

Employees, Volunteers, Community Partners, and Friends

NEWSLETTER



DJJ Dedicates Third Habitat House

DJJ, Habitat for Humanity, and Wells Fargo in March dedicated the third Habitat Home built at DJJ. Located in Chapin, the new home was built with the help of agency juveniles, more than 140 volunteers from Wells Fargo, many other volunteers, employees, and the Friends of Juvenile Justice. Director Murray and officials from Wells Fargo and Habitat for Humanity welcomed the new homeowner, Rebecca, with a ribbon cutting to signify the end of another amazing building effort.

“We appreciate everybody being here to share this day with us and making Rebecca’s dream of being a homeowner for the first time a reality,” said Director Murray.

This is the third straight year DJJ has assisted in this effort for a deserving homeowner.

The frame of the house was constructed by Rebecca and nearly 300 volunteers and employees on the grounds of the Broad River Road Complex. After a week of building the frame by hand, the house was transported with the generous help of Carolina House Movers to its final location in Chapin.

Rebecca grew up in Tanzania and the Congo, but she and her two children were able to move to Lexington four years ago through a church program for refugees.

“Thank you so much for making this possible, for me to have a better place to live with my kids,” Rebecca said to the crowd at the dedication. “My dream was for my kids to have their own backyard and now they have one!”

Director Murray added, “Our young people gained a lot of real-world job training experience in carpentry and construction.” “But even more importantly, they learned the value of giving back to the community, helping others, and of working together to produce something meaningful that will stand for a long time.”



New Homeowner Rebecca and Director Murray Cut the Ribbon at the Home Dedication

Beaufort DJJ CHOICES Group Tour



Family Court Judge Deborah Malphrus addresses the juveniles. Pictured left to right at the bench are: Corporal David Kistler, Bailiff Ron McAbee, Judge Malphrus, Corporal Michael Winston, and Court Reporter Missy Brown.

Fourteen CHOICES group juveniles from Lady's Island Middle School in Beaufort County recently took a field trip to learn about the legal system and court processes.

Coordinated by Beaufort County Community Specialist III Zelphine Smalls, and accompanied by the school's social worker Kathleen Bingham and guidance counselor Laurie Howell, the juveniles were given the opportunity to tour the courthouse and Beaufort County Detention Center, and to talk with officers from the Beaufort County Sheriff's Office.

The highlight of the day was when Family Court Judge Deborah Malphrus took time from her busy schedule to talk with the juveniles about the role of judges and the importance of obeying the law and staying in school.

CHOICES is a curriculum tool that teaches young people to make positive decisions in their lives to help them avoid repeating criminal behaviors. It is taught at the local county level in many communities across the state, and like many of DJJ's programs CHOICES is designed to promote good citizenship to help youth be successful in life and avoid becoming involved with crime.

House Legislative Oversight Committee Creates Survey for Citizens to Comment on DJJ

DJJ is the first of five state agencies being reviewed by the new House Legislative Oversight Committee. As such, the committee has created an online survey seeking citizens' input on the agencies under study.

Citizens are encouraged to take the survey, which provides an opportunity to share with the committee any comments, concerns or suggestions citizens may have about these five agencies. The survey will be available online through May 31, 2015, and DJJ employees are encouraged to participate.

To take the survey, go to www.statehouse.gov, click on the "Citizens' Interest" tab on the top row, then click on the "House Legislative Oversight" link. While the survey is available online until May 31, citizens may contact the committee anytime to share comments, concerns or suggestions about state agencies. The direct link to the survey is

[https://www.research.net/s/HouseLegislativeOversightCom
mittee1](https://www.research.net/s/HouseLegislativeOversightCommittee1).

Employees may also find a link to this survey on the DJJ website (www.state.sc.us/djj) in the "For Employees" section of the main page through May 31st.

Lancaster G.R.E.A.T. Program Graduates 100 Youth



DJJ Community Specialist Marketta Jeter talks about the G.R.E.A.T. graduation during television coverage of the event.

This March, one hundred 4th graders graduated from the first ever Gang Resistance Education and Training (G.R.E.A.T.) program at North Elementary School in Lancaster. The graduation was the



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culmination of six weeks of training by Lancaster DJJ's G.R.E.A.T instructor Marketta Jeter. The students were provided instruction each week on decision making, communication, anger management skills, bullying, respect and being a GREAT Citizen in their community and school.

Students' accomplishments during the course were recognized—with each participant being awarded a medal, certificate of completion, and incentives to remind them of their hard work and dedication to the program. The graduation also gave youths' families an opportunity to see what their children had learned through the lectures and activities.

