



Committed to Excellence

The Department of Youth Rehabilitation Services (DYRS) Biweekly Newsletter.

January 26, 2017



RESTORATIVE JUSTICE

POSITIVE YOUTH DEVELOPMENT

POSITIVE STAFF DEVELOPMENT

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

FAMILY EMPOWERMENT

JERRY M. COMPLETION

NATIONAL PREA RESOURCE CENTER

“Save
the
Dates”

ARE YOU **PREA** INFORMED?
PREA TRAINING AGENCY-WIDE

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MAR
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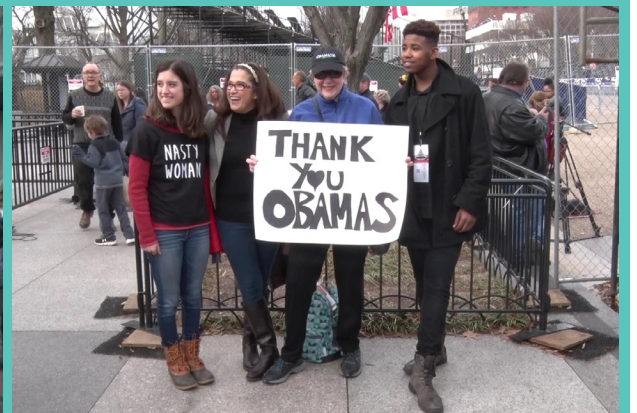
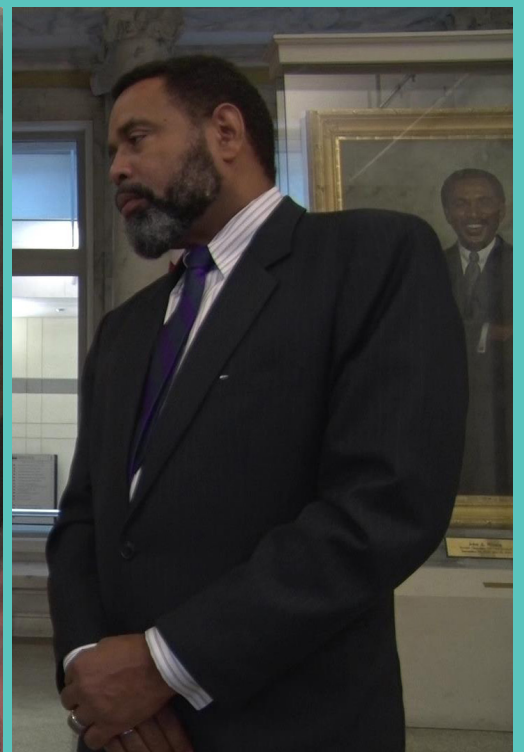
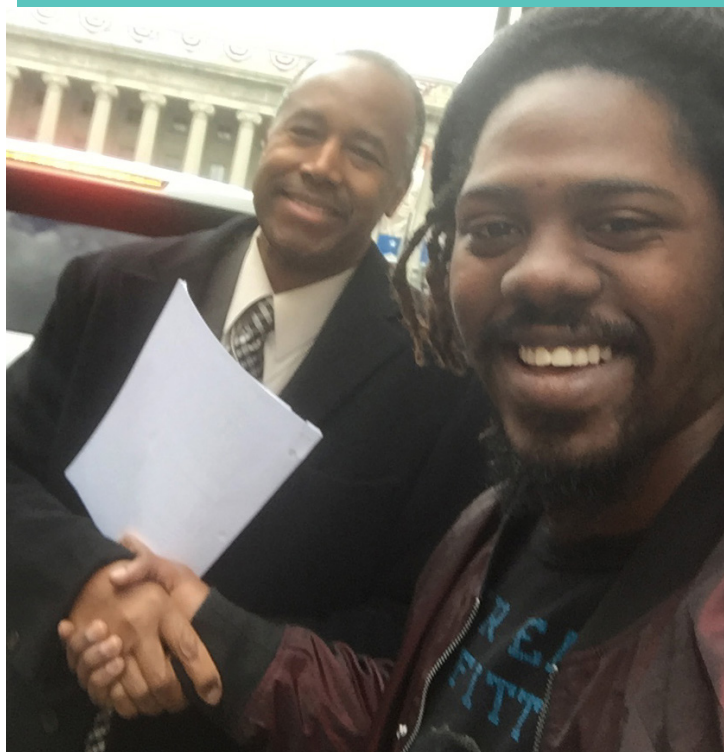
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Promotional Material

