Probation Service Definition

ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE OF THE COURTS & PROBATION

Service Name	**Group Home A** ☐ **Adult** ☒ **Juvenile**
Category	Out-of-Home (OHP) placement/Non-treatment
Setting	Residential
Facility License	Residential Child-Caring Agency (RCCA) license as required by the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) Division of Public Health
Service Description	Group Home A is a licensed, temporary, non-treatment facility providing 24-hour supervision for youth in an age-appropriate, individualized and structured group setting. The Group Home A service is provided by trained staff who **are required** to be awake overnight. Youth in this level of care require consistent behavior management, supervision and support. Staff provide a safe and nurturing environment to help youth facilitate change in their behavior, attitudes and personal interactions.
Service Expectations	• The agency with the youth, probation/problem solving court officer and other stakeholders identified will develop a written individualized service plan based on services referral information (criminogenic risk, needs and responsivity) relevant collateral documentation/assessments and youth goals. • The initial plan will be developed within 72 hours of placement and must address goals to include: behavioral, treatment/evaluation services, medication compliance, education, transition planning, and criminogenic risk levels. • The individualized written plan shall include approval by the probation/problem solving court officer and/or court to allow youth community access to participate in education, treatment and planned supervised outings, home visits, etc. • Based on the plan goals, youth shall be involved in structured programming to include an evidence-based behavior management plan, community support planning, family engagement, teaching/educational interventions, and strategies that aid in individual skill development. • Provide a structured living environment to include evidence-based youth developmental principles (physical, psychological, emotional), community engagement/ support, and family engagement. • The identified team members (parent/guardian/caregiver, and probation/problem solving court officer, formal and informal supports) will participate in monthly family engagement meetings in person or via tele- services. These meetings will provide necessary information on the youth's behavior and progress in-group home as well as assist the family in preparing for the youth's return home or necessary placement. • The agency will document the progress toward the individualized daily program schedule in their reports.

	Probation/ problem solving court officer will verify with staff to determine if progress is being made. If progress is not indicated, the staff shall provide a rationale as to what changes will be made to initiate a plan to increase progress
	• Family engagement shall include regular phone contact and visitation with family members as authorized by probation/problem solving court officer and/or the court. Family engagement shall be flexible to meet the non-traditional hours needed by families. Phone contact and visits shall not be tied to behavior management and shall not be removed as a consequence.
	• Intentional home visits should be planned with the youth, youth's family, foster family, supporting agency, and probation/problem solving court officer and shall be utilized to enhance family functioning and in the achievement of service goals. Home visits shall be in the family home, and the visits shall not be removed as a consequence of behavior.
	• If a youth is gone without permission and does not return or cannot be located within 2 hours, the provider/agency will contact the assigned Probation/problem Solving Court Officer or if occurring after hours, the on-call/after-hours contact identified for that youth. The agency will continue to make efforts to locate and engage with the youth, parent, and probation until the youth is located and/or discharged. Such efforts should be clearly documented and included in the documentation to probation including the dates/hours the youth's whereabouts were unknown, and the efforts made to locate them.
	• A crisis (safety risk/reduction) plan will be developed and updated as needed throughout the service. The youth parent/guardian/caregiver must be able to demonstrate they have the knowledge and skills to implement the crisis plan. The crisis plan will be shared with the probation/problem solving court officer
	• Provide transportation as necessary to and from dental and medical appointments, school, court, therapy, home visits and routine day-to-day activities.
	  • Transportation costs within a 25-mile radius of the service placement (service delivery location) will be the responsibility of the Provider at no additional cost to Probation.
	  • Trips beyond 25 miles requires prior collaborative planning with the probation officer and parent/guardian(s) to guarantee attendance at court, home visits, and other required obligations.
	• The agency will collaborate and proactively plan with the probation/problem solving court officer for the discharge of youth from service, this will plan will begin upon placement. During this process a trauma informed approach will be utilized to prepare the youth for the transition to ensure the most appropriate post-discharge placement is available for the youth prior to discharge. Criteria for discharge will be individualized, determined by the team, and approved by the court. The court must approve all discharges

	and placement changes. • If the agency requests a youth to be removed from the group home, a family engagement meeting shall be held within 3 business days to develop a transition plan for the youth. The plan will include educational, clinical, living, environment etc. • When the youth's discharge is not planned, the provider shall give the probation/problem solving court officer a fourteen (14) calendar day notice in writing. During the fourteen (14) day period of time, the agency shall use a trauma informed approach to prepare the youth for the impending and will work collaboratively with probation to determine the most appropriate transition or post discharge placement for the youth. • A fourteen (14)-calendar day written notice is not required when the provider and probation mutually agree that it is in the best interests of the youth to move sooner. • Probation/Problem Solving Court Staff may make an immediate change in placement without court approval only if the juvenile is in a harmful or dangerous situation (e.g. natural disaster). Approval of the court shall be sought within twenty-four hours after making the change in placement or as soon thereafter as possible. The office shall provide all interested parties with a copy of any report filed with the court by the office pursuant to this subsection. Reference NE Revised Statute 43-297.01. Probation Officers will work collaboratively with facility staff or foster parent(s) to determine if an immediate change in placement is necessary. The team will work collaboratively to execute a plan for the youth's immediate placement. The youth's educational, environmental, and emotional needs will all be addressed in this plan. Program plan required ☐ Yes ☒ No
Service Frequency	24 hours/day, 7 days/week
Length of Service	Up to 6 months.
Staffing	The provider will comply with all staffing requirements of the Department of Health and Human Services Division of Public Health. All staff that have direct contact with youth and will have an understanding of evidence-based youth development principles, trauma informed care best practice in juvenile justice and criminogenic risk and needs. This service requires Criminogenic Continuing Education Hours ☐ Yes ☒ No
Staff to Client Ratio	Staffing ratios will be as required by the DHHS-Division of Public Health

Hours of Operation	24-hour, awake overnight staff
Service Desired Outcomes	• Youth will have stabilization in their behavior. • Youth will maintain placement in the least restrictive environment. • Youth will demonstrate positive skills in communication, social skills, coping/anger management, family functioning, these skills will be based on the probation/problem solving court officer's referral.
Unit and Rate	See rate sheet.