During the graduation, Lancaster City Police Department Chief Harlean Carter spoke to participants about staying away from violence and gangs, stressing that it's harder to get out of trouble than to stay out of trouble. Two of Chief Harlean's job shadow students from South Middle School also spoke about staying out of gangs and surrounding oneself with positive peers. North Elementary School vice-principal Cory Hyslop added that he can't wait to start up a next cycle with another group of students next school year.

"The fourth graders had fun and responded well during every lesson," said Ms. Jeter. "The G.R.E.A.T program gives its participants key resources and teaches them valuable lessons that can be beneficial to them in their everyday life as they grow older," she said. "I know that this program works and DJJ backs it 100 percent!"

BRRC Activity Therapy Department Finishes Pilot Group

The Activity Therapy Department just finished up an activity therapy pilot group that ran for eight weeks with some of students from the Poplar dorm at BRRC.

Participants in this activity therapy group benefited greatly from the program. Of the ten boys who attended regularly there were no lock-ups or major infractions during the eight weeks.

The facilitators surveyed the students and found great enthusiasm for the program.

"I liked the class; it was fun," said one student.

One officer shared that she felt that the students had more "respect for each other" in their overall behavior

on and off the unit during the course of the program.

The goal of activity therapy is to use recreation services for purposeful interventions that are therapeutic and holistic in nature. It is an opportunity to integrate treatment goals and objectives while using activity therapy in a purposeful way—the benefits being physical, emotional, cognitive, social, fun and spiritual to bring about desired outcomes.

The group focused on the following:

- How to use free time wisely.
- What is leisure?
- What is recreation?
- What are the benefits?
- What are the barriers?
- How to overcome barriers
- What are personal values in leisure?
- How to cope with stress, anger, frustration, impulse control and boundaries
- How to gain better social skills
- New activities and games

The DJJ Blazers Hold Graduation



A Blazer addresses the crowd

It was not your typical graduation. There were no gowns, no time-honored tossing of the caps at the end of the ceremony. This was a graduation of a different kind. On March 21st, certificates of achievement were given to seven well-deserving young men at the Circle of Hope Blazers graduation ceremony and luncheon. These seven young men, four from BRRC and three from Camp Aspen, were

recognized for completing a ten week leadership camp.

The Blazers are a group of juveniles given the opportunity to become leaders. Each one must be recommended by their social worker, approved by a member of the executive management team, complete an application, and interview for a coveted opportunity to become a Blazer. They met on Monday nights. Each Blazer explored topics such as dressing for success, education, networking, professional careers, self-awareness, public speaking, and community service. They ate dinner at the International Bistro, experiencing food from and learning fun facts about different cultures.

This year the Blazers also hosted their First Annual Sweetheart Luncheon and Dance with seniors from Seven Oaks and Crooked Creek Parks. Over 100 people came to celebrate and bridge the generations through hope. The Blazers also attended an Employment Expo.

This graduation celebration honored the dedication and commitment that each young man made to become a leader. It was a showcase of the skills learned and a proud moment for each Blazer as they presented speeches they crafted themselves. Many of the Blazers talked about their pasts and the lessons they learned. And they all talked about the path they are blazing to their future.

Honoring the retirement of program curator, Stacey Atkinson, The Circle of Hope team established **The Stacey F. Atkinson Blazer Apprenticeship**. They also implemented two special recognition awards for graduating Blazers called the **Stacey F. Atkinson: Blazing Star Award** and the **Stacey F. Atkinson: Stepping into Purpose Award**.

Among the graduation guests were loving family members, social workers, Intensive Supervision Officers, executive management members, Camp Aspen staff, mentors and volunteers. To wrap up the ceremony, families gathered in the garden for professional family portraits that will hopefully serve as a fond memory for years to come.

The Circle of Hope team and Blazers would like to say "Thank you!" to everyone involved with the Blazers. Without all of your support, none of this would have been possible.

City Year TASC Center Working with DJJ Chaplaincy to Provide Activities for Juveniles at MEC



The City Year Teen After School Center (TASC) has been doing more lately than working with local teens. They've also been working with our young people at DJJ's Midlands Evaluation Center (MEC). A group from City Year visited MEC twice recently to speak with the youth.

Each visiting group consisted of a coordinator who took the role of team leader. They provided much-needed personal interaction with the juveniles. They taught team-building skills through group interactive play. They presented exercises in group-bonding with the juvenile girls and with the juvenile boys.

