Counseling

**Description of Service:**

Counseling is provided to families and children involved in Probation. Professional staff will provide individual, group, and/or family counseling with an emphasis on one or more of the following areas: Conflict resolution, Behavior Modification, Interpersonal Relationships, Communication Skills, Substance Abuse, Parenting, Anger Management, Problem Solving, Stress Management, Goal-Setting, Domestic Violence Issues, School problems, sexual abuse. The service should be structured and goal-oriented. When making the referral the Probation Officer should direct the therapist on what goals to focus on.

**Frequency/Duration:**

Counseling occurs at a regularly scheduled time for a limited period of time, usually up to 6 months. Services are provided in an office setting with the first contact is to being made within 5 days. The specific times and days will be scheduled by the provider.

**Expectations:**

**Youth:** The youth must be available and participate in every scheduled session.

**Parent:** The parent(s) as well as other family members in the home must participate in every scheduled session along with the youth. The full participation of the parent is very important to the success of the service. The parent must sign a Release of Information so the provider and the Probation Officer can exchange information.

**Service Provider:** The service provider will contact the parent/guardian within 5 days of receiving the referral from Probation to schedule an initial session. They will communicate at least monthly with the probation officer about the participation levels and progress of the youth and family members.

**Probation Officer:** The probation officer will make the referral to the provider shortly after it is ordered by the Court. The Probation officer will indicate to the therapist what goals to work on and will remain in contact with the provider to monitor the progress of the youth and update goals if they change.