

CAS Chronicle:

Volume 1, Issue 1
Theme: Building & Growth!
Spring 2011

Montgomery County Juvenile Court

CAS TURNS TEN:

A Historical Perspective

As a partnership between the Ohio Department of Youth Services and Montgomery County Juvenile Court, the concept of a Community Correctional Facility was created over years of planning and discussion. In 1998, an agreement was reached for funding to be secured through the Ohio Department of Youth Services, to begin the land site selection and building of the facility, designed to work with up to 50 Montgomery County youth in a secured residential treatment program.

Following many discussions with various cities within Montgomery County, the Village of New Lebanon selected a site at the end of a new street in town, Access Road. A large lot was determined to be a suitable ground to build the facility. Ground was broken in 1999 and the facility was completed in late 2000. Montgomery County Public Works helped turn on the electric and get facility up and running in 2001.

On Wednesday, May 16, 2001, the official ribbon cutting ceremony took place, welcoming the community to learn of the development and celebration of the opening of the Center for Adolescent Services. Representatives from the Ohio Department of Youth Services, Montgomery County Juvenile Court, the Village of New Lebanon, and the Center for Adolescent Services welcomed guests from the entire Miami Valley area.

In July, 2001, CAS began working with youth in the residential program. Residents began the cognitive-behavioral program to address their criminal behaviors. With caring and concerned staff, however, youth have accepted the challenges to work on their own issues that have triggered their behaviors – emotions, family, school, and impulsive behaviors.



In the mist the storm a rainbow appears over the Center of Adolescent Services.

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Under Construction

On any given day one can walk through CAS and hear the sounds of productivity. The high shrill of drills, the banging of hammers and the smell of carpenters glue are all too familiar to the staff and residents of CAS. Have you noticed that CAS is gradually getting a makeover?

CAS has experienced a lot of building improvements over the past couple of years. In looking back, it is hard to believe how much we have

accomplished. We are grateful for the ongoing support from our Court and the Department of Youth Services in terms of providing capital monies to address our needs. Similarly, we are appreciative of the team work and collaboration from our team members. The list of improvements to our building is as follows:

- New garage
- Repaired outside fence (improving security)
- New staff radios
- Replaced 31 cameras

Under Construction

(Continued from page 1)

- Installed 14 additional cameras
- Installed new kitchen equipment: ice maker, steamers, deep fryer, garbage disposal, and oven.
- Replaced carpet throughout building
- Installed new tile at control desk and medical department
- Installed flat screen televisions on each unit
- Installed glass enclosure at control
- Purchased new mattresses for each resident's room



- Purchased smart board for classroom

- Purchased new classroom projectors
- Installed additional water softener
- Installed supply cage
- Installed industrial washer and dryer
- Upgraded Key Watcher system

We continue to assess our facility's needs and address them to the best of our ability considering our budgetary constraints. We continue to identify needs and continue to seek ways of funding improvements. Your support and cooperation are appreciated.

Contributed by:



Employee Spotlight: Ms. Preshes Matthews

In addition to the many construction changes that have occurred at CAS there has also been a number of personnel changes. This past January CAS congratulated Preshes Matthews as she transitioned into the role of treatment specialist. Ms. Matthews stated that she was very excited to work with youth in a way that will stimulate each one's cognitive development and ability to make mature, non-criminalized choices.

In treatment sessions, each student is

equipped with a personal tool box which includes: essential communication tools, anger management strategies, foundations for reintegration into society, and key concepts for motivation to change.

Ms. Matthews states that her objective is to continue to serve the CAS youth by being a mentor, counselor, and educator in the CAS support team. Ms. Matthews stated, "It is my belief that each young person has the power and ability within them to become productive citizens in our

community. Treatment will help get them there! "It is truly an honor to be a youth advocate," Mathew remarked. This is even more meaningful when a youth leaves CAS and becomes successful, a leader that our community and families can depend on.

CAS Academy Artistic Achievement

The CAS Academy team has been challenging students to go above and beyond any personal limitations each student may have. The past three months students have participated in classroom events that have challenged them physically, mentally, socially and even artistically.

This month, two CAS Academy

students F. Lark and B. McIntosh entered a visual arts contest called the *Miami Valley Season for Nonviolence-World House Celebration of the Arts and Letters*.

When the results were announced, CAS academy students emerged on top; F. Lark won first place and B. McIntosh won second.



The entire CAS team celebrated and congratulated the two students as well as Ms. Bennett on a job well done!

