



CARING FOR KIDS & FAMILIES

SINCE 1806

The Graham School Residential Treatment and Education Center, located in Westchester County, New York, is one of 13 voluntary agencies in New York State selected to participate in Governor Cuomo's Raise the Age initiative. Our Raise the Age program, which is called Graham UP, is designed to work with young men aged 16 and 17 who have had encounters with the criminal justice center. As it has become known a young person's brain doesn't stop developing until up to age 25 it was evident that a new approach at working with youth who have committed crimes needed to be taken, so instead of being treated as adults, New York State Governor Andrew Cuomo passed this initiative to get these young people the help and support they need in therapeutic environments so that they could safely return back to their home communities. Our objective with Graham UP is to provide skill building for academic, social and educational success. We intend to empower youth in a way so that they can avoid recidivism; keep themselves, their family and community safe; and to help them achieve their educational and/or vocational goals.

We opened our first of two cottages on December 1, 2018, and our second on February 1, 2019. We are licensed for 14 males between the 2 cottages who are placed as Raise the Age youth. Our program is a NYS-approved co-ed campus that has approximately 90 youth, aged 8-20. We are currently operating 8 cottages on our Campus, 3 each for male and female placed through child welfare channels or the Department of Special Education, and our 2 Raise the Age cottages.

We share a campus with the Greenburgh Graham Union Free School District, which is made up of the Ziccolella Elementary/Middle School and the Martin Luther King, Jr. High School. Our education program is Regents-based, offers a class size of 8:1:2, and provides the majority of all the Common Core classes.

Our campus utilizes evidence-based practice models Collaborative Problem Solving and Solutions Based Casework. Students receive wrap-around therapeutic care including individual therapy, group therapy, substance abuse counseling, and art therapy. We have a full-service health center which provides medication management and physical, psychiatric, and psychological evaluations.

In addition, there are numerous recreation and vocational opportunities available as part of our Graham Prep program. Our Graham Prep Coordinator is a certified Offender Workforce Development Specialist, who uses the Career University, Advancing to the Next Level curriculum to assess youth so that they can be matched to opportunities based upon their interests and skills. Our goal is to help youth develop positive behaviors, close the achievement and opportunity gap for all residents and ensure they are in safe, nurturing, permanent families. Activities include, but are not limited to meditation, sports, yoga, martial arts, boxing, music programming/podcasts, drama and dance. Residents are eligible to get on-campus jobs through our Youth Employment Services (YES), and are often assessed for readiness for off Campus employment or Internship opportunities.



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The Graham School is located at 1 South Broadway, Hasting-on-Hudson, New York, which is just on the border of Yonkers in Westchester, New York. I am the Case Planner Supervisor, but also oversee intake for our Graham UP program. All referrals can be sent to my attention, either by email: UPIntake@Graham-Windham.org, or faxed to my secure line at (917) 410-7529. For any questions about the program or referral process I can be reached at 914-517-4359 or 914-200-1354, and my email is CiappettaJ@Graham-Windham.org.

Looking forward to building a relationship between our agencies and working together to help our youth in this exciting and new initiative!

Sincerely,

Jennifer Ciappetta, MSW
Case Planner Supervisor

RAISE the AGE | NY

On April 10, 2017, Governor Cuomo signed into law “Raise the Age” legislation that was included as part of the State Budget. It can be found in A-3009c/S-2009c Part WWW.

KEY COMPONENTS OF THE LEGISLATION

The presumptive age of juvenile accountability is raised for 16 year olds effective 10/1/18 and for 17 year olds effective 10/1/19. Except as otherwise noted, all components described below are pursuant to this timeline.

The law will change cases for 16-17 year olds in the following ways:

Parental Notification

- Parents must be notified when their children are arrested.
- Questioning of youth must take place in age-appropriate settings, with parental involvement (including with regards to waiving Miranda rights), and for developmentally appropriate lengths of time.

Court Processing

The vast majority of cases of 16-17 year olds will ultimately be heard in the Family Court, either originating there or being transferred there from the new Youth Part of the adult criminal court.

