



What's New on the DCSD Horizon?

Farewell to a Great Leader...

On March 11, 2016, the current Division Administrator, **B. Thomas Wanta** will be retiring after 40 years of service to Milwaukee County. Tom started his career with Milwaukee County and throughout it worked in a variety of capacities, including Human Service Worker, Children's Probation Officer, Intake Supervisor, Administrative Coordinator and Superintendent of Detention where he served for over 22 years. Tom has been the recipient of many distinguished recognitions and was most recently awarded the Norman N. Gill Award for Individual Excellence from the Public Policy Forum. Tom has been instrumental in the Delinquency and Court Services Division moving to a data driven, evidence based, trauma informed system and has been involved in the implementation of several innovative programs and services for youth and families in Milwaukee County. Tom has been a great leader to this division and will be profoundly missed. His vision, determination and courage has been a great asset and he leaves a legacy that will never be forgotten.

Welcoming a New Leader...

As of March 14th, the division welcomes a new administrator, **Mark Mertens** to lead the team. Mark joins us after eleven years as Manager of the Outagamie County Youth and Family Services Division. He has been nationally recognized for his work, has led initiatives to reduce the use of detention for youth in his county and has been responsible for integrating various programs. We are glad to have Mark aboard!



B. Thomas Wanta
DCSD Administrator

In This Issue

- ◆ What's New on the DCSD Horizon?
- ◆ Food for Thought...
- ◆ Unity Club Updates
- ◆ The DCSD *Insider's* Club:
 - ◇ Service Years
 - ◇ Champions League
 - ◇ Birthdays
- ◆ Announcements and News Corner
- ◆ The Sunshine Report

Additions to the DCSD Team

Rachael Specht

QA Specialist—
AODA

Rick Wojciechowski

HSW Supervisor

Departures from the DCSD Team

Gloria Godfrey

Robert Isabell

Bob Zima

...Retiring after over 20 years of service!

Leadership Excellence Program Graduates

Danyelle Brock

Glenn Larson

Kelly Pethke

Food For Thought...

Our dilemma is that we hate change and love it at the same time; what we really want is for things to remain the same but get better.

-Sydney J. Harris

Need to Contact Us?

DCSD Quality Assurance Department
De Shell Parker
(414) 257-5751 or via email.

Unity Club Celebrations!

Our Holiday Potluck was memorable...

Yummy Desserts!!



Presents Galore!!



Good Eats!!



Happy Faces!!



Lots of Gifts Exchanged!!



A Full House



The Unity Club looks forward to hosting several more events in 2016. We will be bringing back "Tailgating in the Lobby" this Spring, Staff Appreciation this Summer, the Cook-Off in the Fall and more Holiday Festivities next Winter.

Unity Club Celebrations!

We kept the party going into the new year at our **Holiday Celebration** held in January of 2016. Take a look at us...

...Posing for the Cameras!



...Smiling Big!



...Enjoying the Raffle!!!



...And Dancing!



...Dinning!



Our Next Event will be a celebration of diversity where we will embrace our differences on **March 18th, from 12-1:30 in room #1260.** This will be a traditional potluck, with sign-up sheets posted. But it will also include an interactive presentation from our partners at Express Yourself Milwaukee, along with Milwaukee County youth. Staff are encouraged to bring in **food, traditional garb and any other items** to display the variety of cultures that come together to create our division.

Following March's Diversity Event, we look forward to having *more* time outside of work to mingle and enjoy one another once again. Stay tuned for details...

SERVICE YEARS

April

Danyelle Brock 3
Veronica Burks 3
Justine Filapek 10
Melissa Graham 7
Janice Martinez 4
Christeen Oberdas 1

May

Diane Bates 20
Binette Solomon 38
Yolanda Bush 1
Crystal Griggs 1
Susan Drucker 1
Jesse Ford 1
Matthew Garrett 21
Kenneth Ginlack 1
Mike Hodge 1
Andrea Johnson 1
Verlynuette Lewis 1
Shaniqua Linder 1
Michel Quezada 1
Deona Simmons 1
Julissa Tellez 1
Angela Triplett 21
Arniya Wright 1

June

Jayne Fuller 28
Kevin Gilboy 26
Aba Grice 1
William Holton 1
Melissa Monsoor 24
Janine Nolde 29
Janet Wegher 19



The *Insider's* Champions League



Have Questions—Ask A

Champion

YASI CHAMPIONS

Diane Bates, Rodney Block, Jayne Fuller, Danette Parr, Luciana Gonzalez, Tana Jeter, Danyelle Brock, Glenn Larson, Robert Wollner, Tiesha Marcus, Roxanne Bruyette

