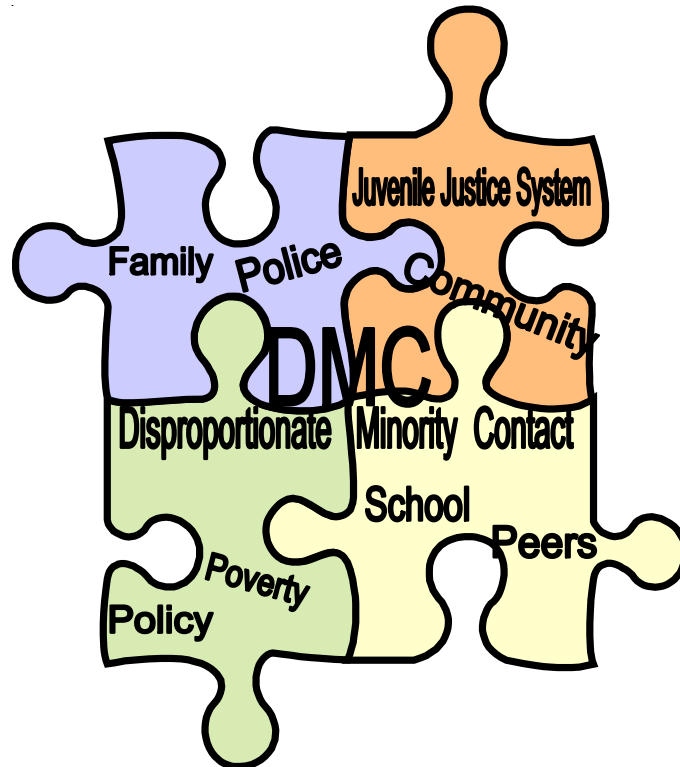


“Bringing Education to the Head of the Class to Reduce Racial Disparities in Juvenile Justice”

**6th Annual Woodbury County
DMC Conference**

**June 5-6, 2008
Sioux City, Iowa**



Woodbury County DMC Committee
DMC Resource Center
National Resource Center for Family Centered Practice
University of Iowa School of Social Work
in collaboration with

Iowa Department of Human Services
State of Iowa Department of Human Rights
Division of Criminal and Juvenile Justice Planning (CJJP)
Juvenile Justice Advisory Council (JJAC)

SCHEDULE AT A GLANCE

THURSDAY, JUNE 5, 2008—SIOUX CITY CONVENTION CENTER

1:30 PM - 3:30 PM

Dr. M. Karega Rausch

Research and Practice: Reducing Disproportionality in Schools

5:30 PM - 8:00 PM

Gary Niles, Chief, Juvenile Court Services

Movie: The Ron Clark Story followed by speech and book signing by Ron Clark

FRIDAY, JUNE 6, 2008—BRIAR CLIFF UNIVERSITY

7:30 AM – 8:30 AM

REGISTRATION

Stark Student Center Lobby Area

8:30 AM – 9:00 AM

Welcome Address/Opening Remarks

Beverly Wharton, President, Briar Cliff University
Stephan Pearson & Marchelle Denker, Woodbury County DMC Committee
Gary Niles, Chief, Juvenile Court Services
Syeta Glanton, Office of the Governor

Stage Stark

9:00 AM - 10:15 AM

Brad Richardson, Ph.D., University of Iowa, DMC Resource Center
Keynote: Reducing Disparities: A Research and Practice Approach
M. Karega Rausch, Ph.D.

Stage Stark

10:30 AM - 11:45 AM

Concurrent Sessions

Reducing Disproportionality & Positive Behavior Supports

Lori Rogerson, Laura Fefchak & Suzann Wilson
Des Moines Public Schools

Assisi

Promoting Success Among At-Risk Youth in the Memphis Schools

Shirley A. Wilson, Ph.D., & Jamez C. Beckwith

Clare

The Minority Youth and Families Initiative & Alliance: Linkages to Reduce Disproportionality in Child Welfare

Pat Penning, Iowa Department of Human Services
Dennette Derezotes, Woodbury County DMC Committee
Frank LaMere, CINCF/ MYFI/Casey Programs
Julia Rembert, University of Iowa, School of Social Work

Stage Stark

12:00 PM - 1:00 PM

Lunch

1:00 PM – 2:15 PM

Kenny Anderson (Recorded Message)

Dr. Shirley Wilson—Memphis, Tennessee
Mary Nelson—Iowa Department of Human Services
Gary Niles, Stephan Pearson, Marchelle Denker—DMC Committee

Stage Stark

The Ron Clark Story

Ron Clark's Experiences on Set

I recently had the honor of traveling to Calgary in order to visit the set of the movie based on my teaching experiences. As we pulled up to the set, there were rows of about twenty trailers that were used for catering, wardrobe, offices and temporary homes for some of the actors and cast members. I had no idea that it would be such a big production with a crew of over 100 members. The first place I visited was the wardrobe trailer, and I could have stayed in there all day.

I looked through the rows and rows of clothes that were selected for my character, I was shocked at how closely they had matched my own tastes. I had spoken with the designers several times, and it was refreshing to see that they had taken my suggestions to heart and really tried to make the clothing authentic. There were even several East Carolina University shirts. Go Pirates!



All of the clothing for my students was selected from the styles of 1999, and seeing all of the popular clothes from that time really brought back memories.

