CSSD STAFF ACCOMPLISHMENTS

This edition of the CSSD Chronicle will focus on the accomplishments of staff that have been recognized for their professionalism and commitment to public service during the course of their professional lives. As noted by Bill Carbone, CSSD Executive Director, “An organization is known by the “company it keeps” – including its staff. At CSSD we have every reason to be proud of these outstanding officers who have set the bar high for reaching beyond expectations. I wanted to share their stories with you.”

(The Chronicle is going to begin the practice of devoting occasional issues to highlighting the outstanding professional expertise of our staff. Please contact Rena.Goldwasser@jud.ct.gov for additional information.)

A Special Kind of Officer

On August 8th, Juvenile Probation Officer II Sheron Jennings from Hartford received a Governor’s Service Award from Governor M. Jodie Rell. Judicial Branch Chief Justice Chase Rogers, Chief Court Administrator Barbara Quinn and CSSD Executive Director William Carbone also attended. The award is given annually to reinforce the importance of quality customer services by recognizing the achievements and successes of state employees. Judicial Branch nominees are named by a member of the public or a fellow co worker. This year, 42 state employees representing various public agencies received the Service Award.

During the ceremony, Officer Jennings was commended for her professionalism in the delivery of juvenile probation services and for consistently demonstrating excellence in providing quality public service. Jennings was nominated by Juvenile Matters Supervisor I Michael Federici of Norwalk (Jennings was stationed there before her recent move to Hartford).

Officer Jennings is a Female Gender Specific Officer with an all girls caseload. She was acknowledged for consistently employing gender based motivational, strengths based and client engagement skills to support and enhance behavior change in her clients as well as provide assistance to their parents. Jennings was cited for having demonstrated exemplary work that has supported progress toward permanent behavioral changes for the children and families that she has worked with. She has also earned the respect of her fellow court personnel as an expert in female gender specific issues. The Service Award recognized Jennings for her work with clients and her efforts with local community providers to establish several evidence based gender responsive services for girls.
From left to right, Chief Court Administrator Barbara Quinn and Governor M. Jodie Rell presenting the Governor’s Service Award to CSSD Juvenile Probation Officer II Sheron Jennings.

Bridgeport Sex Offender Officer & Unit Honored

In April, Adult Probation Officer II Carmen Garcia and the CSSD Office of Adult Probation, Sex Offender Unit, were honored at the Annual Sexual Assault Awareness Walk sponsored by The Center for Women and Families in Bridgeport. Officer Garcia is a member of the Unit and was recognized for her work in the community to raise awareness about sexual violence, address community needs and her strong dedication to holding sex offenders accountable and helping to keep victims safe. In addition to her long time involvement in this issue and her professional experience, Officer Garcia is a member of the Bridgeport area MIT (Multi Disciplinary Investigative Team) which performs forensic investigations of children with child abuse allegations. The CSSD Bridgeport Sex Offender Probation Unit was also honored for their work in implementing special supervision techniques for this population and their dedication to holding these offenders accountable and address the needs of the community.

Adult Probation Officer II Carmen Garcia holds her recognition plaque together with Chief Probation Officer II George Zamary who accepted the recognition on behalf of the Bridgeport Sex Offender Unit. Standing with them is Amanda Posila, Director of Community Education and Prevention for the Center for Women and Families.