

Juvenile Detention Center

— Amazing Things Are Happening Here! —

May 2021 - Memorial Day Weekend



Old Glory stands out in front of a threatening sky over our building earlier this month. Please remember and honor all those who gave their all in military service for the freedoms we enjoy.

Moving Forward

So here we are, just around the corner from the majority of Ohio's Covid restrictions being lifted. What now? Just like many of you, that is what we are working on figuring out as we transition (over the next many weeks) as much as possible back to the "old days". At the same time we have been so blessed these past 14 months, having had only one known youth Covid case and a handful of employee Covid cases. While staffing and scheduling have been difficult at times in order to best negotiate our Covid challenges, we did it. We did it because our staff soldiered through to come to work and care for our kids while many themselves were dealing with their own Covid situations involving their family members and others close to them.



While we are glad that Ohio is in a place where nearly all restrictions will end on June 2nd, we will not be returning to our pre-Covid days overnight. We will transition over the next several weeks to get back to "normal". This means examining and reintroducing pre-Covid services back to our youth, which involves looking at internal matters as well as external. Some of these include a cautious approach to permitting volunteers, contract service providers, probation staff, counselors, therapy dogs, and others to begin coming back into our building to help our kids. Of course we wish Covid had never existed but at the same time consider it a privilege to have been able to serve and lead during all that this virus has brought us. Onward!

~ Superintendent Ron Stollar



Words From One of Our Youth

The following is from one of our females who became an Honoree through our Behavioral Level System this month;

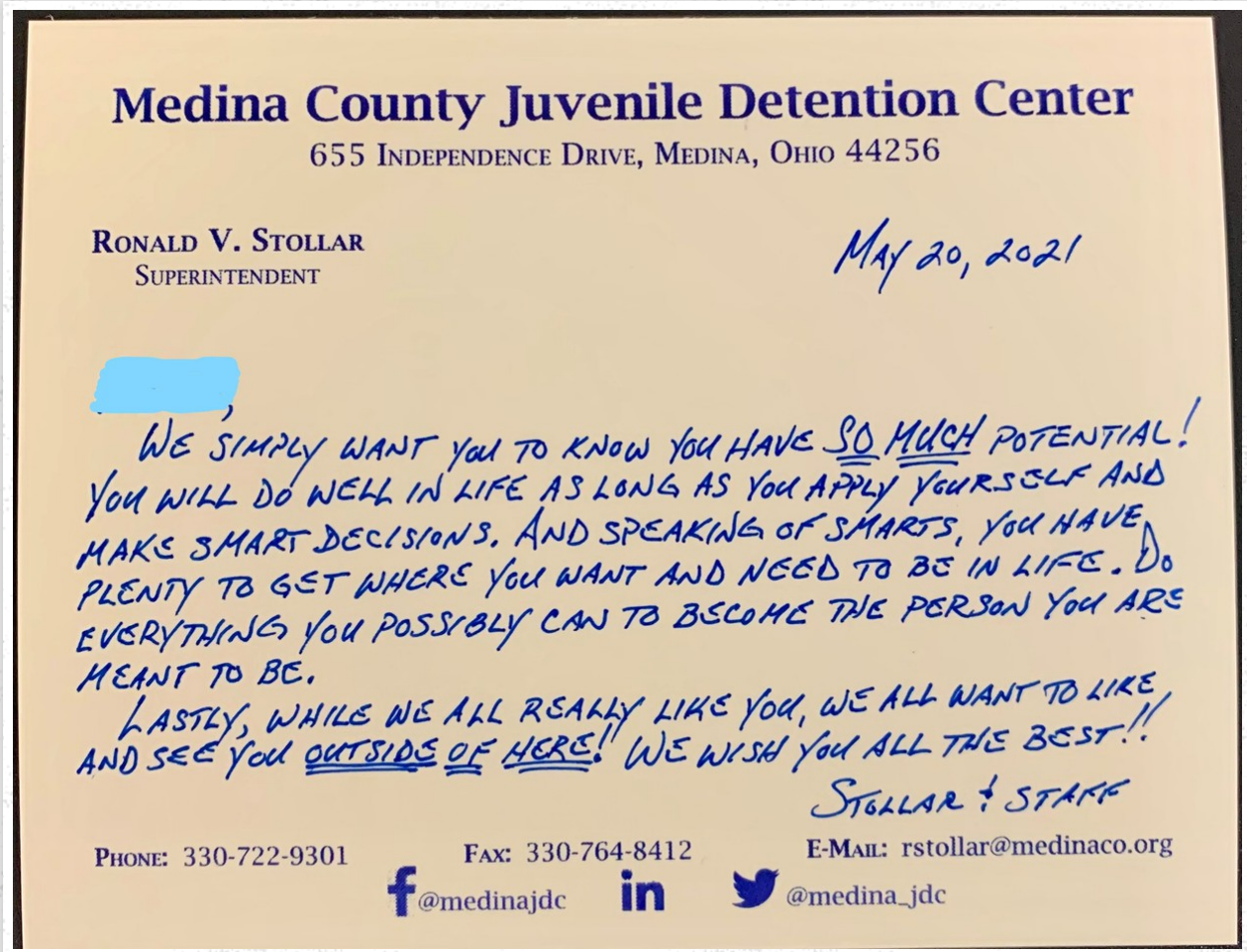
"When I first started coming to the MCJDC I was a brat with a really bad attitude and no respect for others. I didn't like to listen to anyone but myself but over my stays here working with the officers, counselors, and other girls like me I've learned a lot. One important thing I learned is you should treat others how you want to be treated and show respect even if not respected.

