GDC Annual Awards Program (2007 Awardees)

The 4th Annual GDC Awards Ceremony, honoring 2007 Award Recipients, was held on Wednesday, May 7, 2008 at the Capitol Education Center in Atlanta. The ceremony was held to recognize and honor staff and members of the community for their contributions toward completing our agency's mission. The ceremony was held in conjunction with Public Employee Recognition Week (PERW).

The Colors were presented by the Color Guard from Metro State Prison followed by the Pledge of Allegiance. Brooks Benton, Assistant Superintendent at Davis PDC, impressed the crowd with an inspiring rendition of the National Anthem. Chaplain Douglas Simmons delivered the Invocation and Commissioner Donald welcomed those in attendance. This year's guest speaker was the Honorable Governor Sonny Perdue.

Governor Perdue praised Corrections employees for their hard work and dedication. Commissioner Donald and GDC Board Chairman Wayne Dasher echoed his remarks with praises of their own. Assistant Commissioner Brian Owens served as the Master of Ceremonies again this year.

The Corporate Sponsor of the Year Awards were presented to Aunt Fannie's Checkered Apron Restaurant - Albany Transitional Center; Cagles, Inc. - LaGrange Transitional Center; Claxton Poultry - Smith Transitional Center; Criders Inc. - Emanuel Probation Detention Center; DJ’s II Carwash and Quick Lube - Albany Transitional Center; Farmers and Merchants Bank - Wilkes Pre Release Center; Mike Patton Dodge-Honda-Chrysler Dealership - LaGrange Transitional Center; Ryan’s Family Steak House - Thomasville Diversion Center; Southwire Company - Re-Entry Services.

The Faith-Based Contributor of the Year Awards were presented to First Baptist Church of Washington - Wilkes Pre Release Center; Hope Harbor Ministries - LaGrange Transitional Center; Korean Ministries - Smith State Prison; Soul Survivors - Coastal Transitional Center.

The Partner Agency Awards were presented to Chatham County Health Department; Department of Labor - Albany Vocational Rehabilitation Center; Georgia Department of Labor - Troup County Vocational Rehabilitation Center; Savannah - Chatham Metro Police Department - Savannah Impact Program; Spinks and Yates Management Company.

The Volunteer of the Year Awards were presented to Frank Abrahamsen - LaGrange Transitional Center; Nathaniel & Earline Balthrop - Macon Transitional Center; Michael Gahan - Men’s State Prison; Donna Hardy - Wilkes Pre Release Center; Ron Jones - Colwell Probation Detention Center; Ray Lancia - Georgia State Prison; Joye Megow - Valdosta State Prison; Gary Neal - Baldwin State Prison; Quentin Troupe - Macon State Prison; Rev. Homer Wright - Macon State Prison.
The Correctional Officer of the Year honors went to **Anthony Ivey** of Burruss Correctional Training Center. Officer Ivey was selected from a group of 44 nominees for this award. Nominees included Danny Boyett - Ware State Prison; Ricky Carpenter - Patten Probation Detention Center; James Christian - Bainbridge Probation Substance Abuse Treatment Center; Matthew Clements - Johnson State Prison; Glenn Crumley - Gainesville Diversion Center; Robert Cummings - West GA Boot Camp; John Davis - Western Pre Release Center; Troy Davis - Albany Transitional Center; Elton Edwards - Rutledge State Prison; Oreatta Figueredo - West Central Probation Detention Center; Reginald Fordham - Johnson State Prison; Ken Franks - Baldwin State Prison; Jonnie Freeman - Coastal Transitional Center; Gregory Goodson - Metro State Prison; Kenneth Harris - Lee State Prison; Chad House - Arrendale State Prison; Dwayne Humphrey - Treutlen Probation Detention Center; Anthony Ivey - Burruss Correctional Training Center; Megan Johnson - Paulding Probation Detention Center; Stephanie Johnson - Treutlen Probation Detention Center; Michael Lathrop - Walker State Prison; Blondell Martin - Smith State Prison; Van McKay - Metro Transitional Center; Tammi Meriweather - Homerville State Prison; Donald Moring - Telfair State Prison; Mitchell Larry Nelms - Montgomery State Prison; Darwin O'Neal - Colwell Probation Detention Center; Thomas Parker - Whitworth Parole Center; Talmadge Price - Washington State Prison; Jarvis Primus - Hancock State Prison; Kermornsha Reaves - Bostick State Prison; Louis Richmond - Macon Transitional Center; Beverly Riggins - Western Pre Release Center; Randy Smith - Georgia State Prison; Darrell Templeman - Dodge State Prison; Melinda Turner - Appling Pre Release Center; Roger Velie - Rouse Diversion Center; Diane White - Valdosta State Prison; Horace White - Calhoun State Prison; Ruth Wilson-Edwards - Columbus Transitional Center; Michael Wooten - Coastal State Prison; Jacqueline Wright - Central Probation Detention Center; Willie Wright - Metro State Prison; Celeste Young - Hancock State Prison.

