

Grand Forks County Attendant Care

Attendant Care is 365 days a year, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, short term, staff secure holding of unruly and/or delinquent juveniles (aged 10-17) who cannot or do not need to be placed in a physically secure setting (such as detention) and:

1. cannot be immediately released to their parents
2. need to be held until a longer-term placement can be arranged
3. need to be held while an investigation is being conducted
4. for whom shelter care is not appropriate due to the risk of running

All authorizations for attendant care will go through various law enforcement agencies. Placing agencies have the authority to make placements for up to 24 hours (excluding weekends and holidays), at which point Juvenile Court would become involved.

Attendant Care is the constant supervision of a juvenile by trained staff in a non-physical secure setting. Attendant Care is designed for those juveniles who are inappropriate for shelter care because the length of supervision is only for a few hours, or because the behavior warrants greater structure, but the offense does not warrant placement in a secure setting.

In general, Attendant Care services:

- Provide a non-secure alternative for the supervision of juvenile offenders;
- Allow law enforcement to return to their regular duties more rapidly;
- Reduce state and local liability; and
- Provide a best practice option for low level juvenile offenders as research has demonstrated that secure holding can have inadvertent negative outcomes.

