



DYRS

Committed to Excellence

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

February 23, 2017



RESTORATIVE JUSTICE

POSITIVE YOUTH DEVELOPMENT

POSITIVE STAFF DEVELOPMENT

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

FAMILY EMPOWERMENT

JERRY M. COMPLETION

Event Calendar

FEB 25 OPEN HOUSE, AWARDS CEREMONY AND BLACK HISTORY PRESENTATION
NEW BEGINNINGS, 8400 RIVER RD., LAUREL, MD,
11:30 AM - 2:30 PM

MAR 1 DC COUNCIL PERFORMANCE HEARING
1350 PENNSYLVANIA AVE NW, 10 AM

MAR 2 **MAR 6** **MAR 16** **MAR 20** **MAR 30**

PREA TRAINING
NEW BEGINNINGS, 8400 RIVER RD., LAUREL, MD
(THE AUDITORIUM), 9 AM - 2 PM

MAR 13-14 CARE COORDINATOR TRAINING
THE R.I.S.E. CENTER, 2730 MLK JR. AVE SE



POSITIVE YOUTH DEVELOPMENT

Message Delivered

On Monday February 20, New Beginnings Youth Development Center hosted a Black History Month "Speakers Series." The youth heard powerful messages from Dr. Ramel Smith, a Clinical Psychologist from Milwaukee, WI. They also listened to Victorious Hall & Alfred Duncan, co authors of the new Book Man Uplifting: A New Standard for Love, Leadership & Loyalty.

The young people engaged in powerful conversation and asked numerous questions about overcoming their current situations to become successful leaders.

Star Gazing

This past Sunday morning, DYRS Youth Council members and staff volunteered to help some of our most vulnerable neighbors at the Star Gazing Farm Animal Sanctuary in Maryland. The Star Gazing Farm Animal Sanctuary provides a safe haven to abused, stray, and/or neglected farm animals.

Everyone who participated took part in educational programs, completed community service hours, and had the opportunity to see what goes into running the farm daily. They also enjoyed feeding lunch to many of the animals, and overall, reported that the trek away from the city provided a great and relaxing experience. The Youth Council is excited about its partnership with the farm and looks forward to the prospect of more youth getting the same experience. Look out for many more chances to visit the Stars Gazing Farm Sanctuary with the Youth Council. For more information and/or questions, please contact Ms. Rukie at rukie.wilson@dc.gov or Mr. Jose at jose.dearteaga@dc.gov.



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 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!

Saturday, 2/25/17, 10am-1pm
(pick-up begins at 8 am)

- Volunteer - We Are Family
- Pack and deliver groceries to low-income seniors
- Community Service Hours Offered

PREACH OUTREACH



DYRS' Risk Management Services division introduces you to the agency's Prison Rape Elimination Act (PREA) team, whose roles and responsibility encompass ensuring that DYRS is "PREA Informed," in compliance, and ready for its first PREA Audit! Meet:

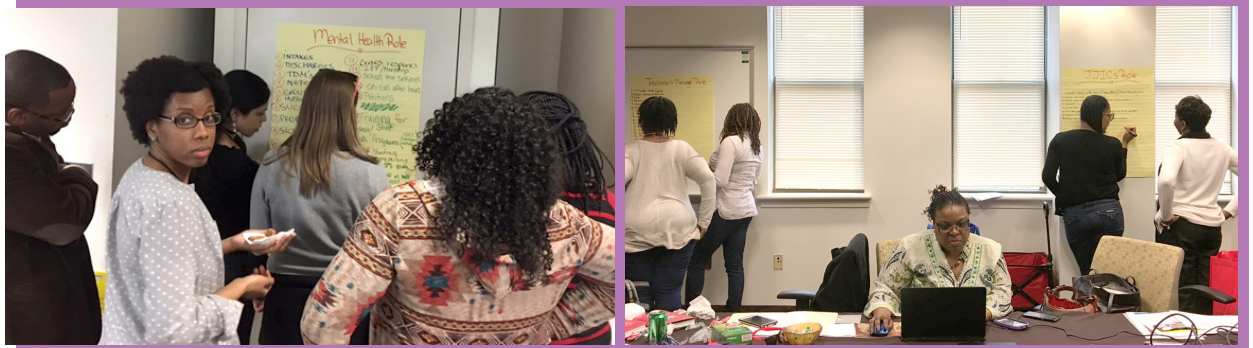
- **Nancy Fisher**
DYRS' PREA Coordinator and a certified PREA Auditor,
- **Rena Myles**
PREA Compliance Manager for YSC, and
- **Ernest Waiters Jr**
PREA Compliance Manager for New Beginnings.

AGENCY-WIDE TRAINING DAYS

MARCH 2, 6, 16, 20 AND 30, IN THE NEW BEGINNINGS AUDITORIUM, FROM 9 AM - 2 PM, WITH A CRIME SCENE PRESERVATION COMPONENT HOSTED BY MPD FROM 12 - 1 PM

Superintendents, Deputy Superintendents, SYDRs, YDRs, and Treatment Managers are required to attend the entire training.

Don't miss out on these FIVE opportunities to meet our yearly PREA training goal and look out for more PREA OUTREACH!



POSITIVE STAFF DEVELOPMENT

Royal Treatment

New Beginnings Youth Development Center (NBYDC) hosted a retreat for the facility's treatment teams at the Kellogg Center in DC on February 21, bringing together unit managers and mental health specialists to strengthen and enhance their innate qualities and highlight their respective abilities for the betterment of their teams. They also focused on enriching their perspectives and team development to better serve New Beginnings residents. All parties recognized the importance of implementing therapeutic justice at all times.

Training instructor Dr. Rachele Roberts taught the group how their individual personalities affect their ability to work as a team. NBYDC Deputy Superintendent for Treatment Janay Williams and Ms. Jackson helped facilitate a session on how to strengthen effectiveness by looking at communication through another person's lens, or perspective, and executed various team-building activities to promote bonding, solidify hope, and refocus on NBYDC's ultimate vision.



DYRS employees found themselves greeted with Valentine's Day decorations as they entered the building on February 14, promoting that loving feeling!

★ ★ ★ DEPARTMENT OF YOUTH REHABILITATION SERVICES ★ ★ ★

Email Brenda Padavil at brenda.padavil@dc.gov with questions or submissions for future issues.



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