with your classmates. You were real smart and had a lot of talent, but stayed in trouble." She said, "Yes, you used to get me focused again. I was a little hard-headed, but you would listen to my side and calm me down." I was thinking, she had graduated from high school and her job was now working at McDonald's. But then she said, "I graduate from high school in 3 weeks, I have a 3.9 GPA, and a full scholarship to Morgan State University." So you can see, the work of the Judy Center has long-term positive effect. Thank

[The prepared statement of Mr. Hillian follows:]

### PREPARED STATEMENT OF DENNIS HILLIAN

#### SUMMARY

Thank you for the opportunity to speak before the U.S. Senate Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions Committee, Subcommittee on Children and Families. I am Dennis Hillian, a Family Service coordinator at the Charles County, MD, Judy Cen-

Judy Centers are named for the late Judith P. Hoyer, a life-long advocate for quality early education and comprehensive family support services. There are 25 Judy Centers in the State of Maryland. Two are in Charles County.

We work with children age birth through kindergarten, and their low-income families to ensure they enter school ready to learn. Much of our work is accomplished through a collaborative community partnership of agencies, local organizations, and businesses. There is no issue a child or family may have that we cannot address through our partnership.

We assist with ensuring children are enrolled in high-quality accredited early education programs, including child care; we offer mental health and behavior services; dental services; hearing and vision screenings; and tutoring for children. Additionally, we equip our families with the tools they need to be effective and engaged as their child's first teacher. Families participate in family nights that always include educational components; parenting workshops; and Adult Education classes

Our data shows that children with the Judy Center experience enter kindergarten

better prepared than children who did not have the experience.

I would like to share with you a couple of personal success stories:

1. A jobless family in need of child care, health insurance, behavior and tutoring services for one of two children, and high school diploma for mom.

2. Three-year-old autistic child who could not speak. Was at the Judy Center until

3. Kindergartner with toileting accidents and frequently absent from school. Also with tooth pain, failed vision screening, and trailing behind his peers academically. Many interventions for the family occurred.

4. Reunited with a former Judy Center family. Girl now graduating from high school with a 3.9 GPA and full scholarship to Morgan State University.

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I would like to share with you a couple of personal success stories.

1. Back in 2008, we discovered a dad who had lost his job and mom who was only working part-time. They couldn't make ends meet. They couldn't look for jobs or go on interviews because they had no child care for their 2- and 3-year-old children. I went on a home visit to get to know the family. The Judy Center enrolled them with KinderCare, our child care partner and provided tuition assistance. Since they had lost their health insurance when the dad became unemployed, I gave them an application for the Maryland Children's Health Insurance Program. The 3-year-old had behavior issues and was referred to the Judy Center behavior specialist who worked with her extensively. She also received tutoring services. Dad is now employed full-time. After much encouragement on our part, mom enrolled in Adult Education classes and received her GED. She also completed a Medical Assistants Program and is now preparing to enroll in the College of Southern Maryland to pursue an Associate's Degree. The children are entering kindergarten and 2d grade this Fall and are doing well in school. The family still actively participates in many Judy Center events. They frequently update me on their accomplishments and successes.

2. Jaquon came to us as a 3-year-old autistic child. He was in half-day Pre-K and

spent the other half-day in the Judy Center child care. He could not speak any words and continuously whined and was inconsolable. Our teachers were trained to work with Jaquon and the Judy Center spent many hours helping his mom understand autism. They took part in Judy Center services and activities. The summer before he entered 2nd grade, he and his mom came to the school. She was moving and was withdrawing Jaquon. I walked up to him and told him how much I had missed him this summer. He hugged me around my legs and said, "I've missed you, 'A child who just a short time ago could not speak any words was now going to brave the world without the Judy Center. We are confident that he will be a contributing member of our society. It may have played out quite differently if this family had not had the support of the Judy Center.

