



# Meriden Youth Services

**Our Mission:** Meriden Youth Services serves as the first place to call to learn about the many programs and services available to help youth in Meriden develop meaningful connections to their community and assist in providing support during difficult times.

**Funding Sources:** Meriden Youth Services receives funding from the City of Meriden, the State Department of Children and Families and local foundations.

**Office Location and Hours:** Meriden Youth Services is located in the Meriden Health and Human Services Department at 165 Miller St. Meriden, CT 06450. Youth Services staff members are available Monday to Friday from 8:00am through 4:30pm. Current program offerings can be found on our website: [www.meridenhealth.com](http://www.meridenhealth.com)

## **Meet Our Staff:**

**Tammy Kudla**, Youth Services Worker, facilitates our Juvenile Assistance and Diversion (JAD) Program, including the JAD Board. She can be reached at (203) 639-5058 or [tkudla@meridenct.gov](mailto:tkudla@meridenct.gov).

**Elizabeth Raber**, Public Health Educator, coordinates positive youth development activities for Meriden youth on current public health topics. She can be reached at 203-630-4288 or [eraber@meridenct.gov](mailto:eraber@meridenct.gov).

## **Programs:**

- **Juvenile Assistance and Diversion Board (JAD):** Instead of Juvenile Court, youth under the age of 18 come before a board of community members to admit guilt and accept consequences for their first or second arrest-able offense. Tammy Kudla monitors the youth until the consequence(s) is completed. Families and the youth are offered counseling and pro-social referrals. For any questions regarding our JAD Program, please contact Tammy.
- **Community Service:** We serve as a link among community partners requesting student volunteers. Please contact us for any upcoming or ongoing community service opportunities.
- **Positive Youth Development:** We engage youth with their communities and families in a productive and constructive manner, which identifies, uses, and increases their strengths and encourages positive outcomes. For any questions regarding positive youth development programming, please contact Elizabeth.
- **Meriden Community Connections:** Check out [www.meridencommunityconnection.org](http://www.meridencommunityconnection.org) for a list of community service programs. Local agencies that serve Meriden youth and families can register their organization and programs for free!