Residents from all three secure detention facilities compete in basketball tournament sponsored by The Urban Dove and DJJ.

DJJ Kids Score in Secure and NSD/SEEDS Basketball Tournaments

The NYC Department of Juvenile Justice and The Urban Dove, a not-for-profit youth services group, held two basketball tournaments for juveniles in detention on Saturday, June 30th.

The first tournament was held in the morning at the Horizon Juvenile Center and consisted of three games with players from all secure detention facilities. Three teams, one from each of DJJ's secure detention facilities, consisting of ten players per team, faced off against one another to claim victory.

Referees presided over the games and residents sported official game uniforms and received certificates for their participation.

The second tournament of the day was held in the afternoon at Riverbank State Park as a round robin style competition for NSD/SEEDS. More than 100 residents from ten group homes participated.

Horizon won the secure detention tournament. The tournament trophy will be engraved with the winning facility's name and displayed at Horizon until the next competition.

The basketball tournament is the latest programming event designed to provide unique recreational and development opportunities for DJJ's juvenile residents. In the past, the Department has hosted a football clinic with NY Giants Super Bowl Champion and DJJ employee Odessa Turner, as well as multiple soccer clinics and championship tournaments featuring the New York Red Bulls.

Saturday's basketball tournament at Horizon was covered by News Channel 12 as their lead evening and website news story. Reporter Jennifer Joyce covered the tournament and interviewed residents and staff for an extended segment on the event.

To read the News12 or view the video, visit www.News12.com and search "Bronx Kids Play In Basketball Tournament." (Note: Cable service or an Internet subscription may be required to access the story and video.)

♦♦♦