As I walked onto the set, I was overwhelmed by how nice and warm everyone was to me. People I had never seen in my life were hugging me and treating me like we were close friends. I met with the producers and they took me onto the set of my classroom in Harlem, and it was just surreal. I saw my 55 rules posted around the room, the pictures of kids on my bulletin boards and the colorful blue walls

with decorations like there were in my actual class. When I arrived they were filming a scene, and suddenly everyone had to be extremely still. The scene involved Matthew Perry (Mr. Clark) giving a speech to the class about believing in themselves and trying their best on the end-of-grade tests. It was like going back in time and watching myself in my old classroom. When the scene finished, Mr. Perry came over and introduced himself. It felt like the entire crew was staring at us to see how we would act around each other. I, of course, took my natural role and started running my mouth about the whole experience, and slowly everyone faded away and allowed us time alone. I asked him why he decided to take on the role, and he told me that when he read the script he had tears in his eyes throughout the entire story. I could tell he was sincere, and I instantly felt at ease with him portraying me in the classroom. The rest of my day was spent watching scenes, learning about the movie process and visiting other sets. The highlight of the entire experience, however, involved meeting the child actors. I cannot put into words how impressed I was with these young individuals. They were full of life, intelligent, polite, respectful and just glowing with light. There are four main actors playing four of my main students from Harlem. Brandon Smith and Micah Williams, two of the actors, walked right up to me, gave me a firm handshake and told me that they would be honored if I would join them for dinner that night. I agreed, and we went, along with Brandon's father, to a restaurant that they had adopted as their favorite over their month-long stay in Calgary. I have to tell you, we had conversations about life that I can seldom even have with adults. These young gentlemen were so aware of themselves and had such an amazing outlook on life, and it was just refreshing to spend time with such confident and driven individuals.



Each day the students had to receive at least three hours of classroom instruction, and so I naturally found myself gravitating away from the set and into the classrooms. I taught lessons on geography, the history of South Africa, algebra and the Louisiana Purchase. I loved it! There were about 30 kids, counting the classroom extras, and it was refreshing to have the opportunity to teach.



After I was on set three days, the fun really got started! Three of my students from Harlem, who are being portrayed in the movie, arrived from NYC. They are now 11th graders, and the experience was just as shocking for them as it has been for me. One of my students, Tamara, couldn't wait to meet the young actress, Hannah Hodson, who is playing her in the movie. When they first saw each other, they hugged and started laughing because they look nothing alike, but after 5 minutes we could not separate the two girls; they were instantly bonded and discovered they had a lot in common. Tamara said to me, "Mr. Clark, she may not look like me, but she is just like me on the inside." The students from Harlem were joined by three 6th graders from Aurora, North

Carolina. They were visiting the set because I wanted to give a shout out to the town where I first began my teaching career. All six students served as extras in the final scene of the movie, and let me tell you, I had six little Halle Berry's and Brad Pitt's on my hands! Overall, the experience was out of this world and watching my former students interact with the actors playing them in the movie was priceless. The greatest similarity would have to be between Derrick, my former student, and Micah Williams. Derrick was my "class clown" in Harlem, and Micah who plays Derrick in the movie is a total class clown in real life. Those boys got along so well and



were instant friends. As you can see to the right, they also share the same smile. More details to come! Please visit the Photos/Videos section for more pics and details from the set!

Matthew Perry Takes the Lead in Inspirational TNT Original Movie THE RON CLARK STORY, A JOHNSON & JOHNSON SPOTLIGHT PRESENTATION® Movie

Produced by Granada America and MAGNA Global Entertainment, Follows Dramatic Story of Award-Winning Teacher

Three-time Emmy® nominee Matthew Perry (Friends, The West Wing) has signed on to star in Turner Network Television (TNT)'s original drama THE RON CLARK STORY, the network's newest production under the JOHNSON & JOHNSON SPOTLIGHT PRESENTATION® banner, announced Michael Wright, senior vice president of original programming for TNT. Perry is best known for his Emmy®-nominated performance on the long-running comedy series Friends. He also earned an Emmy® nomination for his work in a recurring role on the drama series The West Wing.



THE RON CLARK STORY will be produced by Granada America and MAGNA Global Entertainment, with Howard Burkons (John Q), Brenda Friend (Joan of Arc) and Adam Gilad (Take My Advice: The Ann and Abby Story) serving as executive producers, along with Paul Jackson (Hell's Kitchen, Nanny 911) and Jody Brockway

(Rudy: The Rudy Giuliani Story) of Granada. Craig McNeil (TNT's Second Nature) of Granada serves as producer. THE RON CLARK STORY, written by Max Enscoe and Annie DeYoung (Wuthering Heights), is set to begin production this fall for premiere early next year on TNT.

"THE RON CLARK STORY is the perfect kind of moving, human story we seek to bring through the JOHNSON & JOHNSON SPOTLIGHT PRESENTATION® series," said Andrea Alstrup, corporate vice president, advertising, Johnson & Johnson. "This movie will engage both the viewers' hearts and minds by letting them see the difference one person can make in the lives of so many."

Inspired to leave his small North Carolina hometown to teach in one of New York City's public schools, Disney's 2000 Teacher of the Year, Ron Clark, uses his enthusiasm, creativity and passion to reach his toughest students. THE RON CLARK STORY is the true account of this innovative teacher, who strives to tap into his students' potential, talents and abilities, gaining their respect and ultimately raising their test scores to the highest level in the school. Clark went on to win Teacher of the Year, was featured in Oprah's O magazine and has written very successful books on education and child rearing.

THE RON CLARK STORY is the eighth TNT Original to be produced under the JOHNSON & JOHNSON SPOTLIGHT PRESENTATION® banner. The critically acclaimed, award-winning Door to Door, starring Emmy®-winner William H. Macy as a successful door-to-door salesman with cerebral palsy, kicked off the series of movies in July 2002. It was followed by Miss Lettie and Me, starring Mary Tyler Moore and Burt Reynolds, in December 2002; Wilder Days, starring Peter Falk and Tim Daly, in October 2003; The Winning Season, with Matthew Modine and Kristin Davis, in April 2004; the Emmy®-nominated The Wool Cap, which re-teamed Door To Door's Emmy®-winning actor/writer William H. Macy and writer/director Steven Schachter, in November 2004; and 14 Hours, with JoBeth Williams, Rick Schroder and Kris Kristofferson, in April 2005. Currently in production is The Engagement Ring, a romantic comedy/drama starring Patricia Heaton, set to premiere on TNT later this year.

