



21st Judicial District - District Attorney

What is the Lighthouse Program?

The Lighthouse Program seeks to identify youth with risk factors which make them at risk of dropping out of school, committing crimes, and beginning substance use. The goal is prevention and intervention through support, services, and education for the youth and their family. Integrating internal and external services and restorative justice practices to assist the youth and family in making sustainable changes to avoid any system involvement. The youth’s agreement will have individually designed case supervision. The Lighthouse has collaboration with District 51, Colorado Mesa University (CMU), and multiple community agencies.



When and How is the decision made to begin a Lighthouse Agreement?

Referrals to the Lighthouse Program are accepted from all- three Mesa County School Districts, School Resource Officers, community partners, community members, and the family themselves. Once referrals are received, a review is done and it is assigned to a Lighthouse Program Navigator (LPN). This LPN will reach out to the family and set up an initial interview meeting. The Lighthouse Program can also be utilized in lieu of the youth receiving a summons from law enforcement, as part of the truancy case plan, in lieu of having a formal filing into truancy court, or the youth and family wishing to have support and services.

Is involvement with the Lighthouse Program mandatory?

Involvement with the Lighthouse Program is voluntary and has been established to provide advocacy, support and services to youth who are at risk of becoming involved in mandatory systems such as, truancy court, municipal or district court, juvenile justice system or the child welfare system.

What will happen during the Lighthouse Program?

An initial interview meeting is scheduled with the youth and parents or guardians. A Lighthouse Program Agreement is created between the youth, the parent(s)/guardian and the Navigator.. Support and supervision will be provided immediately after the agreement

is signed. Each agreement is **individualized** to address the risk and needs of each youth. Lighthouse Program Agreements may include the following components:

- Academic success
- Employment or participation in an positive extra-curricular activity
- Curfew
- Restorative justice programs and activities
- Classes (life skills, rethinking substances, victim empathy, anger management, etc.)
- Mental health assessment for individual therapy
- Family systems therapy
- Mentoring
- Tutoring
- Drug/alcohol screening
- Drug/alcohol prevention and education



Participants in the Lighthouse Program may also access services from multiple community partners such as: Mesa County Partners, CMU, Hilltop Family Resource Center, Mesa County Department of Human Services, Ariel Clinical Services and various private counseling alternatives. The length of the agreement may be determined by the risks and needs associated with each youth.

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What happens when the agreement is completed?

When a youth **successfully** completes the terms of their agreement, the case is closed. Any new referrals and/or warm hand offs to other community providers can be done. If the youth **fails to comply** with the terms of the agreement the case is closed as unsuccessful and notification is sent to the referral source for next steps.

An exit interview is conducted and the youth and parent(s)/guardian are asked to evaluate the program.

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Lighthouse Program Team:

Jacque Berry, Lighthouse Program Director

Jasmine Hill, Lighthouse Program Navigator

Vicki Shiflet, Lighthouse Program Navigator

Damian Chandler, Lighthouse Program Navigator

Brenda Smith, Lighthouse Program Liaison

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To inquire about Lighthouse Program or to request referral forms, call or email today:

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