Breaking Barriers Behind Bars: Learning Plans for Teens in Juvenile Detention

Map of 24 juvenile detention centers in Virginia

(source: http://www.djj.virginia.gov/pdf/about-djj/DRG/Detention Centers.pdf) Northwestern Northern Virginia 1 * Henrico County is served by both Henrico and James River JDCs. - Fairfax * Culpeper County is served by Blue Ridge JDC. Prince William Henrico & James River* nandoah Richmond Valley appabanno Blug Ridge VáHey Lynchburg Piedmont Crate Newport News New Rive Highlands Norfolk Valley Virginia Beach

Learning Plan topics covered at CJDH:

- Maker activities: TinkerCad, Garage Band and Loop Labs, drawing, calligraphy and lettering, origami
- Resumes, online job applications, mock job interviews, email, Google Docs and Drive, applying for U.S. citizenship, driver's test prep, ASVAB test prep, GED test prep, poetry and writing, foreign language learning, hair styling

Recipes for success:

- Laptops, wifi hotspot, iPads, free online platforms for maker activities
- Art supplies, journals
- Limited budget? Use what you have!
- Inner qualities: open mind, flexibility, and compassion

Take Action!

1. Find a JDH near you:

VDJJ's Regulated Programs and Court Service Units: http://www.djj.virginia.gov/pdf/residential/Regulated-Residential-Programs-and-CSUs.pdf

2. Start a conversation:

Contact a librarian or teacher working in a JDH!

3. "Just help them out. Sometimes people get scared when they find out somebody is locked up. But we're regular people, just like you" --"Scott" (former CJDH resident)

Resources:

- Virginia Department of Juvenile Justice: www.djj.virginia.gov
- ALA Great Stories Club: https://apply.ala.org/greatstories
- Free resources: tinkercad.com; looplabs.com; Transparent Languages and Library Learning Express databases, or other databases accessible at your library

Glossary:

"About a minute" = a long time

"Crush" = devour

"Feeling some kind of way" = in a bad mood

"Lit" = excellent; fun; exciting

Post-D = JD Post-dispositional program for residents serving a sentence

Pre-D = generally speaking, a JD program for residents who are awaiting trial

"Room time" = required room restriction due to behavioral issue

"Swerve" = To tell someone to go away when an unwanted proposition is made; or to dismiss or to say no to a request (Source: Urban Dictionary)

For more information, please contact:

Erica Tucker
Librarian, Chesterfield County Public Library
tuckere@chesterfield.gov
804-768-7907

Ann de Witt Librarian, Chesterfield County Public Library dewitta@chesterfield.gov 804-318-8778