

Chapter: Agency Management and Operations	Effective Date: 12/1/16 Page: 1 of 2 Replaces: GAP.385.8145, 8/1/02
Subchapter: Interaction with the Public	
Rule: Volunteers and Community Resources Council	
ACA: 4-JCF-6G-01, 6G-08, 6G-09, 6G-11, 6G-12, 6G-13	
Statutes: N/A	

RULE

(a) **Purpose.**

This rule establishes a volunteer program within the Texas Juvenile Justice Department (TJJD) to expand youth opportunities for educational and recreational experiences and to provide youth with increased social interactions.

(b) **Community Resource Councils.**

Community resource councils are established to support the youth committed to TJJD. Community resource councils are organized as nonprofit corporations with tax-exempt status. The councils' role includes:

- (1) informing the community about TJJD;
- (2) informing TJJD of community interests and concerns;
- (3) promoting volunteer/community engagement; and
- (4) generating community resources to benefit youth committed to TJJD.

(c) **Volunteer Program.**

- (1) The manager of community programs administers TJJD's volunteer program.
- (2) A qualified community relations coordinator oversees the volunteer program at each TJJD-operated facility and parole office.
- (3) Volunteers must successfully complete all screening and application processes, including:
 - (A) submitting to a criminal background check in accordance with [§385.8181 of this title](#);
 - (B) providing fingerprints;
 - (C) providing personal character references; and
 - (D) participating in an interview.
- (4) Volunteers are recruited and selected from various cultural and socioeconomic segments of the community.
- (5) Every TJJD-operated residential facility and parole office must use volunteers to enhance rehabilitation efforts for youth.
- (6) Volunteers are oriented to the TJJD program and receive training before being assigned to work with youth.
- (7) Volunteers must agree in writing to abide by federal and state laws and TJJD policies and rules concerning confidentiality of youth information.
- (8) Volunteers are officially registered and provided proper identification as volunteers.
- (9) Volunteers may not perform professional services for TJJD unless certified or licensed to perform those services.

(d) **Youth as Volunteers.**

Qualified youth are encouraged and provided assistance to participate in volunteer activities in the community.

(e) **Employees as Volunteers.**

Employees may participate in volunteer activities in accordance with TJJJ's policies and procedures.

See the [Volunteer Services Operations Manual](#) for implementation procedures.