The JOHNSON & JOHNSON SPOTLIGHT PRESENTATION® series development effort was initiated by Interpublic's MAGNA Global Entertainment. Johnson & Johnson has long supported the creation of quality programming, and through the JOHNSON & JOHNSON SPOTLIGHT PRESENTATION® series, the company's advertising affiliate has collaborated with TNT to bring inspirational stories to the American viewing public.

MAGNA Global Entertainment (MGE) is a division of Interpublic's MAGNA Global USA, which represents more than \$29 billion in aggregated Interpublic worldwide media billings. MGE is an industry leader in advertiser-supplied programming. MGE has produced 74 hours of original programming and more than 316 hours of total television viewing on seven networks for 19 clients. Notable successes include Blow Out on Bravo, now in its second season, and the critically acclaimed hit series The Restaurant on NBC.

Granada America is the U.S.-based television program development and production division of ITV Plc's Granada Productions. Headquartered in Los Angeles, it acquires, develops and produces scripted and non-scripted series as well as movies for television for the U.S. networks and the international market. Granada America is also a leading producer of reality programming and scripted drama, with shows in production or in development at many of the major broadcast and cable networks. Its current slate includes Hell's Kitchen and Nanny 911 for FOX, Airline for A&E, American Princess for NBC, Room Raiders for MTV, House of Dreams for A&E. Its scripted drama slate includes Touching Evil for USA Network, and in development at Showtime is Soldier Soldier, with John Sacret Young attached to write and direct.

Turner Network Television (TNT), television's destination for drama and one of cable's top-rated networks, offers original movies and limited series, including Into the West, an epic six-week television event from DreamWorks Television and master storyteller and executive producer Steven Spielberg; original recurring series, including the detective drama The Closer, starring Kyra Sedgwick, and the crime thriller Wanted, with Gary Cole; powerful one-hour dramas, such as Law & Order, Without a Trace, ER, NYPD Blue, Charmed, Judging Amy and Angel; broadcast premiere movies; and championship sports coverage, including NASCAR and the NBA. TNT is also available in high-definition.

Turner Broadcasting System, Inc., a Time Warner company, is a major producer of news and entertainment product around the world and a leading provider of programming for the television industry. *JOHNSON & JOHNSON SPOTLIGHT PRESENTATION is a registered service mark of Johnson & Johnson.

**WORKSHOP DESCRIPTIONS:
Friday: 10:30 am to 11:45 am**

Reducing Disproportionality & Positive Behavior Supports

Des Moines Public Schools will present information on how to conduct student and parent focus groups addressing issues of disproportionality in school suspensions. Data on the over-representation in suspensions and how the district is working on strengthening their plans to address it through Positive Behavior Supports will be discussed. PBS establishes systems to change the cultural climate by being both preventive and positive. Presenters will give examples of how PBS is an intricate piece to increasing awareness and decreasing problem behaviors.

Presenters: Lori Rogerson, Laura Fefchak & Suzann Wilson

Promoting Success Among At-Risk Youth in the Memphis Schools

This workshop will focus on factors that contribute to disproportionate minority confinement in Tennessee, at-risk youth in the Memphis area, and a pilot program designed to promote success in schools. Information will be shared regarding characteristics of at-risk students in an inner city school in Memphis, where implementation of the pilot program is presently being considered by Tennessee State legislators. The ultimate goal of the program is to prepare students to become self-sufficient as they learn life skills, gain knowledge, and develop attitudes that promote success. The program is based on a "Formula for Change."

Presenters: Shirley A. Wilson, Ph.D., & Jamez Beckwith

The Minority Youth and Families Initiative & Alliance: Linkages to Reduce Disproportionality in Child Welfare

This workshop will provide background on efforts in Woodbury County since 2004 to reduce the number of Native American children in the child welfare system. Emphasis will be on practice changes, the importance of partnerships, a review of the evaluation of the project to date, and implications for all systems, including education, juvenile court, and many others. A 6 dimension theory of change and a systems-level ecomap through the ages are featured.

Presenters: Pat Penning, Dennette Derezotes, Frank LaMere & Julia Rembert

Presenter Biographies:

Kenneth (Kenny) Anderson born in Queens, New York, prodigy of the LeFrak City housing development, a Queens native. He attended academic and athletic powerhouse Archbishop Molloy High School in Briarwood. At the age of 16 as a high school sophomore he was considered one of the best basketball prospects in America. By the end of his high school career, he was a three-time Parade All-American, a feat not accomplished since Lew Alcindor and the first player to be named All-City four times. In addition, he was a McDonalds All-American, Gatorade High School player of the year, was named Player of the Year in the state by the New York State Sportswriters Association, and was named Mr. Basketball by the New York State Coaches Organization. Kenny set the all-time New York State High School scoring record, with 2,621 points, a record which would stand for 18 years. Kenny signed a letter of intent in November 1988 to play his college basketball at Georgia Tech, selecting the upstart Yellow Jackets over national powers North Carolina, Duke and Syracuse. As a freshman Kenny led the Georgia Tech team to the Final Four in 1990. His sophomore year, Kenny averaged nearly 26 points a game, but was only able to secure a #8 seed for the NCAA Tournament, losing in the 2nd round to Ohio State. After his sophomore season Kenny announced that he would forego his last two years and declare for the NBA Draft. Kenny was selected by the New Jersey Nets with the second pick in the 1991 NBA Draft, Kenny was the youngest player in the league at that time. Throughout his career Kenny played for eight different NBA teams and one overseas team the BC Zalgiris. Kenny was named to the NBA All-Star team during his 1993-1994 seasons. Currently Kenny resides with his family in South Florida where he enjoys relaxing and spending time with his family and friends. Kenny is currently continuing his passion for basketball by pursuing the coaching field.

