



P.A.C.C. CHRONICLE

BLACK HISTORY MONTH PRODUCTION

On February 25, 2009, PA Child Care/Mid-Atlantic Youth Services, opened their doors to the public for the second annual Black History Month Production. Members of the justice system, friends, family, staff, supervisors, and administrators attended the production. Each dorm participated in the event.

As the public entered the facility, they were greeted with art work displayed in the school wing by Dorm A. The artwork reflected images from the Harlem Renaissance time period. The main hallway was decorated by the treatment dorms. Dorm B displayed their artistic ability through a large-scale drawing of the underground railroad. Dorm C decorated their dorm with a large-scale model

of a boxing ring. They also drew various portraits of influential African American athletes. Dorm D created posters that were displayed in the hallway focusing on influential African Americans. Dorm E created biography books which were displayed in dietary during the production. They also drew and painted the Rosa Parks bus which included a timeline. Dorms B, C, and E completed the mural displayed in dietary. Dorms B and E drew the various segregation signs which were displayed throughout dietary.

Mr. Harris was the emcee for the event. Those in attendance were able to see a wide variety of talent as youths presented various information from reports on influential individuals, praise dances, and songs.



Part of the mural which was displayed in dietary.



Guests joined in with the celebration of "It's a New Day."



Ms. Bonnie and Mr. Harris present Ms. London with a token of appreciation for all her hard work with the production.

Mid Atlantic Youth Services

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Special Points of Interest:

- ☉ Black History Month Production was a great success!
- ☉ Book Club has officially started!
- ☉ Keep your eyes open for information pertaining to an Olympics style competition to take place here at PA Child Care!

Inside this issue:

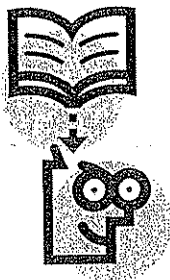
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"We cannot choose the things that will happen to us. But we can choose the attitude we will take toward anything that happens. Success or failure depends on your attitude."

-Alfred A. Montaport

READING IS FUNDAMENTAL: WHAT EXACTLY DOES THAT MEAN?

How many people out there have heard the saying "Reading is fundamental?" What does that actually mean? Did anyone ever take the time to explain it to you? Well, let me break it down for you.



Wherever you go in your life, whatever you choose to do, you are going to have to read. I know many of us out there don't like to take the time to sit down and read a book, but you have to realize the importance of reading. The saying "reading is fundamen-

tal" basically means that it is important. It is one of those basic tools you need to have in life. So what do you do if you have trouble reading? There are plenty of options out there for you. First thing you want to do is find a book at your level. The more you read the more you will increase your vocabulary.

Now, youth advisory committee has started a book club, and this will benefit every single person in here whether you are an excep-

tional reader or maybe you are at the beginning. This will help you become that better reader you want to become. No one is perfect and everyone can become better. Not only that, you have the opportunity to actually help your peers increase their fluency. The book club is now part of our daily program. I challenge each and every single one of you to become better readers. Be active in suggesting books for your dorm. The more active you become the more you will learn to enjoy reading.

DORM B TURNS IT AROUND

From my point of view, Dorm B has been through a lot over the course of the past few months. We were not on track for a period of time, but we have made a tremendous turn around. Everyone has been doing a great job following expectations. We need to remember if we slip up and get off track, then we need to push ourselves to get back on track. A special welcome goes out to Justin who has recently joined our unit. We would also like to wish the best of luck to our two peers who will be taking their G.E.D. test this month!

By: Kendrick and Wanya

"The person who upsets you the most in your best teacher because they bring you face to face with who you are."

-Lynn Andrews

WHAT'S SHAKIN' DOWN IN DORM C

The dorm has stepped it up a notch. We still have some problems, but we overcome them in a blink of an eye. We try our best to overcome those speed bumps. There are some of us who can succeed faster than others and some who may struggle to succeed; however, we will push ourselves no matter if it takes time because it is better late than never. The peers in our dorm always try to keep each other happy to the greatest degree, but as a whole, we need to work on our patience. We will bring a positive outlook on life which will bring about outstanding behavior. Our outstanding behavior will make us work hard for the things we want and need in life. It is a chain reaction gentleman, we can do it!

By: Thomas

A special welcome to Raquan and Hakeem who recently joined Dorm C!

DORM D WANTS TO BECOME POSITIVE LEADERS

A leader is not someone who just does the right thing because it is right. They do the right thing to also make the community a safer place. This is the type of leader we in Dorm D want to become. For example, by putting someone else in front of yourself and extending a helping hand, we will leave here as young adults and not the little boys we came here as. We are not separate, independent entities, but more like links in a chain. We could not succeed by no means without those who came before us and showed us the way! We won't quit because we are strong, and we play as a team. If one man falls, then we all fall, but we will pull each other back up for that is the meaning of life. It is important to help one another do well and push ourselves to do even better, and when we do better, we will not have achieved greatness. Greatness comes by going above and beyond and that is why we will leave here as young adults.

