



UA Wildcats provide some much-needed inspiration

Five young men took a break from their studies and workout sessions earlier this month to speak with Pima County Juvenile Detention Center youth. Find out what they had to say on Pages 3-5.



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After months of hard work, strategic plan coming soon

Last October, Pima County Juvenile Court began work on the most comprehensive strategic planning in its history.

Presiding Judge Kathleen Quigley, acting Deputy Court Administrator Ron Overholt and Director of Juvenile Court Services John Schow launched the initiative for two reasons.

First, the Administrative Office of the Courts mandated that all Juvenile Chiefs of Probation file by July 1, 2015, their strategic plan to implement evidence based practices in their court. Second, there have been changes in leadership within the last year and it is important for the Court to have priorities and direction so that the successive leadership will have the blueprint and the plans for the future.

Surveys of judges, staff and community partners were conducted to identify areas of the court that were working well or need attention. In addition, focus groups comprised of directors, managers, supervisors and staff met with Brenda Wagenknecht-Ivey, President of Praxis Consulting, to provide more detailed information.

Lastly, a Strategic Planning Team of roughly 35 key staff and judges met with Wagenknecht-Ivey five times. Tina Mattison, our new deputy court administrator, joined the court and the process in February.

As part of the process, the planning team developed a new mission and vision for the court, along with new core values. The team reviewed external and internal trends, discussed future, long term implications for the court, reviewed survey and focus group results and discussed the court's strengths and weaknesses.

Ultimately, the team created strategic focus areas, complete with goals and objectives, and prioritized those goals. Our new Mission and Vision statements are as follows:

Mission Statement

The mission of the Pima County Juvenile Court is to ensure children are protected, youth are rehabilitated, and the community is safe by administering timely and impartial justice and providing innovative services.

Vision Statement

We instill hope and create positive change for children and families.

The court is in the process of putting the final touches on the Strategic Plan and it will be shared with all employees as soon as it's complete. It will then be released to the public.

UA Wildcats inspire dreams, offer words of wisdom

Samajie Grant didn't hesitate. When he and four of his fellow Wildcats were recently asked if they'd ever done drugs or gotten into trouble, the starting receiver freely admitted it.

"Man, I messed up all the way up to probably my sophomore year of high school," Grant said. "Then my mom passed away and I had to change my life and take care of my little sister."

On May 7, Grant, a starting receiver with the University of Arizona football team, spent an hour with more than 30 kids who are currently in the Pima County Juvenile Court's Detention Center. Joining him were linebacker Jake Matthews, offensive lineman David Catalano, running back Omar Boyd and safety Yamen Sanders.



Samajie Grant, who admits to misbehaving as a teen, said he turned his life around after his mom died because he need to take care of his little sister and because he wanted a better life for himself .

Grant grew up in Compton, Calif. with his mom, his younger sister, an older sister and an older brother. His mom always pushed him to do well in school and he's learned a lot of lessons from his older brother as well.

"It's kinda weird. My mentor? He's actually my big brother. He just got out of jail a couple of days ago, but he tells me right from wrong," Grant said. "He tells me what not to do and what to do. He's the only older person in my life that I've got that I actually listen to. I pretty much learn from his mistakes."

He wants a better life for himself, Grant said.

"You just got to look at the future, man. Don't look behind," Grant told the kids.

Catalano, a Canyon del Oro graduate, received a bachelor's degree in business management at San Jose State. He's now pursuing his master's degree in educational counseling at the UA.

Catalano remembers (Contd. Page 4)

having a lot of “mean energy” in high school and getting into trouble for fighting a lot. He eventually put all of that energy into football, track and wrestling.

Among his mentors are one of his high school coaches, who urged him to go the extra mile when training, and former San Jose teammate, Travis Raciti, who now plays for the Philadelphia Eagles.

Catalano told the kids they need to find friends and mentors like Raciti, who always encouraged him and told him he had a lot of potential -- even when he didn't see it in himself.

Kids who are using drugs definitely need positive mentors, Catalano said.

“You need to find help or get a mentor, somebody who can like be there for you,” Catalano said. “It’s hard to do it by yourself with that stuff, especially when your friends are constantly asking you to do it. You need some type of positive reinforcement or people who will be like ‘Hey, don’t do this, don’t do this.’”

Catalano urged the kids to become positive mentors themselves.

“You guys got some stories to tell. You want to help people so they don’t experience the same things you guys have, you know,” Catalano said.

