



About Middle Earth

Middle Earth is a non-profit, community-based agency that has been providing services to adolescents for almost four decades. Our mission is to provide prevention, intervention and crisis services



Somerset County
United Way
Affiliated Agency

assisting individuals, primarily youth, to develop into responsible and productive members of the community. Our programs, which are all free to our youth, guide kids in learning respect for themselves and others, serving the community as volunteers and choosing positive alternatives to gangs, drugs and crime.



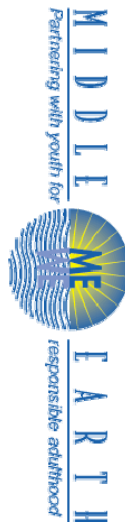
Program Location & Hours

The program's administrative duties are conducted at 520 North Bridge Street, Bridgewater. Community service activities are conducted within local communities, such as at local parks or cemeteries, Adult Day Center, Middle Earth, etc.



Administrative duties are conducted Monday through Friday 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Community service is generally conducted on Saturdays 8:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. Weekday projects are developed as the need arises. During summer months, community service hours are more flexible.

P.O. Box 8045
Bridgewater, New Jersey 08807



Station House Adjustment Program



"What's done to children, they will do to society."
Karl Menninger

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About the Program

The Station House Adjustment (SHA) Program serves first-time offenders who commit minor offenses. Participants complete community service as a consequence for their behavior. This intervention will hopefully prevent the youth from re-offending by deterring the youth from continuing their negative behavior and progressing further into the juvenile justice system. In addition, the program staff identifies the needs of the youth and his/her family, allowing staff to provide additional support services, if appropriate.

To participate in the program, the youth cannot have any prior arrests or be on Probation, must be between the ages of 10 and 18, and be a Somerset County resident.

The youth must contact Middle Earth within 5 days of signing the SHA contract with the referral source. The participant and his or her parent or guardian sign another contract with Middle Earth stating they will complete the assigned number of hours.



Program Goals

The goals of the program include:

- Reduces the number of youth involved in the juvenile justice system by providing an immediate response to the commission of a crime.



- Connects youth and their families with appropriate community based services.
- Helps to lower the recidivism rate of re-offending youth.
- Provides youth with a positive community service experience to increase community involvement.
- Offers a more cost effective and efficient alternative to incarceration.
- Provides faster implementation than court proceedings.
- Holds youth accountable for his/her actions.



Services Offered

The services of the program include:

- Community service
- Life skill opportunities
- Informal counseling
- Mentoring
- Information and referral services, as needed
- Support services, as needed



Referral Process

The referrals for Station House generally come from the Family Court or Juvenile Officers. Referrals can also be accepted from Municipal Court Judges.