Misdemeanors:

- All misdemeanor cases (other than vehicle and traffic law misdemeanors) will be heard in Family Court pursuant to the Family Court Act. This includes Family Court Act procedures for adjustment and confidential records.

Felonies:

- All felony cases will start in the Youth Part of the adult criminal court.
- All **non-violent felonies** will be transferred from the Youth Part to the Family Court unless the District Attorney (DA) files a motion within 30 days showing “extraordinary circumstances” as to why the case should remain in the Youth Part. If DA files motion, there can be a hearing and the Judge must decide within 5 days of the hearing or motions whether to prevent the transfer of the case to Family Court.
- **Violent felonies** can also be transferred from the Youth Part to the Family Court. If the charges do NOT include the accused displaying a deadly weapon in furtherance of the offense, causing significant physical injury, or engaging in unlawful sexual conduct, the case will transfer to Family Court unless the DA files a motion within 30 days showing “extraordinary circumstances” as to why the case should remain in the Youth Part. If the charge does include an element listed above, removal to Family Court is only possible with consent of the DA. Vehicle and Traffic Law cases and Class A felonies other than Class A drug offenses cannot be transferred.
- 16 and 17 year olds whose cases remain in the Youth Part will be referred to as “Adolescent Offenders.” Adult sentencing will apply, but the Judge must take the youth’s age into account when sentencing. Adolescent Offenders are eligible for Youthful Offender treatment, as is the current law with respect to 16 and 17 year olds charged as adults.
- Adolescent offenders may voluntarily participate in services while their case is pending.

Violations:

- Violations will be heard in adult criminal/local courts, as is the current law.

Family Court:

- Youth whose cases are heard in the Family Court will be processed pursuant to existing Juvenile Delinquency (JD) laws, which includes the opportunity for adjustment. They will not have a permanent criminal record.

Youth Part of Adult Court:

- New “Youth Parts” will be created. All 13-15 year old Juvenile Offenders and all 16-17 year Adolescent Offenders will have their cases in the Youth Part.
- Family Court judges will preside over cases in the Youth Parts.

Facilities

- No 16 or 17 year old will be sentenced to or detained in a facility with adults. To the extent practicable, no youth under 18 will be held at Rikers by 4/1/18 and as of 10/1/18, a full prohibition against youth under the age of 18 being held at Rikers will be in effect.
- Youth whose cases are heard in Family Court will be detained or placed in OCFS-operated, OCFS-licensed, or ACS facilities (including Close to Home), as Juvenile Delinquents currently are.
- Adolescent Offenders who are detained pre-trial will be held in a specialized secure juvenile detention center for older youth, which will be certified and regulated by OCFS in conjunction with the state commission of correction. Judges have the discretion to order that Adolescent Offenders who are sentenced to less than a year serve such sentences in a specialized juvenile detention center for older youth.
- Adolescent Offenders who are sentenced to state imprisonment will be placed in an Adolescent Offender facility developed by the state with enhanced security managed by DOCCS with the assistance of OCFS.

Sealing

- Anyone convicted of an eligible offense in an adult court may seek to have his/her record sealed pursuant to C.P.L. § 160.59 after ten years from the imposition of the sentence or discharge from incarceration, whichever is latest. Violent felonies, sex offenses, and Class A felonies are not eligible offenses. In addition, sealing is only available for people who have no more than 2 convictions, one of which may be for a felony.
- The court will create a standardized form for a person to use to apply for sealing. There will be no fee for applying.

Raise the Age Implementation Task Force

- The Governor will appoint members of a Task Force to coordinate the implementation of these changes.
- The Task Force will issue a report on planning and implementation one year after the effective date (April 2018) and after an initial year of implementation (by August 2019).

