



COMMITTED TO EXCELLENCE



June 30, 2016

EVENT CALENDAR

- 7/4** Independence Day
- 7/5** Anchored in Strength (Parents' Group), MLK Achievement Center, 2101 Martin Luther King Avenue, 6:30 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.
- 7/7** RealizeRetirement Tour, New Beginnings, 8400 River Road, Laurel, MD, 9 a.m.
- 7/8 - 7/15** Brothers in Arms (Young Men's Focus Group), 450 Achievement Center, Movie: 12 p.m. - 3 p.m., followed by normal activities and refreshments
- 7/26** A Male's Perspective, Busboys & Poets, 6 p.m.

Positive Staff Development

Welcome to Ryan Miller, who serves as Assistant General Counsel and now Privacy Officer for DYRS. Mrs. Miller is stationed at 450 H. Street. Please say hello to her if you meet her around the agency!

Farewell to Ms. Hattie Lipscomb as she retires from the agency after 10 years of service as a dental assistant to our youth at both New Beginnings and the Youth Services Center. Please join DYRS Health Services Administration in wishing her all the best!



Positive Youth Development

Graduation Season

Congratulations to Maya Angelou Academy's 2016 graduates, who walked across the stage on June 8. Six youth graduated from New Beginnings this year, with three receiving college acceptance letters. The agency is proud of your hard work and efforts, and looks forward to seeing you thrive and succeed!

A Visit from the Bird Man Gives Youth Wings



Youth and staff enjoy a visit from the "Bird Man" Rodney Stotts at New Beginnings on June 22.



Staff at the Youth Services Center enjoy a "Rock Star" appreciation event in their honor on June 21 for their tremendous work and effort in the last few months.



Congratulations to Youth Development Representative Marqueta Luckey, who recently published her first book, *Did Me and Paid For It*. Ms. Luckey shares her story of overcoming adversity as a college student and achieving success as a single mother, and the importance of maintaining a positive attitude and perseverance through all of life's experiences.

Rodney Stotts, also known as "Bird Man," visited scholars at New Beginnings' Maya Angelou Academy during their science class on June 22. Stotts works for "Wings Over America," a program that serves two functions: to rehabilitate endangered youth, and to help return birds into the wild. The organization's overarching goal is recruit adjudicated or severely at-risk young adults into careers in science, environmental restoration and stewardship. Mr. Stotts shared his own story of how he turned his life around while involved in the juvenile justice system decades ago, and explained how working with birds gave him a new perspective that helped him change his ways. Our young people took heed to his message, and look forward to his return to New Beginnings on July 19.

