

Avenues for Justice is a pioneer Alternative to Incarceration (ATI) program which, since 1979, has diverted thousands of NYC youth (ages 13-24) from a punitive criminal justice system to a community based services program designed to help them desist from future crime and build successful lives.

AFJ WORKS WITH THE FOLLOWING CLIENT POPULATIONS:

- **COURT-INVOLVED (ATI):** Serves participants after they have entered the system and includes re-entry for youth in detention.
- **AT-RISK:** Serves participants who are at risk of entering the system

OUTCOMES FY '21

95%

ATI participants are NOT reconvicted of a crime three years after enrollment at AFJ.

\$5,750

The annual cost of receiving ATI services at AFJ compared to the annual cost of \$450,000.

17,000

Staff Encounters made with AFJ ATI participants.

400+

Average annual number of youth served in last three years

42

Youth had their case dismissed or reduced.

50+

Youth received certifications in Digital Literacy, OSHA 30 or Mental Health 101.

203

Referrals were made to third party providers

30+

ATI Participants got a job

AFJ's INTERVENTION MODEL



COURTROOM REPOSE & INTAKE:

AFJ's headquarters are in the Manhattan Criminal Courthouse where staff can quickly assess a youth's needs and strengths and appear before the Judge to advocate that they be diverted to our program rather than incarceration. AFJ assigns a dedicated Court Advocate and together, they create an Individual Action Plan (IAP) based on their needs.



ON-GOING COURT ADVOCACY:

The Court Advocate engages in intensive case management so that they receive the full range of services included in the IAP, including mentoring, educational support, third party counseling, workshops and vocational support through our HIRE UP program. The Court Advocate appears in Court regularly to report on the Participant's progress.



HIRE UP TRAINING, EDUCATION & MENTAL HEALTH:

AFJ provides HIRE UP services both online and at our centers for: Digital Literacy with certification; OSHA 30-Hour training; Videography, Legal Rights & Responsibilities; Mental health workshops and individual sessions; Civics and leadership development; Tutoring and educational assistance.



COMPLETION OF COURT MANDATE & ATI SERVICES:

The Court Advocate and the Participant work together to achieve a favorable court disposition which could include a dismissal, reduction, or adjudication as a Youthful Offender which seals the Participant's criminal record.

When Participants successfully complete their court mandate, AFJ continues to work with them to achieve their educational or employment goals in their IAP.

As a result Participants stay at AFJ for 2.5 years, on average, far longer than the court mandates.

AFJ'S Mission is to keep NYC youth out of prison by 1. **Intervene to divert and reclaim young people** from lives of crime, 2. Provide an overloaded court system with a **reliable alternative to incarceration**, and 3. **To make NYC safer for everyone.**

WWW.AVENUESFORJUSTICE.ORG

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