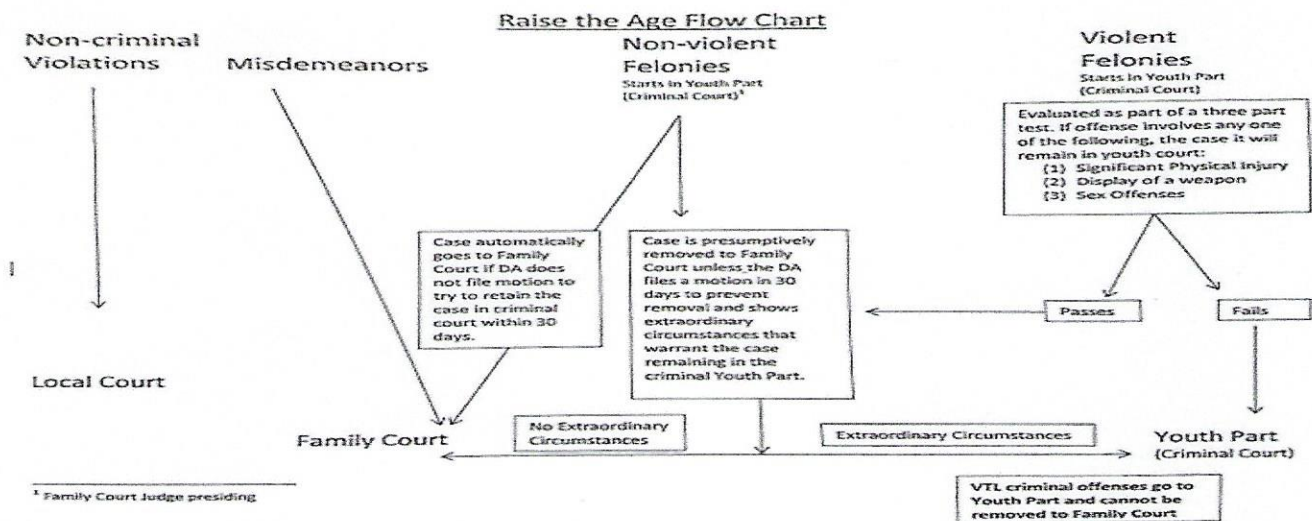
Effective Dates

- Sealing Provisions: People may begin to apply for sealing 180 days after enactment (10/6/17).
- Raise the age for 16 year olds: 10/1/18.
- Raise the age for 17 year olds: 10/1/19.
- Sections related to state reimbursement to the counties for probation are effective 4/1/18.
- Sections related to reimbursement for detention and alternative to detention are effective 10/1/18.
- Elimination of state support for detained PINS will start 1/1/2020.

Youthful Offenders

- The Youthful Offender (YO) laws remain the same.

New York State Assembly Chart Summarizing Court Processing





WHAT THE RETC OFFERS YOUTH

Bengals - Positive peer leadership group through which youth develop leadership, public speaking, conflict-resolution and relationship skills through training and an emphasis on service to one's community; youth, staff and parents can become Bengals.

Campus Traditions - Yearly events that make up the fabric of the campus and provide opportunities for youth and staff to have fun and a little friendly competition.

- Summer Olympics
- Santa Night
- Halloween Rollerblading Bash
- Remembrance Day
- Campus Spring Cleaning Day
- Easter Egg Hunt
- PRIDE Rollerblading Party

Campus Activities - Youth routinely attend trips and activities facilitated through the cottages, as long as the group's behavior and engagement in the program is appropriate. Outings have included:

- Theme Park excursions
- Movies
- Museums
- Hair and personal care trips
- Denominational/ non-denominational religious services

Culinary Arts - Youth work in the Tiger's Den under a trained professional Chef, learning everything from fundamental reading, writing and math skills, to safe food preparation, business management and customer service.

Girls' Art Therapy - Girls attend group led by a licensed Art Therapist in the art studio on campus. Various mediums such as water-color, macramé, oil-paint and clay, are used to help youth express themselves and process their experiences creatively.

Graham SLAM - Professional mentorship program that stays connected with youth ages 16-25 years old, as they transition from care or once they graduate from High School.

