



# THE DJJ FORUM

Where DJJ employees gather to stay informed and celebrate our victories Sept. 16, 2014



**Chess Tournament Is First IREAP Activity**

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## IREAP Is Back In Play

IREAP Coordinator Clarence McGill displays some of the equipment to be used in the program.

**“I am grateful for the opportunity to help re-invent IREAP. I look forward to seeing what the future holds. I encourage all DJJ staff members to support these efforts in any way they can, by attending the events and volunteering to help.”**

– Clarence McGill  
(804) 323-2242

## Resident Recreation Program Returns With New And Improved Activities, Different Structure

With the return of DJJ’s Inter/Intra Recreational and Extracurricular Activities Program (IREAP) for residents after a two-year hiatus, coordinator Clarence McGill can once again say “Play ball!” along with a few new activities as well.

IREAP was an integral part of life at the JCCs from 2005-2012. This year, with the help of the IREAP team under McGill’s leadership, IREAP is back in a more organized and effective manner, allowing residents to participate in team-building exercises and competitions including basketball, volleyball, chess, and unit modules.

“One big difference this time around with IREAP is that it will be unit-driven, as opposed to

having individual tryouts for the teams,” McGill says. “Residents now will be part of a comprehensive group entity, and all residents will have the opportunity to participate in some activity.” The new structure is designed for easy implementation by staff members and to encourage maximum participation, teamwork and community-building among residents.

To participate in IREAP events, residents must meet eligibility criteria (behavioral expectations, etc.) and be in good standing with their unit. “We hope that this will allow residents to support each other in staying charge-free within the facility so they may all participate in activities and travel as a unit,” McGill says.



VCU Senior Treveon Graham, a criminal justice major and a member of the VCU Rams basketball team, will assist with the IREAP program during his internship with DJJ.

### Upcoming Activities

- Sept. 24**–Talent Show, Beaumont JCC
- Oct. 29**–Dodgeball Tournament, Bon Air JCC
- Nov. 19**–Volleyball Tournament, Beaumont JCC
- Dec. 3**–Oak Ridge Base/Basketball Tournament, Beaumont JCC



# Chess Tournament Launches New IREAP



The newly introduced IREAP program kicked off with a chess tournament that involved eleven contestants from all JCCs. The final match was a tense, closely-fought match between two Beaumont residents that was watched intently by other residents (left). Both finalists received trophies, and all participating residents received certificates. Per new IREAP rules, all residents from the winner's unit will receive coupons for a pizza party celebration.

IREAP Coordinator Clarence McGill sends thanks to RDC for hosting the event. "Everyone had fun, including staff," McGill said. "The championship round was very exciting—even for chess!"





# DJJ NEWS BRIEFS

## It Went Like Clockwork At Culpeper



Staff members who helped with the transition of the Culpeper JCC to a Department of Corrections facility gathered for one last team photo. From left: Mary Hinkle, Peggy Menefee, Connie McPeak, Pam Zwigart, Steven Macklin, Ron Olivera, Terry Watson, David Wnukoski, LaVonda Hedgepeth, Anthony Arrington, the late Francis "Hank" Watt, Rebekah Price and Wadell Blackstone.

### *Future Planning Group Recognizes Effort To Make Transition To DOC A Smooth One*

Following the decision to turn the Culpeper Juvenile Correctional Center into a Department of Corrections (DOC) facility for women, Culpeper's managers and administrators began working with DJJ's Future Planning Group (FPG) on closure requirements. Duties included continuing day-to-day operations, conducting inventory assessment, processing of property, supplies and equipment for transfer, disposal or surplus, processing of records and files for transfer or disposal, development of a Coordinated Action Plan (CAP); and coordination and collaboration with DOC officials.

On the Culpeper staff members' last day of work as DJJ employees, the FPG presented them all with well-deserved recognition for doing their part in making the transition happen with a minimum of disruption and anxiety.

The people listed below provided valuable assistance to this complex and special project, displayed exceptional teamwork and service throughout the process, and were directly responsible for a positive outcome in meeting goals and timelines associated with the transition. We sincerely thank them for their efforts and wish those who now work for DOC well in their new roles. You will be missed at DJJ!

