



Immediate Release

Four Indiana Department of Correction Educators Receive National Awards

Indianapolis, IN (July 9, 2015) - The Indiana Department of Correction (IDOC) is proud to announce that four educators from our Division of Youth Services were awarded the Center for Educational Excellence in Alternative CEEAS "Lighting the Fire Awards".

The "Lighting the Fire Award" is a nationwide competition to recognize outstanding educational professionals working in youth correctional settings and is given to visionary educators that have shown their investment in students, perseverance in a challenging environment, communication of high expectations, and commitment to the education community.

The award recipients are Madison Juvenile Correctional Facility Social Studies teacher Samantha Goldsmith for "Teacher of the Year Award"; Jennifer Matson, Guidance Counselor at the Pendleton Juvenile Correctional Facility, the "Highest Honors Award"; Social Studies teacher Christopher DeHart, and English teacher Amanda DeHart, both from the Pendleton Juvenile Correctional Facility, the "Honorable Mention Award".

"These four represent the finest the IDOC has to offer as examples of professionalism and personal excellence," stated Commissioner Bruce Lemmon. "I'm grateful for their tireless work and the richly deserved recognition from a well respected organization like CEEAS."

"Needless to say, we congratulate these outstanding individuals for their exceptional work on behalf of Indiana's youth," stated Dr. Susan Lockwood, Director of Juvenile Education for IDOC Division of Youth Services.

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