examples of these programs include:

Peer Advocate Program

The Peer Advocate Program provides training for Rockville High School students to become role model helpers for their peer group. Peer Advocates are trained in an intensive course to provide the following services:

- Crisis Intervention
- Mentoring
- One to One Helping
- Tutoring
- New Student Tours
- Intergenerational Community Programs

Peer Advocates work with elementary, middle and high school students in both group and one to one settings.



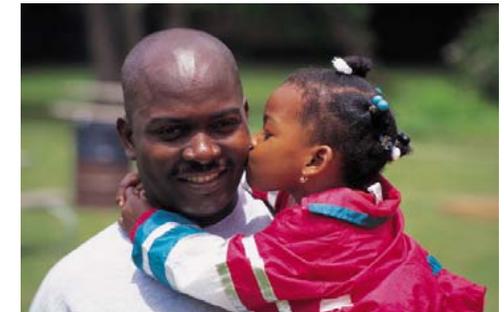
Truancy Intervention

The Vernon Youth Services Bureau works closely with the Vernon Public Schools to assist children attend school regularly. Students who are not attending school can be referred to the Truancy Intervention Program and receive a variety of in-school and community-based services. Our Youth Counselor will meet with students in school, at home and at the Youth Services office. This program is offered to children attending the five elementary schools in Vernon. Involvement in the Truancy Intervention Program is voluntary.

After-School Program

Helping children with healthy development through after-school programming is an important goal for the Vernon Youth Services Bureau. Through this program, the YSB offers elementary aged youth the opportunity to learn and have fun in a setting that is well-supervised and well-structured. The YSB after-school program is offered at our 9 Elm Street office. Children attending our after-school program will:

- Learn Social Skills
- Enjoy Recreational Activities
- Benefit from Homework Support
- Participate in Field Trips
- Assist in Community Service Projects
- And Much More!



Early Childhood Education

The Youth Services Bureau co-chairs the Vernon School Readiness Collaborative. The Collaborative is responsible for helping the community understand the need to achieve and continuously improve high quality pre-school education programming and smooth transition from pre-school to kindergarten. This is accomplished through coordinating professional development for pre-school teachers. Through its public awareness activities, the Collaborative informs Vernon residents about the importance of high quality pre-school education. Contact our School Readiness Project Manager for more information.