## THANK YOU:

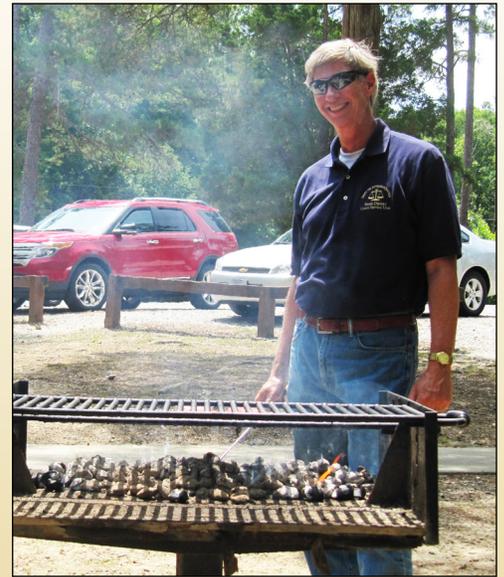


John Adams  
Barbara Amos  
Lt. Anthony Arrington  
Kathryn Dickerson  
Capt. Aaron Dixon  
LaVonda Hedgepeth  
Dr. Ron Olivera

Rebekah Price  
Felix Romero  
Terry Watson  
Hank Watt (deceased)  
Abby Williams  
Dave Wnukoski  
Pam Zwigart

In addition to serving in his regular job as Business Manager at RDC, **Felix Romero** (left) oversaw the transition of Culpeper's business office functions, coordinating all the processing of property, supplies and equipment associated with the closure process.

# NEWS BRIEFS (Cont.)



## CSU 10–Appomattox

CSU 10 staff gathered recently to enjoy a picnic lunch at Twin Lakes State Park to celebrate the end of the DJJ Workload Study. Following lunch, Director Chuck Watts treated everyone to a couple of games of “Workload Bingo” with lottery tickets as prizes to the winners. The rest of the afternoon was spent fishing, paddle-boating, or just enjoying each other’s company. Clockwise, from left: OSA Fonseca Holman (Prince Edward) and Probation Officer Aileen Lewis (Mecklenberg); P.O. Supervisor Bruce Williams; Probation Officers Torrie Patterson (Lunenburg), Stephanie Burchard (Prince Edward) and Kara Comer (Halifax); CSU 10 Director Chuck Watts.

## Training Academy, Bullard Honored For Helping Soldiers Get Civilian Jobs

Approximately 150 soldiers from the Virginia National Guard’s Emporia-based 1710th Transportation Company gathered recently at the Greensville County High School gymnasium in Emporia to conduct a Freedom Salute in honor of their service in Afghanistan. The soldiers returned to Virginia looking for jobs in the civilian world after conducting transportation support operations in Afghanistan.

Beverly Donati, director of the Division of Registered Apprenticeship, handed out 74 apprenticeship certificates to soldiers of the 1710th that help translate their military experience into skills that are easily recognizable by civilian employers. Among those recognized for their willingness to employ military men and women was the DJJ Training Academy represented by Lt. Dwayne Bullard, who serves as an Institutional Training Officer for the Training Academy. Army CPT Rodney Rhodes, left, presented the award to Lt. Bullard.



# ❧ Welcome To the DJJ Team, New Employees! ❧



## Colleen French

**Colleen French** is assigned as the new director for CSU 23A–Roanoke. Ms. French was previously employed with the Virginia Department of Social Services as a licensing administrator, and before that as superintendent of the New River Valley Detention Home in Christiansburg.

She earned a bachelor of science degree in psychology and sociology at the University of Virginia's College at Wise. She then earned a master's degree in public administration from Virginia Tech. She was the 2005 recipient of the VJJA Meritorious Service Award in Residential Services.



## Breanna Frisby

**Breanna Frisby** returns to DJJ as an Administrative Assistant in Central Office after a four-year hiatus, having previously worked at RDC for six years. During those four years, Ms. Frisby lived in Donducheong, South Korea, for almost two years where she learned everything

she could about the rich traditional culture there. She then moved to Columbus, GA, where she worked at Ft. Benning's Martin Army Community Hospital in the mental health department. During that time, she worked with the Wounded Warrior Transition Battalion.



## Elaine Lassiter

**Elaine Lassiter** is the new director of CSU 20W–Warrenton. Before joining DJJ, Ms. Lassiter served as the director of the Special Services Unit for Fairfax County JDRDC where she supervised special placement coordinators, parole officers and family counselors and managed two court

contracts. During her 31 years with the County, her work experience has included residential, probation, and intake services. She is a member of VJJA's Northern District Chapter, serving as treasurer since January. Ms. Lassiter holds a bachelor's degree in social work from Longwood College in Farmville.

## Promotions



## Cody Gier

**Cody Gier** was promoted to Parole Officer with CSU 2–Virginia Beach. He attended Radford University and received a bachelor's degree with a major in criminal justice and minor in psychology. He worked for Virginia Beach Psychiatric Center as a mental health counselor and Hampton

Place as a rehabilitation counselor prior to becoming an OSA with the Virginia Beach CSU.



