

DYS VOLUNTEER NEWS BRIEF



Harvey J. Reed
Director

Volume 17

Ohio Department of Youth Services

Spring 2015

Bob & Peg Honored Volunteers

Circleville Juvenile Correctional Facility (CJCF) launches the Power of Peace Program pg. 2

Buckeye Reach Continues Work at Circleville Juvenile Correctional Facility pg. 2

Freedom School continues to grow at Circleville Juvenile Correctional Facility pg. 4

King's Men Celebrate Martin Luther King, Jr. at Cuyahoga Hills Juvenile Correctional Facility pg.5

Christ Community Church and Youth for Christ Team Up to Serve Youth at Cuyahoga Hills Juvenile Correctional Facility pg. 6

Weekend of Hope During Holy Week at Cuyahoga Hills pg. 7

Indian River Juvenile Correctional Facility Faith Based Volunteers Model Faithfulness and Commitment pg. 7

Job Readiness Skills offered at Indian River Juvenile Correctional Facility pg.7



CIRCLEVILLE JUVENILE CORRECTIONAL FACILITY



THE POWER OF PEACE PROJECT

CJCF launches the Power of Peace Program

The Circleville Juvenile Correctional Facility (CJCF) launched the Power of Peace Project (POPP) on January 19, 2015. A total of 58 youth signed up for the program. The program, which ran for 40 days, allowed youth to participate in weekly group discussions, complete daily action challenges, and journal daily about their action plans.

Kit Cummings, creator of the program, started this program in a maximum security facility in Georgia. Now it has developed into 40 Days of Power of

Peace and is held in prisons around the world.

The Power of Peace Project has made a great impact on youth at CJCF. It has resulted in a significant reduction in acts of violence in the facility. One youth summed up the 40 Days of Peace commitment by saying, "POPP has inspired me to become the person I was chosen to be instead of the person I choose to be. It was more than 40 days; it's a life changing experience."

Plans are underway to launch the Power of Peace Project at Cuyahoga Hills Juvenile Correction Facility on April 14.

BuckeyeREACH



Buckeye Reach Continues Work at Circleville Juvenile Correctional Facility

Students at The Ohio State University continue engaging youth at CJCF through Buckeye Reach (Relationships and Education in Action through Community and Hope). CJCF youth participate in book reading or movie reviews followed by critical thinking discussions. The program, led by Dr. Patty Cunningham and college students from OSU, engages DYS youth

in structured educational programming. OSU students serve as peer to peer mentors for DYS youth.

When asked, one youth describes Buckeye Reach as..." a program that has helped me understand life's circumstances through a higher educational perspective."



CJCF Volunteers Honored at Warren Youth Activity Center Dedication

Volunteers, Peg and Bob Warren, were humbled as the Warren Youth Activity Center was dedicated in their honor. State Representative Gary Scherer acknowledged their service and volunteerism, and Director Harvey Reed presented a Proclamation from Governor Kasich. The Warrens started serving in DYS many years ago through a small group, C.A.T.S. (Crossroads Church in Circleville) and were involved in sending cards and holiday gifts.



Bob & Peg Warren
Circleville Juvenile Correctional Facility

said, "Volunteers have an enormous impact on our community. They promote personal growth and self-esteem with our youth. Volunteering gives people a chance to give something back to our community, our youth."

Further, he said, "The biggest benefit you can receive from being a volunteer here at CJCF would be the satisfaction of providing an important service to the lives of our youth and helping DYS improve Ohio's future by habilitating youth and empowering families and communities, one youth, one family and one community at a time."

The Warrens demonstrate commitment to service and volunteerism, having attended team and unit meetings, and graduations. One youth reported, "They are truly a part of the life of the facility."

"Your volunteer service makes a difference both in our community here at CJCF as well as their community when they go back home."

Interim Superintendent David "Doc" Blackburn



Freedom School at CJCF

Freedom School continues to grow at CJCF. It is a program that makes learning to read fun. The program was designed to help youth with reading disabilities add some helpful and enjoyable tools to their reading. Cheers, chants, along with memorizing are some skills youth learn

in Freedom School. Freedom School enhances the educational services that youth receive through the Buckeye United School District. The youth pictured are displaying the lessons that they learned.

CUYAHOGA HILLS JUVENILE CORRECTIONAL FACILITY



King's Men Celebrate Martin Luther King, Jr. at Cuyahoga Hills Juvenile Correctional Facility

In a month filled with celebrations of the life and legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Cuyahoga Hills Juvenile Correctional Facility (CHJCF) held a different type of celebration. They embarked on the K.I.N.G. Movement. The King's movement empowers men to reach their God-given potential in every realm of life through the power and grace of the Lord Jesus Christ. It helps males become the husbands, fathers, leaders, citizens and role models God created them to be.

Two existing CHJCF volunteers, Eric Cox, Inner Healing Ministries, and Richard White, Christ Community Chapel, are King's Men and invited the King's Men group to come and speak to CHJCF youth. On January 8, 2015, ESPN Anchor and Founder of K.I.N.G., Chris Broussard, and twenty-seven additional "King's Men," spoke about the importance of becoming a KING to the youth at CHJCF. They taught the youth that a King's Man is committed to God, family, and community.

