



# COUNCIL OF ACCOUNTABILITY COURT JUDGES OF GEORGIA

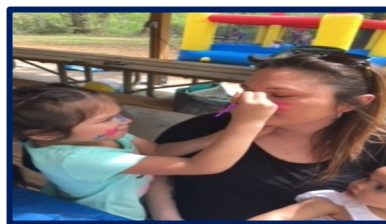
MAY 2018

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## BARTOW COUNTY FAMILY TREATMENT COURT HOSTS INAUGURAL FAMILY DAY

- ❖ Feature submitted by Coordinator, Erica Cawood.

The Bartow County Family Treatment Court has been in operation since the beginning of October 2017. Wanting to take full advantage of sharing National Drug Court Month with our participants which includes 13 parents and 23 children, we constructed a sober event in which they could engage in positive interaction with their children. To do so, the team hosted the program's 1st Annual Family Day! Our team sponsored the afternoon at Coopers Furnace, a day use area that is equipped with a playground and other fun outdoor activities. We also had use of a bounce house, arts and crafts, hammocks, bubbles, and kites. Our team's Sheriff's Deputy did a stand up job on the grill and we were additionally supported by our DFCS and CASA office. Below are a photos from the Bartow County FTC Family Day:



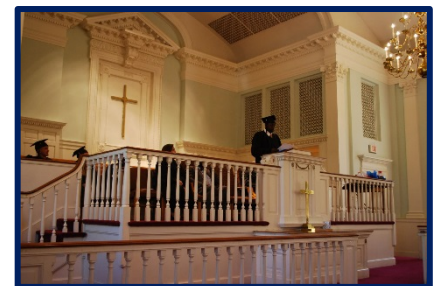
## OCMULGEE JUDICIAL CIRCUIT FEATURED IN THE NEWS

- ❖ Ocmulgee Judicial Circuit Treatment Court was featured in The Union Recorder.

### LOCAL RESIDENTS GRADUATE FROM ATCC, GAIN TOOLS TO SUCCEED

On April 19, 2018 The Union Recorder featured a story of six graduates graduating from the Ocmulgee Judicial Circuit Adult Treatment Court program after 18- 24 months in the Accountability Court program.

The Ocmulgee Judicial Circuit Adult Treatment Court Collaborative began in 2003. Presided by Judge Brenda Trammell and Judge Alison Burleson, the program has served as an alternative to jail time for nonviolent offenders. Residents of Baldwin, Jones, Hancock and Wilkinson counties are eligible for program participation if convicted of drug and mental health-related crimes.



To read the entire article please visit: [http://www.unionrecorder.com/news/local-residents-graduate-from-atcc-gain-tools-to-succeed/article\\_e850b4be-434e-11e8-8678-37a1e3ac9884.html](http://www.unionrecorder.com/news/local-residents-graduate-from-atcc-gain-tools-to-succeed/article_e850b4be-434e-11e8-8678-37a1e3ac9884.html)

## ROCKDALE COUNTY RESOURCE COURT GIVES TO THE COMMUNITY.

- ❖ Feature submitted by Coordinator, Mary-Lou Snow.

The Rockdale County Accountability Courts (DUI, Drug & Resource Courts presided by Judge Bills and Judge Mumford) hosted a shoe box project for the homeless during a group session on Monday, April 23. All of the participants did a great job wrapping and stuffing the shoe boxes. Boxes included essential items including toothpaste, soap, snacks, socks, and more. A total of 39 boxes were prepared for the project.



## ACCOUNTABILITY COURT GRADUATIONS

### BIBB COUNTY MENTAL HEALTH COURT

- ❖ Submitted by Coordinator, Jennifer Orenstein.

Judge Verda Colvin is photographed with a Bibb County Mental Health Court graduate on April 12, 2018.



### RICHMOND COUNTY ACCOUNTABILITY COURTS

- ❖ Submitted by Coordinator, Crystal Page.

The Richmond County DUI and Veterans Court program held a spring graduation on Friday, April 20, 2018 with 26 graduates. The speaker was Deputy Sheriff Ashley Syria who was struck by an impaired driver while stopped at a red light six months ago. Her car was pushed 200 feet and she escaped without physical injury, but mentally she has suffered greatly. Deputy Syria gave a wonderful and moving talk about how impaired driving affects the lives of not only those driving but also the victims. Deputy Syria was nervous in her first speech in front of over 200 people. The beautiful moment came when the participants cheered her on and encouraged her to continue her story. There was not a dry eye in the auditorium.



## *April Graduations*

Baldwin County Family Treatment Court

Bibb County Mental Health Court

Clayton County DUI Court

Coweta County DUI Court

Enotah (South) Drug Court

Hall County Family Treatment Court

Hall County HELP Court

Fulton County Adult Drug Court

Fulton County DUI Court

Savannah-Chatham County Drug Court

Richmond County Accountability Court

## COUNCIL OF ACCOUNTABILITY COURT JUDGES STAFF NEWS

### VETERANS TASK FORCE

- ❖ Feature submitted by Certification Officer, Sacha Greene.

The Council of Accountability Court Judges staff is collaborating with the Georgia Department of Veterans Services to assist with recruiting and educating veteran mentors who are willing to work with Veterans Treatment Courts across the state. The veteran mentor can support the Veteran as he/she navigates through the court and treatment. Stay tuned for additional information about this special project.

### TRAIN THE TRAINER

- ❖ Submitted by Certification Officer, Rachel Gage.



On April 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup>, CACJ staff Rachel Gage and Lasheika Kassa participated in the How Being Trauma-Formed Improves Criminal Justice System Responses Train-the-Trainer Event developed by SAMHSA's GAINS Center. The event was designed to train criminal justice professionals to increase understanding of trauma, create an awareness of the impact of trauma on behavior, and develop trauma-informed responses. Other participating agencies included Applied Research Services, Inc., Department of Community Supervision, and

Fulton County court, probation, sheriff's department and treatment services staff. Trainers plan to start training additional staff soon. For more information on this training and others please visit [www.samhsa.gov/gains-center](http://www.samhsa.gov/gains-center).

### RESIDENTIAL RESOURCES SURVEY

CACJ staff is working to build a resource for court coordinators to use for program participants in need of housing. The residential resource guide will include residential treatment and sober living facilities in Georgia. The survey asks a few questions about residential facilities used by the court program and the coordinator's experience with the identified facilities. Please take a moment to complete the survey using the link below. The survey will remain open until 5/11/2018. [https://cacj.formstack.com/forms/acc\\_court\\_residential\\_resources](https://cacj.formstack.com/forms/acc_court_residential_resources).

If there are questions about the survey, please contact Kim Howard at [kimberly.howard@georgiacourts.gov](mailto:kimberly.howard@georgiacourts.gov)

### FY19 COUNCIL OF ACCOUNTABILITY COURT JUDGES FUNDING COMMITTEE GRANT REVIEW

April 19-20, 2018, the CACJ Funding Committee, with the assistance of Criminal Justice Coordinating Council grant specialists, District Court Administrators, and CACJ Staff, met at the Legacy Lodge to review FY19 Accountability Court grant applications. The two day undertaking began with the Funding Committee meeting led by chair, Judge Kathlene Gosselin. Following the meeting, the committee began the extensive process of reviewing each grant by court type. Grant requests for FY19 totaled \$33.4 million. Court programs can anticipate receiving their grant award notification from CJCC by June.

*To include a court program in the CACJ Newsletter, please email submissions and photos to [Kimberly.howard@georgiacourts.gov](mailto:Kimberly.howard@georgiacourts.gov).*