Kayak Camp - Each year 8-12 youth and campus staff learn the sport of Kayaking. Participants first learn the basics in the campus pool. Then they head to the open rapids under the care and instruction of a trained Kayaking team, some of whom have competed in the Olympics. Participants learn to overcome fears, work together, and always enjoy the experience.

The Eliza Project - The Graham School has a rich history spanning over 200+ years. The campus was co-founded by Eliza Hamilton, whose husband Alexander Hamilton, was memorialized in the hit Broadway play "Hamilton" in 2016. Through Broadway Cares, "Hamilton" cast and crew members work with youth using drama, music and dance to foster self-expression and creativity.

Permanency, Health and Wellness Services - Youth's permanency, psychosocial and health related needs are met through a coordination of services that are provided through the following:

Health Center

- Family planning
- Routine physicals
- Dental care
- Vision and hearing screenings
- Health education workshops

Clinical Department

- Weekly individual therapy
- Group therapy
- Family focused treatment
- Crisis intervention

Permanency Planning

- Case planning
- Safety assessments
- Celebrations of progress
- Location and facilitation of permanency and visiting resources

Substance Abuse

- Substance abuse prevention workshops
- Stay Clean sobriety events
- Outpatient substance abuse treatment

PRIDE Group - The emphasis of this group is on inclusiveness and having a safe space to explore relationships, gender identity and sexual orientation; youth or their peer allies, do not need to identify with any specific labels in order to attend.

Graham Prep - Offers a range of activities that help youth develop social, emotional, independent and interpersonal skills and includes:

- Woodshop
- Zumba
- Yoga
- Youth discussion forums
- Holiday and multi-cultural events
- Drama Club
- Year round Gymnasium access
- Summertime pool hours and activities
- Summer Youth Employment Program (SYEP) coordination
- Sports teams
- Studio/ Music Programming
- Meditation
- Podcasts
- Art

*Other opportunities are added depending on the time of year and youth interests

Youth Employment Services (Y.E.S) - Campus based vocational program open to all youth, which fosters career development. Youth first participate in eight pre-employment training sessions and complete an employment application before being hired to one of eight campus-job sites. The YES programs offers:

- Employment skills training
- Resume writing
- Career planning
- Computer training
- Career Exposure Series-workshops
- Discharge savings accounts for youth employed through YES
- Off campus internship and employment coaching



WHAT THE RETC OFFERS FAMILIES

Cottage based family gatherings - Parents are often included in outings with their child and staff- it is a way to have fun together and create positive memories

Family Day - On-campus event held the second and fourth Saturday of each month. Families are hosted on campus and get to spend time with their kids playing games, sharing a meal together as well as meeting other families

Family Team Conferences - Bi-annual conferences that are inclusive of the youth, parent(s), identified familial supporters and the RETC treatment team members. The conferences, which are held for youth placed through ACS, offers all the key stakeholders an opportunity to discuss the permanency plan and ensure that there is timely movement towards the identified goals

Parents As Leaders (PAL) - Each month an event is hosted where parents can network with other parents. Events take place on campus, at various Graham locations or at venues throughout the city and at times include youth as part of the activity

Parent Bengals training - Parents get to experience the same eight weeks of training their kids go through in order to become a Bengal in addition to an introduction to Collaborative Problem Solving. Once a member of Bengals, always a member! Parents and youth will also be connected with Graham's city based Bengals chapter as well

Use of technology - Parents and staff are able to stay connected through the use of emailing and video conferencing; speak to your child's Planner and/ or Clinician about these options for more details. Information on events and activities on campus and throughout Graham Windham's branches is routinely sheared through the campus' ThriveandGrow email

***Graham Windham's Network of opportunities throughout New York City,
which all families can access:***

Graham Windham Mental Health - Manhattan/ Brooklyn

Provides therapeutic and psycho-educational interventions to actively engage and motivate children, youth and their families to address and overcome behavioral health difficulties and to involve the entire family in treatment toward health and self-sufficiency