Jamez Beckwith is the founder of the Life and Personal Development Coaching Program (LPDC) for youth at DeSoto Behavioral Health. He has spent much of his career working with at-risk youth and understands the difficulties that these troubled young people are facing in today's society. Mr. Beckwith has been a consultant in devel-

oping and opening schools for juvenile offenders in Virginia, Maryland, and Florida. He has also been deputy director for juvenile training academies. Mr. Beckwith began his career several years ago in the Marine Corps where he was an instructor and officer. He is a highly motivated individual who has proven ability and leadership in business and youth development.

Marchelle Denker is First Assistant in the Sioux City Juvenile Public Defender's Office a/k/a Juvenile Law Center. She has held that position since August 2000 and worked at the Juvenile Law Center since July 1995. Prior to that she was in private practice. Marchelle received her Bachelor of Arts degree from Morningside College in May 1990. She continued her education at the University of Iowa College of Law receiving her Juris Doctorate degree in May 1993. Marchelle is an active member of many committees and organizations. She is the Juvenile Law Consultant for the State Public Defender. She has served on numerous task forces with the Court Improvement Project. She is currently the co-chairperson of the Woodbury County DMC committee along with being a member of the statewide DMC Committee. She has also volunteered for and provided training for the CASA Program, Family to Family Biological Parents Support Group, Family to Family Foster Parent Support Group, Foster Parents Support Group, the Iowa Public Defenders' Conference, Juvenile Justice for Foster Parents, Law Day, and Woodbury County Foster Care Council. She has also been involved with the American Cancer Society's Relay for Life and other community and civic organizations. She is a member of the Iowa Public Defenders' Association, the Woodbury County Bar Association, and a past member of the Iowa State Bar Association.

Dennette M. Derezotes, M.S.W., L.C.S.W., has over 20 years of child welfare experience working with children and families in direct care; therapeutic services; administration; training; program development and evaluation; community advocacy and collaboration; and agency consultation. She is the founding Executive Director of the Race Matters Consortium @ Westat, a national multi-system initiative that promotes strategies that prevent, intervene, and eliminate ad-

verse racial disproportionality and disparities in the child welfare system. Its members comprise a national think tank of concerned experts in research, social work practice, public policy, and philanthropy who critically examine the issues related to racial and ethnic disparities and influence policy and practice through education and consultation. Ms. Derezotes currently travels the country addressing issues of racial disproportionality to numerous audiences. She is an author of and first editor of the book, *Race Matters in Child Welfare: Examining the Overrepresentation of African Americans in the Child Welfare System*, published through the Child Welfare League of America in March, 2005.

Laura Fefchak, M.S.W., L.I.S.W., is the Lead Support for Credit Recovery/Credit Options for the Des Moines Public Schools. She received her BSW from the University of Calgary in Calgary Alberta, Canada and her MSW from the University of Manitoba in Winnipeg, Manitoba. Ms. Fefchak has worked in the Des Moines area for 11 years and has experience in the areas of domestic violence, adolescent pregnancy prevention, private mental health practice and school social work.

Syeta Glanton is a native of Franklin, New Jersey. She is a proud graduate of Spelman College in Atlanta, Georgia. After graduating from college with a degree in Political Science she went to Drake University Law School. While in Law School Syeta served as the Chapter President and Midwest Regional Director for the National Black Law Student Association. After graduating from Law School she was offered a job with the Iowa Secretary of State's Office as the Assistant Director of Business Services, managing the overall duties of the Business Services Department. Syeta currently works as the Policy Liaison for the Governor's Office regarding Criminal Justice, Higher Education and Human Rights issues.

Frank LaMere is a noted social and political activist from the Siouxland region who was instrumental in the passage of the Iowa Indian Child Welfare Act in 2003 and a member of the Winnebago Tribe of Nebraska. Mr. LaMere serves as Native Family Advocate with the Casey Programs and Center for the Study of Social Policy sponsored work to reduce over-representation

among Native families in the child welfare system. He also works in collaboration with the community and serves as liaison to the Woodbury County DHS, Minority Youth and Families Initiative; Community Initiative for Native Children and Families and a variety of other community organizations. He is committed to empowering Native people and serves on the Democratic National Committee. He is an acclaimed motivational speaker who remains dedicated to Indian children and families. Frank also manages and coaches the North Americans, a world-class fast pitch softball team that mentors youth about alcohol and drug abuse prevention.

Mary Nelson is the Administrator of the Division of Behavioral, Developmental and Protective Services for Families, Adults and Children within the Department of Human Rights. Ms. Nelson has served Iowa state government for three decades and has been instrumental in the state's efforts to address disproportionality within the child welfare system. As Administrator of the Division of Behavioral, Developmental, and Protective Services she was instrumental in the development of the child welfare redesign and the Minority Youth and Families Initiative which is addressing disproportionality in the child welfare system; Des Moines and Sioux City serve as demonstration sites for this initiative. Ms. Nelson is also a member and past president of the National Association of Public Child Welfare Administrators of the American Public Human Services Association. In 2005 she received the Betsy Rosenbaum award for Excellence in Public Child Welfare Administration, an award bestowed by a committee of peers in the public child welfare field for achievements as a national leader for public child welfare promoting model policies, programs and practices which enhance child welfare agencies and improve outcomes for children and their families.

Gary Niles, a lifelong Sioux City resident, is a graduate of Morningside College with degrees in Psychology and Business Administration. Gary is the chief juvenile court officer for the Third Judicial District. Gary has over 31 years of juvenile justice experience in both the urban and rural settings; has written, developed and implemented several programs such as "Hands Off" a shoplifting diversion program; "Adapt" a substance abuse diversion program and "Family Empowerment" an

intensive supervision program. He has chaired numerous community committees, developed several partnerships, and is a member of several boards. At the state level, Mr. Niles has served several committees including the statewide Risk and Needs Assessment, JSORATT II Validation Study, the RFP Committee for Shelter Care, the Predisposition Report Committee and work on several DMC efforts. In 1999, Mr. Niles developed and implemented the "Woodbury County Community Drug Court" which serves both adults and juveniles. The Woodbury County Community Drug Court is arguably one of the most unique drug courts in the country as it uses trained community leaders to serve as "Community Judges" for the Court. The Community Court Panels have held over 10,000 hearings since 1999. This Court has received both statewide and national attention for its community involvement and innovation. Iowa Governor Tom Vilsack recognized this Court for "Service Above and Beyond" on December 6, 2004. Over 500 adults and juveniles have graduated from this rigorous drug treatment program. The Iowa Judicial Branch recognized Mr. Niles on July 5, 2000 by awarding him the coveted "Meritorious Service Award."