They also offered guidance on prevalent issues such as self-identification through exercises such as interactive skits that the juveniles could participate in, with each having his or her own specific role to play. All of the skits highlighted a moral-social message such as helping our neighbors, being accountable for our actions, making smart decisions, and coping positively with social settings.

The highlight of one visit was presented at the end of the program. The juveniles used their new-found skills to play out various roles in the skits—with many of our juveniles discovering that they possessed a hidden talent for acting. The MEC staff reports that the youth were ecstatic from the applause, the congratulations, and the show of support from the City Year team. The City Year TASC site visits gave many

of our juveniles at MEC a great boost to their self-esteem, as well as much laughter, fun, and learning.

DJJ Students Place First in “Chapter Display” Contest at SCSkillsUSA Conference

On March 26-28, SCSkillsUSA celebrated 50 years of developing world-class workers and responsible American citizens at its annual conference.

And, as in previous years, Birchwood High School students did very well at this year's conference. The agency had three students enter the "Chapter Display" contest at the conference. These three students demonstrated their carpentry, welding, auto collision repair and leadership skills as they designed and built their custom display. And their hard work paid off in the end, as they won first place in the contest.

"I'm so proud of our students in the way they conducted themselves," added Birchwood teacher James Tanner, who oversaw the students. "Their presentation was excellent."

More than 300,000 students and advisors join SkillsUSA annually, organized into more than 17,000 sections and 52 states and territories. The total number who participated this year were more than 335,000. SkillsUSA has served nearly 12 million members since its founding in 1965, helping each one develop the technical skills required for a successful career and the leadership skills that facilitate success in life.

Horry County Participates in WMU Ministry Fair

On April 6th, Horry County Director Miracle Griffith and ISO Supervisor Jerome Bellamy attended the Southern Baptist Convention's 2015-2016 Associational Women's Missionary Union (WMU) Spring Meeting.

In addition to the WMU business meeting, the event included a dinner and a Ministry Fair, which is similar to a career fair.

Along with DJJ there were several other organizations in attendance from the local community including Horry County Police Department, Coastline Women's Center, and Collegiate Ministries from Coastal Carolina University. Attendees were able to

visit with the different agencies and organizations represented to learn about what they do and how to get involved in their programs through outreach or volunteering.

"At this event we learned that several churches in our local community had contributed to DJJ's Store of Hope," said Ms. Griffith. "They're also planning a trip later this month to drop off items they've collected for the upholstery program and other projects at the Store."

Birchwood JROTC Holds 20th Annual Dining Out/Awards Ceremony



Director Murray and the guest speaker, retired General Calvin H. Elam, at the Dining Out Ceremony

Earlier this month, the JROTC program at Birchwood School held its 20th Annual Dining Out and Awards Ceremony to recognize deserving cadets for their academic performance, leadership development, and physical fitness attributes. All of the students being honored were allowed to invite guests.

Prior to the start of the ceremony, hosted by Director Murray, cadets participated in an informative etiquette class—learning proper protocol for a Dining Out event, including receiving line, presentation of colors, toasts, speeches, seating, accepting awards, dining and retiring of the colors.

Cadets were awarded several notable certificates highlighting their accomplishments in specialty areas such as Work-keys, Principal and Superintendent Honor Roll, GED-ready Participants, Insiders Awards, School and Community Support Awards, Armed Forces awards, and Distinguished and Superior Cadet Awards.

Birchwood's JROTC commander, Major Patrick McEwen, recognized that "The participation, exemplary conduct and appropriate dress of our JROTC students at the ceremony should make any parent or guardian proud."

Decorated and retired General Calvin H. Elam, the first African American member of the South Carolina Air National Guard, was the guest speaker at the ceremony. General Elam spoke to the audience about his rough start as an airman and how he progressed through the ranks through hard work and determination. In his closing remarks, he told the story of the pencil maker:

“The pencil maker said to each pencil he made ‘Before I send you out into the world to be the best you can be. First, you will be able to do great things, but only if you allow yourself to work well with others. Secondly, you will need sharpening from time to time, but this will only make you better. Thirdly, you can correct your mistakes by erasing them. Fourthly, the most important part of you will be what’s inside of you, your character. Lastly, on every surface you make contact with, make sure you leave your mark.’”

This year’s ceremony was once again a huge success in guiding our young people in JROTC to become better. Job well done!

