

Cabinet Report

November 12, 2004

DEPARTMENT OF JUVENILE JUSTICE

DJJ/Clemson University Partnership Update

A new Master's of Science in Youth Development degree program beginning in 2005 at Clemson University has the potential for DJJ staff to participate as students or as classroom instructors. Additionally, the program will offer an undergraduate degree and certification program that could also attract DJJ employees who are interested in obtaining a degree in Youth Development.

The program, offered through the College of Health, Education and Human Development, provides a dimension of education and training for professionals in youth services' related careers. Director Byars sees the Youth Development Program as "new growth" in DJJ's ongoing partnership with Clemson University.

DJJ Saves \$50,000 Under Agreement with Novell

DJJ has negotiated an agreement for Novell licensing that has resulted in a \$50,000 saving to the agency. The savings resulted after DJJ renegotiated its agreement with Novell to receive the rate offered to school districts. By using its school district status, the agency licensing fee was reduced from \$50,000 to \$5,000 annually.

Enriching Student Lives Through MentorPlace

DJJ's Communities In Schools (CIS) program has been chosen as a site for the secured online mentoring initiative called E-mentoring through the website MentorPlace, which is a partnership between IBM Corporation and EdReach, Inc., a nonprofit organization.

IBM has donated five laptop computers to CIS for student use. IBM employee volunteers serve as mentors and are providing students with academic assistance and career counseling via online communications. Mentors also work with CIS teachers offering technology advice and other assistance. The program serves as part of IBM's commitment to higher achievement for all students.

DJJ Holds Press Conference to Release Report Card

DJJ will hold a press conference on Wednesday, November 17 at 1 p.m. in the State House lobby to release its first Report Card to the citizens of South Carolina. The Report Card provides citizens with information about the

Department and introduces a new set of benchmarks that DJJ has implemented in partnership with 14 of South Carolina's Solicitors over a six-month pilot period.

The benchmarks are reflective of "a new way of doing business" in the juvenile justice system based upon the principles of balanced and restorative justice. The Report Card serves to measure outcomes based on those restorative practices.

Schedule

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| November 16 | United Way Board Meeting
Columbia Conference Center |
| November 17 | <i>A Report Card for DJJ</i> Press Conference
State House Lobby |
| November 18 | Alston Wilkes Awards Luncheon
Seawell's |
| November 19 | Non-Profit Leadership Institute
"The Role of Nonprofits in Dealing with Children's Issues in SC"
Francis Marion University, Florence, SC |
| December 14 | DJJ All Star Banquet
Birchwood Gymnasium |