Stephan Pearson, B.A., is Juvenile Court Officer for the Third Judicial District in Sioux City, Iowa. Mr. Pearson is a graduate of Morningside College. Prior to his current position he worked with Youth Services International in Baltimore, Maryland. He serves on the statewide and county Minority Health Coalition and on the Woodbury County DMC Committee and the state DMC Committee. He is also a member of the Governor's Youth Race and Detention Task Force.

Pat Penning, L.M.S.W., is a graduate of Morningside College in Sioux City, Iowa and is a Licensed Master Social Worker in the state of Iowa. Pat is a member of the Mental Health/Mental Retardation/Developmental Disability/Brain Injury Commission for the state of Iowa. Her career in the human services field began 26 years ago. She has worked in all areas of this field including cash and food assistance, services for adults, and child welfare. Currently she is the Iowa Department of Human Services administrator for a 14 county area in northwest Iowa and

oversees all program areas of the Department of Human Services.

M. Karega Rausch is the Charter Schools Deputy Director for Indianapolis Mayor Bart Peterson, specifically charged with oversight of new and existing charter schools, and executing the Mayor's accountability system. He has a master's degree in Educational Psychology and completed his doctorate in Education at Indiana University-Bloomington. His previous experience includes teaching high school social studies. Mr. Rausch's professional experiences and research have been targeted toward the creation of equitable, high quality school systems for all students, in particular those from racial/ethnic minority groups and students with disabilities. He has presented on equity in educational systems before the American Educational Research Association, the University Council for Educational Administrators, and the Harvard Civil Rights Project. Mr. Rausch's publications are in the area of equity in school discipline and special education.

Julia Rembert, B.J., M.S.W., is a Clinical Assistant Professor for the University of Iowa's School of Social Work. She teaches and coordinates the School's Sioux City part-time MSW Program located at Briar Cliff University. Ms. Rembert's background includes community organizing with students, farmers, and faith-based organizations. She has also directed a homeless shelter in Iowa City and has coordinated political organizing in the western U.S. She has served as the media director for the Nebraska Farmers Union. She facilitated the Woodbury County DHS planning to address the overrepresentation of Native American children in the child welfare system and provides technical assistance for and evaluation of the project. Other interests include sustainable agriculture, enhancing rural communities, and the diversion of people with co-occurring disorders from rural justice systems.

Brad Richardson, Ph.D., is Iowa's DMC Coordinator and Research Scientist and Adjunct Associate Professor at the University of Iowa School of Social Work, National Resource Center for Family Centered Practice. Dr. Richardson coordinates statewide efforts through the DMC Resource Center and its Minority Youth and Families Initiative. Dr. Richardson earned his doctorate in applied

sociology with specialization in social psychology, methodology and law, deviance and control from the University of Minnesota, Minneapolis. Prior to that he was Director of Contract Research at Yale University. He has served as project director on numerous applied research and evaluation projects employing both quantitative and qualitative methods. In addition to work on eliminating over-representation in the child welfare and juvenile justice systems, Dr. Richardson currently conducts evaluations of programs and provides technical assistance on strengths-based and family-centered practice throughout the U.S. He has provided training and technical assistance on data management, outcome measures research and evaluation and he has trained staff of provider and government agencies on how to monitor and improve outcomes in their work with families. Some of his most recent works include articles on utilizing the results of evaluations to promote and demonstrate program effectiveness, incorporating results into program improvement strategies, effective DMC technical assistance, and the use of social network analysis in improving community collaboration.

Lori Rogerson, M.S.W., L.M.S.W., is School Social Worker with the Des Moines Public School District. Before coming to the Des Moines Public School District she worked for the Iowa Department of Human Services Central Office in the Office of Field Support and in Polk County as Child Protective Treatment worker. She has 15 years of child welfare and juvenile justice experience. In addition to DMPS and IDHS, her experience includes work with a variety of organizations including Des Moines Healthy Start, Department of Elder Affairs, and Youth Homes of MidAmerica. Ms. Rogerson earned her masters degree from the University of Iowa.

Beverly Wharton, M.B.A., is the current President of Briar Cliff University, a Franciscan and Catholic University. Prior to starting at Briar Cliff, Wharton was employed by MidAmerican Energy Company from 1976 to 1999. Her executive experience at MidAmerican included serving as senior vice president for regulatory and legislative activities, senior vice president for energy delivery, president of the Midwest gas business unit and senior vice president of support services.

Wharton holds a B.S. from Southern Illinois University and a M.B.A. from the University of South Dakota.

Dr. Shirley A. Wilson, a licensed psychologist, has practiced in Southaven, Mississippi for eleven years. She provides services to children and adolescents who have emotional and behavioral adjustment difficulties. She received a Ph.D. in counseling psychology from the University of Memphis in 1993. Dr. Wilson is committed to providing quality psychological services to children, adolescents, adults and families. She completed a child and adolescents clinical psychology internship program at the Child Study Center, Arkansas Children's Hospital, in Little Rock, Arkansas. In addition to working in her private practice, Dr. Wilson has history of working in inpatient treatment for adults, children and adolescents. She has worked as a school psychologist for Memphis City Schools and West Memphis school District. She has also worked as a consultant for a Head start program in Mississippi, and a preschool day treatment program in Arkansas.

