

Juvenile Diversion Program



Drew Alexander, Summit County Sheriff

In 2001 Coventry Township along with the City of Green and Summit County Sheriff, Drew Alexander implemented a Juvenile Diversion Program that is designed to hold juvenile offenders accountable for their actions. The program is designed only for first time offenders and a written contract is required between the offender, parent(s) or guardian(s) and the program officers. The contract outlines community service hours to be worked, restitution if applicable, random curfew checks, letters of apology to victims and other punishments. If the offender breaks any of the terms of the contract, he or she will be referred to the juvenile court system. This program is an alternative which allows the juvenile to avoid a criminal record.

Officers Bob Bookwalter and Jim Tomsho are willing to assist in any way possible. They urge parents and guardians as well as kids and teens to contact them if they need assistance. They advise that a situation need not escalate to the point of an arrest. They want kids to know that help is out there if they need it and this program is designed to benefit them. The Diversion Unit has represented the Sheriff's Office at Green High School and Coventry High School by giving classes on Juvenile Law in Law Enforcement and Sociology classes.

**For more information on this program please contact Officers Bookwalter and/or Tomsho at 330-896-2941.
*Phone calls are completely confidential.***

2006 Juvenile Diversion Program Statistics

Number of Juveniles from each Community (72 total):

City of Green	26
Coventry Township	23
City of New Franklin	16
Twinsburg Township	7

30 were females and 42 were males

Age Groups:

9 years old – 3	14 years old - 14
10 years old – 2	15 years old - 16
11 years old – 1	16 years old - 14
12 years old – 8	17 years old - 5
13 years old - 9	

Offenses:

Drug related	5
Alcohol related	10
Unruly/Curfew	57

Community Service Hours:

City of Green	495 hours
Coventry Township	508 hours
Twinsburg Township	150 hours
City of New Franklin	144 hours

7 Juveniles did not complete the Diversion program and were referred to the Juvenile Court for adjudication. This was a decrease in the number from last year.