



COMMITTED TO EXCELLENCE



July 14, 2016

EVENT CALENDAR

- 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.
- 7/15** "Anchored in Strength" Caregiver Support Group, MLK Achievement Center, 2101 Martin Luther King Avenue JR, SE, 6:30 p.m.
- 7/18 - 7/22** Gender-Specific Training for Staff, New Beginnings, 8400 River Road, Laurel, MD.
- 8/2** A Male's Perspective, (Town Hall for Male Caregivers), Busboys & Poets, Events Room, 1025 5th Street NW, 6 p.m.

DOING BUSINESS WITH DYRS



Service Coalition FY17 Request for Applications (RFA) Open for Bidders!

Service Coalition spots for FY 17 in (1) Barbering and Cosmetology; (2) Boxing, Kickboxing or Marital Arts and (3) Driver's Education are open to all vendors and community partners again until July 22! Go to tinyurl.com/jefcnwx to view the RFA or to apply!



Attention All DYRS Stars!!!

The agency is looking for unique talent to provide voices for short training clips! Do you know of any DYRS family that might be interested?

SPREAD THE NEWS!!!

Please contact Youth Development Representative (YDR) Jamia Richardson (jamia.richardson@dc.gov) or YDR Ramonia Thome (ramonia.thome@dc.gov) to arrange a casting session!!!



Cirque du Soleil

DYRS employees and affiliates are entitled to discounted prices for Cirque Du Soleil's "Kurious: Cabinet of Curiosities." Buy now and save more than %30! <http://tinyurl.com/jfcjbat>



Positive Staff Development

YSC Beats the Heat and High Numbers Cool Attitudes and High Work Ethic Prevail

Words below gleaned from an email sent out by Deputy Director for Secure Programs, Willie Fullilove, to his staff on July 4

"I wanted to send this communication to all to notify you of the successful turnout and <cookout> event that took place at <the Youth Services Center> YSC today. Today's festivities included a talent show with judges (thanks to all who came by to assist), a station for cotton candy and snowballs, a station for all youth to eat BBQ in the visitation hall, and other fun filled events on the units. The staff at YSC made this a great experience for the youth in the facility. Even with the numbers being where they are and the limited space for programming due to the renovations, this showed another example of how when YSC wants to buckle down and get things done for the youth, they always come through. Although we've had some challenges in the facility over the last few weeks, we know that the mission never changes. Being about the youth and ensuring that they are not only being treated well but are given the best treatment at all times is the hallmark for having great success. Truly, that's what Positive Youth Justice is and that's what the staff at YSC has once again exhibited. I wanted to make sure that I sent this out to not only express my gratitude, but to share with everyone how good the work is being done for our youth. Thank you for your attention to this matter and take care."

Family Empowerment

YOU ARE INVITED TO "A MALE'S PERSPECTIVE"



After the success of the initial "A Parent's Perspective" events for the parents of committed youth earlier this year, the Youth and Family Programs Division will host "A Male's Perspective" on August 2 - a town hall geared toward the specific needs and opinions of male caregivers (fathers, stepfathers, coaches, mentors, uncles, and any male who plays an active role in our youths' lives). It will take place at Busboys and Poets (1025 5th Street, NW) at 6 p.m. Please contact Rashida George at rashida.george@dc.gov or (202) 299-3609 with any questions.



Helloooooo DYRS,

Guess what? The DC Government Fitness Challenge is in full swing and a heated competition is brewing, especially amongst the 10 floors of our 450 H. Street headquarters! While team "PUSH IT REAL GOOD" of the 6th floor already claimed the winner's circle, team "Straight Outta Cookies" is the real deal with a whopping 443 fitness challenge points at the early onset and they're simply daring anyone to come for them. Coached by James "You can do it put chor back into it" Heath, they intend to reach 1000 points before week's end with heavy hitters Melissa Milchman and Janine Fletcher leading the charge like a couple of American Ninja Warriors ready for battle! Pulling up the rear on the ninth floor is team "9th Floor" with a host of athletic prowess, but the busy bees rarely have time enough to upload/update their workout journals and team stat(s). Get in there "9th Floor" because such momentum is critical to stay in the game. The remaining floors and agency units??? Send me your names and scores! Remember it's still anyone's race to accelerate your team scores and win one of the top three prizes, all in the name of getting healthy and staying healthy. There's really no way to lose at all if you participate. Just ask Garine Dalce when you see her jogging between 450, YSC, and MLK rather than Fleet Sharing about town. You didn't know??

See you on the track, and remember that if something gets in between you and your success, JUST MOVE IT!!

Wendell

Positive Staff Development



What Love Looks Like

On June 30, the Health Service Department hosted a farewell brunch honoring the service of Ms. Hattie Lipscomb, the agency's full-time dental assistant, who retired after more than 10 years of service to DYRS. Staff from all walks of DYRS tearfully said goodbye and congratulations on her retirement. Highlights of the event included the presentation of a plaque that memorialized the agency's appreciation of service by her supervisor and Chief of Health Services, Dr. Alsan Bellard, as well as the Fraternal Order of Police gifting her with the American Flag flown on June 29, 2016 in honor of her extended service and dedication to DC government.

Editor's Note: Special thanks to DYRS Communications intern Naiya Dalce for her contributions to this edition of "Committed to Excellence."



Gender Specific Training Starts at New Beginnings

DYRS will welcome internationally recognized clinician Dr. Stephanie Covington and her team next week as they provide gender-specific training and consultation to DYRS staff for "Journey" - the 10-bed girls unit set to open at New Beginnings this summer. The five-day session will highlight trauma-informed services, as well as the guiding principles for gender responsive services for girls. It also encompasses training on a program of self-discovery and empowerment for girls.

"Journey" is monumental in that it will meet the treatment needs of DYRS' female population while keeping them closer to the District. Historically, DC disproportionately sent girls in the juvenile justice system to out-of-state residential facilities due to a lack of local placements.

The agency looks forward to Dr. Covington's innovative, gender-responsive, and trauma-informed approach and a renewed focus on its young women.

For more information, please contact Tammie Terry (tammie.terry@dc.gov), Executive Assistant, or Deputy Superintendent of Treatment Janay Williams (janay.williams2@dc.gov).

Positive Youth Development



A Cut Above the Rest

DYRS youth from the MLK Achievement Center's Barbing Program in Southeast DC showcased their skills and gave back to the Ward 8 community on July 2, when they provided free haircuts to men at the Community for Creative Non-Violence (CCNV). The barbing program, sponsored by East of the River Clergy Police Community Partnership, teaches young people how to cut and style hair. DYRS committed and post-commitment youth currently offer these services seven days a week at the MLK Achievement Center.

Youth at YSC participate in an energetic bootcamp class on July 3.



"COMMITTED TO EXCELLENCE" is the Department of Youth Rehabilitation Services (DYRS) Newsletter. It is published biweekly on Thursdays.

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

