



Committed to C.A.R.E.

A Special Care Coordinator Edition of Committed to Excellence.

April 20, 2017



Case in Point

MANAGERS REFLECT ON DYRS' NEW CARE PLANNING AND COORDINATION HANDBOOK AND TRAINING

Julie Ennis

"THE CARE PLANNING AND COORDINATION HANDBOOK TRAINING ALLOWED OUR TEAM TO GROW AS PROFESSIONALS AND STRENGTHENED OUR BOND IN A DYNAMIC WAY. STAFF WERE CHALLENGED TO THINK DIFFERENTLY ABOUT OUR WORK AND CONSIDER ALL POINTS OF VIEW REGARDING THE CARE OF COMMITTED YOUTH. WE CAN NOW UTILIZE A HANDBOOK WHICH IS INFORMED BY INPUT FROM KEY STAKEHOLDERS, RESEARCH IN JUVENILE JUSTICE REFORM, AND BEST PRACTICES FOR YOUTH ENGAGEMENT. WE BELIEVE IT IS TRULY THE "GOLD STANDARD."



Caroline Brown

"THIS MONTH'S CARE COORDINATION TRAINING ALLOWED THE CASE MANAGEMENT TEAM THE ABILITY TO COME TOGETHER TO LEARN AND EMBRACE THE DIRECTION THAT THE AGENCY IS MOVING TOWARDS AND HOPES TO EMBODY. THE MESSAGE WAS UPLIFTING AND SHOWED HOW FAR WE HAVE COME AND HOW FAR WE STILL CAN GO!"



LaTonya Callaway

"THE MANAGEMENT STAFF PROVIDED US WITH A WELL-PLANNED TRAINING THAT WAS EDUCATIONAL, INTERACTIVE, ENGAGING AND FUN! I REALLY ENJOYED THE TRAINING AND THE NEW MANUAL HAS SO FAR PROVEN TO BE A GREAT REFERENCE TOOL."

Gyonne Williams

"INSPIRING. FUN. FUNNY."



Edson Thomas

"THE TRAINING WAS GREAT, SPIRIT-FILLED, AND FOCUSED ON THE NEW APPROACH. CARE COORDINATOR'S WERE ENGAGED AND ACTIVELY PARTICIPATED IN ALL OF THE ACTIVITIES."

Garine Dallee, DEPUTY DIRECTOR FOR YOUTH AND FAMILY PROGRAMS



"THE YOUTH AND FAMILY PROGRAMS (YFP) DIVISION WORKS IN MANY CAPACITIES BUT, CARING FOR YOUTH AND FAMILIES IS ONE OF OUR PRIMARY RESPONSIBILITIES. WE DECIDED IT WAS TIME TO REVIEW AND EVALUATE OUR CURRENT PRACTICES TO ENSURE THEIR NEEDS ARE MET. DURING THE PROCESS, WE DETERMINED THAT WE HAVE AN OPPORTUNITY TO CREATE CHANGE WITHIN OUR SYSTEM THAT WILL AFFECT OUR DAY-TO-DAY RESPONSIBILITIES FOR THE BETTER. IT IS OUR HOPE THAT THESE SYSTEMIC CHANGES WILL PLACE THE DISTRICT AT THE FOREFRONT OF WHAT JUVENILE JUSTICE SHOULD LOOK LIKE.

OUR FOCUS IS TO ENSURE WE CREATE A SYSTEM THAT DOES NOT PLAY A ROLE IN MASS INCARCERATION, BUT A SYSTEM WHERE ONE IS PROVIDED AN OPPORTUNITY TO REHABILITATE WITH SUPPORTS FROM THE COMMUNITY. THE NEW MANUAL IS A START AND I CANNOT EXPRESS ENOUGH HOW PROUD I AM OF THE WORK AND EFFORT THAT WAS PUT INTO CREATING SUCH A PUBLICATION. THANK YOU, YOUTH AND FAMILY PROGRAMS, FOR ALL THAT YOU DO. I LOOK FORWARD TO OUR FUTURE!"

Event Calendar

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
9 A.M. - 6 P.M.

