



# COMMITTED TO EXCELLENCE



## November 5, 2015



### Welcome to DYRS!

A warm welcome to our new DYRS employees who started on November 2:

- David Harris, Senior Talent Acquisition Specialist (HR)
- Christina Thomas, Employee Relations Specialist (HR)

Please introduce yourself to our new staff members if you meet them around our facilities!

### Congratulations Adrian Richardson...

on your promotion to Social Services Officer! Mr. Richardson oversees the Abscondence and GPS Monitoring Units. Under his direction, the units' staff members locate our young people, support and encourage them to stay on the right path, and engage the families and group homes we work with. Mr. Richardson says he does it "because of the impact on the kids."

Thank you, Mr. Richardson, for your dedication to keeping our youth, staff and District safe!



### New Beginnings Snapshot

*YDRs J. Brown & T. Payne; SYDRs E. Waiters & J. Chamberlain, Unit Manager F. Brown and their Leadership Academy instructor*

### Vote at DYRS!

DYRS is a Voter Registration Agency, designated by the District of Columbia as a place where staff, youth and the public can vote.

To register and vote in the District of Columbia, you must:

- Be a citizen of the United States
- Be at least 17 years old, and turn 18 years old on or before the date of the next general election
- Not be incarcerated for a crime that is a

DEPARTMENT OF YOUTH REHABILITATION SERVICES

## EMPLOYEE TOWN HALLS 2015

As a follow up to the Town Halls that took place earlier this year, join Director Lacey for another set of interactive conversations! **SHARE YOUR THOUGHTS AND FEEDBACK ON TOPICS THAT MATTER TO YOU AND THE AGENCY.**

**450 H STREET & MLK**  
THE ACHIEVEMENT CENTER AT 450 H STREET  
November 17, 5:30 - 8:00 p.m.

**YOUTH SERVICES CENTER**  
THE COMMUNITY ROOM  
November 18, 5:30 - 8:30 a.m. and 1-4 p.m.

**NEW BEGINNINGS**  
THE TRAINING ROOM  
November 19, 5:30 - 8:30 a.m. and 1-4 p.m.

ALL STAFF ARE ENCOURAGED TO ATTEND!

★ ★ ★ DEPARTMENT OF YOUTH REHABILITATION SERVICES ★ ★ ★

## News & Networking

### DYRS Youth Attend White House Forum on Girls of Color

On Wednesday, October 28, DYRS youth and staff attended a White House forum on "Girls of Color and Intervening Public Systems: Interrupting the Sexual Abuse to Prison Pipeline." Panel topics such as "The Voices of Youth Advocates" resonated with the young women from DYRS who attended. In another panel, "Federal Responses - An Interactive Conversation," Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Administrator Robert Listerbee emphasized that "there is a need for trauma-informed care in all facets in which we interact with young people." Entertainer Margaret Cho, a survivor of abuse, moderated an afternoon panel of "Program Exemplars" who highlighted the standards of care in their respective facilities/ programs. The event closed with remarks from The White House Council on Women and Girls, who stated that their purpose is "to ensure that each of the agencies in which they're charged takes into account the needs of women and girls in the policies they draft."



### Director Lacey on "The Kojo Nnamdi Show"

"He's been in the job for less than a year, but Clinton Lacey has big plans for the Department of Youth Rehabilitation Services. We discuss the lives behind the statistics and what success will look like, both in DYRS facilities and within communities and neighborhoods across the District".

*Kojo Nnamdi*

On Monday, October 22, DYRS Director Clinton Lacey interviewed with radio host Kojo Nnamdi on radio station WAMU 98.5 to discuss his vision for the agency. Director Lacey stated during his interview that the normal model for juvenile justice agencies is to "fix young people and send them back to the community" but that "we take a different view." He continued to say "We have to work hand in hand with the community and invest in community, in the capacity of families and the capacity of neighborhoods, to receive and care for their young people." Listen to the full interview online on the show's website

### DYRS Quarterly Networking Breakfast

On October 28, more than 50 employers, youth and staff from our sister agencies attended DYRS' Quarterly Networking Breakfast. Keynote Speaker Glen O'Gilivie, from the Center for Nonprofit Advancement, spoke about employers giving back and giving a young person an opportunity that could change their lives. Pepco and Document Managers reciprocated that they'd like to partner with DYRS to provide possible employment opportunities and internships.



felony in the District

- Have maintained a residence in the District for at least 30 days before the date of the election and not claim the right to vote in any other state or territory
- Not be adjudged legally incompetent to vote

Additionally, a person who otherwise meets these qualifications may pre-register on or after his or her 16th birthday, but not vote until he/she reaches the age of 18.

Email Asante Laing with [asante.laing@dc.gov](mailto:asante.laing@dc.gov) with any questions re voting at DYRS.