Suzann Wilson, B.S.E., M.S.E., is the district Positive Behavior Support (PBS) coordinator for Des Moines Public Schools. In this position, Suzann develops and coordinates professional development for coaches, trainers, teams and staff at 30 schools. She has worked closely with national PBS leaders to obtain and deliver additional, expert resources. She serves on the district and state PBS Leadership Teams. She also is a PBS coach, a district and state trainer, a SET evaluator, and a SWIS facilitator. Suzann has had many leadership roles during her 20 years with Des Moines Public Schools which include experiences as a special and general educator, a building coordinator, a BEST mentor, a Co-Teacher trainer and facilitator, and a literacy coach.



What is DMC?

Disproportionate Minority Contact (DMC) refers to the disproportionate number of minority youth, compared to their proportion in the population, who come into contact with the juvenile justice system (e.g., contact may refer to being held in detention or at arrest, referral to juvenile court, probation placement etc.).

According to updated U.S. Census data for 2006, minority youth in Iowa comprise approximately 11% of the total youth population ages 10-17. State juvenile detention facility statistics identified African American youth as comprising nearly one-third (33%) of all youth held in juvenile detention facilities and other secure settings (e.g., the state training school in Eldora). Latino and Native American youth are also overrepresented in Iowa's juvenile justice system.

Data provided by: <http://www.uiowa.edu/~nrcfcp/dmcr>

DMC exists in every state and nearly every point in the juvenile justice system. According to national reports in 2007, Iowa ranked highest in the nation for the percentage of Blacks in the adult prison system and for the proportion of Black students suspended from public schools. Besides juvenile justice systems and education systems, the minority youth also experience overrepresentation in our child welfare systems and those who experience negative health and healthcare outcomes.

Why are Youth of Color Disproportionately Detained?

- 1. Overrepresentation in detention is one of a number of categories where minority youth are worse off than white youth.**
Minority youth have less access to good education and are more likely to come from families that are economically marginalized through high rates of unemployment.
- 2. While white youth and minority youth commit several categories of crime at the same rate, minority youth are more likely to be arrested.**
White youth self-reported using heroin and cocaine at 7 times the rate of African American youth, but African American youth are almost three times as likely to be arrested for a drug crime. Policing practices, like the targeting of minority neighborhoods, may have the unintended consequence of arresting disproportionately more minority youth.
- 3. White youth have access to better legal representation, who more vigorously advocate for their release.**
White youth are twice as likely as African American youth to retain private counsel. Youth represented by private attorneys are less likely to be convicted and less likely to be tried as adults than youth represented by either public defenders or appointed counsel.
- 4. White youth have better access to programs and services in the community than minority youth.**
In getting minority youth treatment and services they need in their communities court officials often lack the option they have for white youth. Court officials will sometimes detain minority youth because they think it is the only place they will get treatment. African Americans—who make up 33% of all drug youth arrests—only represent 17% of the youth admitted to state-funded drug treatment programs, while whites are represented in the portion they are arrested.
- 5. People involved in the decision to detain a youth may bring stereotypes to their decision.**
One study shows that people charged with the decision of holding youth pre-trial are more likely to say a white youth's crimes are a product of their environment (i.e. broken home), while they say that an African American youth's delinquency is caused by their personal failings—even when youth of different races are arrested for similar offenses and have similar offense histories.

Data provided by: The Justice Policy Institute



The Woodbury DMC Committee

The birth of the Woodbury DMC Committee began early in 2000 when Assistant Chief Juvenile Court Officer, Stephan Pearson, was appointed to the State DMC Committee to represent Woodbury County and the Third Judicial District to help address the overrepresentation of minority youth in the juvenile justice system in Iowa. In 2001, the State DMC Committee started to plan a statewide DMC conference for 2002 in Des Moines, Iowa, and spoke of gathering key decision-makers and stake-holders to attend.

Stephan Pearson, representing the State DMC Committee, then invited local decision-makers and stake-holders from Woodbury County to attend the statewide DMC conference in Des Moines. Todd Hensley (District Judge), Marchelle Denker (Juvenile Law Center), Cindy Webber-Blair (County Attorney's Office), George W. Boykin (Woodbury County Board of Supervisors), Tony Drake (Sioux City Council), Larry Williams (Superintendent of Schools), Flora Lee (AEA12/NAACP), Alma Luna (Hispanic Community Member) and Lavette Weddell (Native Family Resource Center), all attended the first statewide DMC conference in 2002.

At that conference, they met as a group and committed themselves to forming a local DMC committee for Woodbury County. They also planned to host a local DMC conference in the spring of 2003 to share what they had learned and to help implement the strategies and practices at the local level.

Thus, the Woodbury DMC Committee formed in 2002 to address the overrepresentation of minority youth in the juvenile justice system in Woodbury County, Iowa. The committee now consists of key-decision makers, stake-holders, and other involved members of the community. The committee has twenty-six active members and two full-time coordinators to assist in executing their efforts of DMC reduction. Stephan Pearson and Marchelle Denker have Co-Chaired the committee since its conception.

Since 2003, The University of Iowa's DMC Resource Center has collaborated with the Woodbury DMC Committee to host an annual DMC conference in Sioux City, Iowa. The conference brings together local, state, and national leaders in the fields of juvenile justice, education, child welfare, healthcare and human services to discuss matters related to DMC. Over the years, the annual Woodbury DMC conference has grown to become one of the most highly attended local conferences on DMC in the country.

In 2007, at the 6th annual statewide DMC conference in Des Moines, Iowa Governor, Chet Culver, announced his administration's commitment and efforts to reduce DMC. With Executive Order #5, Governor Culver created the Race and Detention Task Force for Youth to ensure that young minorities in Iowa are "fairly and justly" treated by the system and to develop policies to combat recidivism. The Woodbury DMC Committee and the State DMC Committee now work closely with the Race and Detention Task Force for Youth to reduce the overrepresentation of minorities in Iowa's juvenile justice system.

"Reducing DMC requires ongoing efforts and follow-through. As we enter 2008, the Woodbury DMC committee pledges its allegiance to reducing the overrepresentation of minority youth in Iowa's juvenile justice system,"—Gary Niles, Chief Juvenile Court Officer-Third Judicial District, Woodbury DMC Committee.

