

THE SIX STAGES OF SUCCESSFUL AFTERCARE SERVICES

STAGE ONE: ASSESSMENT

Assessment includes the activities the agency uses as a way to measure, determine and make judgements. Good assessment requires a meaningful risk instrument and a solid needs assessment. Thorough assessment provides the foundation for successful treatment planning.

- Includes a risk instrument.
- Uses a thorough needs assessment.
- Utilizes Best Practices around cultural risk/needs assessment.
- Identifies language barriers.

THE CRITICAL ELEMENTS INTEGRATED INTO THE ASSESSMENT STAGE

Individualized/Specialized:

- Providing good assessment facilitates moving the juvenile offender quickly into culturally specific, gender specific and language appropriate programming.
- Juvenile feels understood, begins to buy into own process.
- Underscores and teaches the value that "your life is important. We take it seriously. So can you."

Family:

- An assessment of the family points out the strengths that can be a foundation for a later case plan.
- Cultural considerations are a part of the needs assessment for the family.
- The family's input is valued and the family is placed into the lead role as appropriate.

Strength Based:

- The relationship between juvenile and agency starts from a perspective of recognizing the strengths and protective factors unique to this family.

Community:

- Community based resources are an enormous asset to the assessment process and will build a foundation for providing services later.
- Community based services need to be culturally competent and gender specific and utilizes culturally appropriate resources.