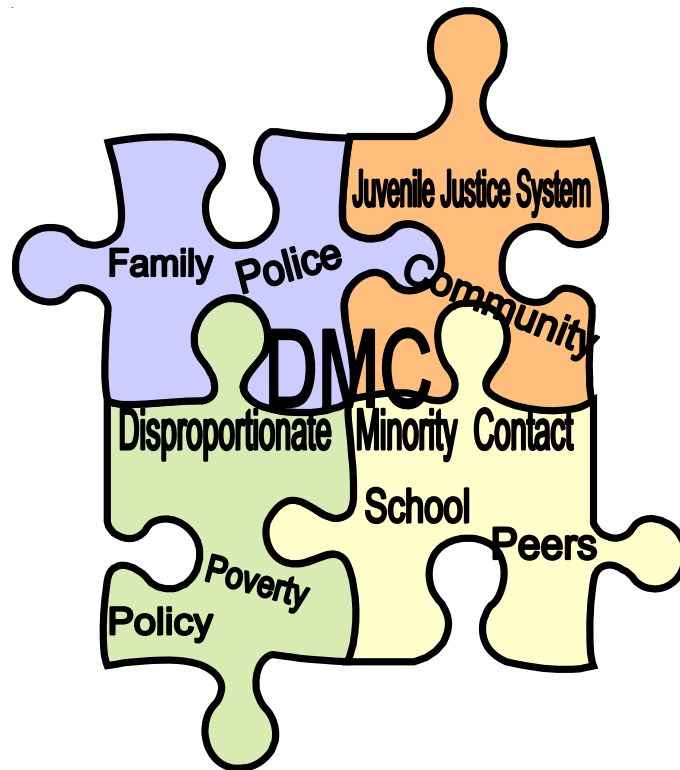


“Community and Legal Resources to Promote Positive Youth Development and Reduce Disproportionality”

**7th Annual Woodbury County
DMC Conference**

**June 8-9, 2009
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

MONDAY, JUNE 8, 2009—PROVIDER SHOWCASE FOR YOUTH & FAMILIES

6:00 PM - 8:30 PM

Briar Cliff University - Stage Stark Commons Area

TUESDAY, JUNE 9, 2009—BRIAR CLIFF UNIVERSITY

7:30 AM - 8:30 AM

REGISTRATION

*Stark Student
Center Lobby Area*

8:30 AM - 8:45 AM

Opening/Welcome

Stage Stark

Beverly Wharton, President, Briar Cliff University
Stephan Pearson & Marchelle Denker, Woodbury County DMC Committee
Jim Tillman, Woodbury County DMC Coordinator
David Gleiser, Woodbury County JDAI Coordinator

8:45 AM - 9:05 AM

Brad Richardson, Ph.D., University of Iowa, DMC Resource Center
Mary Nelson, Child Welfare Director, Department of Human Services

9:10 AM - 10:15 AM

Keynote: Empowerment Solutions

Stage Stark

Hasan Davis

10:30 AM - 11:40 AM

Concurrent Sessions

- **MYFI, Crossover and Collaboration to Reduce Disparities**
Julia Rembert, Patricia Penning, & Frank LaMere—Moderators: Mary Nelson & Sandy Lint
- **Law Enforcement, National Speaker**
James A. McLain
- **Resources for Youth in Transition to Adulthood**
Mark Lanning & Kim Marks
- **Positive Youth Development**
Alton Jamison—Moderator: Hasan Davis
- **Juvenile Detention Alternatives in Sioux City**
David Gleiser & Jim Tillman

Assisi

Clare

Canticle

Stage Stark

Room TBA

11:50 PM - 12:45 PM

Lunch with Zumba Dancing (performance)

12:30 PM - 2:30 PM

Closing Session--From Mundane to Motivation

Stage Stark

Alton Jamison—Moderators: Hasan Davis, Sandy Lint & Mary Nelson

Gary Niles, Stephan Pearson, & Marchelle Denker, Woodbury County DMC Committee

Greeters: Valerie Nyberg & LaTasha Massey

**WORKSHOP DESCRIPTIONS:
Tuesday: 10:30 am to 11:40 am**

MYFI, Crossover and Collaboration to Reduce Disparities

The Iowa Department of Human Services began implementation of the Minority Youth and Families Initiative for reducing over-representation in child welfare in 2004. This workshop describes changes that have taken place in Sioux City associated with the implementation of the Minority Youth and Families Initiative (MYFI). The MYFI demonstration, along with other partners including the DMC Resource Center, Casey Family Alliance, Center for the Study of Social Policy and Race Matters Consortium targets reductions in disproportionality for involvement of Native American children, youth and families in Iowa's child welfare system.

