



Officials from the National Board of Institutional Care in Stockholm, Sweden exchange ideas during tour of Horizon Juvenile Center.

Swedish Juvenile Justice Officials Visit DJJ

On Wednesday, September 26th, Horizon Executive Director Eduardo Marcial, Assistant Commissioner for Program Services Nina Aledort, Director of Operations Tahia Johnson and the Horizon Juvenile Center staff hosted an official delegation from Sweden’s National Board of Institutional Care.

The NBIC, which is based in Stockholm, Sweden, provides residential care for young people suffering from addictions, as well as behavioral and anti-social issues. Juveniles between the ages of 12 and 21 are admitted to the Board’s care and custody through social service organizations and by criminal courts.

The visitors included NBIC Director General Ewa Persson Goransson, Director of Planning Per Wallin, Director of Research Nils Akesson and Chief Legal Advisor Asa Hard af Segerstad, all of whom make up the organization’s Board of Directors.

Board Members were especially interested in learning about prevention and treatment programs, as well as security features and facility architecture. During the meeting, Assistant Commissioner Aledort and Executive Director Marcial discussed DJJ’s innovative Collaborative Family Initiative (CFI), which provides for continuing, uninterrupted mental health services after a youth leaves detention.

The tour of Horizon Juvenile Center and meeting with DJJ staff was one of several visits to government agencies and private organizations in the delegation’s busy schedule during their stay in the United States.

Director of Operations Tahia Johnson said, “Meeting with officials from the Swedish Board of Institutional Care provided an extraordinary opportunity to exchange ideas and strategies to enhance services for youth in detention.”

