
DEPARTMENT OF JUVENILE JUSTICE

DJJ and Vector Foundation Established Scholarship for Juvenile Correctional Officers

DJJ, in partnership with the Vector Foundation, a long-time supporter of the agency, has established the "Chaplain Calvin Harris Award Scholarship Program." The program is aimed at providing scholarships to DJJ's juvenile correctional officers and police officers who are attending accredited two and four year colleges and pursuing degrees or certificates in criminal justice or related fields. The \$1,000 scholarships may be used for tuition and other educational expenses. The first two scholarship recipients will be announced in mid August.

DJJ JROTC Cadets Attend "Cadet Leadership Challenge" Camp

Ten cadets from DJJ's JROTC program attended the "Cadet Leadership Challenge" camp at Fort Jackson from June 1-7. The cadets joined 1,000 other cadets from across the southeast, and participated in military training and character-building exercises during the week. The program is a cooperative effort between DJJ's school district and the U.S. Army.

Activities/Reports

Since DJJ moved its female population to Columbia from Greenwood, the agency has received 66 percent fewer grievances. The agency is attributing the decline to the availability of gender-specific programs and access to additional treatment and counseling.

The Division of Rehabilitative Services has established a Temporary Community Center (TCC) where activities are held for the juveniles and their families. Located in what was a vacant wing of a DJJ "lockup" facility, the center and an adjacent classroom for woodworking students were renovated for their current use by the Bonitz Contracting Company of Columbia, a key DJJ supporter.

DJJ's partnership with the *Communities That Care* prevention initiative in Pickens County has sparked community support and interest in closing gaps in services. A new community organization, Caring Communities of the Carolinas - Pickens County, has been formed as a result of the work of DJJ and *Communities That Care*. *Communities That Care* will end its program in Pickens County this month and the new group will work with DJJ to leverage services and resources for at-risk youth and families in the county.

Schedule

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| June 20 | Welcome and Opening Remarks - BARJ Conference
"Restoring Lives in Communities – A Restorative Justice Approach"
National Advocacy Center, Columbia |
| June 22 | Agency Heads Panel - State Workforce Investment Youth Forum
"A Shared Vision for Youth"
Columbia Metropolitan Convention Center |
| June 24 | Speak at Pee Dee Law Enforcement Prayer Breakfast
Sharecroppers Restaurant, Cheraw |