

Juvenile Detention Center

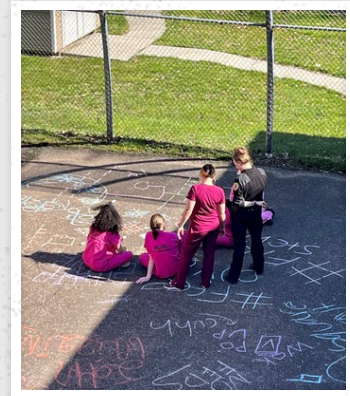
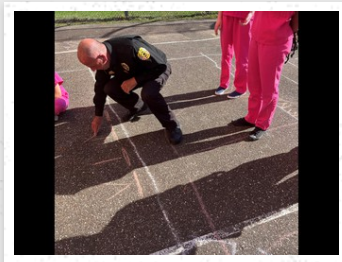
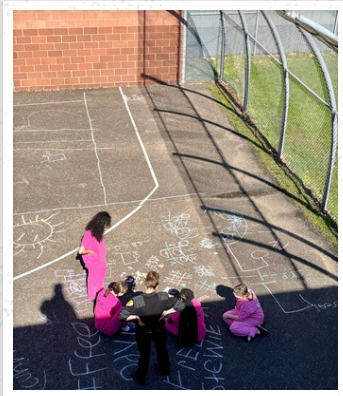
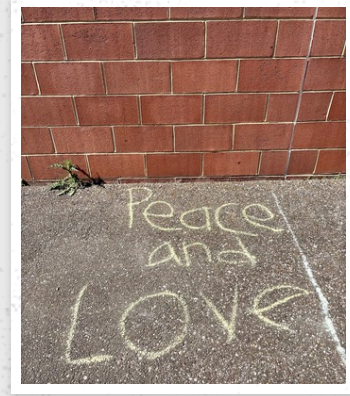
Amazing Things Are Happening Here!

April 2023

Chalk Art

One of our mental health clinicians, Alexis Lee, had an idea to have our kids create art in our outdoor recreation area on one of northeast Ohio's nicer days a couple of weeks ago. She gave them chalk, and let them draw and write, as well as play tic tac toe with each other. One of our kids beat everyone (including Superintendent Stollar)! Ms. Lee let them write pro-social messages and create drawings, which she rewarded them for with tickets to "purchase" various commissary items. When asked how she came up with the chalk art idea she said, *"I just wanted to give our kids a chance to be kids for a while"*. And they really enjoyed this time to be creative. Kudos to Ms. Lee!

Some of them also played Hangman, and invited Stollar to play a game with them. He won, with one of the best words you can use in this game. What was the word? See it at the end of this newsletter if you can't make it out in the pic below. Use it and you will win Hangman *every time*.

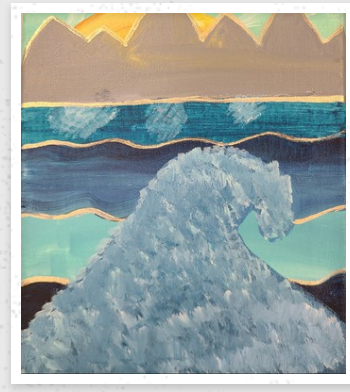
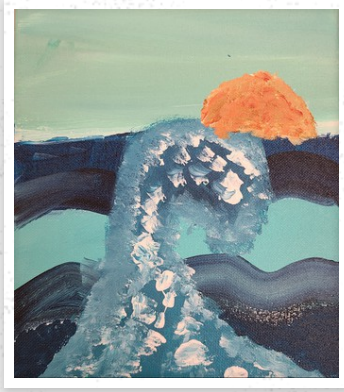


Stollar winning at hangman!!

