

Juvenile Detention Center

==== Amazing Things Are Happening Here! ====

June 2020

Corona Virus Update

So we are now a full three months into this pandemic and are still tightly monitoring our operations. Like you, we look forward to when we can begin returning to whatever our new "normal" is going to be. With so many questions remaining about the virus we do not yet know when that will be. One of our highest priorities is getting parents/guardians back in our building.

Video visitation has been a great help but it is just not the same, of course, as personal contact. We also must consider probation officers, school officials, counselors and therapists, clergy, all our weekly/monthly volunteers, law enforcement, and others.

The health of our kids and staff remain our highest priority, along with the safety and security of everyone in our building. The majority of our daily decisions involve all of these matters. We will continue to do our best to protect everyone here.



Random Quote

One of our young men said this to us recently, *"Being in here the past few months is the best thing that could have happened to me"*.

While there is a lot to his story we wish we could share, comments like these make us smile!

Summer School

As we move through the summer months, our youth stay hard at work continuing their education. Each year we receive grant money through Medina City Schools to keep our teaching department staffed part-time during the summer. Monday through Friday our youth have the opportunity to attend class from 8:00am to 12:00pm. Without both of our teacher's and paraprofessional's hard work and dedication this would not be possible. This summer some of our youth are continuing with their online school program, others are completing work towards earning a math and language arts credit and some are studying to complete their General Equivalency Diploma (GED).



"An investment in knowledge always pays the best interest."

-Benjamin Franklin



Henna Art

Nirali Shah is a professional artist who volunteers her time and expertise with the youth in our center. She learned the art of henna in a salon when she was 8 years old while she was still living in India. In 2007 she came to the United States where she currently resides and is a henna artist, mandala painter, and a Bollywood dance instructor! Nirali connects with the youth through Zoom to teach about the culture of India and the history of the art that she crafts.

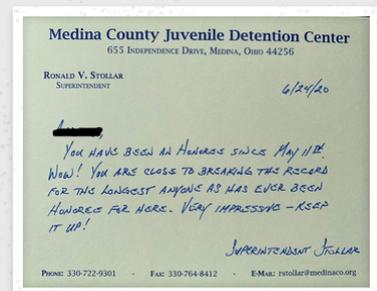
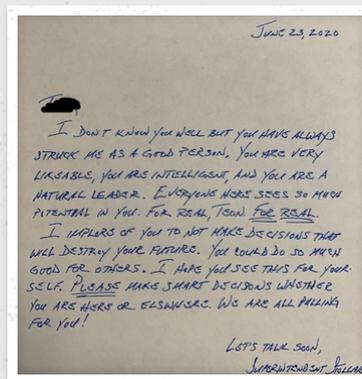
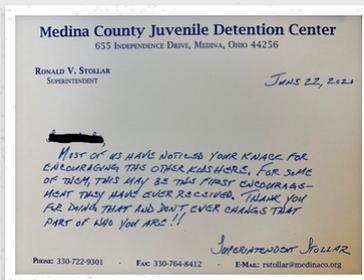
Youth Garden

Julie Spaite, from Access the Arts, hand-picked the robust vegetable plants for the Youth Garden this year. She worked hard to turn over the soil from last year and find the perfect spacing so the garden can prosper with fresh produce for donations. All our youth who have earned Honoree status or Level 3 on our positive behavior system are permitted to work in the garden throughout the summer. The goal of this program is to give the kids an opportunity to take care of something in addition to themselves, to contribute to the community, and learn basic gardening skills. This year the garden consists of mammoth sunflowers with marigolds, cucumbers, strawberries, beans, corn, pumpkins, lettuce, peppers, eggplant, squash, sweet potatoes, and broccoli. We would like to thank Access the Arts for the donation of plants, soil, watering cans, and mostly for their passion to help our kids! All produce will be donated to Feeding Medina County. (www.feedingmedinacounty.org)



Encouragement!!

We thought we'd share some notes that administrative staff send to our kids on occasion. These all happen to be from Superintendent Stollar but our Assistant Superintendent does this as well. We cannot remember a time when the notes were not genuinely appreciated by the kids. We think we all recognize the power of the written word, and the power of encouragement. Put those two together and often you will be surprised by the results.



Instagram @medina.jdc

In an effort to continue to spread the word of the inner workings of our juvenile detention center, we have expanded our social media presence! Check us out, follow us, like us, and tell all of your friends about us on Instagram @medina.jdc as we share our youth's experiences during their stay with us.

Officer Jason Ballachino

We welcome Jason Ballachino as a new Corrections Officer with us this month. Jason enjoys, golfing, the shooting sports, video games, and spending time with his family.

Welcome, Jason!



Officer Dylan Shehan

We also welcome Dylan Shehan as a second new Corrections Officer with us. Dylan likes riding his motorcycle (Honda CBR1000RR which Stollar is envious of) and being outdoors. And he too, enjoys spending time with his family.

Welcome, Dylan!

New Sergeant

We are pleased to announce the promotion of one of our officers to the rank of sergeant - his name is **Brent Foreman**. Brent retired from 30 years in the manufacturing world and joined us in March of 2019. He has been a youth pastor, youth director, and a Junior Church director. Brent quickly showed his levelheadedness and professionalism, and established himself as a solid officer who interacts with our kids SO well. They have told us they respect him and look up to him.



Sergeant Foreman said, *"I love working with the youth - my hope is that I can use some of my past experiences toward a better world, influencing one life at a time."*

Congratulations Sergeant Foreman!!

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Contact Us!

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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."