Mr. Broussard said, "The King's men present to their families, communities, nation and world an image of men as God-fearing, family-oriented, moral, loving, intelligent, responsible and productive. "Our mission is to glorify the Most High God by walking in true Biblical manhood," states Broussard.

Since the initial event in January, the Cleveland Chapter of King's Movement have committed to hosting a quarterly event at CHJCF to continue making an impact with the youth. "It is important to have volunteers come in and provide programs that are going to encourage our youth to excel to the highest level of their purpose and destiny," stated King's Men and Volunteer Eric Cox. CHJCF executive staff members were present to see the power of a group of good men committed to the mentoring of DYS youth.

Christ Community Church and Youth for Christ Team Up to Serve Youth at Cuyahoga Hills Juvenile Correctional Facility



About two and one-half years ago, two faith based organizations, Hudson Christ Community Chapel and Youth for Christ, partnered together to provide practical and meaningful ministry to the youth at Cuyahoga Hills Juvenile Correctional Facility.

Pegi Powe of Youth for Christ, recalled how the partnership began: “Youth for Christ wanted to spend more time with the youth in the facility. We wanted to get our fingerprints on the youth’s hearts and build trust and relationships with them so that we could effectively share the gospel with them. We saw that Christ Community Chapel was a strong ministry and had made a significant investment of time and resources to the youth at CHJCF. We (Youth for Christ) were in the city schools and wanted to make a greater impact. Hudson Christ Community Chapel was looking to hire someone to do ministry in youth corrections. They asked me if I would do it. Youth for Christ then met with Richard White of Hudson Christ Community Chapel. We decided that if we pooled our resources together, we would be stronger and more effective in providing service to the youth in the facility.”



Youth for Christ shares in Bible study with Christ Community Chapel every Wednesday at 5:30 p.m. Youth then leave from the Bible study and can go into a congregational worship service that Hudson Christ Community Chapel holds on Wednesday nights. After the service, volunteers from Youth for Christ and Hudson Christ Community Chapel engage youth in small group discussions. Youth for Christ brings in guest speakers, some are former offenders, who capture the youth’s heart by sharing how they changed their lives.

Youth for Christ offers a Christian based character development program every Tuesday. “We started working on the intake unit, Unit Erie, meeting with every youth”, said Pegi Powe. “We teach values such as choices, honesty, integrity, and how to manage family strife.” Mike McCoy, one of the worship leaders, helps teach this as well. Pegi said, “Mike, a recording artist, works well with youth. The kids relate to him because he freely tells his story of how he overcame adversity as a troubled youth. Plus, they are interested in him since he’s a recording artist. The Kids relate well to Cap.”

Youth for Christ is bringing on a new 13-week program called Ambassadors of Compassion. Peg said, “This is done in high schools across the country and is character development for youth. It is a non-faith based approach, but it will give Youth for Christ the opportunity to work with youth and help them with some of their pain.”



Weekend of Hope During Holy Week at Cuyahoga Hills



Dr. Benjamin Franklin from Inner Healing Ministry, Eric Cox from Kings Men, and Donna Thomas from Word on the Street



“Broken to be Blessed” was the theme for Good Friday services during Holy Week at Cuyahoga Hills Juvenile Correctional Facility. Volunteers and youth reflected on the brokenness and brotherhood that Christ shared with his disciples.

Youth for Christ Volunteer, Pegi Powe, invited the youth to share their greatest memory of brokenness so they could invite Christ’s healing power into areas of their lives needing healing. Chaplain Ogbuji served communion with youth and volunteers, opening the floor for them to receive Christ’s gift of healing. Youth learned that there is hope in brokenness.

There was also a special Contemplative Prayer Service from 7:00-9:00 p.m. with quiet music and words of affirmation. During the praise and worship period, Dr. Benjamin Franklin offered a word of hope to youth saying, “Even though you are sitting on the bench from the game wounded, you can receive healing.” A DYS youth connected with his past memories of wounds saying, “This was the first time someone broke it down for me to

see that I am wounded and need to be at DYS to get healed to get back into the game of life.”

A vivid gospel rapper rocked the house with the hope and power of praise. A powerful trio of volunteers provided relevant praise music that lifted the spirits of the youth and others, teaching about hope for the future. Volunteers from four different groups came together to help our youth find hope in the midst of their “waiting period”.

Youth learned that Christ came to give hope, light, and life. They learned about hope offered in the lessons on the Cross, the Empty Tomb, and Grave Clothes. During this service, families were invited to participate and CHJCF had four families and a total of twelve visitors on Easter.

Since this weekend, families have resumed coming to fellowship at CHJCF with their sons at worship. Volunteers connected with youth and families expressed their desire to have a community fellowship once a month.

INDIAN RIVER JUVENILE CORRECTIONAL FACILITY

Faith Based Volunteers Model Faithfulness and Commitment



do groups of up to five youth. Daniel Glick and his wife have been teaching Bible study for years as well. While Daniel serves weekly, he and his wife come together once a month to conduct Bible study.

