

How do you Assist At- Risk Youth



Zack Ledwell & Felicia Gilmore

1 Definition

- An **at-risk youth** is a child who is less likely to transition successfully into adulthood. Success can include academic success and job readiness, as well as the ability to be financially independent. It also can refer to the ability to become a positive member of society by avoiding a life of crime.



How to Assist At-Risk Youth



Who Should Be Assisting Our At-Risk Youth?

- Workforce Development Team
- Career Specialist
- Educational Specialist
- Guidance Counselors
- Employment Specialist
- Coaches
- Peer Specialist
- Extracurricular Engagement Specialist
- After School Care (Tutors)



How Should You Address Causes of At-Risk?

- Being able to relate to their situation
- Referring youth to other community teams that specialize
- Stay in the loop of progress and success
- Be open minded to what they have done in the past (no judgement)
- Being CONSISTENT
- Stay ready to build them up and speak positively on their behalf



How to Keep Youth Engaged?

- Be CONSISTENT with everything that you do
- Be prepared to have shared Responsibilities
- Build relationship with your youth
- Provide Leadership Opportunities with you
- Be ready accept their view points and ideas
- Encourage, explore and help discover self expression
- Have fun with your youth and ask questions



Is it okay to label a student At-Risk?

Never use 'at-risk' as an adjective

It makes “at-risk” a category like honors student, student athlete or college-bound student. “Risk” should describe a condition or situation, not a person.