The Probation Officer of the Year honors went to **Christopher Gonzales** of the Waycross Probation Office. Officer Gonzales was selected from a group of 20 nominees for this award. Nominees included Jon Baskins - Hartwell Probation Office; Derek Chance - Marietta Probation Office; Susan Ehchols - Washington Probation Office; Robert Foster - Columbus Probation Office; Lerrod Freeman - Atlanta South Probation Office; Christopher Gonzales - Waycross Probation Office; Teresa Hegwood - McDonough Probation Office; Tarra Jackson - Gainesville Probation Office; Timothy Jackson - Warner Robins Probation Office; Sherita Kelly - Albany Probation Office; Howard Maddox - Tifton Probation Office; James Matthews - Dallas Probation Office; Christina Parker - Cumming Probation Office; Josh Parker - Rome Probation Office; Shanika Simpson - Sandersville Probation Office; Melissa Tanner - Gainesville Probation Office; Bill Watson - Lakeland Probation Office; Erica Williams - Douglasville Probation Office; Jay Worsley - Bainbridge Probation Office; Sonya Yarbrough - Central Dekalb Probation Office.

**Employee of the Year** honors went to **Brown Keys** of Rutledge State Prison. Mr. Keys was selected from a group of 70 nominees. Nominees included Christy Arrendale - Douglasville Probation Office; Lisa Ashburn - Lakeland Probation Office; Anita Baker - Treutlen Probation Detention Center; Christopher Binns - Men's State Prison; Mary Borte-Perossa - Smith State Prison; Tommy Bowen - Pulaski State Prison; Tamala Brown - Wayne State Prison; Bridgett Burley - Augusta State Medical Prison; Martha Catrett - Metro State Prison; Richard Cobb - Wilkes Pre Release Center; Louvenia Coleman - Metro Transitional Center; Delleese Collins - Patten Probation Detention Center; Larry Collins - Georgia State Prison; Charles Conner - Montgomery State Prison; Mark Crosby - Ware State Prison; Cathy Davis - Dublin Probation Office.
The Customer Service Champion honors went to Kathy Lowery of Coastal State Prison. Ms. Lowery was selected from a group of 56 nominees. Nominees included Rachel Bowen - Treutlen Probation Detention Center; Central State Prison Food Service Department; Susan Chaney - West Central Probation Detention Center; Rosa Chatman - Hancock State Prison; Clayton TC Family Contact Team; Kathy Cline - Walker State Prison; Wonda Criss - Calhoun State Prison; Lynn Davis - LaGrange Transitional Center; Tonya Ellenburg - Walker State Prison; Chandra Fussell - Clayton Transitional Center; Emma Gleckler - Georgia State Prison; Ericka Goodman & Gwendolyn Bundrage - Baldwin State Prison; Staci Greene - Coastal Transitional Center; Gerald Grimes - Scott State Prison; Kathy Harper - Rogers State Prison; Rodney Helms - Montgomery State Prison; Richard Hickson & Kenny Boyett - Ware State Prison; Sara Hilliard - Telfair State Prison; Jeffrey Horton - Wayne State Prison; Lisa Huff - Whitworth Parole Center; Jana Human - Rome Day Reporting Center; Theresa Jackson - Western Pre Release Center; Johnson State Prison Administrative Area; Terry Jones - Macon Transitional Center; Agnes Killen - Macon State Prison; Brenda Kimbrell - Albany Transitional Center; Crystal Kirkland - Douglas Probation Office; Jack Koon - TC/DC