

Department of Corrections

Coffee Creek Correctional Facility 24499 SW Grahams Ferry Road PO Box 9000

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July 8, 2008



Sharon I. Bolmeier, Early Head Start Coffee Creek Correctional Facility 24499 SW Grahams Ferry Rd. Wilsonville, OR 97070

Dear Sharon,

On behalf of the Oregon Department of Corrections and Coffee Creek Correctional Facility, I am pleased to honor you as the Contractor of the Quarter for the second quarter of 2008. You have been recognized because of your excellence to your profession and your dedication to the moms and children of Coffee Creek.

Beginning with the early planning stages of the Early Head Start (EHS) program through each subsequent phase of implementation and growth, you have been a steadfast liaison with Coffee Creek and DOC. You have never hesitated to roll up your sleeves and fill in to meet the needs in the classroom when you have been short on teaching staff. You find ways to consistently engender exceptional relationships with the counselors, meeting with them on a regular basis to discuss each inmate participant's situation. Your input is invaluable when weighing in on the release planning phase to assist with the transition of the little one to a new program. You also do not hesitate to alert the appropriate staff when you learn that something may present a security threat or that someone may have a mental health concern.

You recently organized a group of CCCF staff to begin expanding services offered to the pregnant inmate population at Coffee Creek. Due to your connections within Washington County, there are now consistent pre-natal educational classes as well as strengthening our pre-existing post-natal support groups. We have attempted to enhance these functions for years and you have helped us to accomplish this.

In addition, you advocated for an inmate parent to be allowed to participate in the ongoing parenting council held in Hillsboro each month. We allocated staffing resources and made the decision to facilitate this process on a trial basis. The inmate was escorted to the meeting, where you met the mom and coached her in her participation. This has been hugely successful and requires you to go over and above your normal work expectations. You are truly a visionary and a dedicated individual. It is due to your efforts that the EHS

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program has been such a resounding success and has helped dozens of inmate moms and their children develop bonds and build stronger relationships.

Sharon, I am pleased to award you this honor and I am proud to have you as a member of the Coffee Creek team.

Sincerely,

Nancy Howton Superintendent

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