



# Adolescent Developmental Approach

## Hallmark 1: Accountability Without Criminalization Checklist

### Goal of This Checklist

To help service providers determine whether they are on track with adopting each hallmark of the Developmental Approach, which strives to focus on helping youth avoid formal legal involvement unless necessary to ensure accountability or protect public safety. This initiative includes striving to keep youth in their communities and providing the services and interventions needed to support prosocial development of adolescents.

### Brief Overview

- Those who cause harm should be held accountable.
- Inappropriate behavior should be corrected.
- Confinement should be used sparingly (e.g., only when public safety concerns are involved).
- Adolescents need opportunities to accept responsibility for their actions.
- Adolescents should be allowed to make amends to individuals and communities affected.

Have you done the following things as part of Hallmark 1?	Yes	No
1. Considered the difference between accountability and punishment?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
2. Considered why the focus of the juvenile justice system should be on accountability rather than criminalization of actions?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3. Considered how a youth's developmental trajectory may lead to delinquent behavior that is situational, temporary, and common within normal adolescent development?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
4. Considered the consequences of confining youth for low level offenses typical of juvenile behavior, knowing that adolescents will soon mature out of such behavior?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
5. Considered that entry into the juvenile justice system may have a negative effect such as on education and employment opportunities, relationships, and access to social services?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
6. Explored whether the juvenile's official records of encounters with the juvenile justice system can be kept strictly confidential?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
7. Explored different ways that adolescents can accept responsibility and make amends to individuals and communities affected?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/> Financial restitution <input type="checkbox"/> Community service <input type="checkbox"/> Explore processes of acknowledging the ramifications of behavior		

Have you done the following things as part of Hallmark 1?	Yes	No
<input type="checkbox"/> Encourage the juvenile to apologize (written or verbal) <input type="checkbox"/> Victim–offender mediation and dialogue <input type="checkbox"/> Victim or community impact panels <input type="checkbox"/> Community or neighborhood impact statements <input type="checkbox"/> Victim empathy groups or classes <input type="checkbox"/> Personal services to victim <input type="checkbox"/> Peacemaking services <input type="checkbox"/> Family group conferencing		
8. Considered the ways that contact with the juvenile justice system can be rare, fair, and beneficial to the juvenile?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
9. Explored the use of evidenced-based or promising practices (e.g., Model Programs Guide, CrimeSolutions.gov, etc.) to prevent or address juvenile delinquency?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
10. Explored ways of ensuring that disposition and resulting placement decisions match the needs of the juvenile (i.e., validated risk and needs assessment)?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
11. Examined your state, territory, or tribe’s juvenile court laws, statutes, or codes related to maximum age of juvenile court jurisdiction and opportunities for expungement?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
12. Explored whether any local programs are funded by the state to promote community based services or placements as prevention, intervention, or diversion from state juvenile justice custody?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Please describe how you have used elements of Hallmark 1 in your provision of services.

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## Follow-Up Questions

What challenges have you experienced?

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Would you like training or technical assistance (TTA) in any of these areas? If so, please indicate the desired TTA area.

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## Legal Parameters of Hallmark 1: Accountability Without Criminalization

- Specifying in the statute how adolescent development will be integrated into policies and procedures of the justice system at the **initial point of contact**.

- How will the justice system ensure youth understand the ramifications of their inappropriate behavior, engage in activities for restitution, and understand effective strategies for avoiding inappropriate behavior in the future?
- Specifying in the statute how law enforcement and justice system personnel are to engage youth **at each point of contact**, to avoid unnecessary shackling, confinement.