Presenters: Julia Rembert, Patricia Penning, & Frank LaMere

Law Enforcement—National Speaker

School based policing is the fastest growing area of law enforcement. Law enforcement officers are frequently the first point of contact between the juvenile justice system and youth. This session will discuss strategies and solutions for maintaining control and avoiding escalation when law enforcement comes in contact with young people. This session provides a law enforcement perspective for engaging youth and overcoming challenges in interactions.

Presenter: James A. McLain

Resources for Youth in Transition to Adulthood

Each year, over 450 Iowa youth "age out" of foster care or juvenile detention, turning 18 while in state supervised care. Without advance planning, material resources, and support from adults, these youth face many challenges. Come hear about an array of resources avail-

able to help transitioning youth make a successful transition to adulthood. The presenters are Iowa DHS transition planning specialists Mark Lanning and Kim Marks, who will describe the key resources and opportunities and how youth can access them. Each participant in the session will receive an up-to-date resource guide.

Presenters: Mark Lanning & Kim Marks

Positive Youth Development

Alton's story is a message of hope, determination and motivation. Using a positive youth development orientation Alton discusses the future for those who have been handcuffed because of their past. Alton's simple, yet profound message is that there is nothing that cannot be achieved and overcome. This presentation will draw from personal experience and achievement in overcoming barriers to provide a message about the positive potential in all youth.

Presenters: Alton Jamison, Hasan Davis

Juvenile Detention Alternatives in Sioux City

For fifteen years, the Juvenile Detention Alternatives Initiative, a project of the Annie E. Casey Foundation, has demonstrated that jurisdictions can safely reduce reliance on secure detention and generally strengthen their juvenile justice systems through a series of inter-related reform strategies. JDAI is now being replicated in over 100 jurisdictions across the country. Participants in this workshop will be introduced to the JDAI core strategies and will learn what sites need to do in order to implement JDAI in the first year. This workshop contains information about how JDAI operates and basic expectations of sites, technical manuals and tools, and examples of Year One documents produced by JDAI sites.

Presenter: David Gleiser

This conference is approved for social work CEU's and CLE's as noted below

CEU's	CLE's
4.83 hours	4.0 hours (includes ethic hours)
Program # 09-159-03-C	Activity # 60383

To receive CEUs, you must fill out a CEU card (available at the registration area) and sign in.

The University of Iowa does not discriminate in employment or in its educational programs and activities on the basis of race, national origin, color, religion, sex, age, disability, or veteran status. The University also affirms its commitment to providing equal opportunities and equal access to University facilities without reference to affectional or associational preference. For additional information on nondiscrimination policies, contact the Coordinator of Title IX, Section 504 and the ADA in the Office of Affirmative Action, telephone 319/335-0705, 202 Jessup Hall, The University of Iowa, Iowa City, Iowa 52242-1316.

Presenter Biographies:

Hasan Davis is a nationally recognized performer, youth advocate and motivator. After an early history of social and academic challenges, including learning disabilities, pre-teen arrest and expulsion from alternative school and college, Hasan found the courage to change. Starting with a change in his attitude and opinions of personal worth, Hasan petitioned for re-admission to the College that expelled him twice. The year Hasan finally graduated from Berea College he was elected president of the student body, voted Homecoming King and received the Navy V-12 award in recognition of his outstanding contributions to campus life and interracial kinship. From Berea, Hasan went on to graduate from law school. Since earning his law degree, Hasan continues to pursue professional and personal milestones well beyond the expectations of the throw-away boy he almost became. Having worked in all areas of youth development from Alternative school educator to Youth Violence Prevention specialist to Vice-chair of the federal Advisory Committee on Juvenile Justice, Hasan continues to allow his experience to inform his work. Today, Hasan applies his intimate knowledge and expertise as an active speaker, trainer and advocate for justice, education, and diversity initiatives on the local, state and national levels where he continues to encourage building living and learning communities where all people have the opportunity to succeed.

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.

