

Riverside Criminal Justice Agency

Correction Connection

December 2021



Riverside Community Criminal Justice Board Tenth Annual Community Appreciation Breakfast & Awards



On November 12, 2021, the RCCJB 10th Annual Community Appreciation Breakfast & Awards Ceremony was held at the Beacon Theatre in Hopewell. Our theme, “Persevering in a Pandemic: Lessons in Community Resilience,” focused on the continuity of service delivery by community partners throughout the pandemic.

Speakers included Scharnelle Hamlin (Surry Victim/Witness), Deloris Jefferson (James House), Erick Herrmann (John Randolph Medical Center), Larry Turner (District 19 CSB), Susan O’Prandy Fierro (Prince George Commonwealth’s Attorney), and Denise Waff (RCJA).



The 7th Annual Crisis Intervention Team Award winners were PG Communications Officer Jeremy Martin (Dispatcher of the Year) and PG Police Officer Billy Blankenship (First Responder of the Year). The 4th Annual RCJA Staff Award winner was William Norris (Exemplary Employee of the Year). Awards were presented by Derek Davis, Surry Commonwealth’s Attorney.



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*On Monday, December 6, 2021, the Hopewell, Prince George, Surry Drug Court Program celebrated the graduation of **TWO** participants. Drug Court is a minimum 14-month program with five phases of treatment and supervision. The focus is to offer offenders a chance to achieve recovery in a structured program providing substance abuse treatment and intensive supervision. Drug Court uses a system of sanctions and rewards as an approach to help reinforce positive behaviors. Drug Court is a chance for offenders to develop skills that will allow them to continue in recovery and have a healthy lifestyle once they are released from supervision and the program is completed. The Drug Court Program is led by Drug Court Coordinator Lori Henley.*



Left to right: Probation Officer Isaiah Lee, Graduate, Honorable William Edward Tomko, III, Graduate, PG Commonwealth's Attorney Susan O'Prandy Fierro



Left to right: PG Deputy Sheriff Robert Vaughan, Graduate, Graduate, PG Deputy Sheriff Austin Moon

"A Chance for Change"

OCTOBER



Halloween Festivities



RCJA staff wore purple in recognition of Domestic Violence Awareness Month in October

NOVEMBER



RCJA staff and clients decorated the halls with leaves of gratitude as a reminder there is always a reason to be thankful



RCJA collected non-perishable food items for the Hopewell Police Department Food Drive

DECEMBER

Holiday
Door Decorating
CHAMPIONS
"The Ugly
Sweater"



Holiday Celebrations

Training and Certifications



Staff from Riverside Criminal Justice Agency attended the 25th Annual VCCJA Training and Conference in November 2021 at the Hampton Convention Center. This 3-day conference offers community corrections professionals training on relevant topics and the ability to network with our colleagues from across the state.



National Association of Pretrial Service Agencies

Chris Murphy and William Norris recently obtained NAPSA Certification. NAPSA's Certification Program provides national recognition to qualified pretrial practitioners. Persons who successfully complete certification become Certified Pretrial Service Professionals (CPSP). Certified Pretrial Services Professional status involves qualifying in occupational experience and education, and passing an examination of both general legal and court issues and practices. Persons obtaining Certification also demonstrate a basic understanding of the Pretrial movement and the history upon which it is based. **Congratulations!!**

Isaiah Lee recently completed the 4-day Moral Resonation Treatment (MRT) Facilitator training. MRT is a systematic, cognitive-behavioral group used to treat a wide range of issues including substance abuse. MRT is currently used in the Drug Court Program. Isaiah joins **Amanda Elliott** who was previously trained and has been serving as the MRT Facilitator for the past several months.

