

HOPE Court Information Sheet

HOW IS HOPE COURT DIFFERENT FROM OTHER COURTS?

- HOPE Court is a strength-based, youth-driven court.
- Youth play an active role in selecting and monitoring services
- HOPE Court judge sits in the well of the court and has a conversation with the youth.
- Youth's team members are invited to participate in all court hearings and meetings to support the youth.
- Youth has access to a team motivated to help meet their needs.
- HOPE Court is interested in the youth's goals both within and outside of his or her delinquency/PINS case.

WHAT IS HOPE COURT?

- HOPE Court is a voluntary, specialty court for court involved males and females.
- HOPE Court participants have the possibility of having their case dismissed if the program is successfully completed
- HOPE Court participants are expected to demonstrate a good faith effort in recommended services.
- HOPE Court may be a year or less.
- HOPE Court understands that young people leave home for various reasons and make efforts to support youth in returning to a safe place.

Myths about HOPE COURT

- ✓ HOPE Court is only for girls.
- ✓ HOPE Court is only for people who have been trafficked.
- ✓ HOPE Court is only for youth who identify as victims.
- ✓ HOPE Court is for youth that are prostitutes* .

This is an inappropriate and outdated idea. Children cannot engage in prostitution.

Language to AVOID:

- Sex trafficking or Survival Sex
- Prostitute or Prostitution Court
- CSEC or Commercially Sexually Exploited Children
- Anything related to sex or sexual acts for money

WHO CAN BENEFIT FROM HOPE COURT?

- Youth who have been taken advantage of or those who are at risk of being pressured or exploited.
- Youth whose home life is unstable.
- Youth whose needs are being met by someone other than a caregiver.
- Youth that have had challenges in the community (ex., leaving home, truancy, substance abuse, involved in an unhealthy relationship)
- Youth who have exhibited concerning conduct on social media.
- Youth who associate with older men or women.