

# Juvenile Detention Center

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

December 2019

**We hope you have a most enjoyable Holiday Season!!!**

## **KHM Cares**

KHM Travel Agency's non-profit group called KHM Cares, volunteered their time and donated decorations to bring some holiday spirit to our facility for all to see! They adorned the front of the building for our families to enjoy as well as the living quarters so the kids don't miss out on the cheer! We are grateful for the wonderful people who spent days with us, giving their energy and hearts to spread some joy!!! *(Pictured below, KHM Cares volunteers along with Officer Jackie Maddox and Youth Fulfillment Coordinator Jaclyn Balliet)*



## Art with a Heart

In November, The Children's Center of Medina County hosted their annual Art with a Heart Fundraiser and we have continued our partnership with them during this event. For the Art with a Heart fundraiser some of our youth donated pieces to be displayed for silent auction, while others were live-auctioned. If you have never been to a live-auction event, boy is it exciting.

The Children's Center then returns 50% of those proceeds, from the items donated back to the detention center for continued art therapy, while retaining 50% for the needs of the kids they serve. As a facility we have enjoyed our partnership with them and look forward to continuing it in the future. *(Pictured to the right, Anna Guy-Leach from The Children's Center of Medina*



County presenting a check to Superintendent Stollar and Assistant Superintendent Millikin from the proceeds made by our youth's donated items.)



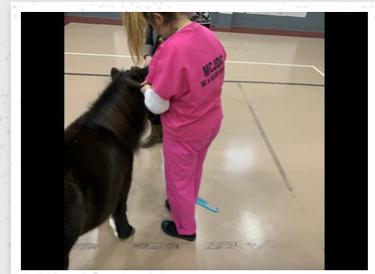
## Guardian Guidance

"Positive parenting experts worldwide can agree on this: **there is always something motivating a child's negative or disruptive behavior.** The thing to remember is **the behavior itself is simply the symptom.** Our challenge as parents is figuring out what's really underneath that frustrating behavior. Once you identify the root cause of the issue, you can become a more PROACTIVE parent and preempt the outbursts from happening in the first place."

- Alexis Lee (LISW)

## Little Equines

Rita Davis, her daughter, and a fellow equine enthusiast spent a Saturday afternoon with us at the detention center. They brought cheer to the kids with their therapeutic miniature horses and we cannot thank them enough for the enjoyment they spread in the gymnasium that day! The equines are brothers who travel to schools and other facilities regularly to visit with different populations. The youth were able to walk the animals, groom them, braid their manes, and learn all about the habitat and environment that they live in. We are looking forward to their return in the spring when they will show off their obstacle course skills to our youth in the outdoor recreation area!



## Ryan & Jenna Hentsch

Ryan Hentsch is a recovering heroin addict who has been sober for 7 years. Throughout his years of addiction he found himself in trouble and struggled to maintain relationships, however, he ultimately found a way to overcome it all and turn his life around! He and Jenna are married with a beautiful daughter, Penelope, and they donated an entire afternoon to speak

to the kids. Jenna understands addiction from a partner's perspective as well as being a child of a parent who suffers from addiction. The multiple perspectives of the couple helped to reach every child who heard Ryan's intensive, passionate, and warming speech. He shared his story about who he was as a young adolescent, who he spent time with and how that influenced his choices, his lack of ability at first to stay clean, and how he came upon the motivation to make major life changes which allows him to be a good husband and father to this day. Ryan and Jenna spent time in each unit with the kids in smaller groups so they could have a more personal conversation, asking the questions they wanted to, and receiving more individualized feedback. Their time at the detention center was extremely influential and we have received multiple requests for him to return! *(Pictured below, Ryan Hentsch speaking to the youth.)*



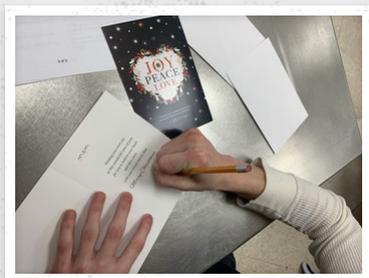
## **New Officer!**

Recently we welcomed Joshua Rodhe as one of our newest Corrections Officers. Josh is returning to Ohio after several years of working in North Carolina as a Firefighter and EMT.

Officer Rodhe is a fan of the Cleveland sports teams, and likes to hunt and fish.