The visit wasn’t all serious however. (Contd. Page 5)



From left to right, University of Arizona safety Yamen Sanders, running back Omar Boyd, linebacker Jake Matthews, offensive lineman David Catalano and receive Samajie Grant.

They also talked about:

- Food – Catalano gets teased for crumbling up spinach into a ball and eating it. “People tell you all the time you need to eat protein, but the thing is, the thing that makes you stronger is your vegetables.”
- Pets – Most of the guys have dogs, but the dogs can’t live with them.
- Other sports – Matthews, who graduated from Ironwood Ridge High School, was drafted to play baseball by the Kansas City Royals, but he chose football. Football has taught him a lot of lessons off the field and provided him some direction, Matthews said. Catalano wrestled and was on the track team in high school. Grant qualified for state in track and field in high school. Boyd was also on his high school track team and Sanders was on his high school track and basketball teams.
- Family connections – Sanders’ father played basketball in the Continental Basketball Association overseas and Grant’s cousin, DeMar DeRozan, plays for Toronto in the NBA. His cousin, Gabe Marks, plays football for Washington State.
- Tucson – Boyd, a North Carolina native, talked about the heat. Sanders, a California native, talked about its slow pace.
- Jobs – They’re too busy, thanks to school, practice and training.
- Coach Rodriguez – He’s tough and expects his players to be disciplined. “He’ll make you do the stair master with him if you get into trouble and he’s like super fit so you don’t want to challenge him on that,” Catalano said.
- Dorm-life -- “Depends on how your roommate is, if you’ve got a stinky, dirty roommate you probably won’t like it,” Grant said.
- Team members – Many of them live together off campus. When on campus, they love to compete against each other so that they can be the best they can be.
- Future goals – Matthews wants to be a surgeon. Sanders hopes to own apartment complexes and Boyd would like to be a sports agent. If the NFL isn’t part of their futures, Grant said he’d like to join the military and one day open a gym for neighborhood kids and Catalano would like to open a church and provide pre-marital counseling.

Teens who have overcome odds honored at luncheon

One dozen teenagers. One dozen stories. All different, yet all the same. Every one of them overcame adversity and gained the respect of people who once feared for their futures.

On May 6th, the six boys and six girls were recognized for their efforts at Pima Foundation for Youth's 39th Annual Youth Awareness Awards.

The Foundation is a non-profit organization founded in 1974 to meet the unmet needs of children involved in the juvenile justice and foster care systems. The awards ceremony is held

every year to honor court-involved children who have risen above the obstacles placed in their way and are now thriving.

"It is one of the happiest events I attend as a judge---second only to Adoption Day in the Park. I love that we celebrate the success of these kids. And it is so gratifying that the PFY has been celebrating our youth for so many years," said Judge Jane Butler.

Judge Butler came to know three of the boys when they were going through Youth Recovery Court, a program designed to help kids struggling with substance abuse issues.

One of the three was involved in the foster care and juvenile justice system, but always came to court with a great attitude and is planning a career in the military, Judge Butler said. Another teen made a dramatic turnaround after months of struggling and got his high school diploma and plans on enrolling at Pima Community College. The third teen became a double honor roll student in one semester.

"He is very serious and I just love to see him smile," Judge Butler said. "He has an enormous heart. He helps his mom around the house an elderly neighbor."

(Contd. Page 7)



Each of the teens honored at the Pima Foundation for Youth's 39th Annual Youth Awareness Awards received a goody bag, plaque and certificate.

Probation officer Gary Thiede nominated two of this year's winners, both of whom successfully completed juvenile intensive probation.

At first, one of the boys was doing so poorly he was sent to the Youth Development Institute. Once there, the boy realized his future potential, Thiede said. When he was released, he began working every weekend in the Community Restitution Enrichment through Work Program to pay off his restitution and he ended up being terminated from probation early.



Pima Foundation for Youth 2015 Board Members

The other boy Thiede nominated spent time at Sycamore Canyon, where he developed skills to help him make appropriate choices. He not only graduated from the Youth Achieving Resource Development Skills (YARDS) program, but he was accepted into the court's internship program.

"Not only has his performance on probation improved significantly, but he exhibits a maturity beyond his years in his home life," Thiede said. "He plays

a key role in assisting his mother with her significant medical needs."

A lot of people have misconceptions about kids on probation, Thiede said.

