A publication of the D.C. Department of Corrections

Volume 1, Issue 4 December 2004

#### PROJECT HARVEST DONATIONS KICK OFF DOC'S SEASON OF GIVING

Once again the employees of the Department of Corrections put the Thanksgiving needs of others ahead of their own.

DOC, in partnership with the FOP, donated a truck load of food and presented a check for \$1,462.00 to the WHUR-FM Project Harvest team.

DOC AND FOP PARTNERS IN 2004 PROJECT HARVEST FOOD DRIVE

NON-PERISHABLE FOOD ITEMS

The agency's generous donations helped to make the 2004 Project Harvest the most successful in its history.

The total amount of money donated to Project Harvest for 2004 was \$102,336.00.



Corrections officers, including Pablo Rodriguez (center), and Larry Bishop (right) help unload the DOC food donations.



DOC Director Odie Washington and FOP Chair, Pam Chase, present a check to WHUR-FM radio personality Triscina Grey.

In addition, DOC staffers who went to the Project Harvest site at the Old Post Office Pavilion on November 23, not only helped to unload the food donations from the truck, they also picked up signs and buckets to help collect even more money from passers-by in the vicinity.



L-to-R: Nila Ritenour, Debbie Marbury, Warden Steve Smith, Laurrine Ellis, and Vaughn Fuller, carry signs and buckets to collect donations from passers-by.



Washington DC Mayor Anthony A. Williams joins the Director and DOC staff for a picture at the Project Harvest collection site. From left to right: Major Stanley Waldren, Sheila Marr, Joseph Pettiford, Warden Steve Smith, DOC Director Odie Washington, DOC Deputy Director Patricia Britton, Howard Butler, Mayor Williams, Debbie Marbury, Yolanda Suber, FOP Chair Pam Chase, Pablo Rodriguez, Derrick Randolph and Tanya Payne.

#### In This Issue

Anthony A. Williams, Mayor District of Columbia Government



Odie Washington, Director



#### **DIRECTOR'S YEAR-END MESSAGE**



In December most of us look back on the past eleven months, assessing the challenges, acknowledging our successes, and pondering the results. We also look forward to the coming year, not only to wonder what it will bring, but also to set goals, and to hope that our successes will be multiplied, in spite of new challenges that might arise.

Throughout 2004 I have seen a workforce that takes pride in this agency. I am aware of your dedication to excellence because I have heard many of you voice your suggestions and concerns for the depart-

ment as a whole, as well as your desire to provide quality service to the city, communities and people we serve.

Our success list for 2004 includes...to name a few:

- closing the book on 33 years of court intervention
- K-9 drug detection teams, security cameras, new vehicles, and "smoke-free" environment
- history-in-the-making as one of our own, Gregory Jackson, is tapped for judgeship
- the return to duty of more than 60 former correctional officers
- exams to provide sergeant and lieutenant promotion opportunities
- an on-line monthly newsletter so you can read and contribute stories about DOC good news
- the new look and feel as the Capital Improvement Program progresses throughout the Jail
- numerous nominees each month for the "Employee of the Month" selection
- new faces to fill critical positions within the department

I applaud the DOC staff for your hard work, commitment and generosity. I thank each and every one of you for all that you have done to make DOC a safe place to work, as well as for your kindness and caring about each other and the community in which you live and work. We can all anticipate numerous successes for DOC in 2005.

Wishing each of you a safe and happy holiday season,

## Odie Washington

#### **DOC STAFF UPDATES**

The former Office of Communications is now the **Office of Public Affairs.** 

OUR NEW NAME!

Joining the Office of Internal Affairs as an Investigator is **Gregory Archer**. Mr. Archer retired from the Metropolitan Police Department (MPD) in 2004. During his tenure with MPD he worked in the Cold Case Squad, Homicide and Applicant Investigation divisions.

The department continues to ramp up its correctional officer staff as a result of the recall. Eight additional correctional officers were rehired in November bringing the total number of rehires to 68.

Correctional Officers Elton Pinkard, Bobby Hill, Wayne Luck, Raymond Preston, Lizzie Daughtry, Novella Ricks and Lead Correctional Officer Robert Gibson retired in October.



## DOC

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by the
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DOC News Online encourages responses from its readers. Letters or other submissions should be E-mailed to: doccommunications@dc.gov

The Office of Public Affairs reserves the right to edit all materials submitted.

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Thanks to the following people for contributing news, articles, and updates to this month's issue of DOC NewsOnline

Walter Fulton Keith Godwin Betty Green Paulette Johnson Loretta Willis

Every DOC employee is welcome to submit article suggestions for the newsletter.

Let us hear from you for the next issue!

# EMPLOYEE OF THE MONTH HONORS PRESENTED TO TWO NUMBER THREE SHIFT CORPORALS

When it comes to identifying staff members who demonstrate a positive attitude about work and who always perform with a spirit of excellence, the Department of Corrections has an enormous reserve from which to select. Each month for nearly two years, the agency has recognized an employee who consistently works to improve the overall environment for staff, inmates and visitors of the Department of Corrections.

