

PACTT Affiliate Public Report

Agencies affiliated with the Pennsylvania Academic, Career and Technical Training (PACTT) Alliance have voluntarily agreed to meet standards in one or more of the following areas: Academics; work related services; and job skills training. Through their efforts, the affiliated agencies work to support goals outlined in the Advancing Competency Development: A White Paper for Pennsylvania and Pennsylvania’s Juvenile Act. These include, but are not limited to:

- Helping youth improve their chances of having a successful educational experience.
- Developing a set of study and learning skills and basic reading, writing, and math skills.
- Helping youth to catch up in school and advance in school to the highest possible level of academic achievement.
- Developing workforce skills for getting a job, keeping a job, and achieving promotion.
- Developing workforce programs that promote economic self-sufficiency, are grounded in principles of youth development, and connected to further education and long-term career opportunities.
- Helping older youth improve their chances of being economically self-sufficient after high school.
- Developing competencies that will enable youth to become responsible and productive members of the community.

Limitations of this report should be noted. Data included in the report includes only those youth that were determined by the affiliate to have successfully completed the program and were recommended for discharge. In addition, academic data does not include youth having received services for less than 90 days. As a result, the average length of stay for youth in the affiliation areas may differ. Data included in the report was based on self-reported information provided by the affiliated agency. Reports were generated, using the PACTT database, by the affiliate and reviewed by the affiliate for accuracy prior to being posted for public viewing.

Agency Information

Name:	CHOR - Berks
County Location of Program:	Berks
Program Type:	Community Based
Genders Served:	Males only
Phone Number:	610-478-8266
Date Range of Data Included:	1/1/2021 - 12/31/2021
PACTT Affiliation Type(s):	
1. Academics	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
2. Work Related Services	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>
3. Job Skills Training	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Website:	https://www.buildingkidslives.org

Program Description:

The Evening Reporting Center (ERC) project is rooted in Balanced and Restorative Justice (BARJ) principles, and in line with the Juvenile Justice System Enhancement Strategy protocol. In an effort to keep youth in their home community, we provide meaningful community-based interventions. We currently offer service for three tiers of clients: Alternative To Detention, Graduated Response, and Aftercare. The average length of stay is approximately 30 days (minus weekends and holidays).

The program is designed to serve moderate to high risk Berks County pre-adjudicated and adjudicated delinquent adolescent males. Program capacity is 15 youth. The goal is to provide a non-judgmental "safe haven" during high-risk hours (3PM-9PM) where clients will receive structure and supervision. There are daily planned activities as well as reflective and Forward Thinking groups/ assignments to assist clients in thinking constructively about their behaviors. There is also a focus on life/ communication skills and attitudes in relation to positive community involvement. Character building, prosocial skill development, and job skills are focus areas of the program.

The Program works closely with juvenile probation, parents/families, and other community human service providers. Juvenile Probation Officers (JPO) play an important role in program implementation through their weekly presence at the facility during program hours.

Overview of General PACTT Requirements for all Affiliates:

- Utilize PACTT's *Employability and Soft Skills Manual (ESSM)* with all youth, age 14 and older.
- Document ESSM training progress and at the discharge, includes this information as part of the youth's educational record and probation discharge packet.
- Develop a discharge portfolio for youth that indicates their progress toward completion of competencies.
- Offer opportunities for remediation in numeracy and literacy, credit recovery and/or acceleration.
- For youth having a disability, facilitate their involvement with the Office of Vocational Rehabilitation.
- Assist youth in accessing career/technical training, post-secondary education and job placement opportunities.
- Offer at least one (1) of the following basic certificates: OSHA-10, ServSafe, MOS; International Computer Driving License (ICDL).

Soft Skills Instruction

Percentage of youth that participated in soft skills instruction

100%

The average number of employability soft skills completed per youth that completed the program (n=27)

9.4

WORK RELATED SERVICES

Overview of PACTT Work Related Services Affiliation Requirements:

- *Conduct a work skills assessment with all youth between the age of 14-21.*
- *Conduct an interest assessment with all youth between the age of 14-21.*
- *Directly offer, or make available through another entity, opportunities for youth to participate in a paid work-based learning experience.*
- *Ensure that an evaluative process is in place, to include providing youth with regular feedback about their performance.*
- *Establish relationships with employers to provide paid work experience opportunities for youth.*
- *Establish connections for youth with employment resources.*
- *In youth's area(s) of interest, identify potential employers in the communities where youth currently live or will be returning to after placement.*
- *Review the Department of Labor and Industry's High Priority Occupations with youth, to include those from the region where they will be living.*

Work Related Services Report Information

Number of Discharged Youth Included in
 the Work Related Services Report

18

Average Length of Stay in Days

47

Percentage of youth that completed a work skill and ability related assessment.	100%
Percentage of youth that completed a career interest related assessment.	100%
For youth with the goal of participating in a paid work-based learning experience, the percentage of youth that achieved this goal.	33%
For youth with the goal of exiting with employment, the percentage of youth that achieved this goal.	29%
For youth with the goal of participating in a paid work-based learning experience, the average number of hours of paid work experience per youth.	22

Industry Recognized Certifications/Certificates Obtained by Youth

For youth with the goal of earning an industry recognized certificate or certification, the percentage of youth that achieved this goal.

100%

List of names and frequency:

American Red Cross - First Aid (10), American Red Cross - CPR (9), ServSafe Food Handler (6), American Red Cross - CPR/AED (1)

Additional Program Information

The program is designed as an alternative to detention with a focus on safely keeping the youth in their home community to support consistency of existing services, educational services, family supports, and learning to change behaviors in their current living situation. The program boasts a success rate of completion of over 75%.

Reference:

Torbet, P. and Thomas, D. (2005). *Advancing Competency Development: A White Paper for Pennsylvania*. Pittsburgh, PA: National Center for Juvenile Justice.