Family Success Programs – Brooklyn / Bronx / Harlem

Developmental Playgroups (Baby & Me): A weekly developmental play group for parents with their infants and toddlers (**ages 3 and under**) which focuses on improving early childhood parenting skills and knowledge, and increasing social supports. The group sessions focus on increasing opportunities for parent/child bonding, delivering information and modeling behaviors that promote healthy infant/toddler development. Families are expected to participate for a period of 12 weeks

The Parenting Journey: An insight-oriented, 12-session parent education and support group which builds competencies in parents

EPIC: Just for Teens: An insight-oriented, 8-session parent education and support group. The curriculum helps young parents reflect on their own childhood and envision their child's future, in order to inform their parenting practices. **EPIC is for parents 22 years and younger**

Parent Support: Family Coaches provide parents and their children with ongoing, tailored support through the lifetime of their case with Graham, with limited support provided beyond case closure. Support is provided on an individual basis as well as in the form of support groups and workshops where parents can share their experiences amongst themselves in nurturing environment. **Parent Support services is available to any parent/family regardless to involvement in Graham's foster care, preventive, or residential programs**

Network: A support group that helps participants manage stress and behaviors through self-affirmation, sharing stresses and concerns, action planning, sitting with silence, and clearing concerns

Beacon Afterschool Programs

Hunts Point Beacon - Bronx, NY

Academic enrichment and recreational activities for youth in grade 4-8

Manhattanville Cornerstone Beacon – New York, NY

Academic enrichment and recreational activities for youth in grade 1-8

Harlem Beacon – New York, NY

Academic enrichment and recreational activities for youth in grade 4-8

Bridges to Health, NYC

Wrap-around in-home and community supports to help children and youth remain stable and avoid hospitalization, including crisis management, skill building, respite, caregiver supports, school and employment supports. Children (ages 4-21) in foster care or coming out of the juvenile justice system, with serious emotional disturbances, chronic health conditions, or developmental delays are eligible



MLK JR. HIGH SCHOOL
Keep Moving Forward

January Regents

U.S. History: 80%
Pass Rate
Global II: 75%
Pass Rate
ELA: 83% Pass
Rate
Living
Environment: 53%
Pass Rate
Algebra: 56% Pass
Rate

June Regents

U.S. History: 100%
Pass Rate
Global II: 76%
Pass Rate
ELA: 86% Pass
Rate
Living
Environment: 75%
Pass Rate
Algebra: 88% Pass
Rate

Upon Graduation

Regents Diploma
Rate: 92%
Graduation Rate:
86%
College

Facilities

FITNESS CENTER

- The Victor Laurenceau Fitness Center is a brand new impressive Fitness Center with the latest state-of-the-arts fitness equipment

TECHNOLOGY

S.T.E.A.M.

- Beautifully designed STEAM room with the latest technology to provide the utmost educational experience

HP LAB

- Hewlett Packard technology room of the future: students learn how to design technology equipment like Fitbits and other useful items.

C.N.A. Learning Center

- CNA-Certified Nursing Assistant 2 year Program – students will become a Certified CNA upon completion of program
- Brand New Culinary Arts Facility – students will be granted a culinary certificate upon completion of the 2 year program

FACT SHEET

Mission

The Greenburgh-Graham School District's mission is to provide a K-12 day or residential educational program for students who have not succeeded in traditional school programs, in an environment where personalized educational experiences yield social and academic success and prepare students for graduation, college, and career.

- Chartered in 1967
- Located on a beautiful 40-acre campus overlooking the Hudson River
- Oldest RTC in New York
- Student/Teacher Ratio: 12/3

Educational Partner

BOCES partnership, in the CTE (Career Technical Education) Program allows students to intern with BOCES' industry partners and become certified technicians upon graduation. June 2019 graduates who participated in the CTE Program graduated with career readiness and certified certificates in Automotive Technology, Cosmetology and Emergency Medical Services.

Athletics

Student Athletes have earned scholarships to Division I colleges.

- JV Girls Basketball
- Boys Varsity Basketball