



Sixth District CJAN Newsletter

CSOSA'S SIXTH DISTRICT COMMUNITY JUSTICE ADVISORY NETWORK

A Community In Action By: Lawrence E. Jordan

April, 2010, the First Lady of the United States of America, Michelle Obama, visited River Terrace Elementary School (RTES) accompanied by Olympians and Paralympians who'd just completed the Winter Olympics. The school is located in the north-east quadrant of the city. The entire school naturally held a strong sense of pride after her visit. Just imagine, the First lady! Secondly, and six months later, the First Lady gave River Terrace Elementary School a "shout out" during the Congressional Black Caucus Conference that was held on September 15, 2010. Finally, on October 7th, of the same year, students from River Terrace Elementary School were taken on a tour of the First Lady's White House Kitchen Garden. This was a perk for being awarded a citation from Agriculture Secretary, Tom Vilsack for being a Gold School in the Healthier US School Challenge; thus RTES became DC's first gold-level honoree in this national program. It is not unreasonable to imagine that after receiving such accolades, school pride was at an all-time high. The school's staff, student body and the community were on the proverbial "cloud nine." This cloud turned into a thunder storm quickly when the school and community received word that River Terrace and Shadd Education Campus were slated to close permanently!

The community catapulted into action. Community leaders, family members of students, and school alumni met and developed strategies to save the school. Multiple community meetings were held. City officials were lobbied. Support was garnered across social divides in the city. As the result of the community's action and single mindedness, the school and community received word from Chancel-

lor, Kaya Henderson that Mayor Vincent C. Gray accepted her recommendation, supported by Councilwoman Yvette Alexander, to give the school a one-year reprieve while a permanent solution can be sought by the community. This saga is far from being over, but what was demonstrated in this story is that a community united can not only move mountains, but also save a community school.



First Lady Michelle Obama and Olympians addressing students at River Terrace Elementary School in April of 2010.



The River Terrace community and Ward 7 residents, school alumni, civic and community leaders pledging their support to keep the school open.

CSOSA'S CJAN PHOTO GALLERY



CSOSA Deputy Director Adrienne Poteat and other FBI Matrixarchs enjoying a satisfying moment at the Reentry Forum.



CSOSA's Associate Director Jim Williams and other community members enjoying the 2011 Reentry Forum .



The community came out in numbers to support the forum addressing Women's Issues and Reentry.



Attendees at the 2011 Women's Forum.

Announcements:

- ◆ Sixth District CJAN, Topic: "Supervision and Mental Health, May 24th, 2011 from 6:30PM–9:00PM
- ◆ Sixth District CJAN, Topic: "Work-force Development," June 28th, 2011 from 6:30–9:00PM
- ◆ Sixth District CJAN, Topic: TBA July 26th, 2011 from 6:30–9:00PM

Please note that these CJAN Forums will be held at 100-42nd Street, NE; MPD 6D Headquarters

A MESSAGE TO THE SIXTH DISTRICT



Neighbors and Residents of the Sixth District:

I am a Court Services and Offender Supervision Agency, Community Relations Specialist (CRS) who is dedicated to serving the Sixth District. "Our mission is to increase public safety, reduce recidivism, prevent crime, and support the fair administration of justice."

Respectfully,

Lawrence E. Jordan

To submit a community announcement, a scheduled activity or for more information about the Sixth District Community Justice Advisory Network, contact: Lawrence E. Jordan at (202) 220-5515 or (202) 220-5320.