



## A bridge to hope for South Carolina's children

### A life changed...Quantavis Coe

Like a lot of young boys, Quantavus Coe dreamed of going to college and playing football. But the allure of drugs and fast money landed him in DJJ. He was only 15.

Coe shot a man trying to steal his stash of cash and drugs. "I didn't care if he lived or died," Coe said about his crime. But that was then, this is now. After earning his GED at DJJ, Coe found a love for public speaking. Today the 18-year-old is a "Messenger," a special group of kids trained to speak on the impact of personal choices, to helping others avoid their own mistakes. He was released in 2008 and now is studying mathematics at South Carolina State University.

"We need FJJ. Like a lot of kids in trouble, I was a follower. It took good adult role models to show me how to change. I wanted to be different, but this was all I ever knew. I had to be shown that I could take control of my own life."

– Information reported in the *Orangeburg Times-Democrat*, used by permission.

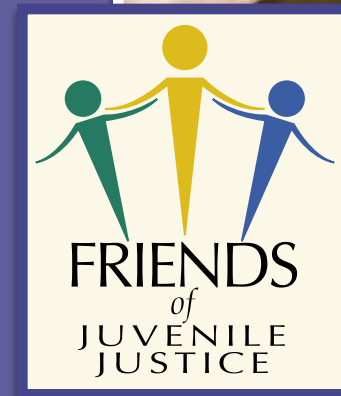
## Will you be a friend?

Friends of Juvenile Justice wants to change young lives, restore hope to communities and help make South Carolina an even better place to live. From after school centers to prevent teen crime and community-based support to keep kids out of the DJJ system, to engaging businesses and civic groups to mentor incarcerated youth to giving Intensive Supervisory Officers the kind of resources they need to keep parolees from recidivating, FJJ has a vision for South Carolina being a model for the whole nation on how to deal with the crises of gangs, drugs and youth crime facing us today. You may choose to join us with your dollars or your time, but we need both if we are to save these kids and make our communities better places to live and raise families.

- Everyone who gives more than \$85 becomes a member of FJJ.
- Statewide Friend \$10,000
- Regional Friend \$5,000
- County Friend \$1,000
- Local Friend \$85
- Our Address:  
PO Box 3307  
Irmo, SC 29063

All contributions to our 501c3 non-profit organization are tax deductible.

[WWW.SCFJJ.ORG](http://WWW.SCFJJ.ORG)



Building  
a bridge to hope  
for South Carolina's  
children

## Who are we?

Friends of Juvenile Justice is a private non-profit group comprised of citizens just like you. We're working with the SC Department of Juvenile Justice (DJJ) and others in the public and private sectors to stem the rising tide of gangs, teen crime, drugs and street violence impacting our children today. FJJ is fostering a movement to not only help the kids "behind the fence" at DJJ, but also to prevent teen crime in cities, towns and rural areas across our state. We are Friends of Juvenile Justice, helping communities reclaim South Carolina's children by turning young lives around. We accomplish that by focusing on prevention & intervention, rehabilitation and reintegration.

## Prevention & rehabilitation

Teen After School Centers (TASC) give kids an alternative to gangs, drugs and other lures that can land them in prison. In partnership with schools, churches and community groups, FJJ is working to create a network of 180 TASC centers across South Carolina. We want every at-risk child to have access to the mentoring, homework help, job skills training and spiritual development that these centers can provide. Already, studies show that kids who participate in a TASC are 75% less likely to end up committing crime.

## Rehabilitation: Helping kids behind the fence

In a unique, public-private partnership, FJJ built the Bill Rogers Community Connections center with zero tax dollars invested. The center has increased visits to incarcerated youth by 80%. That means more children are being mentored, seeing counselors, family and spiritual leaders than ever before. We want to do more to enrich the education and rehabilitation of incarcerated youth in South Carolina, helping DJJ become even more effective and efficient by engaging communities, corporate citizens, churches, civic groups and more.

## Re-integration

Some children leaving DJJ have no where to go... No home, no family. FJJ is working to create a web of "wrap around" care for kids on parole and probation, keeping them from returning to the self destructive behavior that got them into trouble in the first place. Our vision calls for creating an FJJ chapter in each of South Carolina's 36 counties so community partners can surround and work with DJJ's Intensive Supervisory Officers (ISO's).



## Teen after school centers prevent crime

Studies show kids participating in after school programs are 75% less likely to commit a crime. FJJ can help can install, staff and equip an effective TASC for as little as \$25,000 per year working closely with a community-based partner. Just as the DJJ TASC program was beginning to benefit our state's children, budget cuts caused 18 of them to close. FJJ wants to make re-opening these centers and adding new ones as quickly as possible a top priority. We are working to keep teens in school and out of trouble with the law and we need your help.

## A place called Hope Street

We envision a network of half-way houses and resources called "Hope Street" across South Carolina to help kids transition to adult life and keep them from becoming adult criminals. Part of Hope Street involves engaging the community to provide mentors, counselors, employment help and spiritual guidance to keep them moving in the right direction.

## Our objectives

- Develop a network of Friends of Juvenile Justice chapters to service all 46 counties in South Carolina.
- Secure funding and partnerships to help create as many as 130 Teen After School Centers (TASC) across the state.
- Implement a statewide awareness effort to increase volunteer mentors, Auxiliary Probation Officers and other community support by 50% by 2011.
- Working closely with DJJ, develop a strategic plan for "Hope Street," a statewide network of halfway houses, group homes and wrap-around services for parolees leaving incarceration designed to reduce recidivism.
- Through FJJ Chapters and community partnerships create a support network for each Intensive Supervisory Officer (ISO) by the end of 2010.

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