Faith based volunteers Gary Lamos and Ron Curati have been teaching Bible study with youth at Indian River Juvenile Correctional Facility for over 10 years. They come weekly and conduct small group and one-on-one bible study for about one and a half hours every week. They work individually with youth, but from time to time, they

These faith base volunteers are planning to start a study on the "Purpose Driven Life." The volunteers are supplying all books and worksheets. They have a standard group of youth that they see, but other youth are free to come.

Job Readiness Skills offered at Indian River Juvenile Correctional Facility

Indian River Juvenile Correction facility held the The John Williamson Job Readiness program on March 23. This volunteer program, formatted in a small group setting, offers youth essential job readiness skills. This job readiness group is intended to prepare the youth for the job seeking process after discharge and teach them job seeking skills.

The job readiness skills covered in the group included resume writing, completing a job application, interviewing skills, and budgeting skills. The program placed an emphasis on the interviewing process. DYS youth received significant practice with the volunteers from the program. Each youth received a packet containing all the material intended for use at the time of the



interview.

The John Williamson Job Readiness group meets every Monday from 5:30- 7:00pm for 10 weeks. As a bonus, the Job Readiness group prepares two full course dinners for the youth: one at midterm and the other at the completion of the program.

Volunteers shown in the photo are John Dilworth, Cathy Matthews, and James Bennett

**In Observance of National Volunteer Week,
DYS thanks all of our Volunteers, Community Organizations and
Faith Based Organizations!**

Faith Based and Community Organizations

4 His Glory
AME prison Ministry
Boy Scouts
Broken Bold and Blessed
Brother to Brother
Buckey Reach
Celebrate Recovery
Changed Lives
Christ Community Church
Circleville Christian Univer-
sity
Epiphany Ministry
Faith Family
Faith Ministries
First Baptist Streetsboro

DYS Freedom School
Gideons
Glory to God
Horticulture Program
Jehovah Witness Sterling
Appling
Job Readiness
John Carroll University
Judah Christian Church
Kairos Torch
Kent Stark University
KINGS Movements
Lion of Judah Non-Denomi-
national
Malachi Ministry

Missionaries of Sacred
Heart
Mt. Pleasant Baptist Church
- Cleveland
Ohio Christian University
Patrick and band Ministry
Power of God Deliverance
church
Project More
Protestant Church Services
Reading Zone
Real Gospel Baptist
River Tree
Road Riders for Jesus Mo-
torcycle Ministry

Rock of Ages
Son Reign Ministry
Spirit Filled Ministry
The Great Commitment
True North
Urban Gardening
Valor Chriisian College
Volunteer
Volunteers of America
Walnut Creek
What About Me Ministries
Woodwork Construction
Program
Wooster College
Youth For Christ

Individual Volunteers

Allan Cobbs
Allyson McAllister
Andrea Shough
Andrew Hottinger
Ashira Vantrees
Becky Hare
Beth Hill
Bob Flack
Bob Johnson
Brandy Woods
Brea Porter
Brent Bowers
Brent McCorvey
Brian Williams
Carl Carleson
Carter Bensman
Charles Steinheiser
Charlie Albright
Cher Fults-Bellar
Chris Leishman
Daniel Santjo
Darrell Carson
David Dickinson
Deb Harris
Dominic Whatley
Dr. Johannes Christian

Dr. Patty Cunningham
Dr. Rick Christman
Emma Robinette
Eric Bailey
Erica Stapleton
Faye Beckett
Frank Brown
Gabriel Quiones
George James
Gerardo Capo
Ginny Bear
Grace Robinette
The Griffin Family
Heather Crawford
Imam Hameem Habeeb
Isaiah Allen
Jack Neal
James Dear
James McCoy
Jason Partlow
Jim Senig
Joe McNemar
John Holt
Joseph Forte
Joseph McNemar
Kara Waldsmith

Kathryn Reed
Keith Jefferson
Ken Daft
Kenneth Hoff
Kwodwo Adabio
Larry Ray
Leon Peacock
Louise Wilson
Luke Pollock
Mac McKittrick
Marquavious R. Walker
Meleces Grover
Melissa Busick
Melvin Wayne Engle
Michael Roper
Michelle Buckland
Miguel Vance
Miracle McGowan
Mr. Dennis Osborn
Nicole Barnaby
Nina Quiones
Pastor Harris
Patrick Davis
Patty Ray
Paul Busick
Peggy Warren

Pr. Miller
Pr. Williams
Rebecca Roberts
Rev. Barbara Colvin
Reverend Lindsey
Rob Laskey
Robert Henry
Robert Warren
Rose McCoy
Ryan Calvin
Ryan Stanley
Sam Willer
Shavonda Johnson
Shirley Dickinson
Stuart Jenkins
Tamara Jenkins
Teresa Skinner
The Cunninghams
Timothy Caldwell
Todd Smith
Tony Stockman
Tracey Murphy
Vaughn Hunt
Warren Harris

