

*Offered by*  
**District Court 15-1-04**  
 530 E. Union Street  
 West Chester, PA 19382  
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 www.JudgeKnapp.com



YOUNG ADULT  
**COMMUNITY**  
 CONFERENCING

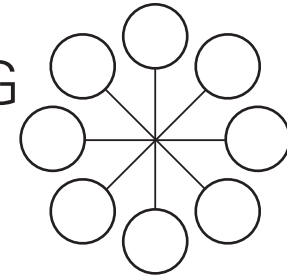


**What is YACC?**

*A program of*  
**Family Service of Chester County**  
 310 N. Matlack Street • West Chester, PA 19380  
 610.696.4900 • 610.696.4476 fax  
 www.youngadultcc.org

**A Guide for Victims**

# YOUNG ADULT **COMMUNITY** CONFERENCING



**YACC** is a unique, comprehensive Community Service program designed as a sentencing alternative for 18–24 year olds charged with summary-level “quality of life” offenses such as noise violations, disorderly conduct, public drunkenness, and underage drinking.

**YACC** is a structured forum in which the young adult offender and trained representatives of the victimized community meet together to determine a meaningful, appropriate consequence that benefits the community.

**YACC** is a circle process rooted in restorative justice practices. It seeks to address victim needs, offender competencies, and community responsibility in repairing the harm done by crime.

***Restorative justice involves victims and community in the criminal justice system. Offenders achieve accountability through taking responsibility and making amends.***



**Victim(s)**, if any are identified, will be invited to participate.

—or—

**Community Representatives** invited to participate in the YACC program are trained volunteers who have been negatively impacted by the types of behavior for which the offender has been cited.

**Young adult offenders** may be given an opportunity to participate in exchange for some portion of their fines and costs...

- if they are 18–24 years old, and
- if they are cited for a non-traffic crime, and
- if they have pled or been found guilty of that crime

**Support persons** for the offender and for the victim, whether invited by them or appointed on their behalf, will also be included to establish a safe environment for all participants.

A **facilitator**, trained in community conferencing, will lead the group process.



- It’s an opportunity to let the offender know how their actions have affected you.
- You have a voice in deciding how the harm should be repaired.
- You have the chance to build relationships to keep this from happening another time.
- Community Conferencing is less costly and more effective than court.
- You have the opportunity to hear what happened from another perspective.
- You are welcome to have supporters there with you.
- You may resolve the incident in a timely manner.

**Note:** Offender participation in the YACC program is not a right. This alternative sentencing option is offered to defendants at the discretion of the court. If the terms of the contract created at a YACC session are not fulfilled, or if the offender does not cooperate with the program, fines and costs sentenced by the court remain due.