David Gleiser is the Juvenile Detention Alternatives Initiative (JDAI) Site Coordinator for Woodbury County, Iowa. As JDAI Site Coordinator, Mr. Gleiser is responsible for implementing and managing a major juvenile justice reform initiative for the State of Iowa in the Third Judicial District. Designed by the Annie E. Casey Foundation, JDAI is one of the most effective, influential, and widespread juvenile justice system reform initiatives in the nation. Endorsed by Iowa Governor Chet Culver in 2008, JDAI is being piloted in 3 Iowa counties, Blackhawk, Polk, and Woodbury. Based upon its success, JDAI sites in Iowa could set the precedent for the rest of the state, as it relates to juvenile justice policy, program, and practice reforms. Mr. Gleiser was raised in Sioux City, graduating from North High School. He later then attended the University of South Dakota and received a Bachelors of Science degree in Contemporary Media & Journalism, double emphasizing in Public Relations and Advertising, with a Minor in Psychology, and an Inter-Discipline Study in Leadership. Mr. Gleiser is a former member of the Public Relations Student Society of America, American Advertising Federation, and Pi Sigma Epsilon. Currently, Mr. Gleiser is involved with many boards, committees, and commissions related to issues of juvenile justice, child welfare, education, public health, and minority communities, in Iowa and the for tri-state Siouxland region.

Alton Jamison originates from Hopewell, a small town in Central Virginia. He grew up in a single parent home, while his father was in and out of prison. His mother struggled to take care of him while he tried his best to become a man despite his father's absence. Throughout his life he faced

numerous obstacles and challenges; however, he has developed the principle that he is bigger and better than his environment. He obtained his Bachelor of Science degree in Mechanical Engineering and started a number of organizations while attending Old Dominion University and was recognized in *Who's Who Amongst Students in Colleges and Universities*. He obtained his Master of Arts in Practical Theology from Regent University. He is a two time International Speech Contest Champion (District Level) hosted by Toastmasters International. Currently, he is an ordained elder with his local assembly. In addition, he is a certified Life and Success Coach through Transformational Leadership Coaching. A successful entrepreneur, he is the co-owner of The PCF Group, LLC., a real estate investment firm in the Hampton Roads, Virginia area. Alton believes in the power of being an entrepreneur and recognizes the importance of identifying the creative ability that we all have within us. Alton's creative ability also carries over into print. His work has been featured in two books, *Rekindling the Human Spirit-* and *That's My Story and I'm Sticking To It* from Liberty Publishing. In addition, he recently completed his inspirational memoir, *No More Handcuffs!*

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.

Mark Lanning, LMSW, is a Transition Planning Specialist for the Sioux City Service Area. Mark has been employed with Iowa DHS for 14 years, starting as a case manager and the last 10 as a TPS. Prior to this, Mark was employed by the Dept. of Corrections at the Iowa Correctional Institution for Women in Mitchellville. Mark assists DHS case managers and JCOs in planning for the successful transition of youth out of foster care and into adult living. He is a member of the Northwest Iowa Youth Transitioning Initiative Committee; a participant in Iowa Youth Dream Team process; in training to become a Dream Team facilitator; and provides support for Elevate chapters in northwest Iowa.

James A. McLain has been in the law enforcement field for over 20 years. He has held positions in the local police patrol division, school resource area, investigative unit and state juvenile department. He has investigated various types of offenses including embezzlement, rape, robbery and homicide. He has held advisory roles in the juvenile justice system to include teen court and delinquency prevention areas. He is considered an expert in the field of juvenile justice and has found unique methods of communicating with at risk youth.

Kim Marks is a Transition Planning Specialist covering twenty three counties in the Council Bluffs and Des Moines service areas. She is in her 25th year at DHS. During her first 16 years at DHS, Kim carried a child welfare & child care assistance caseload. She is currently involved in starting an Elevate Chapter for youth currently in foster care, adopted or system alumni from the Council Bluffs area.

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.

Julia Rembert, 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 Cen-

ter 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.

Jim Tillman is an award winning video producer who has worked with at-risk youth the past 7 years. Recently Jim and his students co-produced a Gang Prevention DVD titled "Tapping into the Culture of Gangs." He has developed and teaches Digital Photography and Digital Video Courses for the Sioux City Community School District's Trospers-Hoyt Alternative High School and is founder of Youth Visionary Producers, a youth media organization dedicated to teaching documentary video as a means to develop the artistic, critical literacy and career skills of young people. The program is also designed to nurture idealism and commitment to social change. Mr. Tillman serves as Woodbury County DMC Coordinator and on the State DMC Committee.