CEC Students Working on Environmental Studies Program, Planting Gardens



English and social studies students at the Coastal Evaluation Center (CEC) are currently working on environmental studies as part of their classes. Students are focused on an intense study of world geography, which includes using the atlas as a resource to gather data on the continents and informational text related to culture. Students have also used paintings of various environments to analyze the content for the “Five Themes of Geography,” including location, movement, and region. Students have even studied such diverse topics as African masks, aboriginal art work from Australia, and American artist Norman Rockwell.

In language arts class, students have read informational text related to hot topics of environmental concern such as alternative fuel sources, the global water shortage, and global climate change. Working in small groups, students used school owned iPads to research invasive plant and animal species, and the cost of detection and eradication of these species. Their studies in South Carolina history have included native plants and animals in the state. In addition, students wrote persuasive speeches arguing for a greener world. Many of these speeches were directed at problems related to polluting our oceans and fresh water conservation.

As is the custom at CEC, students take on a service learning project coinciding with Earth Day. This year CEC is focusing on “backyard gardening.” They read newspaper articles related to community gardens in various places and looked at articles related to soil, the decline of the bee population and plants to include in gardens to attract bees.

Students are currently taking part in preparing soil and planting their new gardens, and will continue to monitor the plant growth and yield for data collection. CEC teachers plan to share the resulting yield of fresh vegetables with students, staff, and visiting guest speakers at CEC.

As a culminating activity, students will study the biography of Louis Armstrong and use his song, “What a Wonderful World” as a spring board for creating a mural art piece related to conservation.

DJJ Holds 2015 Volunteer Appreciation Banquet



*“Art washes away from the soul the dust of everyday life.”
—Anonymous*

People have a beautiful way of impacting others and opening up their world to endless possibilities. That is one of the reasons Volunteer

Services staff chose this year's Volunteer Appreciation Banquet's theme to be: "Volunteers: A Work of Heart." Volunteer Services hosted DJJ's 9th Annual Volunteer Appreciation Banquet on April 16th. DJJ volunteers are notably committed and dedicated, so a night filled with various presentations, numerous door prizes, dinner, entertainment and a keynote speech in an elegantly decorated room was the agency's humble way of showing gratitude.

The JROTC Color Guard from the Broad River Road Complex represented the agency with honor in the presentation of the colors. There were also young men from the DJJ Blazers leadership program to help serve dinner. The girls program volunteered their time by hand-painting heart picture frames. And Volunteer Services Director, Virginia Camp presented a slideshow highlighting the many accomplishments of our volunteers.



Chaplain Stephen Singleton speaks at the banquet

The inspirational keynote speaker for the evening was Chaplain Stephen Singleton. His speech was infused with humor, powerful stories, and countless words of wisdom. One of the most resonating statements was, "To a child, love is spelled T-I-M-E." Of course, volunteers give just that gift, the gift of time spent with our young people. The key to success for troubled youth is to have someone who truly believes in them and is willing to provide that time, and DJJ has many such generous volunteers.

Of course, people volunteer in this agency in many different ways. For example, recognizing that it is important to ensure continued success of youth as they transition from the juvenile justice system back into their community, the Office of Volunteer Services has recently begun seeking volunteer "Youth Life Coaches" for its new Youth Life Coach initiative. The purpose of a Youth Life Coach is to be an accountability partner, to provide guidance in

character development, and to help youths set goals and develop personal life plans.

"With the sincere appreciation shown throughout the evening along with the motivation and challenge given, the night was reminiscent of a priceless piece of artwork," noted Camp. "And that's because each of our volunteers is priceless to the state of South Carolina, to DJJ, and to the youths they serve."

For more information about the Youth Life Coach initiative and other volunteer opportunities, please contact the office of Volunteer Services at 803-896-9583.

Job Readiness Training Center Hosts First Annual STEM & Manufacturing Expo



Director Murray pictured with Eliza Williams, TASC Administrator at the *Show Them We Care* Foundation

On Tuesday, March 31st, DJJ's Job Readiness Training Center (JRTC) hosted its First Annual STEM and Manufacturing Expo at the Bill Rogers Community Connections Center. Director Murray welcomed approximately 150 DJJ and community youth to engage with fourteen companies, employment organizations and educational institutions that took part in this event.

There is a call to action to prepare young people for employment success and equip them with skills adequate to compete in the 21st century. Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM) education plays a critical role in U.S. competitiveness and future economic prosperity. Some 18,000 new manufacturing jobs in SC were announced in 2014.

