



Harvey J. Reed
Director

Office of Community Partnerships

Volunteer News Brief

Volume 20

Ohio Department of Youth Services

Summer 2016

DYS Celebrates Volunteer Service

The Faces of Volunteerism



Ohio

Department of
Youth Services

Von Graves and the Mighty Warriors Praise Dancers

Rap Artist, Von Graves, along with the Mighty Warriors Praise Dance Team came to Indian River Juvenile Correctional Facility (IRJCF) and presented a motivational message to youth. Mr. Graves easily identified with Ohio Department of Youth services youth because of his own burdens and brokenness. He does not classify himself as a religious

rapper, but rather an artist who is in touch with "truth" and presented this message in a creative and engaging way. The Mighty Warriors Praise Dance Team along with soloist Rebecca delighted the youth through the use of liturgical dance.



Kelly Williams - The Prodigal Son

Kelly Williams, a former youth incarcerated at TICO and IRJCF, returned as a habilitated youth to provide a volunteer service for the youth. Mr. Williams, now serving as a Canton Ohio minister, is a Grammy Award nominated gospel rapper known as The Prodigal Son. One youth specialist said, "Mr. Williams is a new person. He is now a productive citizen and has found a new purpose." Mr. Williams sang several songs from his new CD and delivered a message about the power needed to transform a life. Seventy youth in good standing attended the event.



Bread of Life

Twelve volunteers from Bread of Life Ministries in Massillon, Ohio visited IRJCF and provided faith based programming to over forty youth. Volunteers presented messages of hope and shared their personal stories of how their lives were turned around. Bread of Life comes to IRJCF every Saturday evening and hold a worship service for over forty youth. Chaplain Keith Neal





said, "Each of the men from the group shared their personal story of how they overcame life's challenges. They made the youth really connect with them far more than any other volunteer group." One

of the volunteers from the group, a former gang member, was so inspired by the needs of the youth during the visit that he expressed an interest in adopting a unit.

Ty Good



"WOW! Straight real! That dude is 100!", proclaimed one of the Circleville Juvenile Correctional Facility(CJCF) youth. The youth of CJCF spoke of the raw, real, and relevant ministry of Elder Ty Good from Glory Evangelistic Ministry in Bexley, Ohio. Chaplain Kershaw said, "Minister Good brought the house down. His unique presentation style allowed him to deliver his content with power, capture the attention of the youth, and reach them in a real way." Minister Good said, "The role of the volunteer is so very vital to these young men, I believe they all have a great future ahead of them and I try to tailor the programs to meet their needs." Minister Good not only spoke to their soul, but he also made himself available afterwards to play basketball with the youth. He is beginning

a new program called Hoop Sessions, which incorporates basketball with a short study of sorts, it includes the total exercise of the body and mind.



Reading Zone

CJCF has a volunteer opportunity that many do not know exists. It is called Reading Zone! The secret of Reading Zone is its impact in the life of a youth! Mary Latorre heads the program and trains the volunteers for the program. Currently students from Ohio Christian University help along with long standing volunteers Morgan Stoney, Derrick Johnson, Ashira Vantrees, and Kathy Reed in the reading zone program. Kathy Reed was named volunteer of the year at CJCF. One youth said, "The Reading Zone has helped me tremendously with feeling comfortable reading." For this program to run optimally, it demands that we have enough volunteers to aid the youth that desire help reading. We are in earnest pursuit of volunteers for this program because we have a larger number of youth that need to be served in this area.



