

## Quick View: Some of the Benefits Offered through Teen Court for both the Youth & Communities

Youth as Teen Court Panelists	Youth with a Violation	Communities with a Teen Court
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Teen Court panelists engage as volunteers who keep confidentiality of violation cases and those involved.</li> <li>➤ Panelists offer positive change in the lives of youth peers.</li> <li>➤ The multi-step application process for youth panelists gives them practice in applying for other opportunities in their futures such as higher education, jobs, grants, etc.</li> <li>➤ Selected youth panelists receive extensive training that includes representation from different regional and sometimes state-wide organizations.</li> <li>➤ Teen Court is a unique program that enhances a student's resume.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ When juvenile successfully complete their Teen Court sanctions, they will have the conviction removed from their record.</li> <li>➤ Youth with violations have a second chance to prove that mistakes can be turned into opportunities for growth and move forward with a clean slate.</li> <li>➤ Parents/guardians and the youth with a violation can better understand the circumstances behind the violation, working together to move forward while being thoughtful about implementing behavior changes.</li> <li>➤ Teen Court helps prevent future delinquent behavior.</li> <li>➤ Youth with a violation being heard by a panel of peers offers a fair hearing within their generation while alleviating some pressure from the traditional court.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ The intent of the Juvenile Court and Teen Court System is to protect community members from future juvenile violations.</li> <li>➤ Youth showing accountability for their actions help to honor them as responsible citizens and young adults while understanding that as a young person, missteps are to be expected.</li> <li>➤ Communities of care can better respond to the needs of both the juvenile and victim(s), including the needs for reconciliation and recovery.</li> <li>➤ Rights of all involved are protected.</li> <li>➤ Youth become more educated and aware of the Juvenile Justice system.</li> <li>➤ Teen Court empowers teens to have a voice in County-wide juvenile justice decisions.</li> </ul>