



Linn County Juvenile Department Newsletter

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Community Partnerships "Planting Season"



After being cancelled because of the Valley's first major snow storm, the Linn County Juvenile Department work crew youth planted the first section of native plants out on the grounds of the Oak Creek Youth Correctional Facility on December 20, 2013.

This project has been over a year in the making and is an example of great partnerships between the Calapooia Watershed Council, the Linn County Juvenile Department and the Oregon Youth Authority. Kyle Smith from the Calapooia Watershed Council along with Mike Nehls from Native Grounds Nursery, met youth at the facility to get this long awaited project underway.

Plants were purchased from Native Grounds Nursery and Mike volunteered his time to help with the planting layouts and tips to help the plants grow successfully. Next winter when the plants become dormant, cuttings will be taken to start in the green houses at Linn Benton Juvenile Detention and Oak Creek Youth Correctional Facility.

Youth at the facility will learn about native plants and the planting process through the school programs at both Oak Creek and the Linn Benton Detention Center. They will also benefit from hands on experience working with and caring for the plants.

Once established, the cuttings will be used to help re-establish riparian zones for different projects taken on by the Calapooia Watershed Council. Juvenile Department work crews will help with the planting and repair work along the streams and rivers in the project areas.

Thank you again to the Calapooia Watershed Council for their assistance and planning and Mike Nehls from Native Grounds Nursery for his on-going help with this project. What a great opportunity for youth to learn skills that they will be able to use for the rest of their lives.

Agency News "Welcome"

Please help us welcome Dustin Boos. Dustin was hired in February 2013 as our new Detention Worker III at the Linn-Benton Detention Center.

Dustin graduated from Southern Oregon University with a B.S. in Criminology and Criminal Justice with Minors in both Business Administration and Human Communication. Dustin started his criminal justice career with the Ashland Police Department as a Park Patrol Officer.

In 2008 Dustin went to work for the Oregon Youth Authority, MacLaren Youth Correctional Facility, where he worked in the Crisis Intervention and Security Departments. While working for OYA Dustin was a certified trainer in Instructor Development and facilitated training for staff. Dustin was part of the cell removal team and served on the Youth Reformation and Positive Youth Development committees.

Dustin ended his career with OYA supervising a vocational program, "Project POOCH", which is a non-profit program inside MacLaren that focuses on teaching transitional skills to youth while working with rescue dogs.



Please help us welcome **Sanjib Ahmad**. Sanjib was hired with the Juvenile Department in December 2013 as a Juvenile Probation Officer.

Sanjib is a graduate of West Albany High School and Oregon State University.

Sanjib's previous work experience includes the Jackson Street Youth Shelter, and the Linn County District

Attorney's Office where he served many victims; assisting them with knowledge of their rights, and helping with services and the court process.

Sanjib has been assigned to the Probation Unit and will primarily serve youth referred for sexual related offenses.

An interesting fact about Sanjib; He is also a member of the "Power Valley Sharks", our semi-pro football team in Albany.





Linn County Juvenile Department

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The Linn County Juvenile Department is dedicated to helping youth & families achieve positive change.

Our mission is to increase public safety by coaching youth and families to make positive choices through education, skill building and community partnerships.

****Upcoming****
Full 4-day LSCI Certification Training
May 5-8, 2014
8:30am—4:00pm @ LBLED
Registration? Email: tgravette@co.linn.or.us
www.linnlsci.wordpress.com



Community News "Lebanon Youth Peer Court"

After several months of careful planning and development, the Lebanon Police Department held their first Youth Peer Court on October 15, 2013. The program is overseen by Lebanon Police Department Captain Greg Burroughs, Lebanon Police Department Community Services Officer Dala Johnson, and Lebanon City Attorney Jessica Meyer.

The Lebanon Youth Peer Court is a community partnership between the Linn County Juvenile Department and Lebanon Police Department to support, educate, and hold youth accountable in their community. The peer court acts as a diversionary program designed to give youth ages 12-17 with lower-level misdemeanors or law violations a chance to repair harm and show accountability for their actions.

The program has been specifically developed for youth who live within the boundaries of the Lebanon School District. In order to be considered eligible for the program, youth must agree to make an admission to the allegation. Youth are further evaluated regarding eligibility based on their risk level and previous referral history.

Unlike the traditional juvenile justice model where adults decide consequences, peer court youth are sentenced and mentored by a jury of their peers. Once a youth's case is heard, the peer jury recommends what type of consequences best fit the allegations and the needs of the youth. The presiding judge, Lebanon City Attorney Jessica Meyer, maintains order, guides the process, and reviews each sentence. Sentences typically include community service, individual and family counseling, skills classes, restitution, writing assignments, a tour of the Linn Benton Juvenile Detention Center, and serving as a peer court juror.

The goals of the program are to hold youth accountable through appropriate consequences, build skills, increase community connections, provide support and guidance, deter youth from committing future offenses, keep youth in school, support drug/alcohol free youth, reduce high-risk behavior, and provide education about the legal system.



The program is always looking for motivated adult and student volunteers, ages 12-17. Interested volunteers should contact Community Services Officer Dala Johnson at (541) 258-4339.