IRJCF Volunteers



CHJCF Volunteers



CHJCF Chaplain Erin Bell & Volunteer Dale Richardson



Superintendent Freeman, Program Administrator Jesse Augenstein & Program Deputy Mark Dobrzynski thank volunteers for their service



CJCF Volunteers



CJCF Volunteers of the Year
 Left to Right - Chaplain Torrey Kershaw, Deputy Superintendent Ann King, Superintendent Phillip Elms, Kathy Reed and Miceles "Sal" Gover, Program Deputy Yolonda Frierson

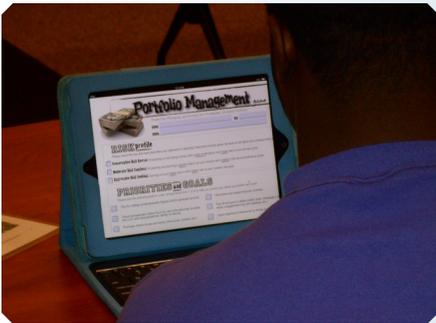


DYS
 Thanks all Volunteers for
 their commitment & service

**2016
 National
 Volunteer Week**

Lawrence Funderburke Financial Skills Playbook

Lawrence Funderburke, an eleven year NBA player and former Ohio State University basketball player, came to Circleville Juvenile Correctional Facility and held a financial readiness workshop called Financial Skills Playbook for tweens and teens. The workshop provided youth a winning game plan to achieve personal and financial success. Chaplain Kershaw said, "Each youth attending the workshop were given an iPad to use during the workshop, a one-million-dollar budget to work with, and they were engaged in activities that taught them how to budget, invest, and save. It was interactive and they got a chance to be hands on with the information."



Mr. Funderburke helped youth create a life plan for managing money and giving back. One session that was helpful was called "turnovers and setbacks." It dealt with helping youth learn how to deal with minor shopping sprees and overspending. Another session was called "timeouts." That session



helped the youth take the time to ensure that their family was covered by insurance and planning for minor setbacks. The youth spent an entire hour on budget management interactively. They were given a million dollars to invest and were able to watch stocks and dividends during the workshop as though it was their real life.

Chaplain Kershaw said, "The youth enjoyed the workshop. They were engaged and attentive. The exercise was thought provoking for the youth. Mr. Funderburke comes from the worst background. He could really identify with the youth and their background. He shared with the youth about his humble beginnings and showed them a food stamp that he keeps with him as reminder of where he came from. It wasn't just about financial literacy; it was about personal success alongside of financial success."

During the workshop Mr. Funderburke used a costume to teach the youth about the dangers and consequences of masquerades, being, and clown, and other things that he had to overcome.



Nuns Serve DYS Facilities

When they are not traveling the world helping humanity, these faithful volunteers can be found at CJCF making an impact on youth! Sister Mary Cabrini and Sister Michael Marie have over forty-one years of combined service volunteering with the Ohio Department of Youth Services. Sister Mary started her journey at TICO and the Buckeye Youth Center. They both have served faithfully at Cuyahoga Hills Juvenile Correctional Facility, CJCF, and IRJCF. They still serve at all three of the DYS institutions. No matter if they are in the Philippines or Haiti, these faithful volunteers always seem to make it back in time to share some cookies at Christmas or just a sweet treat for Valentine's Day. Chaplain Kershaw said, "The young men in the facility never forget about them during their travels. They look forward to the puzzle contest that the Nuns do quarterly with them." One youth said, "I never really did puzzles until the Nuns introduced them to me and now I love doing them. I feel like I've accomplished something when I'm done with one."



Poetry Slam

Multi-Generational Youth Outreach (MGYO) participated in a Poetry Slam hosted by Cuyahoga Hills Juvenile Correctional Facility (CHJCF). MGYO works to address the needs of homeless youth in Northeast Ohio. Youth from CHJCF attended the event and expressed their creativity through spoken word. The youth learned to snap instead of applause, as is the tradition of poetry slams. One volunteer shared a powerful personal testimony of life transformation from a criminal lifestyle to being a productive citizen. The event was topped off with refreshments. MGYO was presented with care packages from CHJCF youth to distribute to homeless citizens in the community.



Our Vision

A safer Ohio: one youth, one family and one community at a time



Ohio

**Department of
Youth Services**

Our Mission

***Improve Ohio's future by
habilitating youth and empowering families and communities***

Core Values

All people can change

Treat everyone the way you would like to be treated

Every life matters

We strive to provide youth everything they need to succeed

We want the best for youth, and we believe in families

We believe in being good role models