



December 2019



Organizational Improvement Award-Maintenance Department



Making A Difference-Richard Lewis



Making A Difference-Billy Walker



Support Employee of the Year
Donna Hampton



Making A Difference- Delma Harding



Meritorious Commendation
Jennae Hodge



Detention Officer of the Year
Deshawnah Afoa



Probation/Intake Officer of the Year
Elizabeth Vega



Organizational Improvement Award-Detention Center



Making A Difference-Madelinn Ensign



Meritorious Commendation
Crystal Pierce & Emily Fees

A Mission of Love



My name is **Deshawnah Afoa** and I've been a Detention Officer since November of 2014.

In April of 2018 my husband **Falepouono Afoa** was placed on dialysis for End Stage Renal Disease. At the same time he developed Pseudo porphyria which is a rare skin disorder that his Dr. thinks is related to the combination of his meds with sunlight. It's basically like having psoriasis all over the body except there's no medical or over the counter relief. My goal now is to get him added to the National Kidney Transplant List in hopes of some type of relief to the suffering he's going thru now. Below is a link to a fundraiser page I created thru Facebook and am reaching out to all who can help us get him listed for a Kidney. Thank you for taking the time to read this .

Sincerely,

The Afoa Family

https://www.facebook.com/donate/545137946275628/?fundraiser_source=external_url

Oklahoma County Juvenile Bureau Employees recognized by the Oklahoma County Commissioners



Thank you.....

I would like to take a moment to thank my amazing staff for the exceptional work they've done this year. I could not have done it without you!

Thank you AFA- Operations Erin McConnell, and AFA-Support Services Kasandra West for your immense contributions to Detention. I know at times the work we do can be extremely overwhelming, and stressful, but daily you exceed my expectations and I thank You. I greatly enjoy working alongside you both. I know I can be a handful but you both do a great job keeping me grounded and sane. Thank you for all that you do!

Being a Shift Supervisor is one of the toughest jobs in Detention. Thank You to SSII Hayes, SSII Davis, SSII Christner, SSI Walker, SSI Chism, and SSI Clincy. I don't have enough time or paper to list the immeasurable work you do for Detention but I sincerely hope you know how much I appreciate and thank you for everything you have done and continue to do. I know you all deal with a lot from the residents, as well as meeting the needs of your staff. Thank you for all that you do!

I'd also like to thank the Detention Officers for their time, dedication, support and endless hard work you contribute to our residents and facility. This isn't an easy job. I thank you for your commitment to our vision and mission. The work you do here is so much needed and impacting so many lives of the youth in our care. Thank you being a part of my team and thank you for all you do!

I'd also like to thank Steve Crocker, Food Services Manager and Culinary Arts Specialists Ms. Kim, Ms. April, Ms. Cathy, and Mr. Zachary for making sure all residents and staff have not only a meal, but a delicious meal at that. You perform miracles on a daily basis and I appreciate you! Thank you for all that you do! Meeting the medical needs of an entire population of resident's is no easy feat. Thank you to Shane Guinn, our Facility Registered Nurse, and your team, Ms. Adams, Ms. Whitney and Ms. Hayes for all that you do for the residents. We couldn't do the job without you. Thank you for all you do!

We've done some amazing work with our youth this year in our program which could not have been done without the assistance of our Youth Guidance Services; Ms. Harding, and Dr. Thomas. Thank you for always going out of your way to meet the resident's mental and emotional needs. You work over and beyond to ensure the youth in our care have a voice and for that I say thank you! Mr. Valvo has just retired but his exceptional work and dedication hasn't gone unnoticed. I would like to thank him as well and I wish him the best. Thank you for all you do!

Thank you to Mr. Windham, our Activity Coordinator, for everything you have done to keep things fun for our resident's. Your hilarious demeanor and easy going attitude make an excellent platform for your services. I thank you for going above and beyond for all the residents to make sure they have plenty of activities and volunteers to fulfill our vision. Thank you for all you do!

Thank you Mr. Black (ACA/Training Supervisor) for you endless work. I know you go above and beyond the call of duty dealing with our ACA and training over the past couple of years. To say this wasn't easy wouldn't do you justice. Your dedication is undeniable. You go out of your way to ensure we are meeting our standards for ACA and our OJA audits. LaToya Moore, Training Specialist I just want to say thank you to you as well. Thank you for accepting the Training Specialist position. You came in with fun, fresh ideas. Your positive attitude and contribution to our vision is appreciated. Thank you for your work with our residents and staff to ensure we prosper and become better as a team. I couldn't do it without either of you. Thank you for all you do!

Thank you Ms. Goodin, Mrs. Rose and Mrs. Pearson for doing all that you do. I know at times you all are dealing with daily duties and sometimes we can throw stuff on you, but thank you for getting the job done. You're the epitome of team players and I appreciate each one of you. Thank you for all you do! In conclusion, thank you Chaplain Gina Jansen for the awesome work you do meeting the spiritual needs of the residents. You bridge the gap and ensure they know and have a relationship with the Lord. A work you provide selflessly to everyone you encounter. Thank you for the unconditional love that you have for us all. It sincerely means a lot to me. Thank you for all you do!

