

COUNTY OF  **ALLEGHENY**
RICH FITZGERALD
COUNTY EXECUTIVE

Juvenile Detention Centers and Alternative Programs
PO Box 60769
Harrisburg, PA 17106

Greetings Mr. Wayne Bear,

It is with great pleasure that I nominate Jaylen Coleman for JDCAP Rookie of the Year. Jaylen has been employed as Youth Care Worker since August 28, 2017 at Shuman Juvenile Detention Center in Allegheny County.

Jaylen is best described as young, energetic, and hopeful by his colleagues. Jaylen's presence on a unit is impactful. Jaylen grew up on the same raw streets in Pittsburgh as most of the youth here at the facility. He relates to the youth in a way that many are not able to, giving them hope that they too, can get out of the "street life" and do something more. The residents look up to him as a role model and respect him.

Jaylen brings many strengths to Shuman that include incredible team work and discipline which he acquired from his days of playing high school and college football. He received a full scholarship to college and as I have witnessed, he discusses the possibility of college with the residents, talking about "putting your energies into something you love". Jaylen often works with High Impact Males in a unit and always is positive and remains calm under pressure. His ability to move to different units throughout day or week shows that he can be flexible and adapt to the needs of the residents.

Jaylen is often the number one responder to Emerson (emergency) calls at the facility. He possesses the ability to assess the situation quickly, offer his assistance where needed, and is not afraid to emerge himself in any situation within facility when dealing with residents. As he continues to put his energy into helping the troubled youth here, he continues to grow professionally. Structure is very important to Jaylen. He makes sure that each day the residents are taking care of their items and keeping the unit clean. He also incorporates exercise into the daily schedule setting up a workout program for the residents.

Jaylen also volunteers frequently for overtime, filling in the gaps in the schedule which allows the facility to operate safe and productively.

Respectfully,

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