"These youth are NOT uncaring, without remorse, or stupid. When they commit themselves to the JIPS program, it often takes time for them to let their guard down and start expressing their feelings. When we don't laugh at them, and listen and give positive feedback, they respond beyond belief," Thiede said.

Every time he nominates a teenager for a Foundation award, they ask Thiede "Why?"

"I tell them why -- they accept responsibility, respond positively to the JIPS team, show compassion for their families, learn how to apologize without being demeaned or demeaning, and learn how to be leaders versus followers," Thiede said. "My JIPS team shows them respect and we get it in abundance back."

One of Thiede's nominees spoke at the luncheon and then posed for pictures.

"When I had pictures taken of him with his Judge and myself, he was overwhelmed," Thiede said.

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“Before he left for the day, he told his mom outside “Mom, I had my picture taken with my Judge!” That response, by itself, showed me just how much this nomination, the support of his JIPS team and the Court, how much this young man fully appreciated how far he has come in being successful.”

The other teens honored were:

- A.M, a teenaged girl who was abandoned by her parents and has since been accepted into two colleges.
- C.B., a young lady in foster care who is enrolled in DCS’ Arizona Young Adult program. She graduated from high school, enrolled in Pima Community College and hopes to obtain a degree in forensic law.
- C.R., a foster care teen who takes care of her siblings and works full-time. “She takes responsibilities for some of her past mistakes and shares her experiences with others to help them make better decisions. She has a big heart with strength and courage for success.”
- T.N., a foster care child who is one of the top students in her high school class, is earning As in a certified nursing assistant program, works part-time and volunteers for various activities.
- Y.H. has spent the last 12 years in foster care. She takes care of her younger siblings, is a high school senior and volunteers at her church and a Prescott youth program every summer.
- B.H. ended up on probation after getting involved with drugs. She attended a wide variety of therapies with her family to resolve past issues and is now making more appropriate life choices and improving relationships. She was terminated from probation early, completed therapy, remains drug-free and is actively pursuing a life in the arts.
- G.B. entered the foster care system and later suffered the loss of his mother. However, he is enrolled in honors classes, he has maintained a good sense of humor and he advocates for himself.

The teens are selected based on nominations made by judges, DCS case managers, detention officers, probation staff, attorneys and prosecutors, said John Jackson, Foundation treasurer.

“In my experience, the kids are really, really honored to have the adults in their lives recognize the challenges they’ve overcome. They’re just so proud,” Jackson said. “It means so much to them to have the adults they’ve had to answer to, stand up and applaud them. It’s pretty powerful.”

CPC: Education and limiting access key to helping kids

It seems as though they are everywhere. Throughout Tucson there are bus stop bench signs that say “Marijuana Harmless? Think again!”

The campaign is one of the latest efforts by the Pima County Community Prevention Coalition to educate people on the harms and consequences of using marijuana.

Amy Bass, director of prevention at Pasadera Behavioral Health Network, said the CPC

knows the research.

One in ten kids who smoke marijuana will become addicted.

Long term use of marijuana will

actually lower IQ by 8

points. The affects are not something you want to see in the developing brain of a teen, Bass said.

The CPC began eight years ago, thanks to a grant from the Arizona Governor’s Office of Children, Youth and Families. The goal is to prevent underage drinking, marijuana and other drug use by reducing the access to and availability of these substances to youth and by and educating parents, Bass said.

“The Arizona Youth Survey told us that kids who decide not to use alcohol and drugs did so because they believed their parents would disapprove,” Bass said.

With that in mind, the CPC works hard to educate parents on the importance of talking to their kids about the harms and dangers of underage drinking and drug use and how to better engage in the life of their child.. (Contd. Page 10)



Shaundra Higgins, prevention coordinator for the CPC and media advisor Ed Dunin-Wasowicz (foreground) discuss an upcoming Sticker Shock event with some members of BeFreePima.

“Parents need to know where their kids are, which friends they are with and who their friends’ parents are,” Bass said. “They also need to know how to set appropriate limits with their kids.”

“What we’re trying to do is instill the understanding that everything they (parents) do is a building block in their children’s future,” Bass said, “Helping parents understand that their teens are confronted with making choices every day and one choice we want them to make is not to drink underage or use drugs.”

Susan Towne, a probation officer who serves as the court’s Juvenile Justice Family Focused Services Liaison, said the CPC has made evidence-based programs such as Strengthening Families, Parenting Wisely and Marijuana Harmless-Think Again available to families.

