



Mayor Bloomberg with Marc de Grandpre of the New York Red Bulls, Teamsters President Greg Floyd and Deputy Mayor Linda Gibbs..

DJJ Recognizes Staff Members For Outstanding Service In 2007

On Thursday, December 6th, DJJ held its annual Employee Recognition Ceremony at the Tweed Courthouse, where staff was joined by Mayor Michael Bloomberg and Deputy Mayor for Health and Human Services Linda Gibbs.

The Mayor presented the first award of the evening for outstanding coordination of discharge planning for released youth to DJJ’s Discharge Planning Unit and its director, Marilyn Farmer. Mayor Bloomberg touted the success of the unit and attributed the success of the Agency’s Collaborative Family Initiative (CFI) to Discharge Planning, describing the unit as “the team that is truly the heart and soul” of CFI.

CFI is a program that allows youth released from DJJ facilities to continue receiving crucial mental health services in their communities while living with parents or guardians. To date, CFI in conjunction with the hard work of the Discharge Planning Unit has ensured the release and continued treatment of over 50 youth.

Addressing the work of those in DJJ facilities, Mayor Bloomberg added that staff is “not only...helping broken families become whole again, but helping steer wayward youth away from a life of crime.”

The Mayor further praised the work of DJJ and cited several of the Agency’s juvenile justice reform efforts, including the Release to Parent initiative that seeks to cut down on the number of youth in detention and the Workforce Life Skills initiative that will connect youth in detention to educational and economic opportunities.

In addition to the Discharge Planning Unit, numerous other staff members were recognized for their leadership and dedication to their duties and their commitment to the mission of DJJ. The following members of the DJJ staff were honored: Dennis Anyata, Arjuna Asad, Derrick Baker, Susan Campos, Duane Davis, Marilyn Farmer, Robinson Gbobo, Patricia George, Richard Gonzalez, Lajuana Green, Winsome Hines, Elanor Jackson, Diane Jamison, Gary Johnson, Petrice Knight, Eddy Lara, Janet Lee, Elizabeth McGowan, Nathalie Medford, Rosetta Murphy, Godwin Oriabure, Keith Petersen, Maria Pierre Louis, Jose Quinones, Lamar Scipio, Gerri Silva, Manuel Smith, Earl Taitt, Alexa Troche, Evelina Washington, and Louis Watts.