We offer congratulations to two women who were recently honored as *Employees of the Month*.

Gertrude Jones was selected Employee of the Month for August 2004. Corporal Jones joined the agency in April 1990 and is currently assigned as a cellblock officer on the #3 Shift (evening shift) at the Central Detention Facility (D.C. Jail). Cpl. Jones is recognized for her frequent and detailed inspections of the inmate housing units, which facilitate a safer and more secure work and detention environment. During a recent shakedown, Cpl. Jones uncovered and confiscated major contraband including homemade weapons (shanks) and homemade wine (shootz). Cpl. Jones' actions truly reflect her unwavering commitment to protect the safety of staff, inmates and

visitors within the DOC.



The employee of the Month for September 2004 is **Annie McGee**. Corporal McGee began her tenure with the agency at the D.C. Jail in September 1992. Cpl. McGee is currently assigned

the D.C. Jail in September 1992. Cpl. McGee is currently assigned to the evening shift as the Officer in Charge of female Receiving and Discharge processing. This very sensitive area of the facility involves searching, fingerprinting, and initiating all administrative information on new female detainees at the Jail. Cpl. McGee is recognized for her vigilance on September 22, 2004, when she foiled an inmate's attempt to smuggle 48 packets of crack cocaine into the D.C. Jail. Cpl. McGee's attention to detail and her alertness has raised the bar for performance and sets an example for others to follow.

# CDF AND CTF HEALTH SERVICES RECEIVE ACCREDITATION

The Center for Correctional Health and Policy Studies, Inc., (CCHPS), has received accreditation from the National Commission on Correctional Health Care, (NCCHC) for the Correctional Treatment Facility and the Central Detention Facility through October 2007.

It should be noted that of all the Jails and Detention Facilities in the United States, only a small percentage have been accredited by the NCCHC for compliance with the recommended Health Care Standards for these facilities. The staff of CCHPS, lead by **Ronald Shansky**, M.D., Medical Director, and **Estelle Hunter**, RN, MSN, Health Services Administrator, are to be commended for their commitment to excellence in this endeavor.

## CORRECTIONAL TREATMENT FACILITY IS RE-ACCREDITED

The Correctional Treatment Facility (CTF) has just completed its third ACA Audit since beginning its partnership with DOC, established in March of 1997. The American Correctional Association Audit Committee met with CCA staff today and announced their findings. The facility had attained a near perfect score of 99.7 out of a possible 100 points. The facility is proud of this accomplishment and its continued partnerships with the DOC, CCHPS and ARAMARK. Everyone played a role in this resounding success story.

Warden Fred Figueroa expressed his pride in this accomplishment this way, "The work was hard and long, however we set a goal and were able to achieve it. I appreciate everyone's effort which enabled us to set the highest CTF score yet. We only missed one non-mandatory standard. No one from outside of CTF assisted us, as they had in past ACA audits. This is 'our House' and we did it on our own. I am very proud of our accomplishment."

#### **DOC BY THE NUMBERS**

These DOC statistics offer a sense of the magnitude of work surrounding the incarceration of an inmate.

#### (During November 2004)

Victims Information Notification Everyday System (VINES) inquiries – 7,928

Intranet Criminal Justice Agency inquiries – 27,491

Commissary items delivered – over **16,000** 

Visitors – over 6,400

Meals served – over 329,000

Inmates transported (hospitals, courts, funerals, etc.) – over 3,000

Inmate financial transactions processed – 4,024 totaling \$92,482.94

Facility Management work requests completed – over 1,900

A bit of trivia you can try out at the upcoming DOC Christmas party.

Trivia but certainly not trivia!!

# Join the ACA American Correctional Association LEARN, NETWORK PARTICIPATE! SO MANY REASONS SO MANY OPPORTUNITIES Join hands with the leaders in the correctional profession

www.aca.org

# DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS HELPS STUDENT INTERNS PREPARE FOR A SUCCESSFUL FUTURE

## The Urban Alliance Foundation, Inc.

In 1996 the Urban Alliance (UA) was founded to create employment and educational opportunities for economically disadvantaged Washington, DC high school students.

The mission of UA is to prepare students for a life of self-sufficiency by exposing them to a comprehensive program that focuses on work experience in professional environments, education, and life skills development.

The Department of Corrections welcomes **Jon Lampkin** and **Tykia White** as they prepare early for a successful future. Both are student interns receiving meaningful work experience through their participation in the Urban Alliance program.

Jon Lampkin is an eleventh grader at Schools for Educational Evolution and Development (SEED) Public Charter School. Working for DOC is his first job. While Jon aspires to become an electrical engineer, he says that he also wants to have "some law experience." Jon is receiving this early experience working in the General Counsel's Office.