Under the leadership of JRTC Director, Harold B. Mayes, steps are underway to bridge the gap between skills many

employers need and capabilities of the population. Youth between the ages of 16 and 24 experience a high rate of unemployment in SC. And the JRTC will connect the dots between these young people, through soft skills, vocational training and jobs.

The STEM Expo exposed youth to various career opportunities, equipped them with information on training, certifications or degrees necessary to obtain specific jobs and opened the door to understanding that although many good-paying jobs do not require a four year college degree, all will require some level of educational completion.

The event would not have been a success without the support of Director Murray, the exhibitors and the sponsors. Exhibitors included; Benedict College, Boeing, Department of Employment & Workforce (DEW), General Electric (GE), Midlands Education & Business Alliance (MEBA), Midlands Technical College, Phoenix Flight – UAV, SC Job Corps, SC Occupational Information System (SCOIS), SC State Library –Technology Petting ZOO, SC Youth Challenge Academy, The Bridge Tech, The Sustainability Institute and Unlimited Hands-On Science. Sixteen local companies contributed by either donating refreshments for the adults, or door prizes for the students.

The keynote speaker was Willie Williams, thirteen year NFL veteran and member of the Super Bowl XL champion Pittsburgh Steelers and the Seattle Seahawks. Williams emphasized the importance of education, preparation and sometimes sacrifice to be successful.

The event this year was dedicated in memory of ‘second chance’ client of the Sustainability Institute, Ladine Daniels, Jr., who passed away last year. He completed the home weatherization training program, rose to the ranks of leadership and was able to impact the lives of many young men in need of a second chance. He convinced them to take advantage of the training and learn the skills that open the door to lifelong careers.

JRTC Director Mayes anticipates that the STEM and Manufacturing Expo will become an annual event for the program.

Georgetown County Office Participates in Lock-up Fundraising Events

The Georgetown County office along with various other agencies and entities participated in the

Muscular Dystrophy Association’s “Lock-up” fundraising event held at the Quality Inn in Georgetown County this year. The local office raised \$150 as a contribution to MDA. The total amount raised to benefit the citizens of Georgetown County was \$35,000.

On April 16th the Georgetown County office also participated in Optimism Preventive Services “Lock-up” fundraising event, for which the local office raised \$300. The Georgetown County office and Optimism Preventive Services are community partners. Optimism Preventive Services provides afterschool activities and summer camps to the youth in Georgetown County. They also provide community programming such as anti-bullying walks, teen dating violence initiatives, and the S.A.V.E (Students against violence everywhere) program, often with the participation of the DJJ Georgetown County office.

Berkeley County Director Speaks at Save the Youth Forum



Yvette Montgomery speaks at the “Save The Youth” Forum

Informing the community about DJJ is an important goal for Yvette Montgomery. Since becoming the new Berkeley County Director in March of this year, she has been steadily on the move, attending alcohol & drug treatment graduations, career fairs, and speaking at colleges to inform the local community about why it’s so important to save the youth.

On March 7th Yvette participated in the “Save The Youth” forum at local Jehovah Baptist Church, where many youth of ages 12-17 came out to learn about the Department of Juvenile Justice. Yvette shared her knowledge on the justice process, resources that are available to the family, the importance of making good decisions—and emphasized that change is always possible.

Birchwood Bulldogs Hold Team Awards Banquet



The Birchwood Bulldogs basketball team awards banquet was held on Friday, March 21st. This banquet was an opportunity to recognize and celebrate the accomplishments of the young men who participated on the team.

The 2015 Bulldogs season featured, for the first time, two teams (A-Team and B-Team). The A-Team ended the season with an unblemished record of 10-0, while the B-Team won sixty percent of their games with a record of 6-4.

Chaplin Singleton served as the keynote speaker for the occasion and he provided an influential message that each of the young men can carry with himself and apply to his everyday life.

“You are not built for this (DJJ),” Singleton told the team. “You are built to do great things.”

A total of twenty-two players and student-managers were recognized for each of their contributions to the overall success of the season. Each player and student-manager was brought up individually to receive their participation award, and several players were awarded individual superlatives. The entire team and their coach would like to extend a special thanks for all of the support they received throughout the season and during the banquet.

Cherokee County Partners With CAPE to Plant Pinwheel Gardens and Go Blue



As part of Victims' Week, Cherokee County DJJ partnered with CAPE (Child Abuse Prevention and Education) to plant pinwheel gardens across the community as part of the Pinwheels for Prevention campaign.

