

Our Mission

Gulf Coast Teaching Family Services (GCTFS) is now doing business as Gulf Coast Social Services (GCSS). We are a private, non-profit corporation founded in 1983 in Louisiana to provide comprehensive human service programs for Louisiana citizens, children and adults, with various physical and mental challenges.

Our mission is to empower people with mental, physical, behavioral, and other challenges to improve the quality of their lives and to live as independently as possible in the community.

We operate seven regional offices located in Alexandria, Baton Rouge, Hammond, Houma, Lafayette, Lake Charles, and New Orleans.

Areas Served

New Orleans
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Leaders of Tomorrow (LOT)



For more information, visit our website at
www.gctfs.org

or contact us at info@gctfs.org



Program Description

The Leaders of Tomorrow (LOT) Program is a community-based mentoring program that provides goal-directed, highly structured, mentoring services to youth, male or female, residing in the Orleans, Jefferson, Plaquemines and St. Bernard Parishes, who have come or are at-risk of coming into the juvenile justice system.

Youth are referred by various Agencies throughout the region. The program is designed to reduce the likelihood of juvenile delinquency, drug abuse, truancy, recidivism and other high risk behaviors among youth and to increase the likelihood of positive outcomes. Youth, male or female between the ages of 8 and 17 are paired with caring adult mentors (i.e., persons 19 years of age or older) who will offer support, consistency, and a chance for them to develop the knowledge and skills needed to reach their full potential for personal growth and independence.

Youth are provided a minimum of 10 hours a month for a period of 1 year. The ratio of mentor to youth is 1 to 3. The mentoring match is small to ensure youth's success in the program.

Who is Eligible?

The LOT Program serves at-risk youth, male or female between the ages of 8 and 17.



The goals and objectives of the program are:

- To reduce juvenile delinquency, violence, drug abuse, truancy, social competency and gang participation
- To integrate best practices into mentoring service models
- To improve academic performance, reduce school drop-out rates and other high risk behaviors among adolescents while maintaining the safety and well-being of the adolescent in the home, school, and community

Services Provided

- Access to community resources
- Advocacy
- Career guidance
- Counseling
- Evidence-based training
- Job/vocational/educational program placement assistance
- One-to-one mentoring
- Peer group sessions
- Structured recreational group outings
- Tutoring and homework assistance