## IT Tips & Tools

Outlook Tips:

- Use natural language to create a calendar event. Instead of scrolling through the monthly date picker to find the exact date for an appointment or meeting, type days naturally in the date field (“three days from tomorrow,” “Christmas,” etc.)
- If you regularly need to type out a standard passage of text, you can save it as a Quick Part for easy insertion into your emails. Simply highlight the text in the composer window, then switch to the Insert tab, click the Quick Parts dropdown and select “Save selection to Quick Parts gallery.” When you start typing the phrase, you’ll see it pop up as a suggestion; Hit return to insert it in full. You can also select your text with the mouse from the Quick Parts dropdown. Right-click on it for placement options, or to edit/ manage Quick Parts and other “building blocks.”
- Write a message to be delivered at a future time. Outlook lets you defer delivery until a specified time. Write your email, then switch to the Options tab and click Delay Delivery. This opens a requester with a “Do not deliver before:” field; Enter a date and time, then click Close. After you hit Send, the message will not deliver until the specified time for sending. If you’re using an Exchange server, you can now close Outlook. If you’re using POP or IMAP, leave the application open until the specified time for delivery has passed.

*This IT Tip and all previous IT Tips can be found on the DYRS intranet under “Information Technology.”*



## Lloyd Cornish on the College Application Process

DYRS Education Specialist Lloyd Cornish spoke about the agency’s efforts in guiding youth through college application process in an interview with radio station WNEW 99.1 yesterday. Clips from the interview ran throughout the night.

## Around the Agency

### Maya Angelou Scholars Give “Powerful” Speeches

On Tuesday, November 3, scholars in the New Beginnings Maya Angelou Academy participated in its 6th Annual Power Unit Speech Competition, an event that teaches youth the importance of expressing themselves through spoken words and highlights just how powerful a speech can be. Judges looked for criteria such as eye contact, posture, inflection and presence.

Congratulations to the top three winners: Malik L, who spoke about the higher power; Malik W., who spoke about being a leader; and David C., who talked about having pride in your power, as well as audience picks David C. & Dominique J.! We applaud them for stepping out of the box and speaking up to further their educational pursuits!

### Breakfast of Champions

Did you know that the Director and Senior Deputy Director have breakfast with three DYRS employees from various areas of the agency every month?

These staff members are chosen at random in an effort to ensure all employees’ voices are heard. Employees shared: “After leaving breakfast this morning I had a chance to talk with the other staff that was with us. The consensus was we all left feeling our voices were heard and that we had gained a clearer understanding of Mr. Lacey’s vision for DYRS.”

“Thank you for allowing me the opportunity today. It truly gave me a different respect for Mr. Lacey. I pray that he will be successful in his journey and I pray that all will receive his vision and move forward...Nothing like having a director who wants change and care about the welfare of our youths.”

This is just one of the many ways that senior management is increasing internal employee communications and trying to heighten awareness about the agency mission.

**“FEEDBACK IS THE  
BREAKFAST OF  
CHAMPIONS.”**

*Ken Blanchard*

### A Team Effort



As an agency, we often talk about love in public policy. But a true reminder of what that looks like took place a few weeks ago. A pregnant young woman who’d reached her estimated due date and had the option of being detained at the Youth Services Center (YSC) or alternatively the Child and Family Service Agency. DYRS Case Manager Shirley Burnett and the YSC Transportation team wanted the young woman housed in a facility that would give her an opportunity to bond with her child once born. The Transportation team picked up the young woman’s belongings and transported her during their shift change, until the DC Department of Human Services found an appropriate place to house her. All parties helped the young woman enroll in a program that

would allow her to take the best care of her child within the confines of the juvenile justice system. Thank you to Ms. Burnett and the YSC Transportation Team for tirelessly - and without question - ensuring our youth receive the best care, on or off of DYRS grounds. Now that is love in public policy.

### Community Building



DYRS youth and staff are taking every chance they get to build community in the District of Columbia. On Halloween Eve, they participated in a midnight bike ride for Breast Cancer awareness, and they volunteered at the Mt. Rainier/Gateway Arts District 5K race the very next day. Many of the youth are a part of DYRS’ Achievement Center and International Youth Councils, groups whose premise are community service and exploring inside and outside the Capital to prepare for brighter futures and greater outcomes.



**“COMMITTED TO EXCELLENCE”** IS THE DEPARTMENT OF YOUTH REHABILITATION SERVICES (DYRS) EMPLOYEE E-NEWSLETTER. IT IS PUBLISHED BIWEEKLY ON THURSDAYS.  
EMAIL [BRENDA PADAVIL](mailto:BRENDA.PADAVIL@DC.GOV) AT [BRENDA.PADAVIL@DC.GOV](mailto:BRENDA.PADAVIL@DC.GOV) WITH QUESTIONS OR SUBMISSIONS FOR FUTURE ISSUES.