## Shatara Hurt

**Shatara Hurt** was promoted to Senior Probation Officer with CSU 12–Chesterfield. Mrs. Hurt began her career with DJJ as a JCO at Bon Air JCC. She was promoted to a counselor and served in this position at Beaumont and Oak Ridge JCCs before transitioning to a Probation Officer

at CSU 12. Mrs. Hurt is in supervision to obtain her license as a professional counselor. She is a member of VJJA and has more than 15 years of experience working with juveniles in the correctional and mental health settings.



## Rachelle Moore

**Rachelle Moore** was promoted to Senior Probation Officer CSU 22–Rocky Mount, where she has worked as a P.O. since 2004. Ms. Moore has a bachelor's degree in sociology with a minor in criminal justice from Norfolk State University. Before joining DJJ, she worked for the City of

Danville's W.W. Moore Juvenile Detention Center for four years. She has excelled in working specifically with difficult families and mental health cases.



## Trenia Richards-Pyron

**Trenia Richards-Pyron** was promoted to Senior Probation Officer with CSU 2–Virginia Beach. Since 2011, she has served with DJJ as a field probation officer. Ms. Richards-Pyron specializes in cognitive behavioral interventions such as Effective Practices In Community Supervision (EPICS), and is

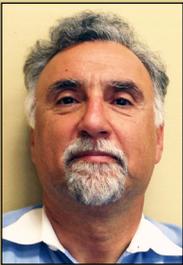
certified in the "Why Try?" curriculum. She received the CSU's Lowest Recidivism Rate Award in 2013. She holds a degree from ODU in communications and criminal justice.



## Essential Skills for Caseworkers Class Graduates

Front row, from left: Tiffany Barnes, Tracey Lewis, Monica Ponton, Shermaine Wright, Erin Britt, Michelle Burroughs-Vanhook, Mia Santina, Chris Honaker. Middle row, from left: Cody Gier, Donna Gordon, Heather Croizier, Krystle Otey, Shaunda Hardy, Joseph Lascano, Michael Taylor, Dean Rolle. Back row, from left: Hollie Fitzgerald, Tina Kilby, Michael Bischoff, John Richardson, Rasheedah Corbitt, James Harper. Not pictured: Khadijah Muhammad. At right, Michael Bischoff receives a certificate from Operations Practice Improvement Coach Teresa Moore for achieving a 97 percent, the highest score in the class.

### Promotions (Cont.)



#### **Peter Roussos**

**Peter Roussos** was promoted to director of CSU 26–Winchester. Mr. Roussos graduated from George Mason University in 1975 with a bachelor’s degree in social work. He began employment in the 31st District in Prince William County in 1978. He then joined the Fairfax CSU in 1980 where he held the positions of diagnostic team coordinator and special placements coordinator. He was then promoted to probation supervisor before becoming the director of Less Secure Shelter, a position he held for 10 years before retiring from Fairfax County in December, 2010. DJJ then hired Mr. Roussos as a probation supervisor for CSU 26, which he has been for nearly four years.



#### **William Stanley**

**William Stanley** was promoted to Probation Supervisor with CSU 12–Chesterfield. Mr. Stanley started his career in 2004 as a JCO with the Hanover Juvenile Correctional Center. Since that time, he also has served as a probation officer, parole officer, and senior parole officer. He holds a bachelor of science degree in criminal justice from Virginia Union University.

## CSU 13’s Alick Moody Retires After 41 Years Of Working With Juveniles

Alick B. Moody began his juvenile justice career with the Richmond Juvenile and Domestic Relations District Court in 1973. During his tenure, he gained a vast amount of knowledge and held various positions, including investigative probation officer and probation supervisor. In 1988, Mr. Moody entered the private sector in community-based services. Five years later, he joined CSU 11–Petersburg as its community services coordinator. In 1997, he accepted a position with the City of Petersburg’s Juvenile Community Crime Control Program, where he remained until 2001 when he joined CSU 13 as a probation supervisor.



*Hon. Angela E. Roberts, judge of the 13th Juvenile and Domestic Relations District Court, congratulates Alick Moody on his retirement.*

He has participated in several committees, most notably the Richmond Juvenile Detention Alternatives Initiative (JDAI) detention review committee since its inception in 2003. He was appointed as the committee’s chairman in 2005 and he remained in the position until this past August. He also served on the VJJA Board of Directors and received the 1980 VJJA Meritorious Award in the Area of Administration.