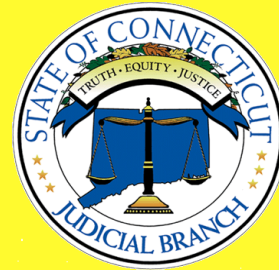


CSSD Chronicle

State of Connecticut Judicial Branch
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Positive Behavior Intervention and Supports (PBIS) Expands Statewide in Juvenile Detention



Bridgeport Juvenile Detention Center—PBIS has “roared” into the Bridgeport Juvenile Detention Center! The facility recently adopted the tiger as its mascot and developed the facility-wide *Tiger Expectations – Safety, Respect, and Positive*.

PBIS is a comprehensive universal facility program that uses data to promote a positive learning environment. PBIS is a teaching and reinforcing program that identifies, builds, and supports pro-social core values and behaviors in juveniles, staff, and contractors.

Under the leadership of Deputy Superintendent Angel Falcon, the Bridgeport Juvenile Detention Center assembled a team of staff who represented all areas in the facility: line staff, supervisors, administration, programming, food services, transportation, and the Bridgeport Board of Education.



Bridgeport Juvenile Detention Center Deputy Superintendents Verdell Reid and Dino Guerra hold the recently unveiled PBIS “Tigers” banner.

The Bridgeport Juvenile Detention PBIS leadership team members are: Deputy Superintendents Angel Falcon, Dino Guerra, Jason Criscio, Verdell Reid; Shift Supervisor Rochiem Monroe; Lead Ju-

venile Detention Officer Francis Casini; Program and Services Supervisor John Petersen; Juvenile Detention Officers Melissa Burch, Tamika McGee, Marc Capone, Andre Turner, Carlos Agosto and Edward Smith; Central Transportation Officer Carissa Laudano; Classification and Program Officers Sammy Fonseca, Jennifer Esposito, and Eric Hudson; Bridgeport Board of Education staff Jacqueline Carey-Ryan, and Harold Lindy; Healthcare staff Stephanie Senecharles and Joanna Korsch, and Food Services Coordinator Otilia Jorge.

The PBIS leadership team has participated with Capital Regional Education Center (CREC) in PBIS training since January 2015. The first year of training was considered a planning year, and on June 18, 2015 the Bridgeport Juvenile Detention Center completed its first Facility-Wide Evaluation Tool (FET). The results were remarkable, and CREC trainers Ann Marie Dubuque and Donna Morelli were extremely impressed by the level of commitment and professionalism of the Bridgeport Juvenile Detention Center. Morelli stated that, “Bridgeport Detention is a model juvenile justice site for the implementation of PBIS,” and Dubuque has referred to the staff as, “An amazing team!”

The PBIS leadership team has done an excellent job informing staff across all three shifts of PBIS. The high rate of staff participation is attributed to an open policy when it comes to obtaining staff input. All staff had an opportunity to develop and submit ideas for the PBIS expectations and facility mascot. A voting process was developed where all staff was able to view their choices and cast their ballot for the facility-wide expectations

and mascot. Taking it one step further, Juvenile Detention Officer Jennifer Puffin then painted a PBIS inspired Bridgeport Detention Tigers mural in the education hallway of the facility.



Hartford Juvenile Detention staff man the popcorn machine during the facility's family day in June

Hartford Juvenile Detention Center—The Hartford Juvenile Detention Center is in its third full year of PBIS implementation. The PBIS leadership team has been participating with CREC in PBIS technical assistance and training since the winter of 2012. The facility recently underwent its third FET on June 2, 2015. According to Morelli, “The Juvenile Detention Center at Broad Street has made excellent progress in its implementation of PBIS. It is clear that PBIS is adopted and implemented by at least 80% of the staff. It was a pleasure to visit the facility and conduct the FET.”

Hartford Juvenile Detention Center's (HJDC) courtyard transformed into a game arena on Wednesday June 10, 2015 with the help of the Positive Behavioral Intervention & Support (PBIS) committee who invited families to enjoy a cook-out dinner and games with their children housed at HJDC. The youth participants had a chance to excel while learning sportsmanship with activities that included bowling, a 3-point

basketball shoot-out, and a ring toss. Carnival-themed snacks included snow-cones and freshly popped popcorn. Family days occur twice monthly at the Center and are hosted by the Program & Services Department. These events offer a more home-like environment to bring families together to enjoy specialized activities that they may not have otherwise experienced. The PBIS event was a fun-filled day for all families of the HJDC community! The Hartford PBIS Leadership Team includes Deputy Superintendent Ramon Rosado; Program & Services Supervisor Lorretta Satchell; CREC Teacher, Lillian Ijomah; CPO's Beth O'Dea, Aja Freeman, Errol Maurice, and Sandra Levay; Food Service Coordinator Jim Nord; Shift Supervisor Giovanni Gagliardi; Mental Health Counselor Erin Walsh; Lead Juvenile Detention Officer Nick Demico; and Juvenile Detention Officers Mike Bell, Tyiesha Blue, Teresa Goodbee, Wendall Williams, and Mike Thigpen.



PBIS team members at Hartford Juvenile Detention

For more information on PBIS, contact CSSD Program Manager I Patricia Nunez at Patricia.Nunez@jud.ct.gov.

*The **CSSD Chronicle** is a regular publication of information and news about the Court Support Services Division. Questions or comments on this edition, or suggestions for future articles, can be directed to Linda.Grzeika@jud.ct.gov*