

Making Attendance A Priority
Douglas/Sarpy Truancy Initiative

Pre-Court Intervention – Truancy Patterns

Activities To Support Students and Families in Maintaining Regular School Attendance

Agency/Organization	Concord Center		
Contact Name/Phone #	Mary Lee Brock/ 402-345-1131		
Program/Activity:			
Description	Target Population	What is the Unique Need Being Met	Program Substantiation <small>(i.e. outcome data, national or regional models, standards)</small>
<p>Truancy Mediation Program where youth, their parents and/or caregivers and educators meet with a mediator who facilitates their discussion about the causes of truancy and how those problems can be solved. The Concord Center mediator has extensive training and experience and is neutral by not working with an agency providing other services and also is not affiliated with the school. Mediation is about giving parents and caregivers the opportunity to get more involved in their children's education and to help them learn. Truancy mediation involves prepping the participants by phone, scheduling the session, conducting the session (usually 2-3 hours long) and then completing a follow-up. Any agreements and plans are written up for the participants to refer to and act upon. Mediation is an effective way of improving school attendance and reducing the dropout rate.</p>	<p>Students who have been missing school and their families. Mediation can be appropriate for any age youth.</p>	<p>Mediation creates an opportunity for families to become involved in the problem solving process of helping their children succeed in school.</p>	<p>Concord Center is recognized by the Nebraska State Supreme Court. Research supports the effectiveness of Truancy mediation. Proven programs have been going strong across the country.</p>