
DEPARTMENT OF JUVENILE JUSTICE

TASC Expands Sites Around the State

A DJJ program that was established in April 2004 with a \$10,000 donation from the South Carolina Legislative Black Caucus is expanding. The Teen After School Center (TASC) program has received \$120,000 from the State Department of Education and a \$48,000 Juvenile Accountability Block Grant. During 2004, three sites were created and two will continue to provide services. Six new sites have received funding and will open around the state to help improve intervention assistance to juveniles that are on probation or parole, for a total of eight TASC programs.

TASC involves the cooperation of the faith-based community and non-profit organizations. The centers were piloted in Lee, Greenville, and Darlington counties, with the Lee and Greenville programs continuing into their second year of programming. The new sites are located in Columbia, Hemingway, Charleston, Lake City, Georgetown, and an additional site in Greenville.

As part of DJJ's outreach to engage the faith community and communities in general, the centers, which can serve as an alternative to incarceration, are mostly located in churches and community centers. The centers offer teenagers educational support, computer skills, tutoring, employment training, life skills, and recreational activities on afternoons and weekends.

DJJ Receives Palmetto Gold Award for Academic Excellence

DJJ's school district has received a Palmetto Gold Award in the amount of \$8,160 from the State Department of Education in recognition of its high level of academic achievement and high rate of student academic improvement. The district recently received excellent ratings, both in the absolute rating and improvement rating, making it one of the top performing school districts statewide.

Schedule

January 18	Myrtle Beach Chamber of Commerce Legislative Reception Clarion Town House
January 24	Speak to Cheraw Rotary Club The Sharecropper, Cheraw
January 26	State of the State Address State House
February 3	Briefing by State Performance Based Standards Consultant Goldsmith Building, DJJ Grounds
February 4	Governor's Juvenile Justice Advisory Council 305 Blatt Building
February 8	Cabinet Meeting DPS, Blythewood