Over my stays here, thanks to the amazing officers, visitors, counselors, teachers, and others I have grown SO much. Back then I didn't care about anything or anyone, I just wanted to have fun but now I realize that's not what life is about. Even though jail was never a place I saw myself, I'm thankful for my experience, my self-growth, and all I've learned from these great people!"

Check out the author of this letter playing badminton with Officer Fields.

Words To One Of Our Youth

Here is a card Superintendent Stollar wrote to a resident as she was being released from us to go to a treatment facility for a while. We wish her GREAT success.



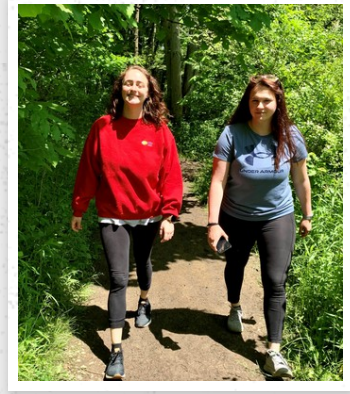
Wellness

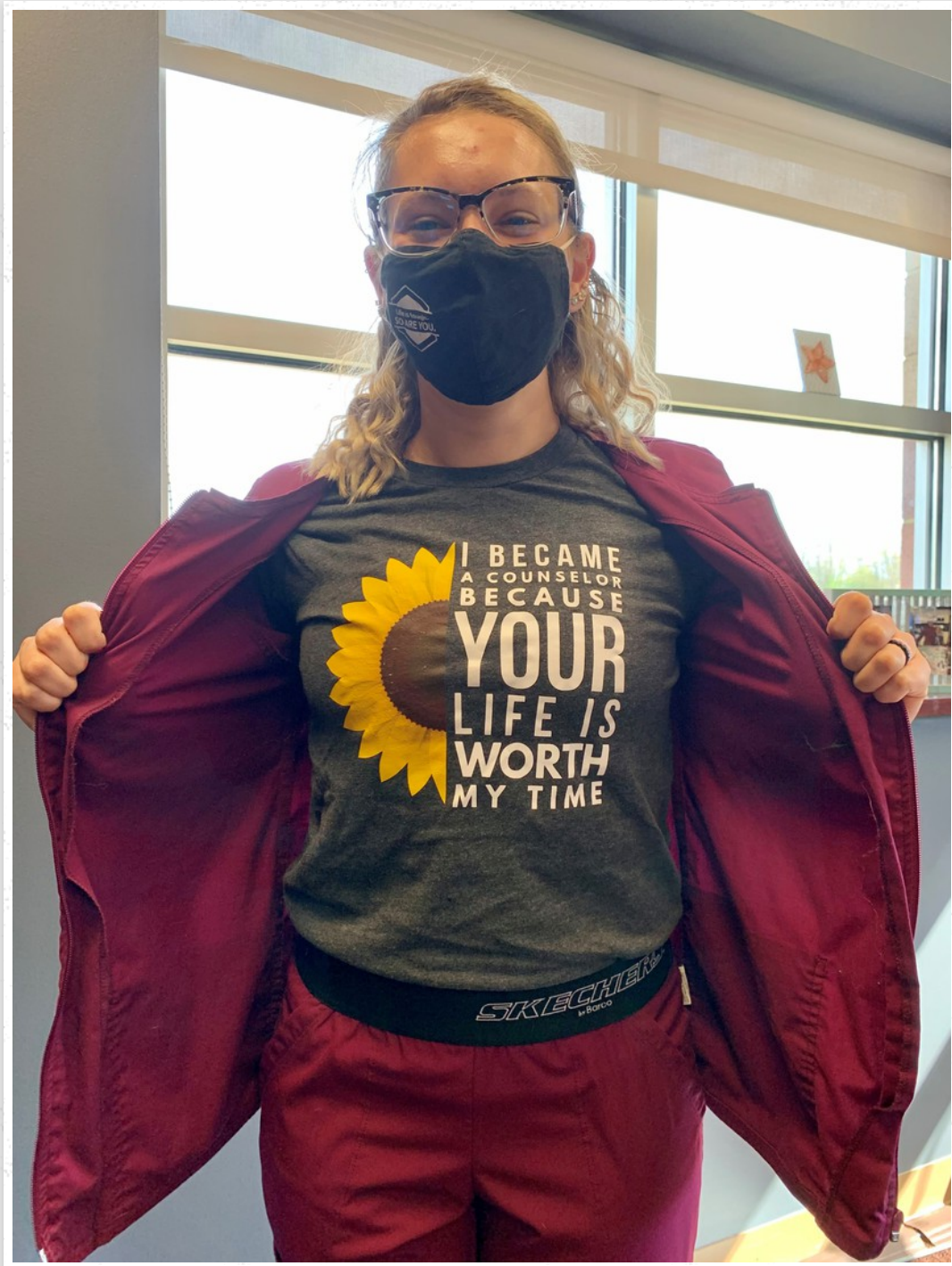
It's that time of the year again for us! Our facility takes part in the National School Lunch Program, where we incorporate an annual Wellness Program for all of our staff members to participate in. This program addresses organizational commitment, food and nutrition, physical activity, a tobacco-free lifestyle, and the mental and emotional well-being of our staff members.

One of the things we did this year was attending presentations by Naturalist Mark Ludwig of the Medina County Parks District, discussing the benefits on the body and mind of being out in nature. Additionally, Dietician Sharon Jaeger of the Medina County Health Department presented insights on nutrition and how to live a healthy lifestyle.

Following the two presentations, our staff members enjoyed a self-guided nature hike around Buckeye Woods Park. Staff members were able to implement the tools they learned during the two presentations while appreciating their nature hike. It was another successful wellness experience for the books - we look forward to our next wellness training!

Below (L to R): Mark Ludwig, Sharon Jaeger, Officers Leann Vandever and McKensi Cleckner





We Really Like LISW Alexis Lee's Shirt!

Music Works Magic

Some of you may recall that we had a karaoke machine donated to us last fall by a Mr. Simon. Pictured below is one of our youth "singing", with LISW Lee facilitating. Karaoke is a pro-social tool our social workers use to regulate emotion, build coping skills, and give our kids a way to appropriately express themselves. Additionally, karaoke allows our kids to identify their feelings to help work through them. It is rather fascinating to watch them choose songs that reflect their mood from song lists provided, and see their demeanor improve within just a couple of minutes (especially for those who might be having a bad day).



