



# DJC Newsletter

## November 2007

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**This issue of the DJC Newsletter focuses on activities provided to the youth under the care of DJC.**

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### Model County Programs

DJC will reserve space in each newsletter to highlight county programs that are especially effective in promoting juvenile accountability, competence building and public safety. If you have a contribution for the next newsletter, please forward it to Janell Lathrop at [janell.lathrop@wisconsin.gov](mailto:janell.lathrop@wisconsin.gov). Thank you.

#### **Ethan Allen School Partners with the Waukesha Civic Theatre**

Submitted by: Mr. Kobbs, Advanced Foods Instructor

The Advanced Foods program at Ethan Allen School (EAS) has partnered with the Waukesha Civic Theater (WCT) providing students with an opportunity to practice culinary and catering skills and experience a live theatre performance for over 18 years. The WCT catering program was initiated at Ethan Allen by former instructor Mr. Don Hanson, and continues today under the supervision and guidance of EAS Advanced Foods Instructor Mr. Paul Kobbs and teacher Ms. Marquerite DeLaney. Mr. John Cramer, who is the Artistic Director and liaison for WCT, makes each theatre experience

memorable for EAS students.

The WCT, in its 51st season, is presenting six plays from September 2007 through June 2008 including *The Taffetas*, *The Miser*, *The Woman In Black*, *Disney's Beauty & The Beast*, *Over the Tavern*, and *Little Women*. Each play offers EAS students a learning experience in the planning, preparation, cooking, delivering and serving of a catered meal. The four students taking part in the catering event serve the actors performing in the play. Students earn this off-grounds privilege as part of participation and instruction in the Advanced Foods program. The WCT catering program permits students to gain invaluable vocational job skills in the Food Service Industry, as well as an opportunity to experience a live theatre performance. The live theatre performance is a first time experience for many of our EAS students.

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### **North Central Technical College's Partnership with Lincoln Hills School**

On August 1<sup>st</sup>, 2006, North Central Technical College (NTC) was notified by U.S. Senator Feingold's office that they had been awarded an Educational Talent Search Grant (Authorizing Legislation: Title IV, Part A, Subpart 2 of the Higher Education Act of 1965) for \$220,000 each year for five years.

The grant monies have been utilized to develop a partnership between NTC Educational Talent Search (ETS), Lincoln Hills School, Aftercare Agencies (Homme House, Rawhide, Northland House), and NTC Alternative High School. In particular, this partnership is unique between an Educational Talent Search Program and a juvenile correctional facility.

The ETS program identifies and assists individuals from disadvantaged backgrounds who have the potential to succeed in higher education. All youth at Lincoln Hills School benefit from customized services, depending on youth needs, goals, and age. For those youth on track to attend postsecondary education, the goal is to achieve a complete admission and financial aid package before youth leave LHS. ETS services have also provided further support for youth efforts to achieve the goals outlined in their LifeWork Education Portfolio.

The ETS Program provides:

- academic, career, personal, and/or financial counseling
- career exploration and aptitude assessment
- tutorial services
- information on postsecondary education
- exposure to college campuses
- assistance in completing college admissions and financial aid applications
- assistance in preparing for college entrance exam(s), including the ACT and the Accuplacer/Companion.

Each youth entering Lincoln Hills School is informed of ETS services as a part of their orientation in the Reception Cottage. The ETS Project Director interviews youth to verify parent educational attainment and explain project services and expectations of participants, including an assessment of the youth's awareness and knowledge of educational and career options, resulting in an individual case plan.

The ETS Project Director:

- maintains interagency and community relations
- directs youth participant identification and selection
- maintain the student database tracking participants
- develops, organizes, and implements project activities
- directly supervises an Academic Tutor and the Alternative School Coordinator.

The Academic Tutor (1.0 FTE) provides one-on-one academic tutoring to LHS youth who need academic assistance for earning high school credit, to enter the HSED program and/or to prepare youth for post-secondary admissions, including placement testing.

During the last fiscal year, LHS had 86 high school graduates and, since the implementation of the ETS program, nineteen youth have completed financial aid, placement testing, and have applied to post-secondary educational programs prior to their release.

The ETS Project Director and the Academic Tutor are NTC employees, but they are housed at LHS.

Since September 2007, two NTC courses, *Welding* and *Small Engines*, have been offered to LHS youth. These courses are held at LHS and taught by NTC Instructors for technical college credit. *Welding* coursework includes: Introduction to Production Welding, Basic Production SMAW, Intermediate Production GMAW, Advanced Production GMAW, Production Welding Blueprint Reading, Production Welding Metallurgy, Production Welding Fabrication Techniques. It is offered two semesters per year. Upon completion, youth will have earned ten technical college credits and a Northcentral Technical College Certificate. *Small Engines* coursework includes: Introduction to Small Engines, Basics of Small Engine, and Small Engine Overhaul. It is offered three times per year for ten weeks. Upon completion, youth will have earned six technical college credits and a Northcentral Technical College Certificate.

Planning has also begun to potentially offer two additional courses in September 2008: *Horticulture* and *Graphic Animation*. NTC has taken a vested interest in at-risk youth, and our efforts combined have provided unique and life-changing opportunities for incarcerated youth.

