



# Committed to Excellence

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

April 6, 2017



RESTORATIVE JUSTICE

POSITIVE YOUTH DEVELOPMENT

POSITIVE STAFF DEVELOPMENT

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

FAMILY EMPOWERMENT

JERRY M. COMPLETION

## Event Calendar

**APR 10** "ANCHORED IN STRENGTH"  
PARENT/CAREGIVER MEETING  
450 H. STREET NW, 6:30 - 8:30 P.M.

**APR 24** "ANCHORED IN STRENGTH"  
PARENT/CAREGIVER MEETING  
2101 MLK AVE JR. SE, 6:30 - 8:30 P.M.

**APR 25** AUTOMOTIVE CLASS GRADUATION CEREMONY  
NEW BEGINNINGS  
8400 RIVER RD. LAUREL, MD, 6 P.M.

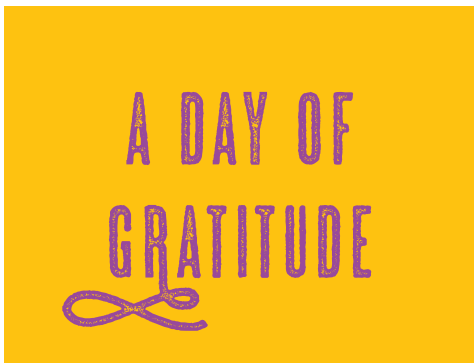
**APR 29** COVENANT OF PEACE FOR PARENTS/CAREGIVERS  
THE ARC  
1901 MISSISSIPPI AVE SE, WASHINGTON, DC 20020  
9 A.M. - 6 P.M.

**MAY 2** CREDIBLE MESSENGER TOWN HALL  
IVY CITY SMOKEHOUSE, 1356 OKIE ST., NE  
6:30 - 8:30 P.M.



Established in 1985 and reestablished in 2017, DYRS welcomes the return of its automotive shop and classes for youth! The new shop at New Beginnings is appropriately named "Carl's Cars," after long-time DYRS employee Carl Matthews, who will celebrate 30 years with the agency next year. Mr. Matthews greatly assisted with the original automotive shop, and played an instrumental role in its restoration this year.

**Surprise Mr. Matthews! We honor you and your dedication to DYRS, its employees, and most of all, to its youth.**



## POSITIVE STAFF DEVELOPMENT

*"Staff at YSC and New Beginnings enjoyed a day in their honor this past Tuesday.  
The words below are gleaned from a letter written by Senior Deputy Director Linda K. Harllee Harper to staff."*

**T**eam - We spend so much time together that it's only natural to start to think of each other as family. And like any family, we don't always see eye to eye. We bicker, we argue, we agree to disagree. But at the end of the day, we stick together and we are always there for each other. This is true of us as an agency and perhaps especially for those of us who work in our secure facilities, who spend especially long hours together - often dealing with tumultuous situations, yet managing to maintain an unparalleled sense of comradery. I am so proud of the staff who have their eyes and ears on our youth at all times. And when I think of what I am most thankful for at DYRS, I think of you.

You encourage our young people. You nurture our young people. You listen and correct our young people. You help them to believe that they can succeed. Remember that our young people are listening to you - even when they act like they aren't. You are making a positive difference in the lives of the young people that we serve. And when they leave, you embrace the newcomers and start all over again.

**Thank You for All That You Do.**

**We Are Thankful for You.**



Kudos to you J.R., and to New Beginnings for finding new and innovative ways to keeping our youth on the right track!



Community Service hours offered for all activities listed below.

10am - 1pm, (pick up begins at 8am),  
Volunteers will pack and deliver groceries to  
low-income seniors

11:30am - 3pm, Volunteers will help with farm and animal maintenance

Volunteers will help removing invasive plants, picking up trash, planting native plants, and performing other park projects

5pm - 11pm, Volunteers will help greet, distribute programs, and assist in set up/break down, *(open to existing Youth Council members only)*



The new handbook is an innovative, updated tool for all involved in supporting DYRS youth and their families, and highlights the policies and procedures to best do so.

“Staff are engaged, participating and willing to step out of their comfort zones to make positive change,” said Garine Dalce, Deputy Director of Youth and Family Programs at DYRS. “The content in this manual is truly seven years in the making and we hit a goal for Youth and Family Programs. This is a handbook other jurisdictions will want to study.”

The new handbook highlights the transition to DYRS Case Managers now being called Care Coordinators, just another way of symbolizing the love and care that DYRS puts into its youth.



**DYRS**

★ ★ ★ DEPARTMENT OF YOUTH REHABILITATION SERVICES ★ ★ ★

Youth and Family Programs present

# THE COVENANT OF PEACE - Caregiver Restorative Retreat



**WE ARE  
WASHINGTON  
DC**

**Metro Green Line:**  
Southern Avenue Station

**Metro Bus Lines:**  
94 (Stanton Road Line)  
30,32,34,35, 36 (Pennsylvania Avenue Line)  
W2,3 (Southeast Community Hospital-Anacostia Line)

Transportation available if needed



**The ARC**  
1901 Mississippi Ave SE  
Washington, DC 20020

**April 29, 2017**  
8:30 A.M. - 5 P.M.

Parents and Guardians  
of committed Youth  
Join us for breakfast at 8:30 A.M.

Please RSVP to Princess Whitaker Taylor at 202-716-8216 or [family.dyrs@dc.gov](mailto:family.dyrs@dc.gov)

Email Brenda Padavil at [brenda.padavil@dc.gov](mailto:brenda.padavil@dc.gov) with questions or submissions for future issues.