MAY 2

COMMUNITY EFFORTS TOWN HALL
IVY CITY SMOKEHOUSE, 1356 OKIE ST., NE
6:30 - 8:30 P.M.

OVERACHIEVERS

DYRS youth and Achievement Center (AC) staff participated in the Community & Police Truth and Reconciliation Conference and Basketball Tournament on Saturday, April 15. Our young people started the day with brunch and then participated in a lively session on “how youth should deal with interactions with law enforcement (Street Law 101).” Moderator Ronald Moten acknowledged our youth for providing helpful feedback.

After the discussion, the DYRS AC basketball team, the “Achievers,” defeated the Metropolitan Police Recruits with a final score of 30 to 23. DC Councilmember Trayon White congratulated our young men at the end of the game, and our boys went home with another win to add to their record. DYRS thanks you to all of those who supported this effort. Please look out for information on the next Achievers game to support our undefeated team!

PREACH OUTREACH

DYRS completed PREA training in typical fashion - COMMITTED! Here's a breakdown of the numbers of participants by day:

- March 2 - 87 participants
- March 6 - 70 participants
- March 16 - 74 participants
- March 20 - 80 participants
- March 30 - 133 participants

with a grand total of 444 staff and contractors trained!

YSC accomplished 82% compliance

NB accomplished 94.8% compliance

The PREA Training Team would like to thank Detective Greenwalt from the Department of Forensic Science. He provided a very graphic and telling presentation on crime scene preservation. Our DYRS staff really enjoyed and was fascinated by Detective Greenwalt's passion for the work that he does in the DC area. Thank you Detective Greenwalt!



Youth at New Beginnings participating in a rainy Easter egg hunt on April 17, enjoying the day and racing to find golden eggs with extra goodies in them.



POSITIVE YOUTH DEVELOPMENT

Craig Hodges Visits Youth in DC's Justice System

“I need you all to know better so you can do better,” said two-time NBA Championship winning Chicago Bull player Craig Hodges to youth at New Beginnings Youth Development Center (NBDC) in Laurel, Maryland on April 14. Hodges visited the juvenile facility - operated by the DC Department of Youth Rehabilitation Services (DYRS) - to speak to young people in the justice system about the elements required to ensure a fresh start.

“One of the most important things you have on your side is the power of choice – what you want versus what you need. You have to think about what got you into your circumstances. Did you do something because you needed to, or because you wanted to?” said Hodges. “Everything starts with a thought.”

Hodges is no stranger to adversity relating to personal choices. The acclaimed basketball player underwent extreme scrutiny and criticism when he encouraged other popular athletes to use their fame to help lift other Black Americans out of poverty. He speaks about these triumphs and struggles in his new book, “Long Shot,” where he also highlights that using his platform to raise awareness rarely sat well with his fellow players. He emphasized this to DYRS’ currently completely Black youth population.


Hodges later engaged with youth in the gym, challenging them in a three-point shoot-out and providing instruction on shooting form. Whether guiding them mentally or physically, Hodges words of wisdom and inspiring visit could only be classified as one thing - a sure shot.



Tailored with Tim

On Wednesday, April 18, young men participating in the “Tailored with Tim” program joined in an etiquette class at Busboys and Poets in Washington DC, where they received training from from Opuence Grind, a local non-profit. The youth gained knowledge on topics such as manners, proper dress, and how to initiate and carry appropriate conversation. The event was a success The youth are preparing for a Walk on Congress in May, where they'll be able to put these skills to use.

The Tailored with Tim program, led by Youth Engagement Specialist Timothy Durant Jr. from East of the River Police Clergy Community Partnership, seeks to help all youth understand the power of refinement in all areas.



Skate Zone

On Tuesday, April 18, Credible Messengers and DYRS staff took more than 20 young people rollers skating, followed by lunch at restaurant Golden Corral, as a Spring Break kickoff. Youth enjoyed an afternoon filled with slips and falls, friends to help them get back up, and smiles all around. Everyone ate well and expressed their appreciation at being able to participate in this simple teenage afternoon. DYRS thanks all Credible Messengers and DYRS staff who spent the afternoon watching over our youth.