Congratulations to DYRS Supervisory Youth Development Representative (SYDR) Demetrius Davis on his recent promotion to Treatment Manager of the Transitions Unit at New Beginnings. From caring for our youth, to utilizing his horticulture skills to ensure New Beginnings looks its best, SYDR Davis represents the agency inside and out.



COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Inauguration Day

Youth from the DYRS' TV/Video Production class, along with young people from the community, had the opportunity to act as volunteers during the presidential inauguration on January 20, serving in various journalistic capacities throughout the day as part of the "Youth Press Corps."

The budding journalists showcased their TV/Video Production skills as they conducted professional interviews with DC's own Mayor Muriel Bowser, DC Councilmember for Ward 4 Brandon Todd, and others. They stood behind the camera to capture footage throughout the day, watched President Obama and First Lady Michelle Obama take their final drive down Pennsylvania Ave., and saw the motorcade for newly elected President Trump and his wife.

A few even had the opportunity to meet their favorite politicians, including Dr. Ben Carson, the nominee to be the 17th United States Secretary of Housing and Urban Development. DYRS thanks JMG Productions for providing its youth this once-in-a-lifetime experience.



The Youth Council is a group that focuses on engaging young people from the District of Columbia (DC), by teaching them leadership values through service. A platform for young people to promote effective change locally and internationally, while having fun, it rewards youth who demonstrate positive behavior, exposes them to different opportunities, and its members' serve as ambassadors—representative of young people throughout DC.

How to get involved:

- Social Workers or Case Managers should refer young people who are compliant with their Community Placement Agreements and open to giving back to the community to the Youth Council
- Activities open to all DYRS youth in the community
- Youth Council Advisors - DYRS staff to assist with the coordination and support of members/activities - are welcomed!
- Youth Council Activity Alert!

Volunteer at We Are Family - Saturday, 1/28/17, 10 a.m. - 1 p.m.

- Volunteers will pack and deliver groceries to low-income seniors
- Pick-up begins at 8 a.m.
- Open to everyone & community service hours offered



BLACK HISTORY MONTH

As we approach this month that symbolizes the celebration of achievements by black Americans and a time for recognizing the central role of African Americans in U.S. history, look out for a calendar of DYRS-hosted events in and around our locations. Compelled to contribute? Contact Joshua Collins with your thoughts and ideas for potential spokespersons.



POSITIVE YOUTH DEVELOPMENT

See Your Dream

DYRS celebrated the power of restorative arts in juvenile justice during a mural unveiling at New Beginnings Youth Development Center on January 25. Guests including staff, youth, parents, the US Attorney's Office (partners in the project), as well as representatives from Maya Angelou Academy and the See Forever Foundation viewed "See Your Dream," a project worked on by four DYRS youth under the supervision and direction of Rasheed Cuffee, Maya Angelou Academy, Art Director at the facility's Maya Angelou Academy. US Attorney for the District of Columbia, Mr. Channing D. Phillips, spoke about how powerful such ventures are in that they give youth an avenue to express themselves. Youth D.B. confirmed this with her testimonial, "I kept trying and trying and did something I thought I'd never do - a mural." DYRS Special Assistant to the Director for Restorative Justice, John Ducksworth - who initiated the project - spoke to the history and healing power of art in the restorative justice platform. The mural indeed symbolizes community, love, respect, trust and peace. The agency hopes to continue the project in the community in the near future.