| IndependenceYouth Court What is Youth Court?The primary goals of the Independence Youth Court are to teach high risk youth the necessity of taking responsibility for their own actions, to provide an alternative to the Jackson County Family Court process, for the youth to avoid further contact with the Police, and to teach the offenders skills to resist future criminal activity.What will You Do as a Youth Court Attorney?As a Volunteer Attorney, you will be trained in the responsibilities of participating as a Bailiff, Court Clerk, Prosecution, and Defense Attorney. Upon becoming a Senior, you will receive additional training, to serve as an actual Judge for the peer court docket. The attorney training is conducted by Judge Susan Watkins along with local adult attorneys, adult court volunteers, and area Law Enforcement Officers.Courtroom AttireYouth Court attire is dark slacks (not white, khaki, or jeans) and dress shoes. A dress shirt and tie for young men (a suit Jackson also looks nice) and for young women slacks or a skirt and a dress shirt or blouse (blouse should not be too short, tight, or revealing and a suit jacket is nice as well). If the attire is not acceptable for court, you may be sent home to change or not allowed to participate at that court session. What are the Benefits of Volunteering?* Volunteering is shown to improve health.
* Volunteer hours look great on a resume for jobs, colleges, and scholarships.
* Youth Court offers scholarships for qualified senior students.
* Youth Court allows volunteers to see the hardships that other juveniles face in the community.
* Youth Court is a great way to network.
* Youth Court is a way to positively mentor other students.

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