Remember two words: "I'm possible," by Samuel Goodwing.

By: Josh



ENCOURAGING TIME! AS SALAAMU ALAIKUM

"We fall down but we get up."
This is our theme down in Dorm E. Just because we are down does not mean we have to stay that way. Let's prove to all our staff and most of all ourselves that we can do what is expected of us, and we will hold ourselves to high standards. Also, we need to be the young mature ladies we all are. Confucius once said, "Our greatest glory is not in never falling, but in rising every time we fall." I know we can all do it ladies, so let's get up!

By: Nakita

Randisha will be taking her G.E.D. test this month. Best of luck to you and everyone else who will be taking the test!

AS SALAAMU ALAIKUM

On March 30, 2009, Dorm C said goodbye to another youth, Sheraz. While at Mid-Atlantic, Sheraz learned how he used to act and think was not the right way to go. He was really on his deen (religion), but not on his deen just to help Muslims but to welcome everybody and help everybody no matter what. All I will like to say is As Salaamu Alaikum which means peace be upon you!

J.C.J.C. CONTEST

This year's J.C.J.C. contest requires youths to create a poster. Make sure you include a one inch border. The deadline is quickly approaching for your submission. Be sure to follow all the guidelines or you will be disqualified from the competition!

GOODBYE ERIC

On March 20, 2009, Dorm C said goodbye to Eric. While at Mid-Atlantic, he earned credits towards his high school diploma and was on the honor roll the whole time he was here. He made positive changes for the better!

By: Eric

A CHANGING MAN

Dorm C would like to acknowledge Anthony for accomplishing a lot thus far during his stay here. He understands a little bit more about how his anger can overcome him and make him deter from his main goal. Anthony has been trying his hardest and everyone in Dorm C respects him to the greatest degree.

By: Thomas

SHOUT OUTS!

Each newsletter will have a shout out section. This month's shout outs are brought to us by Dorm E. A special shout out to each of the following:

- To all clinicians and supervisors for watching over us and giving us all the support and wisdom we need.
- Ms. DiPippa and Mr. Goff a special thank you to both of you for always allowing us to show that we can handle any challenges that we are faced with. Both of you have helped us show who we really are and uncover some of our talents.
- To all our teachers who keep filling our heads with knowledge and for providing us with something we could look back on and be grateful for.
- To all caseworkers and staff for being positive role models and pushing us to succeed in life.
- To all youth who are taking on new challenges every day and moving forward in treatment, and to the youths who are trying...hold on in there: You Can Do It!

WE NEED YOUR HELP!

We are always looking for suggestions for various columns for our newsletter. Many individuals submitted artwork and poetry to be placed in the newsletter. Just because you do not see your submissions in this issue does not mean you will not see it in the next issue. Keep your eyes open to our upcoming issues to see if you will be in the P.A.C.C. Chronicle!

UPCOMING EVENTS

The Youth Advisory Committee is working very hard at bringing new and exciting events to our facility. Many of us may have heard discussion about an up and coming Olympic event. Well, the rumors are true. PA Child Care is going to have their first annual Olympics in May! The Olympics will take place over the course of a few days. There will be various events to compete in and awards will be presented. Rankings will be posted outside of each dorm. All youths must keep in mind there will be strict criteria for participation. Keep your eyes open to the next issue of our newsletter to find out more information.

Family Day will be quickly approaching. We are in the process of planning a fun-filled day. If you have any suggestions for events, let your YAC representative know, and they can present your ideas. Let your voice be heard!

THE POETRY CORNER

"Dare to Dream"

Whether they are big or small
Easy, obtainable or almost impossible
Then make them reality.
Don't be afraid to take risks,
Or to become involved. Believe in yourself
Open your mind to new experiences and stop
Talking and listen because that's the day you
Step towards commitment and that's why
We follow our heart so we can make
Our decision...
-Keenan

"Follow the Star"

When you look upon that star,
Every night you wake up wishing
You would go so far to succeed in life.
To get your freedom back and you have
To wonder why you have to cry yourself to sleep.
It's so hard to survive with
These white walls by my side, and when
You got no one to lean on, I wanna cry.
And take a sign cause I know how I feel
Inside Lord I know how I'm feeling, and
I know someone out there thinks the world of me!
But every night I'm looking up
Looking for that light to shine on me
To get me free.
-Josh

**"If you always do what you've always done, you'll
always get what you've always gotten."**

-Author Unknown