

Juvenile Detention Center

Medina County

"We, and our court, do our best to help our kids and their families get on the right track. Our philosophy is to leave no stone unturned in providing them with the resources they need to lead well adjusted, productive lives."

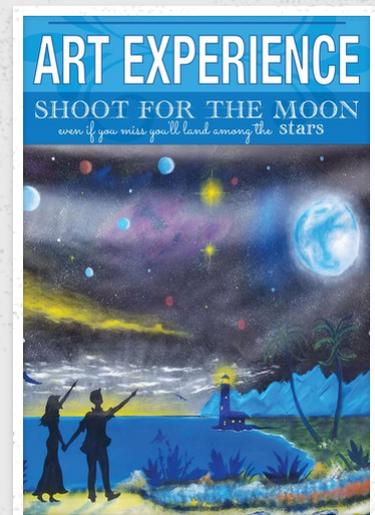


Superintendent's Message

Greetings! Please allow me to introduce myself. I am Ron Stollar, the Superintendent of the Medina County Juvenile Detention Center. We are very proud and excited about the work we do with our youth here and we want to share that with YOU, so welcome to our first-ever newsletter! This edition includes just a snapshot of events and activities that took place in 2018. We hope you find value in learning about the many different ways we help our youth get their lives on the right track, and if you ever have any ideas for us please let us know!

Art Experience 2018 Recap

The 2018 Art Experience was a great success! The event featured nearly 500 pieces of original artwork created by the detained youth. The artwork on display included masks, tiles, prints, paintings, drawings and more! Through art, our youth are able to think creatively, analyze, and interpret as they create. This is a positive and calming outlet for them as they go through a difficult time in their lives. A total of 30 pieces of artwork were part of the silent auction which raised over \$4,000 this year! This money will go directly back to the art therapy program. Check out the photos below!

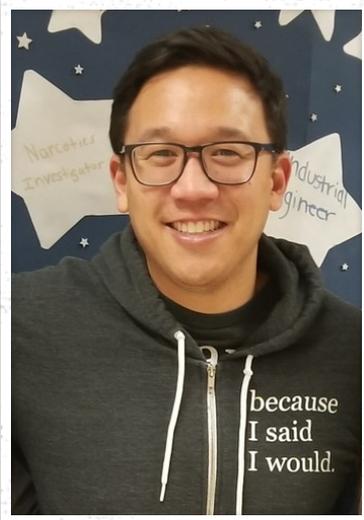


For the first time, we partnered with The Children's Center of Medina County. Additional pieces of art were auctioned off at The Children's Center 4th Annual Art with a Heart Benefit that was held in November. The Children's Center donated 50% of the proceeds raised by the MCJDC pieces back to the MCJDC.



This 5'x10' mural was painted by several of our youth under the guidance of artist Bob Kirkpatrick.





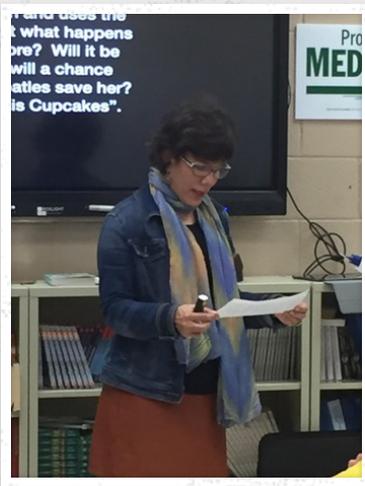
Because I Said I Would

Alex Sheen, the founder of *Because I said I would*, came and spoke to the youth about making promises. *Because I said I would's* mission is to better humanity and change the world through promises made and kept. During his presentation, Alex spoke to the youth about the importance of following through on commitments and promises that are made to friends, family and themselves. Alex passed out t-shirts and wrist bands to all of the youth. These wrist bands are to serve as a reminder of a specific promise that was made and hold the residents accountable to fulfill that promise.

Twon Billings - From Crime to Success

Cleveland native Twon Billings was a real-life example to our residents of how an individual can turn their life around after crime. Twon is a former gang member who had a life full of violence, fighting, and theft. After serving 13 years in prison, Twon is now a successful part of the Northeast Ohio Community and now serves as a community advocate to prevent and end crime. During his visit in October, Twon spoke about his involvement with programs and initiatives related to women's violence, youth violence and fathers working to be positive role models.





The Seventh Most Important Thing - Shelley Pearsall

Every resident in the MCJDC read the novel, The Seventh Most Important Thing by Shelley Pearsall, a story about discovering what shines within us all, even when life seems full of darkness. During her visit, Shelley conducted a writing workshop with the residents that involved all different kinds of shoes! The residents used the various types of shoes to create characters that had different emotions, attributes, and stories.

Holidays at the JDC

Our holiday time can be especially difficult for the residents and we work to provide programming and activities that can help them navigate through the holiday season.

OAKS Family Care Center - Beyond the weekly visits to the MCJDC, the OAKS Family Care Center visits the residents specifically for the holiday season and works with them to create Christmas cards for them to give to their family members. This is also the one time during the year where the residents get to have pizza for lunch.



Chaplain Visits - Sue Jarvis is a volunteer chaplain for the MCJDC. During her holiday visit, she gives each resident a new journal and a Bible. She also gives them some small \$5.00 gift cards that they can use after their release.

A Positive Note!

Special Note: Emalee is a college student at Bowling Green State University who came to visit the MCJDC during her holiday break. She learned about the facility, how it's run and the educational programming that takes place for the residents. After her visit, the facility received this message from Emalee.

Dear MCJDC,

I want to start off by thanking you for letting me shadow, I really enjoyed my time spent at the MCJDC with your officers. I was very interested in how the whole place was run and I can say I really like it. The kids seem to have a lot of respect for your officers and that is a big factor when it comes to the workplace. Sgt. Bryant did a great job at explaining a lot of the things that go on there on a daily bases as well as answering my questions. Same with Officer Adams, she was very fun to talk to and



was very open about a lot of things which I like. It was a very welcoming environment and everyone seems to get along very well. They all treated me very nicely and were willing to answer any questions that I had. I can see myself working here in the future, I believe it would be the perfect job for myself, especially working with kids.

Thank you for the wonderful opportunity and I hope you have a Happy New Year!
Emalee

Contact Us!

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