



MEDINA COUNTY COMMON PLEAS COURT

Probate and Juvenile Divisions

93 Public Square, Room 104, Medina, Ohio 44256

KEVIN W. DUNN
Judge

MEDIA RELEASE

May 4, 2018

MCJDC Superintendent Stollar Earns 2018 Share Cluster Community Prevention Award

Ron Stollar, Superintendent for the Medina County Juvenile Detention Center, was surprised as he was awarded the 2018 Community Prevention Award at the annual Share Cluster breakfast.



MEDINA – Ron Stollar attended the annual Share Cluster breakfast, as he does every year, but this year was different as he was called to the stage to accept the 2018 Share Cluster Community Prevention Award. Stollar was nominated for the award by a fellow Share Cluster member based on his mentoring skills, peer leadership and asset-building abilities; his work in alcohol, tobacco and other drug prevention; as well as his work in violence prevention in our community.

“I was very surprised,” Stollar said. “I thought, ‘I don’t like being the center of attention and now I have to go say something in front of all of these people, many of whom I think are more deserving than I am.’ But I am honored and appreciate the nomination and that the committee felt I was deserving of the recognition.”

Stollar has served as Superintendent for the Medina County Juvenile Detention Center (MCJDC) since 2007. His role at the MCJDC, a 30-bed, maximum security temporary holding facility, is to protect the community from juvenile offenders by providing a safe and secure environment. While the MCJDC is not a treatment facility, Stollar says their philosophy is for staff to do all they can to make a positive impact on the youth in hopes of changing their lives for the better.

Tiffany Shelton, LISW-S, LICDC, the Share Cluster member who nominated Stollar for this year’s award, says she did so because of the positive reinforcement he provides to detained youth.

“The work Ron is doing is giving hope and encouragement to kids that often have not had nearly enough of this,” she wrote in her nomination. “He is impacting the lives of these youth for years to come.”

Stollar has implemented new programs in the facility to help reinforce that positive change in youth. In 2017, he organized the first MCJDC Art Show. The event showcased pieces created by youth during their detainment, raising nearly \$1,050 to continue art therapy in the facility. Art-based programs have been

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shown to be effective in promoting positive youth development, addressing social skills, interpersonal communication and problem solving, as well as increasing creativity, critical thinking, and emotional management.

Stollar, along with other MCJDC staff and outside support, also offer residents the opportunity to attend the E4JDC Youth Summit. The E4JDC – Educate, Empower, Engage and Equip – was developed through a collaboration with the MCJDC and United Way of Medina County to teach the youth to utilize their voice and key strengths in a positive manner to reach their full potential. The program provides residents in the facility an opportunity to examine their individual personalities, contemplate future career paths, and learn about the local resources available to them and their families.

“There are two parts to our intention with our programs,” Stollar said. “First, we are exposing the youth to opportunities and outlets they may not have contemplated for themselves before, and secondly, we want to create as positive of an environment as we can in a correctional setting while maintaining safety and security. These are not bad kids. They have made bad decisions but we don’t want those choices to define them and their futures.”

Judge Kevin W. Dunn said he is not surprised that Stollar was nominated and received this year’s Community Prevention Award and agrees that the programs are necessary to reinforce a positive self-awareness for youth.

“Ron works tirelessly to rehabilitate youth in his facility and get them on the right track,” Judge Dunn said. “The programs he and his staff have implemented show the youth their potential, possibilities, and provide a sense of community involvement. This helps the youth realize that they have additional support outside of themselves or their families for their future.”

Stollar is an active member of the Medina County Suicide Coalition. He has also served on several boards such as the Criminal Justice Behavioral Health Linkage program with Alternative Paths, the Ohio Juvenile Detention Director’s Association, Medina County Red Cross, Medina Creative Housing, and is a past-president of the Ohio Crime Prevention Association.

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