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### **Southern Oaks Girls School Collaborates with the American Association of University Women-Wisconsin**

Throughout the fall of 2007, Southern Oaks Girls School (SOGS) partnered with the American Association of University Women-Wisconsin (AAUW-WI) in developing a personalized mentorship program for juvenile-justice-involved students. AAUW-WI works to foster the development and maintenance of high standards of education, strengthening the fellowship among university alumni so that they may work towards the solution of social and civic problems, securing broader educational and employment opportunities for women, and supporting the work of 2,200 members in 41 branches throughout the state of Wisconsin who are making a difference in the lives of women and girls. AAUW-WI networks with Wisconsin colleges and universities and works in partnership with diverse organizations to achieve its goals. AAUW-WI's partnership with SOGS currently involves seven volunteer mentors. These dedicated individuals provide a wide variety of support service including one-on-one mentoring relationships, correspondence mentoring, creative writing workshops, and art therapy activities. On October 12, 2007, AAUW-WI Representative Linda Flashinski hosted

Psychologist Supervisor Dr. Rick Miller and Institution Social Services Director Ruth Sullivan on her local weekly radio program, *Community Matters*. This one-hour session broadcast on WGTD in Kenosha, Wisconsin highlighted SOGS's educational and treatment programming missions and outlined plans for expansion of the AAUW-WI Mentoring Program.

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### **Enhancement of Native American Spirituality Support Services**

Southern Oaks Girls School is committed to effectively addressing the unique spiritual support needs of Native American students. A multidisciplinary team from Southern Oaks has been working collaboratively with Dr. Leah Arndt, UW-Milwaukee Clinical Assistant Professor and facilitator of Native American Tribal Practices, and Doctoral Candidate Mark Powless throughout 2007 to enhance service provision within the institution. Dr. Arndt and Mr. Powless have been facilitating Sunday morning spirituality support programming with interested students twice monthly. The orientation of such sessions has been consistently dynamic and responsive to the idiosyncratic needs of the participants. Additionally, students requiring more individualized approaches or interventions have been accommodated by Dr. Arndt and Mr. Powless. Goals and objectives for program expansion and service enhancement were outlined in a planning meeting conducted on September 17, 2007 at SOGS. Staff training and in-service opportunities, routine involvement of Tribal Representatives in Transition Team Meetings and aftercare planning, and juvenile justice involvement with statewide Tribal networks were identified as central goals for 2007-2008.

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### **“Drums, Roots and New Beginnings” at The Transition Success Center**

The Transition Success Center, The Milwaukee Public School System at the Milwaukee Report center, has a new group **“Drums, Roots and New Beginnings”**.

This structured weekly group runs from September 10 through December 10, 2007. Youth spend 30 minutes learning about music history from the “talking” drums of Africa to the blues, jazz, fusion, and Hip Hop. An additional thirty minutes are spent learning how to play various instruments, including the Djembe (Dee-jim-bay) drums.

The group will perform at the next Black History Month celebration of 2008.

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### **J – SOAP Training**

At the 2007 Juvenile Intake Worker Conference, Ms. Gretchen Kubnick and Ms. Elaine Olson conducted a workshop that provided basic information on the J-SOAP II; one of the tools for a formal risk assessment for juvenile sex offenders. This workshop highlighted the status of the J-SOAP II, currently in progress of becoming a validated instrument. Information covered included the four scales of the tool, how to appropriately score each scale, and practical application to case specific examples. In addition, this workshop included a brief overview and application of the Act 5 Guidelines which were derived from the J-SOAP II. For more information on the J – SOAP model, please contact Ms. Kubnick at (608) 240-5915 or Ms. Olson at (608) 240-5922.



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### **Appointment of David Bajkiewicz as Budget and Policy Analyst**

DJC recently announced the selection of David Bajkiewicz [buh ke' vich] as the Division's Budget and Policy Analyst – Advanced, replacing Barry Jensen. David joined DJC on Monday, August 20, 2007.

David brings more than 15 years of experience managing and auditing private and public sector agencies to his new position. He graduated from Eastern Michigan University with a Bachelors of Science in Psychology with minors in Philosophy and Economics. David began his career by coordinating and supervising operations at Goodwill Industries of Southeastern Wisconsin.

David graduated UW-Milwaukee with a Masters of Public Administration and has worked for the City of Muskego, and Wisconsin's Legislative Audit Bureau (LAB). In his eight years with the LAB, David has completed more than 15 financial and operational audits of State agencies.

David's education, experience, and understanding of the State budget process will serve him, the Division, and the Department well as he assumes his new role as the Budget and Policy Analyst for the Division. Please join us in welcoming David Bajkiewicz to his new position.

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### **Appointment of Mary Keyes to Interstate Compact Coordinator**

Please join DJC in welcoming Mary Keyes to the Coordinator position for the Wisconsin Interstate Compact on Juveniles. Mary is taking on the position officially, after filling in on an interim basis since early July. DJC is pleased that the Interstate Compact will benefit from Mary's many years of experience in state government, her dedication to quality services, and her communication and organization skills. We know that you will find Mary to be an excellent resource on all matters related to the Compact.

Welcome, Mary!

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