
what's up doc?



by Dr. Mary Livers

August 8, 2008

Dear Colleagues:

It's been quite a week and a half – that's how long I've served you as Interim Deputy Secretary so far. What a week! As I mentioned in my letter to you last week, I want to keep the lines of communication open. I plan a weekly "conversation" with you to keep each of you informed about happenings outside OYD and within the agency that affect each of us. We're a team and I want you to know that each one of you is important and valued. The best way I know to prove that I mean it is to keep you informed about what's up with OYD.

Almost everywhere I go within OYD, I ask people how we can improve as an agency. The first thing most people tell me is that they don't know what's going on. I want to do everything I possibly can to communicate with you, our staff, and with those we work with every day on behalf of the kids in our care. Communication is key to our success, and I want to serve as an example. Staff, communicate with your supervisors – supervisors, keep the lines of communications open with the staff you supervise. And everyone: talk to the kids!

I would like to hear from you and I want to encourage you to share your thoughts and ideas with me. Because I really do want your feedback, we have set up a special email address so you respond directly. You WILL receive a response – this is not an empty promise – I want you all to be confident that I am paying attention to your ideas and concerns. That email address is Whatsupdoc?OJJ@la.gov

For those of you who have the weekend off, I wish you a great weekend. For all of you who will be on duty on Saturday and Sunday, I appreciate your hard work and dedication.

Sincerely,

"DOC"

Dr. Mary Livers

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