Art with Abbey

Last month, long time volunteer for Access the Arts, Abbey Sweigert, visited and taught a paint lesson with our youth. Each visit, Abbey brings an example of the art piece the kids will be creating and also completes a follow-along piece during their session. This helps the kids learn the different technique she uses during each lesson. We are grateful to Abbey for visiting us and helping our kids unleash their creativity. (www.accessthearts.net)





Writers in Residence

Writers in Residence

We just wound down our latest series of writing sessions with our nonprofit partner, Writers in Residence. This thought-provoking piece was written (exactly as you see it here) by one of our kids.



Being a Teen in My Shoes

*"It is false that teens just sit around
All day and make bad decisions, it is false
That teens are a waste of space and
Need to be sent off to military school
To "get their act together". I think being
A teen in the system especially is very
Hard, everyone looks at you like your less
Than others, it makes me feel sad. I want
Adults to realize that just because I've
Been to jail, that doesn't mean I shouldn't
Be allowed near your children, or allowed to
Work at a specific job. I think adults
Got us all wrong tbh. I think we should
All be given 2nd, 3rd, 4th, 5th, and so
Many chances, we're kids, we make mistakes,
That doesn't mean you give up on us, and wash
Your hands of us. Give us the opportunity to
Change on our own accord, be our support
System, not our enemy."*

This is why we, and our juvenile court, don't give up on our kids.

A different resident wrote the following about herself, titled **LOVE YOURSELF**.

1. *You are a beautiful person.*

2. *You are strong and worth a lot.*
3. *You are smart.*
4. *You are going towards great places in the future.*
5. *Your life is worth living.*
6. *Your nose is not that bad.*

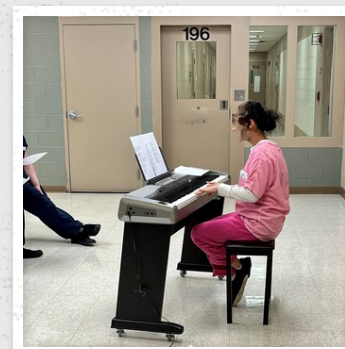
New Partnership

We just partnered with a local business, Just Mike's Jerky, as a new commissary item for our kids. The owners, Mike Fullard and Christine Bowman-Fullard, gave us a tour of their facility recently. In addition to jerky, they also make a special high-grade dog food. Sixty-eight employees make this all happen. Who knew what a cool business they have?!! We are purchasing some of their various jerky flavors and our kids, through positive behavior, will be able to acquire Mike and Christine's jerky as a tasty snack. We enjoy supporting local business, especially Just Mike's Jerky, because they are so community-minded and generous to area nonprofits. (www.justmikesjerky.com)



MCJDC's Got Talent!

One of our female residents shared that she plays piano, violin, and sings at area restaurants; so we asked her if she would like to utilize her skills for our staff and other residents. She lit up and said she would love to. Please listen to this young lady and her skills. And check out the lyrics to the original song she wrote with a friend recently, titled **IT'S IMPOSSIBLE**.



*I stare at my ceiling once again, with a hundred thoughts:
 Maybe he knows who I am... actually, probably not...
 I walk down the hall with my head down low,
 Scared to meet his eyes, even when I hear your voice,
 I swim with butterflies*

*Oh it's impossible to get you off my mind,
I think about 100 thoughts and you are 99.
I've understood that you will never be mine
And that's fine, I just breaking inside.*

*I always walk to crowded halls and you're blinded by my light.
A girl who keeps her head down low, I never show my eyes.
You've tried to talk to me but there is no easy way
'Cause every time you raise your voice, I run away.*

*Oh it's impossible to get you off my mind,
I think about 100 thoughts and you are 99.
I've understood that you will never be mine.
And that's fine... I'm just breaking inside...*

*But one day maybe I'll stay... maybe I'll stay..
And start to head over your way.
You'll grab me by the waist.
And force us to meet face to face.*

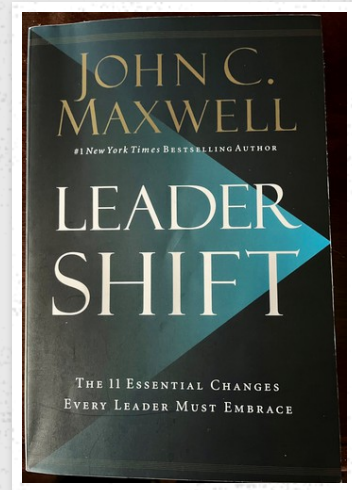
(A quick thank-you to Mike and Tracie Rose for donating the keyboard to us a few years ago!
www.roseplaces.com)



And What Are They Reading Now?

