



# 2026 Program Statement

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# General Statement & Program Purpose

Gulf Coast Trades Center is a private, non-profit educational institution dedicated to increasing the economic independence and social well-being of disadvantaged and adjudicated youth.

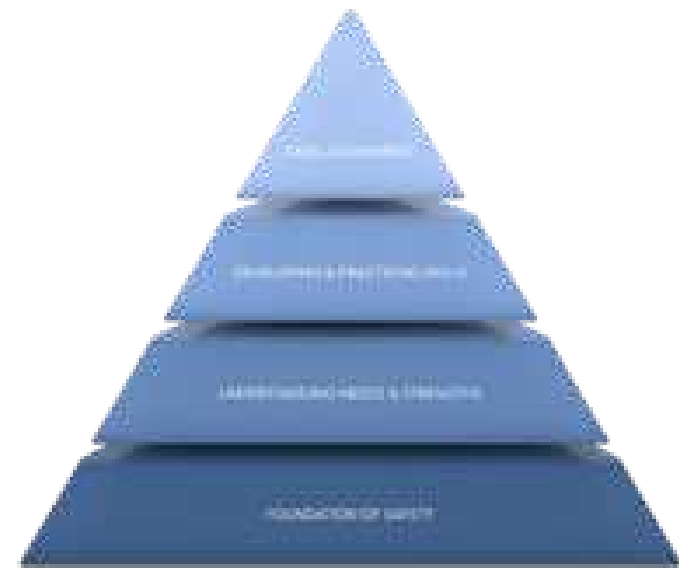
- GCTC provides a comprehensive array of education, counseling, residential, vocational skills training, job readiness and community services in New Waverly, Texas.

# Overview of the Program's Milieu

GCTC's milieu is trauma-informed, strengths-based, and normalized with positive staff/student interactions. GCTC's therapeutic milieu features:

- Cognitive behavioral approaches and curricula based on youth risk and needs.
- Trauma-responsive services are embedded within our service delivery at GCTC because most of the youth in our programs have experienced or witnessed multiple traumatic incidents.
- Services provided within an environment that fosters physical, psychological and emotional safety.

GCTC utilizes the Integrated Care Model which incorporates strengths-based, positive youth development, social learning theory, gender-specific and trauma-responsive approaches.



# Target Population

Gulf Coast Trades Center serves at-risk adjudicated youth who must be:

- Between 15 and 18 years of age
- Willing to participate in a personal interview and campus visit
- Vocationally motivated
- Willing to participate in a battery of tests and assessments to determine skills, functioning and competencies.
- Able to demonstrate an ability to benefit from the vocational training offered
- Referred from a state or county youth-serving agency

# Assessments

Clinical Assessments	Educational Assessments	Medical Assessments	Case Management
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Adolescent Cognitions Scale</li> <li>• Offender Questionnaire</li> <li>• Psychosocial Assessment</li> <li>• Juvenile Sexual Offender Decision Criteria</li> <li>• PHASE Sexual Attitudes Questionnaire</li> <li>• Columbia-Suicide Rating Scale</li> <li>• Suicide Risk Assessment Checklist</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• TABES Locator</li> <li>• TABES 9 &amp; 10</li> <li>• CAPS</li> <li>• PEWM Pre &amp; Post</li> <li>• Raven School Vocational 30 Day Progress Report</li> <li>• Report of Semester Grade</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Physicals completed by contracted providers</li> <li>• Dentals completed by contracted providers</li> <li>• TB's</li> <li>• Monthly Psychiatric / medication reviews by contracted psychiatrist</li> <li>• 24 Hour medical services provided by Virtual Care for Kids</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Initial Behavioral Health/Admissions Assessment</li> <li>• 72 Hour Preliminary Service Plan</li> <li>• Initial Service Plan</li> <li>• NOBLE / RPACT Assessments</li> </ul>

# Daily Schedule (Weekday)

Time	Described Activity
7:00am-7:30am	wakeup/wash up/cleanup
7:30am-8:00am	breakfast
8:00am-12:00pm	academics/vocational shop
12:00pm-12:30pm	lunch
12:30pm-4:00pm	vocational shop/academics
4:00pm-4:30pm	transition to residential/snack
4:30pm-5:30pm	group sessions/POC/PSD
5:30pm-6:00pm	dinner
6:00pm-8:00pm	recreation/special events
8:00pm-8:30pm	med pass
8:30pm-9:15pm	showers/details/evening snack
9:15pm-9:45pm	free time
9:45pm-10:00pm	team meeting
10:00pm	lights out