“What we’re trying to do is instill the understanding that everything they (parents) do is a building block in their children’s future,” Amy Bass

“These programs have provided vital information and beneficial tools to parents that have proven to be helpful in the difficult task of raising a teenager,” Towne said.

More than 100 people from nearly 50 organizations, including Pima County Juvenile Court, work on a variety of committees, all with the goal of helping Pima County kids avoid substance abuse issues.

“Working with Susan Towne of Juvenile Probation has taught us a lot and opened so many doors to reach families across Pima County. The synergy created by collaborating with community resources is really effective,” Bass said. “No one group can tackle this big issue alone”.

The CPC’s working subcommittees include the Parenting Education committee, the Diverse Voices in Prevention committee, and the Media Marketing and Outreach committee, among others. The CPC is also the Pima County affiliate of the Arizona Partnership for a Drug Free America.

“The CPC provides a way for the community to get onboard with preventing youth substance abuse and helping youth have successful futures,” Bass said. “There is a place for everyone who shares this goal to join in and make a difference”.

Not all members of the CPC are adults.

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There are nearly two dozen young people who are members of the BeFreePima Youth Crew including six who are part of a Youth Leadership group. Members of the leadership group help plan meetings and prevention efforts. Some have attended an annual conference presented by the Community Anti-Drug Coalitions of America where they are trained as leaders in substance abuse prevention.

During an annual campaign called *Sticker Shock*, kids go to participating liquor stores and with permission from the owner, place stickers on alcohol warning buyers about the legal consequences of purchasing and providing alcohol to minors.

“The Youth Crew and the Leadership Council are an important part of the CPC because they are the opportunity to get the youth voice heard. It is also a way for the



youth to learn leadership skills that will help them in the future,” said Shaundra Higgins, prevention coordinator for the CPC.

Higgins loves working with the kids. “It is a complete pleasure,” she said. “They come up with great ideas to put out into the community. They are our future leaders.”

Ed Dunin-Wasowicz has been the media advisor to the CPC since it began. He helps the CPC design its prevention messaging and get it out to the community. Recently, he worked with the BeFreePima Youth to create a 30 second public service announcement on underage drinking laws.

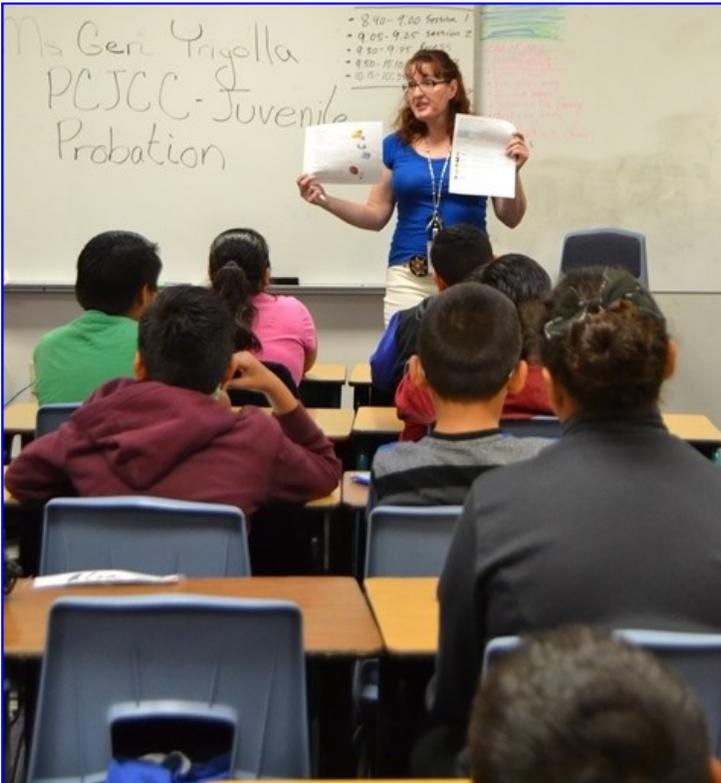
It’s exciting to see young people so committed to social change, he said.

“We’ve worked with a variety of kids,” Dunin-Wasowicz said. “We’ve worked with kids who just a few weeks before were in trouble with drugs and we’ve worked with some high achievers and underneath, they all have something important to contribute.”

For more information on the CPC find the Community Prevention Coalition of Pima County on FaceBook or visit www.PimaCPC.org or call (520) 205-4781.