3. When we met Khalil, he was in kindergarten and had a multitude of issuestoileting accidents, frequent absences from school, tooth pain and little appetite, he was lagging behind his peers and he failed the vision screening. His mom is a single parent with three older sons. Grandmother kept the children while mom worked as a housekeeper at a local motel. Many interventions for Khalil and his family occurred. Our pediatric dental partner examined his teeth and referred us to Kernan's Hospital in Baltimore for dental surgery for severe tooth decay. The Judy Center staff transported the family to Baltimore. The Lions Club arranged for LensCrafters to examine Khalil's eyes and subsequently provided him with glasses. The Judy Center arranged for him to be tutored at school. With his health issues under con-

trol and the academic assistance in place, this young man is now thriving.

4. Just a few weeks ago, I stopped at a McDonald's. A young lady gave me my food and said, "Hey Mr. Dennis, do you remember me?" I said,

"I don't remember vour name but I remember you. I met you when you were in 2d Grade and you had a little brother and sister in the Judy Center. You also had three or four older brothers and sisters.

She told me her name and I said, "You used to talk to me when you were having a bad day. You would talk back to the teachers and argue with your classmates. You were real smart but stayed in trouble." She said, "Yes, you used to get me focused again. I was a little hard headed but you would listen to my side and calm me down." I was thinking she had graduated from high school and her job was now working at McDonald's. But then she said, "I graduate from high school in 3 weeks, I have a 3.9 GPA, and a full scholarship to Morgan State University." So you can see, the work of the Judy Center has long-term positive effects.

ATTACHMENT.—MARYLAND STATE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION, JUDITH P. HOYER EARLY CHILD CARE AND EDUCATION ENHANCEMENT (JUDY CENTERS)

#### PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

Judy Centers are named for the late Judith P. Hoyer, the former Early Childhood Supervisor for Prince George's County Public Schools and a lifelong early childhood advocate. Judy believed that the key to school readiness was quality early education programs, as well as support services for the entire family in one location. Judy Centers have been established to continue her life's work.

There are 25 Judy Centers in 22 (out of 24) local school systems throughout Maryland. Services are provided to children and their families who live in 39 title I school zones. Nearly 12,000 children, age birth through kindergarten are impacted by the

Judy Center partnership.

The goal of the Judy Centers is to ensure that young children, especially those who are disadvantaged by poverty, limited English proficiency, or special educational needs, are fully ready to learn when they enter school. Judy Centers procational needs, are fully ready to learn when they enter school. Judy Centers provide year-round early care and educational programs for young children. All Judy Centers must include pre-kindergarten, kindergarten, preschool special education, local Maryland Infants and Toddlers Programs, and before and after school early childhood programs provided by child care partners.

Much of the work of the Judy Centers is accomplished through a collaborative community partnership and must also include at least five of the following agencies

or programs:

- · Head Start Programs;

- Family Support Centers; Child Care Providers; Health Services for children in accordance with State and Federal guidelines;

Family literacy programs and services; Early childhood programs associated with institutions of higher education;

Local Public Libraries;

Parent involvement programs;

Healthy Families; and

Other home visiting, community health, family support services, and Regional Child Care Resource Centers.

Most Judy Centers have established broad-based partnerships that include over 20 agencies, organizations, and businesses to help them carry out their work.

Judy Centers are funded by the State of Maryland. The Maryland State Department of Education disburses the funds to the local school systems and monitors the program's success. The funding level in fiscal year 2011 is \$8,096,984.

