

# SUPERIOR COURT OF NEW JERSEY MIDDLESEX VICINAGE

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## **Middlesex Superior Court Seeks Youth Volunteers to Serve on Juvenile Conference Committees**

The Superior Court of New Jersey, Middlesex Vicinage, seeks youth volunteers between the ages of 14 and 17 from Highland Park, Monroe, New Brunswick, North Brunswick and South Plainfield in Middlesex County to serve on the Juvenile Conference Committees (JCC) in their communities. Young people play a valuable role in the juvenile justice process as volunteers on these committees, a community-based arm of the family court.

The committees meet monthly for approximately two hours in Middlesex County municipalities. A committee is composed of six to nine citizen volunteers appointed by Family Division judges to hear and decide matters involving juvenile offenses. The juvenile, parent(s) or guardian(s) and complainant are invited to discuss the offense and related matters with the committee in a confidential setting. After considering the information presented, the committee makes a recommendation for a resolution that fosters the juvenile's rehabilitation.

Trial Court Administrator Gregory Edwards said, "The Middlesex Vicinage Juvenile Conference Committees help to bring the court and the community together to improve the lives of juveniles. We appreciate the efforts of all committee volunteers and value the perspectives offered by youth volunteers."

Parental consent is required for all JCC youth volunteers under the age of 18. Mandatory training will be provided by the Middlesex Vicinage prior to volunteer service. JCC youth volunteers can earn community service credit hours if approved by their high schools.

For more information about the program and application process in Middlesex County, contact JCC Coordinator Joycelin Bierach at 732-519-3247.

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