

Lee County Juvenile
Assessment Center
2117 Dr. Martin Luther King Blvd.
Fort Myers, FL 33901
(239) 344-5100

March 2006

The JAC Perspective



The Juvenile Assessment Center of Lee County ... assisting youth and their families to seek the treatment and programs they need to lead productive, crime free lives.

Juvenile Justice Week

During the week of March 13th through the 17th, Juvenile Justice Week will be celebrated throughout the state. This year's theme is "Keeping Communities Safe By Changing Young Lives". The Lee County Juvenile Justice Council will "kickoff" the week with a celebration during an expanded monthly council meeting on March 13th at 10:30 a.m. at the Old Lee County Courthouse, 2120 Main Street in the East Room. This event will provide an opportunity for concerned citizens to learn about the community's many partnerships and initiatives relating to delinquency prevention and intervention. The event will also provide an opportunity

to recognize individuals in the community that go above and beyond the call of duty to positively impact the youth of Lee County.



CALENDAR

Lee County Juvenile Justice Council
March 13
10:30 a.m.
Old Lee County Courthouse, East Room

JAC Open House
March 15
10:00 a.m. to noon

Drug House Odyssey
March 21–23
6:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.
Cape Christian Fellowship
2110 Chiquita Blvd.
Cape Coral

Lee County Juvenile Justice Council
April 3
12:00 p.m.
Lee County Justice Center
1700 Monroe St.,
Hearing Room 1, 4th Floor

**Anger Management
Parent/Adolescent Group**
Starts April 11
Lee JAC

**Substance Abuse Intervention
Parent/Adolescent Group**
Starts April 13
Lee JAC

JAC Open House

The Lee County Juvenile Assessment Center will hold an open house on Wednesday, March 15th from 10:00 a.m. until noon. Citizens will have the opportunity to tour the JAC facility, learn more about the juvenile justice system, and learn about the many services that are provided through the JAC. Tours will be offered every half hour. The

Lee County Juvenile Assessment Center is located at 2117 Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd. in Fort Myers. For information call 344-5100.



Girls' Numbers Climb

The JAC processed 1,125 arrested girls through juvenile booking in 2005. This represents a 35% increase, from 2004 to 2005, for girls. In comparison, the JAC processed 3,099 arrested boys in juvenile booking during 2005. This represents an increase of 14%, from 2004 to 2005, for boys.

FAIR : Teaching Youth and Families New Skills

The adolescent years can be a vulnerable time for many youth, when peer influences become stronger and youth can be faced with many choices - some healthy and some not healthy. The Family Assessment and Intervention Response intervention groups are designed to work with youth and their families to learn healthy ways to deal with behaviors and emotions, especially those associated with substance use or poor anger control. FAIR intervention groups focus on developing positive coping skills, identifying anger triggers, enhancing decision making skills, improving communication

skills and coping with peer pressure. There is no cost to participate. The next Parent/Adolescent groups start in April at the JAC. Groups meet weekly for 7 weeks at 6:00 p.m.

Anger Management – April 11th

Substance Abuse Intervention – April 13th

For more information or to sign up, contact Jeff Sundberg at 344-5115. The FAIR program is provided through a partnership with Southwest Florida Addictions Services from funding through a Department of Juvenile Justice grant.



Jeff Sundberg with the FAIR program

Transformations: Helping Families Change Young Lives

The Transformations program provides Individual, family and gender specific group counseling to assist families in preventing youth from engaging in delinquent behavior. There is no cost for the services. For information call Amie Kelleher at 344-5109. The Transformation program is provided at the JAC through a partnership with Lutheran Services of Florida and funding through Lee

County's Partnering for Results grant program.



Amie Kelleher with the Transitions program

In 2005 there were 4,672 arrested youth that came through the Lee County JAC, up 600 youth from 2004.

Get Connected

The JAC has compiled a *Lee County Community Resource Guide* to assist in linking youth and families to community resources. The



guide is available in electronic format. To request an electronic copy, email chelton@sheriffleefl.org.

Drug House Odyssey Returns

Drug House Odyssey (DHO) is coming to Lee County on March 21st, 22nd and 23rd. DHO is a walk through dramatization that provides a realistic look at how drinking alcohol and using drugs can affect one's life. Daytime hours will be available for school groups. DHO will be open to the public from 6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. This year it is located at Cape Christian Fellowship at 2110 Chiquita Boulevard South in Cape Coral. It is coordinated by the Lee County Coalition for a Drug-Free Southwest Florida, along with many other partner agencies. Call 541-9003 for more information.



The Lee County JAC is operated by the Lee County Sheriff's Office in partnership with the Lee County Board of County Commissioners and the Department of Juvenile Justice.