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.



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 -2009



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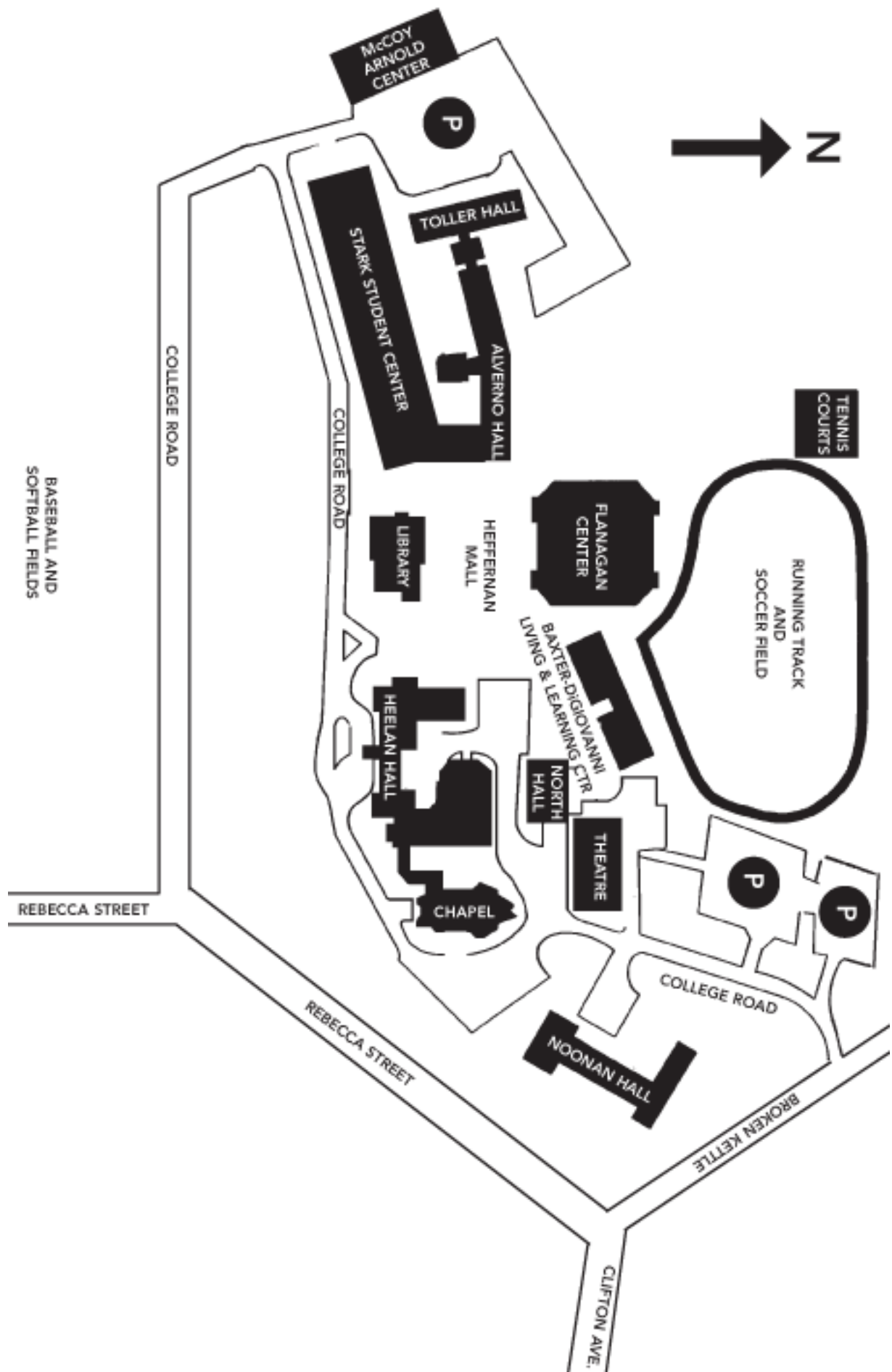
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7th Annual Woodbury County DMC Conference

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