Proceeds from the sale of the pinwheels go to local Foster Parent Association and Guardian ad Litem programs. Together with CAPE, the staff of Cherokee County DJJ and juveniles under their care planted over 400 pinwheels throughout the community. They had about 12 juveniles helping to plant the garden on April 6th. And at the end of the month they will also assist in gathering the pinwheels.

On Saturday, April 25th, Cherokee County DJJ staff and juveniles also assisted CAPE with their GO BLUE DAY to raise awareness for child abuse prevention. There were games for the children, a balloon release, hot dog lunches, and a guest speaker.

Community Services Division Celebrates Administrative Professionals Appreciation Week



“Helping Hands of the Administrative Professional” – Annual Community Services Division Administrative Training

On May 1st, DJJ Community Services Division administrative professionals gathered at the CCC in celebration of Administrative Professionals Appreciation Week. Forty-three administrative specialists from all the county offices, along with the four regional administrators, directors of Community Justice and Community Alternatives, Deputy Director Angie Rita, and their administrative specialists, were in attendance at the all-day event.

The room décor for the day was “Hawaiian Luau,” complete with pineapples in the table centerpiece, hand cut paper flowers on drinking straws along with Hawaiian luau table cloths on the registration table and coffee tables. A string of white lights and hand-cut paper flowers framed the lunch counter window. Hawaiian outfits were encouraged as the casual Friday attire, and attendees enjoyed Hawaiian music as they ate their lunch.

The DJJ Administrative Professionals Advisory Council (APAC) plans this annual training for the administrative specialists in the Community Services Division. Titled "Helping Hands of the Administrative Professional," the training recognized that administrative specialists are often the first people who guests and clients encounter in county offices, and that they assist staff with numerous daily tasks.

Speakers for the day included Clemson University Youth Learning Institute’s Director of Administrative Services Melanie Bargar, who presented on "Customer Service," DJJ’s Staff Development and Training’s own Anita Ellison-Porter, who presented the "Tower of Power," and DJJ Procurement Manager Stephen Pullie, who provided fiscal affairs updates and addressed questions and concerns that admins face every day.

Ten door prizes were provided by the APAC members, regional administrators and directors from the offices of Community Alternatives and Community Justice. And first, second and third place prizes were awarded for the “Most Hawaiian” outfit of the day. A small token of appreciation was given to each of our speakers for the day as well. Attendees expressed that the training event was fun and that they learned a lot about themselves and how to better relate to clients and their families.

In Pictures



Edward Golden, DJJ’s Bamberg County Director meets with New DSS Director and DJJ alumna, Susan Alford to discuss DJJ/DSS partnerships in Bamberg County.



As part of the Habitat Home dedication, to help new homeowner Rebecca and her children get started in their new home, Community Services Division staff across the state contributed to a housewarming gift basket. As she and her two children entered their new kitchen they found stacks of canned goods, beautiful kitchen ware, cleaning and laundry supplies, a vacuum cleaner, numerous gift cards, and much more. “Ms. Rebecca was overwhelmed that our division had gifted so much to her and her two children,” said Angie Rita, Deputy Director for the Community Services Division.



April Siders, Community Specialist from the Richland County DJJ Office conducts a class on bullying for twenty-eight 4th grade students in the Lunch Buddies program at H.B. Rhame Elementary School in Columbia.



Dillon County Director Cynthia Ford participates in DJJ'S Couch to 5K program. Her efforts culminated on April 18th, when she completed the "Color Me Mullins 5K Run" at the Mullins High School Community Day, which included a health fair, basketball competition, Zumba, and vendors.



Oconee County youths and volunteers work with Camp Ghigau to build a shed and community garden. Part of the garden will be dedicated to victims of juvenile crime.

DJJ Promotions & Announcements

Jon Carpenter has been hired as the new agency Director of Fiscal Affairs.

Jennifer Christman has been named Supervisor for the Upstate Community Psychologists.

Greg Dawkins has been selected as the new Nurse Manager at the Detention Center.

John Friedel has been promoted to the agency Records Manager.

Fred Gentner is now serving as the Interim Administrative Manager to Physical Plant.

Rochelle Harvey has joined the DJJ Health Services Team as campus nurse for juveniles at the Birchwood and Magnolia dorms at BRRC.

April Jones has been appointed as the Interim Director of Nursing at Willow Lane Infirmary.

April McFadden has been selected as the new County Director for Kershaw County.

Robin Owens has been appointed as the new Deputy Director for the Administrative Services.

Yolanda Porras has been selected as the new campus nurse for the John G. Richards Campus on BRRC.