Sincerely —Facility Administrator, Tommy Brown

New Detention Officers



Front Row -Detention Officers: Doni Hancock, Stacy Dale, Richard Lee;
Back Row -Detention Officers: Dominique Gray, Josheph Puente, Ciere Carney



Detention Officer Allensworth and Detention Officer Shehu



OCJB CHRISTMAS CELEBRATION





OCJB CHRISTMAS CELEBRATION



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OCJB CHRISTMAS CELEBRATION COSTUME WINNERS



First Place: Tommy Brown, **Second Place :** Emily Fees, **Third Place:** Claudia Flynn



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TENURE AWARDS



OCJB CHRISTMAS CELEBRATION- AWARDS



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12 DAYS OF CHRISTMAS BY THE OKLAHOMA LAWYERS FOR CHILDREN



Dear Court Services Department:

In this office...we do Teamwork, we do Help, we do Respect, we do Laughter, we do Friendship, we do Starbucks, we Listen, we Communicate, we Cry, we Motivate, but we do Great Things Together. I am appreciative to be a part of this robust team. Each of you hold a special key that will unlock so many great opportunities for the success of this organization. I challenge each of you to step out of your comfort zone and take the lead on a special project next year. Let's be Great!

Here Are Positive Character Traits To Take Into 2020;

Virginia Cloud: Optimistic

Donna Hampton: Divine

Diana Elston: Thorough

Crystal Ramirez: Strong

Crystal Pierce: Reliable

Nicole Mullins: Respectful

Winnie Strong: Committed

Erin Pence: Competitive

Erica Carter: Resilient

Vicki Cargill: Loyalty

Carlotta Meeker: Creative

Shawn Clewis: Passionate

Michelle Boivin: Brilliant

Dale Newby: Encouraging

Brooke Smith: Trustworthy

Claudia Flynn: Adventurist

Matthew Hankins: Dedicated

Jennae Hodge: Strongminded

Elizabeth Vega: Devoted

Petra Flenory: Inspirational

David Swan: Calm

Blanca Juarez: Determined

Jonathan White: Resourceful

Submitted By The Chief of Court Services Hajr Hamin

Court Services Department Celebrating the Holiday's



(Secret Santa, Lunch and Laughter)

Court Services Department Celebrating November Birthday's



Donna Hampton, Shawn Clewis, Blanca Juarez, and Claudia Flynn

Who Love's Competition More Than These Three, Congratulations Tommy Brown, Emily Fees and Claudia Flynn on the WIN



Kwanzaa is a secular festival observed by many African-Americans from December 26 to January 1 as a celebration of their cultural heritage and traditional values. Kwanzaa is not a religious holiday, but a cultural one with an inherent spiritual quality. Dr. Manlana Karenga introduced the festival in 1966 to the United States as a ritual to welcome the first harvests to the home. Kwanzaa comes from the Swahili phrase meaning “first fruits of the harvest”.



Medical Students Photographed At Plantation: We Are Our Ancestors' Wildest Dreams

NBC News/ Mohammed Syed and Suzanne Ciechalski



It wasn't by chance that more than a dozen black medical students dressed in white coats and posed outside the slave quarters of a Louisiana plantation. Russell Ledet and classmates from Tulane University planned the trip and photos at the Whitney Plantation in Edgard with the hope that others would be inspired by the images.

On Saturday, 16 members of Tulane's Student National Medical Association made the trip from New Orleans to the former plantation, which is about 50 miles west. "Seeing that many black students in training in one photo was striking. In a place that was dedicated to our ancestors and their struggles," Labat, 24, said. "We knew this photo was going to make people stop ... and really think. I can say for myself, I definitely got emotional throughout this experience." Labat shared an image of 15 of the students outside the slave quarters on Twitter that has since gone viral.

Standing in front of the slave quarters of our ancestors, at The Whitney Plantation, with my medical school classmates. We are truly our ancestors' wildest dreams," Labat wrote on Twitter. Ledet hopes that message gets to those who feel a lack of representation in and out of the classroom.

"There are babies, kids in school right now, and they don't have these images in their classrooms," he said. "They don't have the image of someone black in a white coat. "You will rarely find an image of black medical students in a classroom, regardless of the makeup of the kids in the classroom," Ledet said. "That's our goal now, to get 100,000 of these pictures framed, and put them in classrooms."

He said a few school boards have already said they'd be supportive of the endeavor. The dean of Tulane's medical school is proud of the students and their message. "These are powerful images. Our students are our greatest strength and we applaud their sense of purpose, community and service," Dr. Lee Hamm, Tulane University School of Medicine dean and senior vice president, said in a statement to NBC News.