Long-time readers of this newsletter will probably remember that our Assistant Superintendent and Superintendent have their own little book club where they read a book on leadership, and then discuss weekly what they read/learned. They are now reading **Leader Shift** by John C.

Maxwell. The message of the book is that to be the best leader one must not only be adaptable to change, but anticipate see change coming and shift your approach to remain in the lead vs. just staying the course and risk falling behind. Additionally, focusing on one's *growth* first before focusing on one's *goals* will help you reach those goals and exceed them more quickly than one might believe.



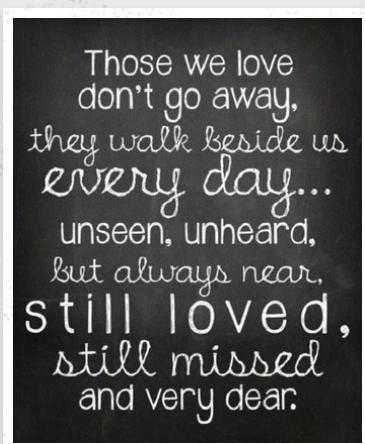
Here is a quote from the book. *“People may honor you for what you did yesterday, but they will respect you for what you’re doing now”*. Megan and Ron are only three chapters in right now but already recommend this for aspiring, new, or even seasoned, leaders.

Random Resident Quote

“I love it here! I asked the judge to let me stay longer!” When asked why, she responded that her home life is abusive, and that she knows we care about her.

A little background on this 17 year-old girl. She turns 18 next month and her parents have told her she cannot come home when she gets released from us on her birthday, so we and our court have been working with various agencies to ensure that she has a place to live, employment, and other resources in order to give her the best chance possible for her success.

Is it sad that she would rather be with us than at home? Of course. But we take comments like hers that we might be doing something right and meaningful for our kids.



We Lost a Friend

Our most heartfelt and deepest condolences go out to Judge John Lohn and his family on the passing of his beloved wife, Linda, on April 25th. Linda was a longtime friend and supporter of our detention center. Judge Lohn was our juvenile and probate court judge for several years before his retirement ten years ago. We love Judge Lohn and our hearts go out to him. Linda will be missed.

Unbeatable Hangman Word!

VINYL

If Number 2 Pencils Are The Most Popular, Why Are They Still Number Two?!!



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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!

655 Independence Drive, Medina, Ohio 44256

Phone: 330-764-8408

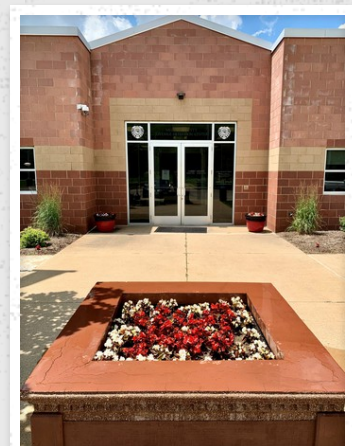
Fax: 330-764-8412

Administrative Hours

Monday-Friday

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

www.medinajdc.org

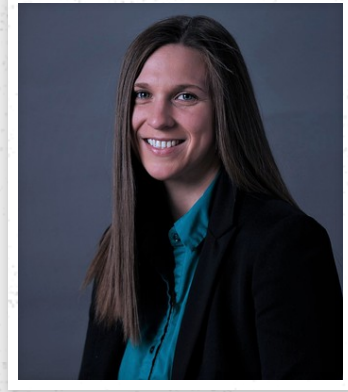




**Judge Kevin W.
Dunn;
Juvenile/Probate
Court**



**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."