Tykia White is a senior at Anacostia Senior High School. Tykia is assigned to the Office of Public Affairs where she is being introduced to a number of skills that provide a general overview of the Corrections profession. Tykia wants to become a criminal investigator. She said she believes the work environment helps her "to be focused and open minded to learn."

The Department has partnered with the Urban Alliance for several years providing invaluable employment and educational opportunities to young persons.

#### DOC Makes History as Gregory Jackson is Nominated to Superior Court

In early October, a number of DC Department of Corrections employees gathered at the Dirsken Senate Office Building on Capitol Hill to witness an historical achievement for the agency—the confirmation of Gregory

> E. Jackson, the agency's General Counsel, as the President's nominee to become an Associate Judge in the Superior Court of the District of Columbia. He is the first member of DOC's workforce to receive such an honor.

When Mr. Jackson joined the DC Department of Corrections in July 1999, he entered a territory of the criminal justice system that, for the most part, was foreign to him. Transitioning to a correctional system from the Office of the United States Attorney for the

District of Columbia where his work since 1986 focused primarily on

criminal litigation, he says that, "Corrections has given me a different perspective on the criminal justice system...to understand what happens beyond the mere prosecution of the case...the importance and difficulty of the decisions.....and all that is involved."

Mr. Jackson has been among the frontrunners affecting positive change and growth in the Department of Corrections during the last several years. His forward thinking and

influential business approach is reflective in the agency's many significant accomplishments in the last several years including the end of 33 years of court oversight, termination of a 17-year overpopulation capacity at the Central Detention Facility; and an improved relationship with the judges of both the Superior Court and the District Court.

Those who work with Mr. Jackson know him as a person of honor and humility. Confidence suits him well, which is easily visible by the level of respect and consideration he extends to others. These qualities allow him to continually reach beyond his current goals and achievements. After five years of working for the DC Department of Correc-

tions, Mr. Jackson will soon move up another level in his illustrious career where it is expected he will continue to have a profound impact. The DOC has certainly been well served by this tenure here.

A complete profile of Mr. Jackson's background and accomplishments will appear in an upcoming issue of the **DOC Today** quarterly newsletter.

"...[He] generates a spirit of excellence that is absorbed by others in his professional life; he is a person of integrity who is about holding people accountable for their actions, and he is an effective and highly skilled professional. A career in public service demands the very best dedicated efforts of those who choose to serve their fellow citizens. Mr. Jackson has exemplified this..."

> Odie Washington, Director DC Department of Corrections

"Gregory Jackson has all of the qualities necessary

learned, fair, conscientious, diligent, and importantly

he has the temperate demeanor necessary for a judi-

cial officer. He will always strive for excellence and maintain his personal honesty and integrity."

The Honorable Colleen Kollar-Kotelly

United States District Court

for the District of Columbia

to make him an excellent jurist. He is intelligent,







# TB Screening is MANDATORY for All DOC Employees

#### **Central Detention Facility**

Monday, November 29, 2004 7:00 AM – 9:00 AM & 3:30 PM – 5:00 PM thru Friday, December 10, 2004

7:00 AM - 9:00 AM

#### **Grimke Headquarters**

Wednesday, December 8, 2004 9:00am to 11:00am

# DOC CELEBRATES THE HOLIDAYS

The winter holidays are especially festive at the Department of Corrections. Plans for several events are now underway. Mark your calendars now to join in the celebrations.

An agency-wide luncheon will be held **December 15** from 10 am to 2 pm at DC General Hospital, Building #3. The festivities will continue with a **social dance** scheduled from 4 to 7 pm at the same location. All employees are encouraged to attend.

On **Saturday**, **December 18**, the FOP/DOC Labor Committee will host a **holiday celebration for union members**. This affair will be held at the Holiday Inn, 415 New Jersey Avenue, NW, from 10 pm to 2 am. Contact the FOP/DOC Labor Committee for tickets.

#### 50th Year of Sowing Seeds...DC One Fund

**Hello Department of Corrections' Family** 

#### It's the **ONE FUND DRIVE** time of year again

We'll spare you the details of how well the One Fund works and why <u>YOU</u> should give.
You already know...as evidenced by your past participation.

#### Waiting for your pledge card?

Contact your One Fund keyperson, or **Beverly Young**, Agency One Fund Representative, (202) 671-2579

Each contribution is important . . . each contribution counts toward a positive difference in the community. Cash, check, and money orders accepted.

Payroll deduction is easiest!

Thank you for your continued support and generous contributions to the District government's annual charitable fundraiser.

Sign-up early and become eligible for great incentives!



REMINDER- - - REMINDER- - - REMINDER

#### **OPEN ENROLLMENT**

DEADLINE December 13, 2004

Make changes. . .enroll in new benefits

Sergeants and Lieutenants
Second Promotion Examination

Pick up forms and study guides from the Major's office at CDF, December 6 at 7:30 a.m. thru December 16 at 5:00 p.m.