

# YOUTH OUTREACH SERVICES

## Program

### 1. Specialized Crisis Intervention Team (SCIT)

#### Description of Services

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The Specialized Crisis Intervention Team (SCIT) is a short-term intervention to reduce the risk of youth in crisis and to establish a helpful support network, within our community, so that the youth may regain control over their lives.

#### **The strengths of the SCIT Team are to -**

- find youth that are AWOL, missing or otherwise need to be located;
- engage youth in helpful supportive relationships;
- reconnect youth to individuals who are identified as supportive;
- assist in developing an immediate risk reduction plan, and
- establish, in concert with the youth and relevant community resources, an on-going plan to ensure that the safety of the youth is maintained

SCIT clients are youth under the age of 19 who are referred by Ministry of Children and Family Development social workers. Referred youth are absent without leave from Ministry-funded residential settings or otherwise identified as being at high risk and/or street involved.

#### **Duties of SCIT are to -**

- locate youth, reduce potential harm, track whereabouts and establish safe housing;
- engage in relationships to assist in day program attendance, improved behaviour and compliance to court/probation orders; and
- connect to community resources; raise the youth's profile in the community

The role of the team is locating and monitoring the risk of referred youth. The program is mandatory for the youth referred and is supported by the Ministry's child protection authority granted under the provincial Child, Family and Community Service Act.