Probation officers do far more than monitor troubled youth

If you ask the average person what a juvenile probation officer does, chances are they'll give you the dictionary definition – someone who is assigned to watch and report on kids who have gotten into trouble with the law.



Lead probation officer Geri Yrigolla speaks to a large group of students during Mission Manor Elementary's annual Career Day.

They wouldn't be wrong, but they wouldn't be completely accurate, either. Nowadays, juvenile probation officers are also quasi-social workers who work to help the entire family deal with their issues and make their way through the criminal justice process successfully.

At Pima County Juvenile Court, lead probation officer Geri Yrigolla is leading the charge to dispel the many misconceptions that exist about the court and probation officers.

"We try to be a teaching court and also try to be sensitive to the needs of the community," Yrigolla said. "We'd like to get more info out there to the community about the good things that we do. A lot of what I do

speaks to that."

For the last couple of years, Yrigolla has played a major role in training new probation officers and interns about the philosophies of the PCJCC, the court's standard practices and the various roles here at the court.

Yrigolla also spends a significant amount of her time speaking at schools, colleges and to community members about the modern role of juvenile probation officers.

"I think our role is often misunderstood; what people think we do is not what we do," said probation supervisor Sheila Pessingua. "We are about so much more than arresting people. That is just a very small part of what we do. We do a lot to help kids and families that people just don't know about."

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Probation officers refer kids and families to appropriate counseling services, ensure kids are in the proper school setting and on occasion, put families in touch with those agencies that can help out with housing, food and clothing needs, Yrigolla said.

“We do a lot of work, much more than just ensuring a minor is at home when he’s supposed to be. We also provide support to families who are moving through the court process, which can be very daunting and somewhat scary,” Yrigolla said. “We find ourselves having to explain that process quite a bit and using language they can understand because they’re not always familiar with the court process.”

“I want to get the kids to start thinking about their futures and making better decisions...” Geri Yrigolla

“I would say probation is sort of the middleman. We are really trying to balance community protection with accountability for one’s actions, along with developing a minor’s competency,” Yrigolla said.

Both parents and school officials often call the court wanting a probation officer who will scare troubled students straight.

“I let them know that (Scared Straight) has proven not to be effective so we do not employ those measures. However, I tell the schools I am always willing to go out and do a probation education program for them,” Yrigolla said.

When Yrigolla goes out to a school, she tells the students juvenile courts provide education and rehabilitation for kids and don’t employ strictly punitive measures like adult courts do. She also provides general information about what minors can be arrested for, what sort of consequences they might receive, what sort of assistance the court can provide for families.

“I want to get the kids to start thinking about their futures, making better decisions about what they’re doing, about the types of friends that they’re making, so that hopefully they won’t get involved in the juvenile court,” Yrigolla said.

Most of the parents who call are worried their kids will end up in the criminal justice system. Yrigolla offers to meet with them so she can provide them with a list of community resources.

Pima County Juvenile Court makes a concerted effort to find rehabilitation programs and community-based, mental health and substance abuse programs that have been proven to work, Yrigolla said.

“Our big push right now is moving toward evidence-based practices so the programs we want to employ are those that have been empirically proven to be effective,” Yrigolla said.

Educational champions needed for Pima County's foster kids

At this time of the year, every teacher must decide if their students are ready to move up to the next grade. But what if a student's emotional outbursts, poor communication skills and poor problem-solving skills aren't due to immaturity?

Late last month, a quartet of people involved in a pilot program gathered at Pima County Juvenile Court to talk about trauma and its impact on the educational outcomes of children.

Nearly two years ago, Pima County Juvenile Court became only the third court in the nation that was hand-selected to take part in the FosterEd program, said Peter Hershberger, FosterEd director.

Over the last 18 months, a select number of children in Pima County's foster care system have been surrounded by a team of people who want to make sure they do well in school. The team includes behavioral health experts, Department of Child Safety caseworkers, school representatives, caregivers and when possible, their biological parents.

