

ACE REFERRAL PROCESS

Police departments in Ramsey County can refer children under 10 years old who have committed a delinquent act to the ACE Program for assessment and intervention. Upon receipt of a referral form and police report, the Ramsey County Attorney's Office will review the police report to determine whether there is sufficient evidence that a delinquent act was committed by the child. If evidence in the police report establishes probable cause that a delinquent act was committed by the child, additional data about the child will be collected to determine the child's eligibility.

The following factors are required for a child to be eligible for the program:

Child Eligibility:

- Lives in Ramsey County
- Under 10 years old at time of offense
- Committed an offense that would be prosecutable if over the age of 10
- Medical Assistance (MA) eligible

If the child is eligible, additional data will be gathered on the child and family and then the case will be screened by a screening team to determine the child's risk of engaging in future delinquent acts.

The risk factors that the team will consider may include:

Risk Factors

- Poor school attendance and/or performance
- Early onset of aggressive, violent behavior
- Poor verbal and social skills
- Abuse, neglect and domestic violence in the home
- Multiple problems in family functioning
- Poor parental monitoring and supervision of child behavior
- Parent and/or sibling involvement in the criminal justice system
- Absence of relationships with pro-social adults and peers.

A referral to the ACE Program is made by submitting all police reports related to the delinquent act along with an ACE Referral Form.

Contact:

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