Our Mission:

"The Woodbury Disproportionate Minority Contact Committee serves local and statewide efforts to reduce disproportionality and overrepresentation of minority youth in the juvenile justice system."

Our Vision:

"To eliminate racial and social disparities from all systems of care within our community and ensure fair and equal treatment for all youth."

Our Objectives:

- Coordinate with the Iowa DMC Committee and other DMC related efforts
- Allocate and distribute grant funds to reduce DMC
- Unify separate institutions within the community
- Provide DMC technical assistance and cultural competency technical assistance
- Gather, analyze, and distribute DMC related data
- Research, execute, and evaluate DMC reduction programs and strategies

The Woodbury DMC Committee Members -2008



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Working Together As a Community



State of Iowa
Executive Department

IN THE NAME AND BY THE AUTHORITY OF THE STATE OF IOWA
EXECUTIVE ORDER NUMBER FIVE

WHEREAS, this administration is dedicated to demonstrating Iowa's commitment to reduce the number of minority youth detained in detention centers and ultimately decrease the number of minorities in Iowa's correction system; and

WHEREAS, section 223 (A) (22) of the Federal Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Act (42 USC § 5633(a)(22)) requires that in order for the State to receive grants pursuant to the Act, the State must submit a plan that "address[es] juvenile delinquency prevention efforts and system improvement efforts designed to reduce, without establishing or requiring numerical standards or quotas, the disproportionate number of juvenile members of minority groups, who come into contact with the juvenile justice system"; and

WHEREAS, Iowa Code chapter 216A, subchapter 9 establishes the Criminal and Juvenile Justice Planning Division of the Department of Human Rights, and requires the division's advisory council to administer federal funds available for the study, research, investigation, planning and implementation in the areas of criminal and juvenile justice; and

WHEREAS, minority youth are significantly overrepresented in Iowa's juvenile detention facilities; and

WHEREAS, a study conducted in the summer of 2008 concluded that African American youth in three Iowa counties studied are less likely than white youth to receive a diversion from formal court processing, and more likely to receive the harsher outcome of the filing of a delinquency petition; and

WHEREAS, the majority of youth held in juvenile detention facilities are detained for misdemeanor offenses; and

WHEREAS, research by the Justice Policy Institute has found that the experience of incarceration is one of the most significant factors in increasing the odds of recidivism.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Chester J. Culver, Governor of the State of Iowa, by the power vested in me by the laws and the constitution of the State of Iowa do hereby order the creation of the YOUTH RACE AND DETENTION TASK FORCE.

- I. Purpose. The Youth Race and Detention Task Force shall consider the importance of public safety and its relevance in the use of juvenile detention. Task Force discussions shall include, but are not limited to, the inappropriate or unnecessary use of secure detention; re-arrest and failure-to-appear-pending-adjudication rates for minority youth; the appropriate conditions of confinement in secure facilities; the overrepresentation of minority youth in detention facilities; and public finances necessary to sustain successful reforms regarding the overrepresentation of minority youth in detention facilities.
- II. Organization. The Task Force shall be composed of thirty to forty members appointed by the Governor. Representatives shall have an interest, knowledge, and investment in state and local juvenile justice system practices, including detention. The voting membership of the Task Force shall include the following representatives, or their respective designees:
 - Director of the Iowa Department of Human Rights
 - Director of the Iowa Department of Human Services
 - Director of the Iowa Department of Public Safety
 - Director of the Iowa Department of Education
 - The State Public Defender
 - The Attorney General
 - The State Court Administrator
 - Executive Director of the Foster Care Review Board
 - Administrator of the Iowa Division on the Status of African Americans
 - Administrator of the Iowa Division on the Status of Latino Affairs
 - Administrator of the Iowa Division on the Status of Asian and Pacific Islanders
 - Administrator of the Iowa Division of Criminal and Juvenile Justice Planning
 - A representative from the American Civil Liberties Union
 - Representatives of the federal Senatorial Delegation
 - A representative from the Prosecuting Attorney's Training Council
 - A university researcher in the area of juvenile justice
 - A representative from the Iowa State Sheriffs and Deputies Association

- A representative from the Iowa Juvenile Detention Association
- A representative from the Iowa Police Executive Forum
- A representative from the Iowa State Association of Counties
- Representatives from the following select communities: juvenile court services, judges, local elected officials, agencies serving youth, concerned citizens, and ex-youth offenders

The Iowa Department of Human Rights shall provide staff support to the Task Force, as needed, to enable the Task Force to fulfill its responsibilities. The Task Force shall hold quarterly meetings at a central location.

III. Goals. The Task Force shall study and make recommendations including, but not limited to, the following:

1. The use of detention and related public safety issues, including the potential of youth to re-offend.
2. The use of detention for youth who violate conditions of their probation.
3. The appropriateness and use of secure detention for low-level/low-risk offenders.
4. The exploration of community-based alternatives to juvenile detention and the effectiveness of those alternatives.
5. The causes and recommended solutions related to the overrepresentation of minority youth in detention facilities.
6. The use of public and private finances to sustain successful juvenile detention reforms.
7. The assurance of appropriate conditions of confinement in juvenile detention facilities.

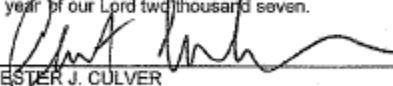
IV. Activities. Task Force activities shall include:

1. The collaboration of effort by the entities participating on the Task Force and various officials involved at the local level with interest, knowledge, and investment in state and local juvenile justice system practices.
2. The use of data to diagnose the system's problems and proclivities and to assess the impact of various juvenile detention related reforms.
3. The development and recommended implementation of objective admissions criteria and instruments for the detention of juveniles.
4. The utilization of appropriate non-secure alternatives for the detention of juveniles.
5. The study of overall system processing as it relates to juvenile detention.
6. The suggestion of solutions to the juvenile detention community to reduce racial disparity.

