

---

## what's up doc?



by Dr. Mary Livers

---

Vol. 3, No. 27. February 18, 2011

Hello, Everyone:

Lordy, Lordy, I'm way over 40 and I am really feeling it today! WHAT a busy week. We are really working hard on CSOC (Coordinated System of Care) - there were two town hall meetings this week, in Lake Charles and Lafayette. We are also working feverishly on the FY 2011-12 budget.

The two newest members of the executive team have had their baptism by fire. Undersecretary Connie Percell and DAS Karen Stubbs hit the ground running and unfortunately for them, there's no wading into this pool. They both jumped off into the deep end of the pool and started swimming. Fortunately, they are both good swimmers. I think they know by now, we are not dog paddlers. And we will probably never get to be backstrokers either. We will never have that luxury – there's just too much to do.

My thanks to Regional Managers Sue Larisey (Baton Rouge), Kristi Martin (Shreveport) and Johnny Qualls (Alexandria) for their help over the past few weeks. They, too, have been in the pool! At least we're not up the creek without a paddle! My thanks also to everybody on the executive team and in central office – they have really been working hard to keep us moving forward and to support the field.

As I said, we had a lot going on this week. I hit the road and had several meetings out of town related to FY11-12. Thank goodness I now have an iPad. That makes it much easier to be on the road and still conduct business. The iPad was a gift to me – and lest anyone think that I am Ms. Technology, be assured that I am not! It was given to me before Christmas and I waited until a week ago to get it out of the box. There was a visitor to my home who was under 30 and I roped her into setting it up for me. I haven't learned all the bells and whistles yet and I can say that I probably never will – but I do find it easy to use. It is much easier to read than a blackberry while driving down the road. Just kidding, just kidding, just kidding! But I did find myself on several conference calls in the car, on the blackberry! I certainly would have preferred to be entertained by the variety of talk radio and music stations along the way. We have all become such multi-taskers, haven't we? The blessings and the curses of technology continue – who would have ever think it?

Jetson had some positive press this week, when two Baton Rouge television stations accepted our invitation to tour the facility to see firsthand the changes the facility has undergone over the past three years. The reporters were pleasantly surprised by what they discovered, and even participated in a "check-in" with youth and staff in one of the dorms. Congratulations to Director Daron Brown, the staff and of course, the youth at Jetson, for the glowing reports. You can see the print version of the stories on the website homepage and the Newsroom link.

Wishing you all a relaxed and pleasant weekend (complete with balmy weather), and my thanks to each and every one of you, in whatever OJJ pool you swim, for all you do every day to meet the mission.

Sincerely,

"Doc" *Dr. Mary Livers*

Mary L. Livers, MSW, PH.D, Deputy Secretary

---

Office of Juvenile Justice • PO Box 66458 • Baton Rouge, LA 70896 • e: Whatsupdoc?OJJ@la.gov • www.ojd.louisiana.gov