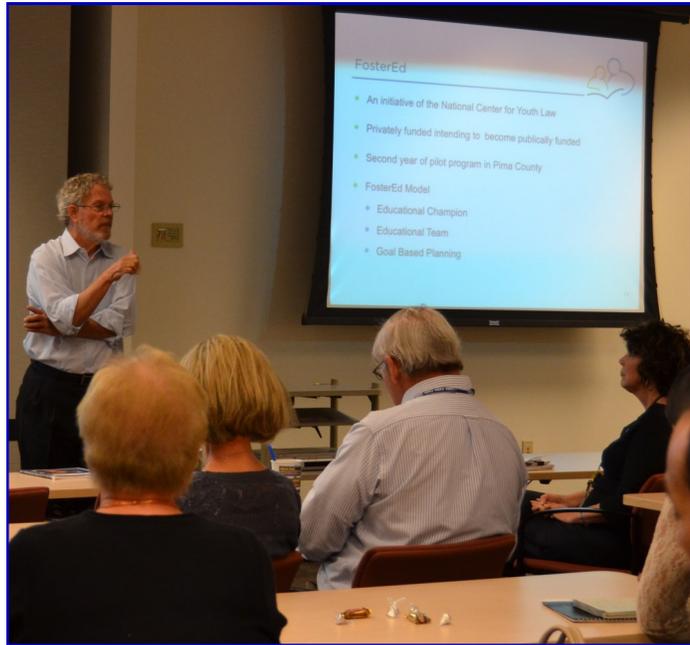
The team members set attainable goals for the child and they speak regularly and communicate via a Facebook-like computer platform about the child's progress.

Whenever possible, the children are also appointed an "educational champion" who works with an educational liaison to help the child improve their study habits, complete their homework and improve their test scores using a variety of methods taught by education experts, Hershberger said.

Right now, 30 percent of the programs educational champions are volunteers, 32 percent are parents and 38 percent are relatives or close family friend, said Arayah Larson, volunteer coordinator.

The need for programs like FosterEd is huge when one considers the impact trauma has on kids.

Foster kids tend to be absent more and get more disciplinary referrals, are 75 percent more likely to perform below grade level and are twice as likely to be held back. Only 50 percent of kids in foster care graduate or obtain their GED and only 3 percent graduate from college. (Contd. Page 15)



Peter Hershberger, FosterEd director, at a recent training session about the program.

People often assume kids have ADHD or are simply being defiant when they lack focus in school or act out, but they may actually be suffering the effects of trauma.

Trauma occurs when someone's life, safety or well-being is threatened and it can happen just once or it can happen repeatedly over time.

A child who witnesses or experiences domestic violence is traumatized as is a child who lives in poverty and is exposed to substance abuse, Hershberger said.

What people don't understand is that when people suffer from constant stress, a chemical called cortisol is released into their system, causing them to always be in flight or fight mode. As a result, their brain becomes re-wired and their emergency response system often overwhelms their ability to cope and pushes aside their cognitive abilities, Hershberger said.

Because these children's brain development has been impacted, many of them have difficulty learning, communicating, problem-solving and organizing and retrieving information. Ultimately, what they've experienced will also have an impact on the way they perceive themselves and the world.

Those suffering from trauma tend to be guarded, defensive and angry. They'll hold grudges, have emotional outbursts they're slow to recover from, make the same mistakes over and over again and lack insight into what is causing them to behave the way they do.

Andrea Molina, an education liaison, said there is a reason we see suspensions spike in middle and high schools. Foster children sometimes feel threatened by teachers and will swear, throw chairs and display other inappropriate behavior as a result.

Other times, foster children will withdraw from those around them and isolate themselves because of depression. If their grades aren't suffering from being moved from placement to placement, their grades are likely suffering because they too depressed to get out of bed to go to school.

Unless they have an active support system, foster children's prospects don't improve when they reach 18, either.

Studies have shown 25 percent experience homelessness and/or incarceration, 33 percent receive public assistance and 50 percent experience joblessness. The impact on the health care system is incalculable, Hershberger said.

The FosterEd team is committed to helping foster children on an individual basis, but by strengthening relationships with schools and building awareness in the community, they hope to help all foster children.

Among those in attendance at last month's meeting were Court Appointed Special Advocates, foster parents, DCS case managers, attorneys and court staff.

Just over 100 foster care children in Pima County are in FosterEd right now, but 40 of them still need educational champions. If you are interested in becoming an educational champion, contact Arayah Larson at alarson@youthlaw.org.

Graduations



On May 20, Pima County Juvenile Court celebrated two graduations. One of the moms in our Family Drug Court program, (left) not only graduated, but had the dependency case involving her two daughters officially closed. The graduate got a bit teary-eyed while reading her letter of thanks to the gathered crowd. Judge Jennifer Langford was equally pleased when one of the young ladies in Youth Recovery Court graduated later that day and the judge was able to dismiss her case. The teen is about to graduate from Teen Cuisine, too.