V. Report. The Task Force shall prepare a comprehensive report on the status of the State's juvenile detention policies, for review by the Governor, within two (2) years following the date that the Task Force first convenes. The report shall contain the recommendations of the Task Force regarding the policies, procedures, potential tools, and service alternatives related to juvenile detention reform. The report shall also define the suggested future role of the Task Force in regard to implementing its recommendations. The comprehensive report shall assess the following items:

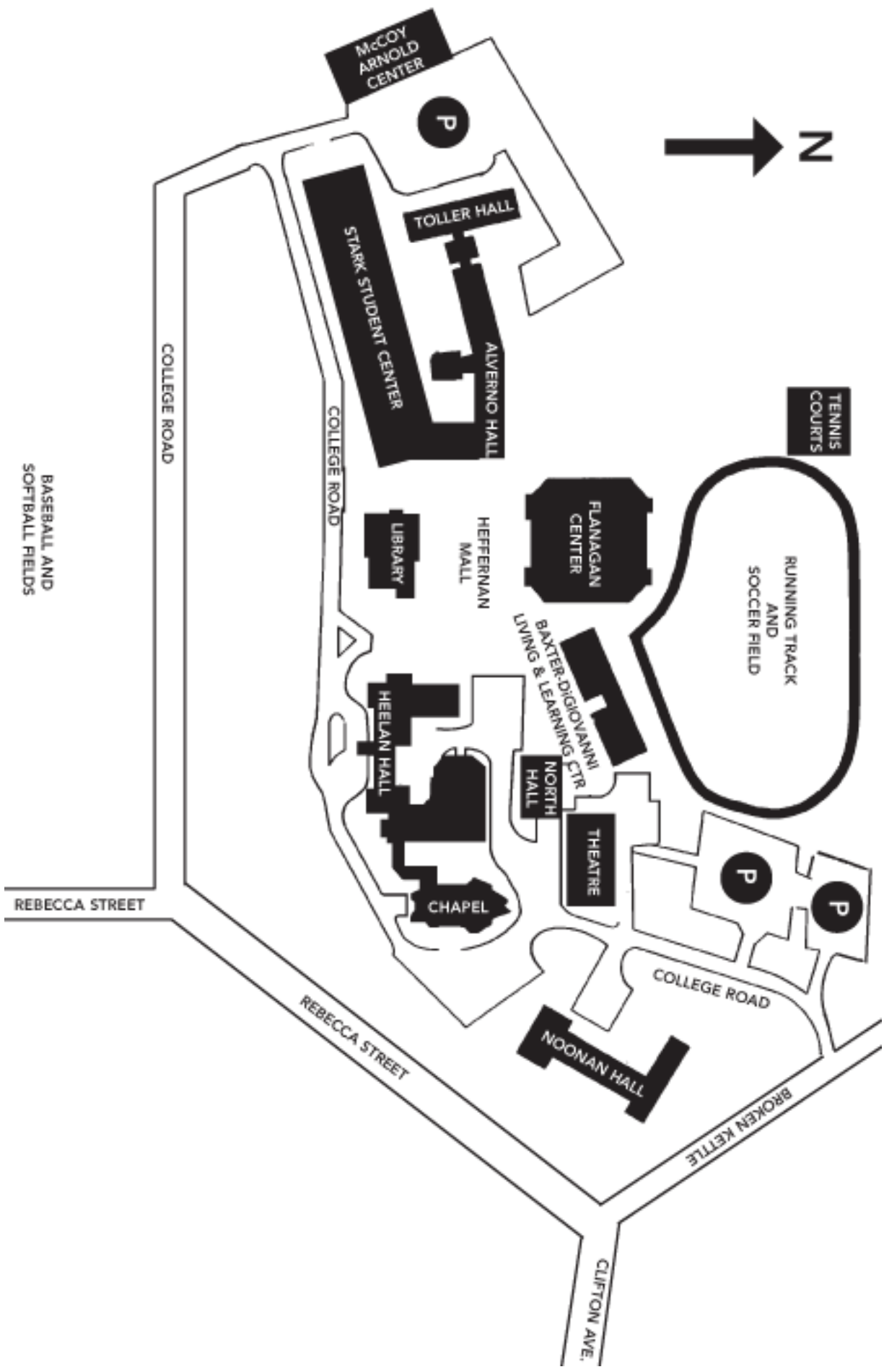
1. The number and usage of detention beds in the State of Iowa.
2. A projection of arrests in Iowa and its potential effects on the juvenile detention population.
3. A projection of Iowa's juvenile delinquency population over the next five years and its relevance to juvenile detention.
4. The demographic characteristics of youth held in detention, analyzed by race/ethnicity, including, but not limited to, severity of offense, risk level, length of hold, disposition from detention, and family situation.
5. A projection of juvenile detention holds by race/ethnicity over the next five years.
6. A projection of the number of youth held in juvenile detention facilities that will end up under supervision of the Iowa Department of Corrections over the next five years.
7. Any additional information that the task force deems important and relevant.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto subscribed my name and caused the Great Seal of Iowa to be affixed. Done at Des Moines this 30th day of October, in the year of our Lord two thousand seven.


 CHESTER J. CULVER
 GOVERNOR

ATTEST:


 MICHAEL A. MAURO
 SECRETARY OF STATE



McCOY
ARNOLD
CENTER

P

TOLLER HALL

STARK STUDENT CENTER

ALVERNO HALL

HEFFERNAN MALL

LIBRARY

FLANAGAN CENTER

BAXTER-DIGIOVANNI LIVING & LEARNING CTR

NORTH HALL

THEATRE

HEELAN HALL

CHAPEL

NOONAN HALL

TENNIS COURTS

RUNNING TRACK AND SOCCER FIELD

P

P

COLLEGE ROAD

COLLEGE ROAD

COLLEGE ROAD

REBECCA STREET

REBECCA STREET

CLIFTON AVE.

BROKEN KETTLE

BASEBALL AND SOFTBALL FIELDS



STARK STUDENT CENTER

