
what's up doc?



by Dr. Mary Livers

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Dear Colleagues:

I'd like to focus on our mission again this week, because I want you to think about what sets us apart from the average workplace. Most agencies and businesses have mission and vision statements, and most employees only think about those two statements when they see them on a plaque on the wall, in an annual report, or buried somewhere on the website.

OJJ Mission

The Office of Juvenile Justice protects the public by providing safe and effective individualized services to youth, who will become productive, law-abiding citizens.

Our mission is not an afterthought. It is obvious to me that most OJJ staff are truly dedicated to their jobs and ultimately, to the kids we serve, meaning that daily, we live our mission. For the most part, it comes as second nature – we don't really think about the "statement" when we go about our daily business. The mission is our daily focus, whether we think about the words or not, and the outcome that we are working toward – helping kids succeed. The mission helps us keep focused on doing the right thing.

A vision statement is different. It's a *possibility*: what juvenile justice in the state of Louisiana *could be*, if we all do our jobs to the best of our ability. It's what could happen if we all work together.

OJJ Vision

OJJ is a quality system of care which embraces partnerships with families, communities and stakeholders to assist youth in redirecting their lives toward responsible citizenship.

A system of care – no matter what our position is within OJJ, it's what we do, what we strive for: providing care for the kids based on their needs and risks. Whether you interact with kids daily or you support the people who do, your job is vital to the mission and the fulfilling the vision – creating a QUALITY system of care. We are just a part of a larger community of people who care about the kids. Helping kids re-direct their lives – it's what we do, our reason for being.

It's great hearing from you – please keep the responses coming. As always, thanks for all you do, every day, to fulfill our mission and to reach our vision.

Sincerely,

"Doc"

Dr. Mary Livers

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