



Aug. 8, 2016

For Immediate Release:

Braintree, MA: The Performance-based Standards Learning Institute (PbS) honored the winners of the 2016 PbS Barbara Allen-Hagen Award on Friday, Aug. 5, 2016 at the PbS Awards Night in Boston. The winners were recognized for best exemplifying PbS' commitment to treating all youths in custody as one of our own and having successfully implemented reforms to improve the treatment of youths. Three winners were selected, one from each of the different types of facilities participating in PbS: correction facilities, detention/assessment centers and community residential programs. About 20 facilities from across the country competed for the awards.

The 2016 PbS Barbara Allen-Hagen Award winners are:

- **Correction: Central Oklahoma Juvenile Center, Tecumseh, OK**
- **Detention/Assessment: Florida Parishes Juvenile Detention Center, Covington, LA**
- **Community Residential: Luther Hall, Fargo, ND**

The winners were selected for changing facility cultures and practices to align with research and best practices that lead to positive youth outcomes. The winners made the facilities more safe, reduced the use of isolation and room confinement to manage youths' behaviors and shifted to approaches that help youths before a problem starts. Staff in the winning facilities treat youths as developing adolescents with limitless potential and focus on increasing their academic and vocational skills, their connection to family and community and their health and well-being so when they leave, the youths have been given the best possible chances to succeed.

"Every year the award applications tell us inspiring stories of culture change and implementing the adolescent development approach as research shows is most successful with youths," said PbS Executive Director Kim Godfrey. "It's very clear that PbS facilities today are nothing like the institutions of the past."

The winners were honored in front of approximately 150 professionals from across the country with videos that showed how they each made improvements to treat all youths like one of their own.

"Seeing the videos gave everyone in the room a real sense of the work it takes to create positive change and the results: staff and youths engaged in learning, playing, laughing and working together," Godfrey said. "The winners inspired us all to continue to serve youths in facilities, most of whom are eager for opportunities to learn and grow."





PbS is a data-driven improvement model grounded in research that challenges youth correction, detention, assessment and community residential facilities and agencies to treat all youths in custody as one of our own. PbS was launched 20 years ago by the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP) to address the safety, health and quality of life issues reported in the 1994 Conditions of Confinement Study. Over time, PbS uniquely has established national standards to guide operations and uniform performance outcome measures to continuously, accurately and comprehensively monitor daily practices and cultures in youth facilities.

For more information please visit the PbS website: <http://pbstandards.org/> or contact Executive Director Kim Godfrey at 781-843-2663.