Coordination; Karen Larry - Macon State Prison; LaBreta Lockett - Rutledge State Prison; Jana Lokey - Macon State Prison; Regina Long - Arrendale State Prison; Kathy Lowery - Coastal State Prison; Pat Manigo - Savannah Probation Office; Glenda McGuinness - Gainesville Diversion Center; Debbie McMullen - Milledgeville Central Recruiting Unit; Ombudsman Unit - Office of Investigations & Compliance; Cynthia Pearson - Patten Probation Detention Center; Carol Rainey - Terrell Probation Detention Center; Mary Reeves - Bostick State Prison; Rivers State Prison Business Office; Debbie Ruff - Washington State Prison; Dennis Simmons - Helms Transitional Center; Willie Singleton - Paulding Probation Detention Center; Etta Smart - Coastal Transitional Center; Smith State Prison Personnel Office; Phyllis Stafford - Rutledge State Prison; Terry Strickland - Homerville State Prison; George Ann Thomas - Valdosta State Prison; Sharon Thomas - Metro Transitional Center; Dianne Threat - Coastal Transitional Center; Lauren Wages - Lee State Prison; Savedra Ware - Americus Probation Office; Cherelle Wiggs - Wilkes Pre Release Center; Kathy Wilkins - Macon Transitional Center; Suzanne York - West Georgia Boot Camp.
The **Individual Fitness Award** honors went to **Robert Sanders** of **Rutledge State Prison**. Nominees included William Beal - Rutledge State Prison; James Blair - Johnson State Prison; George Curry - Walker State Prison; Alfred Johnson - Albany Probation Office; Joy Johnson - Augusta State Medical Prison; Carol Maybach - Clarksville Probation Office; Steve Reese - Wilkes Pre Release Center; Robert Sanders - Rutledge State Prison.

The **Legacy Award** was presented to **Tommy Rouse** - GDC Board Member and **Rose Williams** - Retired Warden.

The **Cynthia Floyd Award** was presented to **Valarie Ford** of the **Eatonton Probation Office**. Nominees included Valarie Ford - Eatonton Probation Office; Merle Johnson - Dekalb Central Probation Office; Michael Jonas - Atlanta South Probation Office.

The **Bobby Franklin Award** was presented to **Frank Rhodes** of the **Thomaston Probation Office**. Nominees included Darrell Daniels - Valdosta State Prison; Gregory Lewis - Johnson State Prison; Angela Pittman - Internal Investigations; Glen Pittman - Dodge State Prison; Frank Rhodes - Thomaston Probation Office; Jeremy Stuart - Walker State Prison.

The **James Henderson Award** was presented to **Darren Troutman** of **Baldwin State Prison**. Nominees included William Harvey - Johnson State Prison; Jimmy Howard - Special Operations; Charles Jordan - Special Operations; Terry Moye - Georgia State Prison; Joseph Mullis - Dodge State Prison; Donna Soles - Johnson State Prison; Darren Troutman - Baldwin State Prison.

The **Facility Fitness Award** honors went to the **Augusta State Medical Prison**.

The **Facility of the Year** honors went to **Baldwin State Prison**.

The **Center of the Year** honors went to **Coastal Transitional Center**.

The **Probation Circuit of the Year** honors went to the **Tifton Judicial Circuit**.

The **County Facility of the Year** honors went to **Coweta County Prison**.

**CONGRATULATIONS** to those who received awards and also to those who were nominated!