Did you know?

Nandi Muhammad, Pima County Juvenile Court's education programs coordinator, was recently recognized by a youth-led network for the work she does?

Nandi was given the Systems Change Agent Award by Youth on the Rise. This annual award recognizes outstanding systems change work.

Deborah Garza Chavez, opportunity youth director for the United Way said, "Nandi has been instrumental in educating PCJCC staff about the issues with opportunity youth, especially those youth who are court involved. This population needs extra support during their transition from the justice system, and Nandi has not only informed the YOTR collaborative about these needs, she has helped staff at PCJCC put into place a referral system that will enable youth to get the services they need through the re-engagement center, The REC. Her dedication to court involved youth specifically, and opportunity youth, generally, is inspirational and has made a substantial impact in our collective impact work."

Odds & Ends

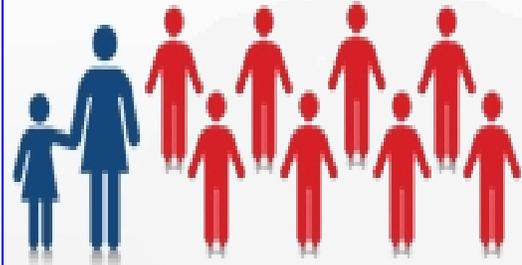
Milestones

Kathryn McReynolds, judicial, 5 years

Nicole Stockett, CASA, 10 years

Isabel Del Rio, probation, 15 years,

Juan Carrizosa, probation, 15 years



Only 1 out of 9 foster children
in Arizona has a CASA Volunteer.

Please call 724-2060 to find out more about becoming a Court Appointed Special Advocate. Or visit <http://pimacountycasa.org/>

Detention Employees of the Month

Caryn G. consistently models exemplary skills and attitude in her role as a Juvenile Detention Officer. She is highly dependable, well-rounded, positive and efficient. She interacts with ease and professionalism with her co-workers, professional visitors in detention and especially the youth. Not only is Caryn a mentor to the youth, she is a mentor to her co-workers.

Harold E., a fairly new officer, demonstrates a strong sense of pride, thoughtfulness of others, and is team-orientated. His colleagues appreciate that he is willing to invest the time and effort to train his fellow officers so that they may be successful. He takes initiative, motivates others, and has been willing and open to learning. His attitude and actions with the job, detention team mates, and the youth have been positive and respectful.

Voices

Since the PCJCC is here to help strengthen kids and families, it seems only appropriate the kids in our Detention Center have a platform from which to speak. We'll be asking them questions periodically and printing some of their unedited answers here.

What is your biggest strength and how do you use it?

"My biggest strength is being social. I use it by communicate with other people," Michael

"Running, but I can't run because its hot outside. The only strength I have I can use is probably stealth," Anonymous

"My biggest strength is to talk, talk, talk, and not know what the mute button is,"
Anonymous

"My biggest strength is eating and I use it by feeding myself. :) I keep myself alive and for two people," Julianna

"My biggest strength is to think. I plan to use my mind when necessary,"
Richard

"Play sports and I use it on the courts,"
Junior

"My biggest strength is drawing and I use it by drawing pictures," Angel

"Being strong, to my advantage," Dylan

"Being honest when it comes to the truth. I tell the truth no matter what," Gabriel

"Is being respectful to staff and other youth. I use it by takeing care of what I need to take care of," Christian

"My biggest strength is my are my arms,"
Anthony

"My biggest strangh is to act and think," Jose

PCJCC's**Vision**

We instill hope and create positive change for children and families.

Mission

The mission of the Pima County Juvenile Court is to ensure children are protected, youth are rehabilitated, and the community is safe by administering timely and impartial justice and providing innovative services.

*Positive Change,
Successful Youth*

**Core Values**

Compassionate : We demonstrate care, concern, and understanding for all.

Collaborative: We communicate, cooperate, and work effectively with internal and external partners and stakeholders.

Innovative: We use new, creative, and evidence-based practices, programs, and services to achieve effective outcomes.

Professional : We act with integrity in a conscientious and ethical manner.

Proactive: We anticipate needs and initiate action.

Respectful: We treat all people with dignity.

Responsive: We act quickly and positively.

Accountable: We are transparent, accessible, and take responsibility for our actions.

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