(Second Place is on page 3)

Director's Corner

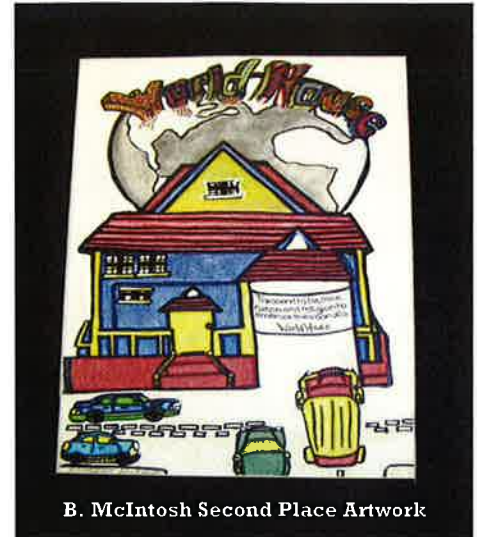
Welcome to the first edition of the CAS Newsletter. Our vision in establishing a newsletter involves increasing communication among team members and highlighting important aspects of our operations.

Similarly, we hope to highlight individual team members and accomplishments. We are open to your ideas and look forward to your ongoing contributions to our team newsletter.

Lastly, we are grateful that Mrs. Fowler has graciously taken the lead in coordinating and publishing our newsletter on a quarterly basis.

David Roby

Center of Adolescent Services Director



B. McIntosh Second Place Artwork

Making Healthy Choices a Lifestyle

During February was Wellness Awareness week for the CAS Academy. Students were exposed to the importance of making healthy choices now in order to increase not only their quality of life but also their personal longevity. Each classroom taught on some aspect of healthy habits that students could apply to their own lives.

In science class students learned about the fat content in their favorite snacks by analyzing how much oil those snacks left on a paper towel. Each student was given a cracker, a low fat version of that cracker, a pretzel and a chip. Students crushed each one on a paper towel to determine which one left the bigger oil stain. "It was really neat to see student's reactions to the difference in the stain left from the crack and the low fat cracker," Smith said. "I think they we're also surprised to learn that pretzels contain almost no fat".

In art students discussed how to use art as a healthy way to deal with mental

stress. Student learned that art can be a positive outlet. In other classes students learned the important of healthy habits that affect their growth and well being. Guest speakers included CAS' own Nurse Barnes and speaker Ms. White.



In gym class each student was challenged to run a 5K. Teachers and staff teamed up to offer motivational support, count the students' laps and clock their completion time. The staff did a wonderful job encouraging each student to finish one's own personal race. The overall goal

was accomplished by all units; to not leave anyone behind. Everyone was accountable to one another, insuring that all finished. Several students demonstrated great peer relations by running extra laps in order to encourage others to finish. Some staff members joined students in their final laps to offer support and motivation.

The overall fastest time was 25:11 and all students completed the 5K in less than 1 hour. Great job CAS Academy!



Principal Ivory congratulating C. Perkins at the completion of his Goal.

From the beginning, CAS made a commitment to work with youth and families together. Family Specialists were hired, trained, and work with each family to make significant structural changes in their family. While not easy, families have positively responded. Families are involved in bi-monthly family sessions and often come weekly to visitation to meet with their son or daughter.

In 2009, CAS implemented a Strengthening Families Group, for youth in their Treatment Program. This enables parents and their child to work on skills in a group setting with other families. The results of this group have increased the family involvement significantly.

The commitment CAS has made to working with families has developed a positive reputation in the community. The combined effort of staff, youth, and parents has resulted in over 90% of families being actively involved in the treatment program of their child.

In ten years, CAS has worked with over 600 youth and families. Unit Counselors and Supervisors provide youth with consistent role modeling to solve problems, take an honest look at themselves, and have the courage to work on the significant changes each youth must make to become more positive members of our community.

As an organization, CAS is committed to the following mission statement:

Our mission is to strengthen the community by role modeling and empowering the youth and families we serve to develop positive and responsible decision-making skills.

Our past gives us a clear understanding of the challenges we face in helping youth and families. Our present provides each youth and family with a strong established program to address their own unique and challenging behaviors. The future presents opportunities to serve more youth and families in the area.



CAS Student of the Qtr

The following dynamic dozen students arose to the top as CAS' student's of the qtr.

- #1 J. Lantis (Bay)
- #2 S. Harris (Bay)
- #3 T. Williams (Pier)



Ms. Santos hands out certificates of completion to students as they finish the 5K challenge.

Spring Qtr Birthdays

C. Smith	5-May
K. Chance	6-May
A. Combs	24-May
A. Toney	25-May
D. Carter	9-Jun
R. Cottom	11-Jun
D. Ellis	14-Jun
J. Slieff	14-Jun
G. Martinez	15-Jun
J. Wilbert	25-Jun

Poetry Corner

Haiku– A Japanese form of poetry comprised of three stanzas. The first stanza having five syllables, the second stanza having seven syllables, the third stanza having five syllables.

*We used to die from
Whips and Chains now we dying
For these whips and chains.*

Martinez