Celebrating Those Who Are The Thin GREY Line

In our April edition we mentioned the history of Correctional Officer and Employee Appreciation week, how it came to be and why it is celebrated during the first full week of May. This month we were able to celebrate with all of our staff and invited their families to join along in the celebration. We had to move indoors due to some inclement weather, but we still had an enjoyable time. We were able to meet family members, enjoy some delicious food and enjoy each other's company. Our juvenile court judge, Kevin Dunn, also stopped in!



But that's not all!!! Due to some generous companies like, LIFE AID, Uni-ball, PILOT and Resqme making donations in support of our officers we were able to present each staff member with a

take home bag. Each bag consisted of a Resqme Car Escape Tool, a FITAID recovery drink, blue ball point pens provided by Uni-ball and PILOT and let's not forget snacks to keep them going during their 12-hour shifts. The MCJDC would like to say thank you to these companies for recognizing the difficult service our staff provides to our community and their encouraging words they provided with their donations. Listed below are some of those words:

"I was touched and encouraged by the unique rehabilitative approach that you employ and genuinely admire the way that you care for and connect with the youth whom you serve. You and your team members are an inspiration to all of us at uni-ball. We hope that our products can play a small part in bringing meaningful connections and brightening your days."

Uni-ball President, Mike Parker

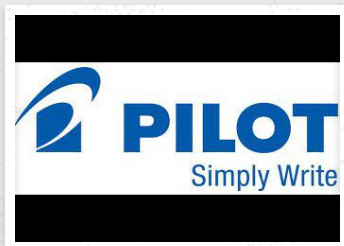
"We are happy to support you and your facility."

Resqme, Patricia

"We appreciate the hard work you and your staff are doing."

LIFEAID, Rosemary

Thank you again to everyone that participated and made our celebration possible. We look forward to continuing this tradition for years to come.

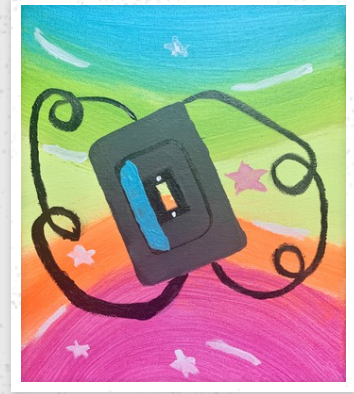
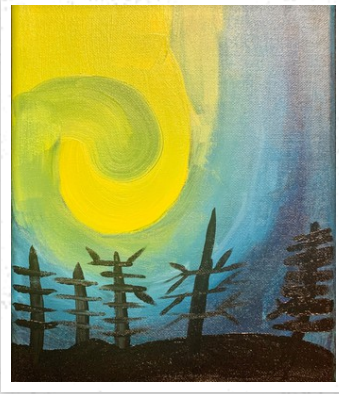


Like many other places, we are in need of some more quality people. We have both male and female positions open for Corrections Officers. You will have good benefits, and we will provide you with your uniforms and all the tools you'll need to experience this fulfilling career. If you are interested in working in this rewarding field (or know someone who may be), please go to our website where the job description and application can be found; www.medinaajdc.org.

Pictured below L to R: Officers Austin Clemens, Eliza Fields, Aric Ubienski



Only 119 Days Until Our 2021 Art Experience! Watch For Details Over the Coming Months!



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Click here for past newsletters!

Have you missed a newsletter? We archive all of our newsletters on our website. Click the link to see previous issues!

Contact Us!

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Fax: 330-764-8412

Administrative Hours

Monday-Friday

8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

www.medinajdc.org

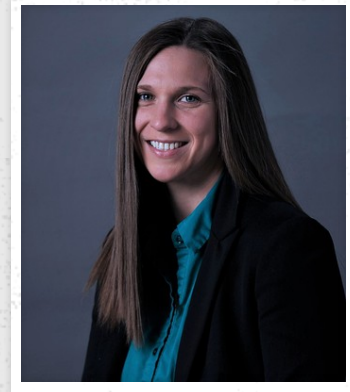




**Judge Kevin W.
Dunn;
Juvenile/Probate
Court**



**Ron Stollar;
Superintendent**



**Megan Millikin;
Assistant
Superintendent**

"We are making the Medina community a better place by inspiring troubled youth to become responsible, productive citizens."