# Daily Schedule (Weekend/Holiday)

Time	Described Activity
7:00am-7:30am	wakeup/wash up/clean up
7:30am-8:30am	breakfast
8:30am-10:am	free time
10:00am-12:00pm	recreation/special activities
12:00pm-12:30pm	lunch
12:30pm-1:00pm	personal time
1:00pm-4:00pm	recreation/special activities
4:00pm-5:00pm	personal time
5:30pm-6:30pm	dinner
6:30pm-7:30pm	special activities
7:30pm-8:00pm	med pass
8:00pm-9:00pm	showers/details
9:00pm-9:45pm	free time
9:45pm-10:00pm	team meeting
10:00pm-11:00pm	extra tv time if warranted

# Program Services

- GCTC focuses on the needs of the student to enhance their opportunity for a positive transition to their home community. Case management staff assess student needs using diagnostic tools and then develop a Master Inter-Disciplinary Plan.
- The Center offers individual and group counseling sessions to address anger management, substance abuse, and other issues impacting their lives.
- Therapeutic recreational activities include flag football, basketball, weightlifting and the Ropes Course to redirect anger and express emotions positively.
- Self Challenge Course designed to develop trust, overcome perceived boundaries, and build self-esteem—includes ropes, wood platforms and webbing-type obstacles.

# Medical Services

- The medical department has a nurse on call 24 hours in conjunction with the medical professional who is on campus Monday-Sunday from 8:00 to 5:00.
- Infirmary located in the medical department for examinations and treatment by medical staff.
- Medical Program Specialist and Medical Transporter on staff to secure all outside doctor appointments and transport students safely.

# Education & Vocational Services

The Raven Charter School located on the main campus of GCTC, is an open-enrollment charter school dedicated to education and vocational training.

The Thomas “Mike” Buzbee Vocational High School conducts GED, vocational and Drivers Education training, which are integrated into the trades skills training.

- Common Curriculum offers courses that build the basic foundation for all trade programs. Entering the World of Work, Related Academics, and Shop Safety.
- Covers 11 core competencies including: making career decision, labor market information, resumes, applications, interview skills, interpersonal relations and task completion.
- Vocational training provided in Automotive, Building Trades/Maintenance, Bricklaying Masonry, and Culinary Arts.

# Extracurricular/Recreation Services

- GCTC offers a variety of exercises through its Physical Education Program and recreational activities, including flag football, softball, soccer and volleyball.
- Through the Texas Association of Charter Schools, students can participate in leagues and tournaments in football, volleyball, baseball, track and basketball.

# Family & Community Involvement

- Students are involved in helping the surrounding community through a variety of programs, including the New Waverly Food Bank and TxDOT Adopt-a-Highway. GCTC regularly partners with local community organizations to provide positive community service opportunities for our students.
- Youthbuild helps build homes for community members in need.

# Discharge Process & Successful Discharge Criteria

- All YouthBuild students leaving GCTC undergo a one year follow up program with job search assistance, school monitoring and mentoring.

The GCTC program is a skills based vocational/academic program with expected completion to occur between 7-9 months. Our goal is to ensure that the youth enrolled at GCTC are ready to return to the community with knowledge and experience in a vocational trade, employability, healthy social skills and prosocial decision making. Near the end of their journey at GCTC, youth will go before a panel (Review committee) composed of representatives from each department. This panel will review their accomplishments and their readiness to successfully discharge from the program and return to their community.

Eligibility requirements for youth to attend Review Committee.

- \*Must know Social Security number
- \*Must be able to recite address and phone numbers of parent/guardian contact information
- \*Must know AAACCCTPROS – Strongest/Weakest and exhibit growth in each
- \*Compliance with counseling services
- \*Must have taken and passed Pre-TABE & Post-TABE and show grade gains
- \*Completion of Star 360
- \*Completion of the required minimum High School Recovery credits / one semester in each (Prerequisite for GED) \*English, Math, Social Studies, Science
- \*Continued participation in High School Credit Recovery after minimum credits are satisfied until discharge or until High School Diploma obtained
- \*GED testing will be scheduled after all pre-requisites have been completed
- \*Enrollment and Completion of Drivers Education classroom hours for permit (Student has 30 days from time of enrollment to complete)
- \*Study for Drivers Permit / appointment will be scheduled once all documents are obtained
- \*Must be on Ram Status for at least 30 days
- \*Completion of all ROP Concept Manuals 1-8
- \*720 ACTIVE shop hours with completion of all Vocation Trade requirements for certification obtainment
- \*Completion of GCTC offered certifications
- \*45 ACTIVE days in the Work Experience/Youth Build program with certification of completion
- \* Must have 3 discharge recommendation letters from GCTC staff - examples: Residential Supervisor, Education, Counselor, Teachers, etc. on
- \*Must have a letter written to their Judge and read it before the Review Committee
- \*Completed Resume
- \*Participation / Completion in court/probation ordered community service
- \*Be able to: name 5 trade related tools, recite a shop project from start to finish, discuss current work site duties, discuss plans for employment upon discharge, and discuss what you have accomplished while at GCTC
- \*Any additional request specified from Court order and/or Probation officer