

## **Division of Community Services**

# **AUXILIARY PROBATION OFFICER**

Volunteers Making a Difference in Young Lives



### An Opportunity to Serve

With over 5,000 youth being supervised on probation or parole by the South Carolina Department of Juvenile Justice (DJJ) each year across our state, the local DJJ county offices are very busy places. This combined with challenging economic times and limited staff resources, volunteers are playing an increasingly important role working hand-in-hand with DJJ to serve the at-risk youth in our communities. If *you* would like an opportunity to contribute to the success of a youth in your community, serving as an Auxiliary Probation Officer (APO) may be for *you*.

#### You Can Make a Difference

As an APO you will play a significant role in the lives of minor offenders by providing regular contact with these youth helping to ensure they do not re-offend and further penetrate the juvenile justice system while on probation with DJJ. Additionally, your service as an APO you will allow full-time DJJ probation staff to better focus their efforts on the more serious offenders.

#### What's Involved?

APOs are unique in that they are sworn in by a Family Court Judge in the county where they will serve, and often do some of the same tasks as a full-time DJJ probation officer. APOs must be 21 and complete a volunteer application. A thorough background check (criminal records, Sex Offender Registry, and DSS Child Abuse and Neglect Registry) will be conducted, and about four hours of classroom training will be required, as well as some on-the job instruction. APO's provide supplemental supervision to one juvenile offender (lowlevel crime) in conjunction with a full-time DJJ probation officer.

Typically, APOs will have face-to-face or phone contact with the youth at least one time a week. They may meet with their parents/guardians at the DJJ county office at home or with the youth at school, community service worksite, or other locations to ensure that the youth is complying with all probation requirements.

#### Who becomes an APO?

Citizens from all walks of life who care about the youth of their communities become APOs. An APO must have good moral character and common sense, and an understanding of young people. APOs are both male and female.

#### **APO Schedule**

APOs have considerable flexibility in scheduling their appointments and weekly visits with juveniles on probation. They also have the flexibility of choosing their assignments to be in the geographical area most convenient to their home or work locations. Auxiliary Probation Officer activities can include:

- Ensure compliance with probation court order
- · Guide youth/families to appropriate services
- Check community service performance
- Review essays, apology letters, or other documents
- · Confirm referral appointments and school attendance
- Encourage and support juvenile's success
- Document all contact activities
- Attend regular APO training meetings
- Communicate activities to DJJ Probation Officer

**Bottom line** - If you can give a child just 10 minutes a day a few times a week, **You** can be an APO!

# For more information please contact your local DJJ County Office (full listing on back) or:

Elaunda R. Williams Prevention and Intervention State Coordinator Office of Community Justice 4900 Broad River Road, PO Box 21069 Columbia, SC 29221-1069 Phone: (803) 896-4082 ◆ Email: erwill@scdjj.net

For additional DJJ resources please visit our website: http://www.state.sc.us/djj/

The South Carolina Department of Juvenile Justice does not discriminate in any programs or activities on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, disability or age. THE FOLLOWING OFFICES HAVE BEEN DESIGNATED TO HANDLE INQUIRIES REGARDING THE NONDISCRIMINATON POLICIES: Title IX –Inspector General's Office – 803-896-9595, Title II & 504 – Special Education Office – 803-896-8484

#### **DJJ County Office Directory**

Abbeville County 864-366-5312

Aiken County 803-641-7735

Allendale County 803-584-4751

Anderson County 864-260-4041

Barnwell County 803-259-7114

Bamberg County 803-245-5184

Beaufort County 843-525-1351

Berkeley County 843-761-8194

Charleston County 843-740-1649

Cherokee County 864-487-2564

Chester County 803-377-8104

Chesterfield County 843-623-2378

Clarendon County 803-435-8587

Colleton County 843-549-1509 Darlington County 843-393-5641

Dillon County 843-774-4147

Dorchester County 843-832-4265

Fairfield County 803-712-6533

Florence County 843-665-3080

Greenville County 864-467-5875

Greenwood County 864-229-6648

Georgetown County 843-546-8723

Hampton County 803-943-4296

Horry County 843-915-8969

Jasper County 843-726-5666

Kershaw County 803-432-9171

Lancaster County 803-285-9447

Laurens County 864-984-2518

Tri-Counties (Edgefield, McCormick, Saluda) 864-445-8138

The South Carolina Department of Juvenile Justice (DJJ) is the state cabinet agency responsible for providing custodial care and rehabilitation for the state's children who are incarcerated, on probation or parole, or in community placement for a criminal or status offense. Our mission is to protect the public and reclaim juveniles through prevention, community services, education, and rehabilitative services in the least restrictive environment.

Lee County 803-484-4550

Lexington County 803-359-5526

Marion County 843-431-1110

Marlboro County 843-479-2961

Newberry County 803-276-8243

Oconee County 864-638-9537

Orangeburg County 803-533-6270

Pickens County 864-878-7560

Richland County 803-253-4050

Spartanburg County 864-562-4200

Sumter County 803-778-2368

Union County 864-429-1640

Williamsburg County 843-355-2772

York County 803-909-7500