## Christmas Celebration

The Oaks Family Care Center continued their tradition of organizing an annual Christmas Celebration at the detention center for our youth. The youth enjoyed festive music that they could sing along to, wrote Christmas cards to their families, and those who wished to participate had an opportunity to pray. This annual Christmas Celebration is in addition to their weekly visits throughout the year. *(Pictured to the right, Oaks Family Care Center volunteers.)*



## Leadership Medina County Visit

Recently, we had the opportunity to host the Leadership Medina Counties Legacy Leaders, Signature and Emerging Leader programs at our facility as part of their Local Government Day. During their visit, they received a tour of the facility and had the opportunity to hear from Superintendent Ron Stollar, Judge Kevin Dunn, and Assistant Superintendent Megan Millikin. Mr. Stollar spoke about the different types of services we provide such as, art class, music therapy, animal therapy, life skills and many more. We explained a cultural change we made in 2015, as a facility, to reinforce positive behavior through our behavioral level system. We all shared multiple stories about our experiences at the detention center and answered many questions. Here are a few thoughts from the group about their experience:

"I am so impressed with how many programs are available through the court, jail and juvenile detention center."

"I was encouraged to learn that our county's philosophy trends more toward healing and reintegration, especially on the juvenile level. As an individual in charge of staffing my facility, I believe I will possibly consider more 2nd chance options."

"It's difficult to hear about everything that's going on in the county and all of the needs that there are to face, as well as all of the positive projects and not want to get involved in some manner. Personally, with my background in social work and also working with teenagers from the juvenile court system in Cuyahoga County, it was a reminder of what it's like to be in the position of caring for these kids on a day-to-day basis."

There were countless observations made by the group about their visit to our facility. We enjoy spending time with groups such as, Leadership Medina County. It allows us an

opportunity to educate the public on the work that happens within the juvenile detention center. (Pictured below, Assistant Superintendent Millikin speaking to the Leadership Medina County group.)



## Making A Difference

A special thank you goes out to the local organizations who are making a difference in the lives of the youth at our facility. Check out some of the generous donations detailed below.



## United Church of Christ

This year United Church of Christ connected with the juvenile detention center to participate in their annual giving tree. They collected many items for our youth such as, games, coloring books, socks, slippers, and more. Our youth will be able to take these items home when they are released from our care. Due to their generosity and support, our youth will be receiving a little extra **Holiday Cheer** this year! (Pictured to the left is Carolee Rafn from United Church of Christ along with Assistant Superintendent Millikin)

## United Way of Medina County

"United Way of Medina County wanted to extend the partnership we have by including the Juvenile Detention Center as part of our annual volunteer engagement activities. United Way and the detention center already partner together to help deliver the E4JDC Program to the detention center youth. It was a natural extension to have a collection drive for items youth need on a regular basis. It also let's the youth know that their community cares about them and is willing to help. It was a great experience and we love that the community came together to show detention center youth warmth and caring during the holiday season," stated Maria Burk, Director of Community Engagement from United Way of Medina County. *(Pictured to the right is Superintendent Stollar, Assistant Superintendent Millikin and Marie Burk from United Way of Medina County.)*



## Buckeye Christian Assembly

John McClure led a collection through his church, the Buckeye Christian Assembly, and he has made multiple deliveries to our facility of shirts and socks for our youth!

## YAHAB

"YAHAB is a 501c3 charitable organization that believes in helping the hopeless, the helpless, the downtrodden and those forgotten in our society," according to Valeria Long, pictured here. She and her husband, Edwin Long, created the non-profit and named it YAHAB which means "to give." Sandra and Dave Smith, also pictured here, serve on the board and help to raise funds for the organization to give back to the community. They graciously donated clothing to help keep our kids warm!



## Kathy Breitenbucher & Friends

Kathy is an Economic Developer from the Medina County Economic Development Corporation. She facilitated a donation to raise money for the purchase of thermals for our youth!

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## Contact Us!

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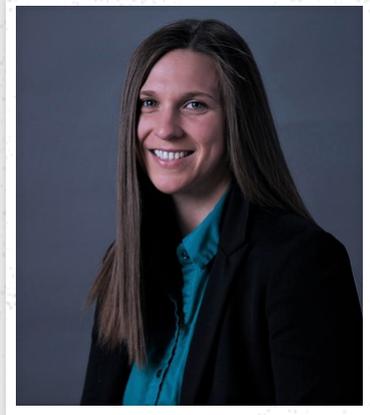




**Judge Kevin W.  
Dunn - Juvenile  
Court**



**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."*