



What is the purpose of Residential Treatment Centers in the community?

Residential Treatment Centers [RTCs] provide a long-term option of care for challenged youth in all our communities. Rather than offering a relatively brief stay such as shelters, RTCs are designed to provide lengthier stays that involve intensive treatment strategies. The youth that qualify to receive this level of treatment have typically experienced multiple failures in other settings such as their own home, foster homes, or schools and may have had limited successes with outpatient providers. Many youth with substance abuse or psychiatric issues may qualify for specialized RTCs that address these problems. RTCs promote the enhancement of life skills and coping strategies to manage challenges adolescents may face, involving their families or guardians in the treatment process. Most communities offer this level of care within their own community; however outlying areas often have limited service. The goal is for youth return to their homes after successful treatment and return to their schools with a new set of skills to practice.

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