MOTIVATIONAL INTERVIEWING

CHAMPIONS

Mark Erickson, Jenifer Forkes and Anthony Zingale

URINE COLLECTION TECHNICIAN

CHAMPIONS

Glenn Coleman & Mustafa Sabree

UNITY CLUB CHAMPIONS

Theresa Randall, McArthur LeFlore, Mark Erickson, Veronica Burks, Danyelle Brock, Andrea Johnson, Danette Parr and De Shell Parker

AODA/FAS CHAMPIONS

Rosie Llanas, Tiesha Marcus and Anthony Zingale

JPM CHAMPIONS

Anthony Penman, Chris Leonhardt, Dave Meuren, Deona Simmons, Iesha Sprewell, Jermesha West, Matthew Garrett, Karen Gilliam, Kathy Smith, Lynn Lewis, Miguel Barillas, Mike Hodge, Rob Wollner, Rodney Block and Shaniqua Linder

BIRTHDAYS

April

Mike Hodge
William Holton
Glenn Larson
Christeen Oberdas
Deona Simmons

May

Binette Solomon
Jesse Ford
Sara Woitel
Arniya Wright



June

Kevin Gilboy
Andrea Lewis
Melissa Monsoor
Theresa Randall
William Wilkins
Robert Wollner
Anthony Zingale

Interested in being a

DCSD CHAMPION?

Speak with your supervisor about the special skill set you have to offer and how you feel it would be beneficial to determine your appropriateness for becoming a DCSD CHAMPION.

We encourage leadership and peer learning at DCSD.

Announcements and News Corner

Department of Corrections

Our Human Services Workers (HSW), along with Wraparound Milwaukee, continue to work diligently to assess the service needs of Lincoln Hills/Copper Lake/Mendota youth to effectively plan for the re-entry of our youth back into the community. This division has added 5 HSW staff (for a total of 6) that will work only with this population of youth to ensure a safe integration.

Juvenile Program Management System

DCSD has been working unrelentingly toward the development and implementation of a new juvenile program management (JPM) data system for our department. The date to go live was set back a few times to allow the team more time to focus on training staff and working out each and every kink in the system to ensure quality. Because of these efforts, the wait is over for our JPM system. **JPM WENT LIVE ON MARCH 3rd** and had little to no problems with the transition!! Special thanks to all the folks that contributed to this process, as without their hard work this endeavor would not have been possible.

Continuous Improvement Projects

We are happy to announce that DCSD has a Continuous Quality Improvement (CQI) Program, where we are creating goals and action steps on an ongoing basis to continue to improve our physical and operational processes. Our most recent endeavor involved making our waiting areas more inviting and friendly for our consumers, which resulted in a book shelf and to date over 200 donated books to provide for the youth that come into the area. This was a result of many that contributed and we want to thank all those that have. This directly impacts the families that visit our facility, where several youth have already asked to take books that have been of interest to them while waiting in our waiting area.

The Sunshine Report

Our partners **St. Charles Youth and Family Services**, who oversee one of our Level II programs, began an initiative called the Building Resilient Individuals Developing Generational Empowerment (BRIDGE) Project. With this initiative, youth were tasked with identifying a way to show compassion in a tangible way. The youth chose to host a water drive to provide relief to those experiencing the water crisis in Flint, Michigan as a way to expand the minds and horizons of our youth and help others!

Juvenile Correction Officer (JCO) Doris Griffin literally saved the life of one of our youth. While this youth was eating a sandwich during the evening snack time, the youth began to choke. JCO Griffin acted quickly performing the Heimlich maneuver, while JCO Glee and other medical staff provided additional support. This illustrates how effective the training and coordination of DCSD operations is to ensure the safety and well-being of our youth.

HSW Aba Grice has been recognized by the parent of the youth she is working with. The parent made it a special point to contact Aba to let her know that her ability to work with this young lady “answered a prayer” and that parent is glad to have Aba on the team to turn her child’s life around. Aba was able to get the youth to open up about some past trauma the youth experienced and this marked a positive turning point in the relationship between the mother and child, allowing the family to work better together to overcome their challenges.

HSW Andrea Lewis has been “fantastic” with her ability to handle testifying on behalf DOC youth and presenting the DCSD plan to the courts. We are proud to have her on the team advocating for our youth!

HSW Anthony Zingale passed the exam and is now a Licensed Professional Counselor (LPC) - Way to go, Tony!!

HSW Shaniqua Linder deserves a shout out for how well she handled her first permanency planning review hearing, impressing the commissioner and answering every question with detail and passion.