



THE RESIDENTIAL CIRCLE-UP

Virginia Department of Juvenile Justice

October 5, 2017

Residential Unit: It's Time To Circle Up!



Deputy Director's Message *Joyce Holmon*

Welcome to the *Residential Circle-Up!*

I would like to start by first commending the residential team for doing such an awesome job during the consolidation process. Though our journey over the last two

years has been challenging, your commitment to making a positive impact in the lives of the youth we serve has not wavered. Your fortitude and strength has been remarkable as we have combined forces to become one super facility for the benefit of improving the lives of youth, and strengthening both families and communities within the Commonwealth.

Our recent Family Day event was an inspiring demonstration of what we can do when we bind together as a team. I would like to extend to you a heartfelt thank you and appreciation for the work and effort that each of you put into making our



With Gov. Terry McAuliffe at Family Day Aug. 27, from left: RS-I Tamecia Evans, Therapist Kevin Flournoy, RS-II Simone Douglas, Security Specialist Jalissa Jones, RS-II Crystal Stephens.

Family Day a success. When we work as a team we are unstoppable; we are unbreakable; we are phenomenal.

It's a good thing that we all have different strengths, talents and abilities, because when we combine our skills together, we are great. As Aristotle said, "The whole is greater than the sum of its parts." I take great pleasure in leading such a diverse, talented group of people.

Your Leadership Team's Promise: We've Got Your Back



Dianna Berry
Executive Assistant



Patricia Brock
Residential Admin. Spec.



Demetria Clayton
CAP Unit Manager



Monica Digiandomenico
PREA Coordinator



Mark Murphy
Health Services Admin.

We have a tremendous task set before us and I'm confident we can meet the challenge. Our task is to be the flagship of residential juvenile justice services in the United States by transforming lives for the better. We will do that by ensuring residents are placed in the most appropriate setting to meet their individual needs, continuing to build on the Community Treatment Model and ensuring implementation with fidelity, utilizing evidence-based practices, engaging in effective collaboration with all stakeholders, improving the work environment for our staff, and building smaller state-of-the-art facilities to aid in the delivery of services.

Understanding and employing our four guiding principles will be key in realizing our success. Those principles are Safety, Connection, Purpose and Fairness. I will revisit the guiding principles in our next *Residential Circle-Up*, so stay tuned. I look forward to closing this year with you on a "win" with a favorable certification audit, and I look forward to the great things that we will accomplish in the coming year.

Maurice Sessoms To Oversee DJJ's Residential Programs



Maurice Sessoms

The Residential Unit is pleased to welcome our new Residential Program Manager, Maurice Sessoms. He has more than 20 years of experience in the juvenile justice and human service field. He served numerous roles in Maryland's juvenile justice system during his 15-year tenure. Most recently, Maurice was with the Department of Human Services in Atlanta as county manager for the Division of Child Support Services. He received his master's degree from Kennesaw State University, which motivated him to design a therapeutic group home to assist with the urgent need for residential programs. In 2014, Maurice founded Youth Renaissance Society of Georgia, a residential program for youth ages 14 to 18.

"Coming together is a beginning.
Keeping together is progress.
Working together is success."

— Henry Ford



Beverly Carter-Gallop
Assistant Principal



Aaron Dixon
Assistant Superintendent



George Drewry
Principal



Janice Gardener
Community Manager



LeKeisha Henry
Community Manager



Russell Jennings
Assistant Superintendent



Lakara Johnson
Operations Manager



Bill Kuhlman
Head Nurse



John Luck
Maintenance Superintendent



Brian McGuire
Operations Manager



Chris Moon
Chief Physician



Ronnie Moore
Community Manager



Cassandra Standberry
HR Manager



Marjorie Walker
Business Manager



Deana Williams
Assistant Principal