

An Educational Alternative

The Diversion Program offers youth an opportunity to rethink their decision to use substances.

Educating teens about the dangerous effects of using alcohol, marijuana and tobacco, and helping them develop a plan for making low-risk choices will have a far greater impact on our teens and the community than a monetary fine and/ or a school suspension.

"Participating in the Diversion Program allowed my son to be able to think about the consequences of his adult actions without paying for them like an adult."

Our Mission

TCMHS is committed to providing the people of Maine with excellence in mental health, substance abuse, habilitation and life skills services, respecting consumer rights, personal dignity and maintaining agency financial stability.

Tri-County Mental Health Services endorses Recovery Based Trauma Informed services, which recognizes two common themes for consumers of this agency: that violence and the resulting trauma are pervasive and should be acknowledged; and there is hope in Recovery.

www.tcmhs.org

TCMHS is an EOE and receives funding from:
Department of Health & Human Services



Diversion Program

For First-Time
Juvenile Offenders

of Alcohol, Tobacco and Marijuana
Violations

*An Educational
Alternative*

Diversión Program

Through self-assessment activities, the Diversión Program offers youth a chance to reflect upon their past choices and behaviors, and to learn positive decision-making skills.

Topics Discussed:

Health Effects of Alcohol, Marijuana, and Tobacco
Understanding Addiction
Making Healthy Decisions
Developing a Plan for Low Risk Choices

Between 2004-2009, the Diversión Program received operational funding from the Drug Free Communities Grant awarded to Healthy Androscoggin and served more than 330 youths.

A pizza lunch is provided during each session!

How Diversión Works:

- If a person under the age of eighteen is found buying, possessing or using tobacco, alcohol or marijuana, he or she may be referred to Diversión in lieu of a court summons.
- A youth may be referred to Diversión by a Police Officer, a Student Resource Officer, a School Administrator or Substance Abuse Counselor, a Parent, or they may refer themselves to the program.
- This program serves youth from Androscoggin County. However, youth from other counties are welcome to attend as long as space is available.

The Diversión Program is a collaboration between Tri-County Mental Health Services, area Schools, and the Lewiston, Auburn and Lisbon Police Departments. The program lasts five hours and is co-facilitated by a substance abuse counselor and a law enforcement officer. A typical program will serve between four and fifteen participants with an average of eight participants per session. It offers youth an opportunity to rethink their decision to use substances.

Special thanks to the Davis Family Foundation for their generous support of the Diversión Program. Without their support this important program wouldn't be possible.

2009-2010 Schedule All classes held on Saturdays 9am-2pm

Date	Location
November 14	Auburn Library
December 12	Lewiston PD
January 9	Lisbon PD
February 13	Auburn Library
March 13	Lewiston PD
April 10	Lisbon PD
May 8	Auburn Library
June 12	Lewiston PD
July 10	Lisbon PD
August 14	Auburn Library
September 11	Lewiston PD
October 16	Lisbon PD

Classes are held at the following locations:

Lewiston Police Department
171 Park Street
Lewiston, ME 04240

Auburn Public Library
49 Spring Street
Auburn, ME 04210

Lisbon Police Department
300 Lisbon Street
Lisbon, ME 04250

To make a referral:

CALL 783-9141 x 356

or

FAX a referral form to 783-4660
(Forms and information are available at www.tcmhs.org)

For more information, call Tri-County Mental Health Services at 783-9141 or visit our website at www.tcmhs.org.