- MSDE meets quarterly with the Judy Centers to provide technical assistance and offer problem-solving ideas for the day-to-day operation of Judy Centers. An onsite visit is conducted annually by a team of professionals organized by MSDE. There are 12 Component Standards that reflect the requirements of the grant. These 12 Components are the unifying elements of the Judy Centers. The standards are used by Judy Center partnerships and MSDE to rate their yearly progress on the required elements of the grant. The Component Standards include:
  - Full-day/Full-Year Services;
  - Provision for Breakfast/Lunch;

  - Service Coordination among Partners; Integration of all Early Education Programs;
  - Family Involvement;

  - Early Identification and Intervention; Inclusion of Young Children with Disabilities; Provision of Health Related Services;

  - Professional Development
  - Adult Education and Family Literacy Services; Early Childhood Program Accreditation; and

  - Partnership/Community Leadership.

#### EVALUATIVE INFORMATION

Judy Centers provide evaluation reports to the MSDE's Division of Early Childhood Development, at the end of each fiscal year. The scope of the annual Judy Center evaluation is limited to the specific conditions of each Judy Center Partnership. The Results Based Accountability (RBA) process is used. The process is designed to provide information about the implementation of the 12 Components at each Judy Center, as well as account for specified outcomes as set out in each Judy Center's annual grant renewal application. Evaluation reports include the results of the Maryland Model for School Readiness (MMSR) Kindergarten Assessment data collected during the fall and spring of each year. Judy Centers may also use local school system benchmark data and other information (e.g., parent surveys, focus groups) as part of their evaluation reports. The annual evaluations also point out that children with Judy Center experiences sustain their gains through third grade as measured by the Maryland School Assessment (MSA).

An external evaluation of Judy Center services released in 2004 by MGT America concluded that Judy Centers have provided:

- Improved access to programs and services for children, ages birth through 5.
- Increased family access to mental health and dental screenings and other interventions.
- A substantial increase in access to family support services.
  Increased parent participation in their child's education as well as the number of adults participating in Adult Education programs.
  - Accredited early care and education programs.
- Increased professional levels of early childhood program staff and public school teachers.
- Programs that close the achievement gap with English Language Learners and low-income children.

A report entitled, An Analysis of Influence of Judy Center Services on the Maryland Model for School Readiness Kindergarten Assessment Outcomes for School Year 2008-2009 documents the positive impact that participation in Judy Centers has on school readiness. In summary, while serving a much larger proportion of children who are of low-income families, English Language Learners and receive special education services than the State (65 percent vs. 47 percent), 71 percent of those children with prior Judy Center experience were fully ready for kindergarten vs. 63 percent of at-risk children who did not have prior Judy Center experience.

THE CHARLES COUNTY JUDY CENTER, SERVING DR. SAMUEL A. MUDD, EVA TURNER AND C. PAUL BARNHART ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS

Charles County Judy Center Service Area—The Judy Center serves three title I schools in the Charles County Public Schools: Dr. Samuel A. Mudd, C. Paul Barnhart, and Eva Turner Elementary Schools. The Judy Center is early childhood education and comprehensive family support services programs for children birth through Kindergarten and their families. The Judy Center also serves children with special needs age birth through Kindergarten and their families that reside in Charles County. We currently have 36 community agencies, organizations, businesses and individuals helping us achieve our goal of school readiness (See attached listing). We are currently serving 336 children from full-day Kindergarten, full-day Pre-K, full-day 3's program, Head Start, Healthy Families, Infants & Toddlers, Playgroups, and other children identified that are not in formal programs.

Charles County Judy Center Funding—The Judy Center is funded through the Judith P. Hoyer Early Care and Education Grant. The grant is administered by Maryland State Department of Education. The total grant amount received by the Charles County Judy Center is \$645,333.00. Our in-kind funding for this years grant is \$474,553.00.

Charles County Judy Center Staff-Coordinator: Leigh Stalter; Early Childhood Family Liaison: D. Mia Gray; Health Service Coordinator: Theresa Osborne; Family Service Coordinator Barnhart Elementary School: Dennis Hillian; Family Service Coordinator Eva Turner Elementary School: Amanda Pheulpin; Family Service Coordinator Dr. Mudd Elementary School: Earnay Truman; Secretary: Terry Smith; Mental Health & Behavior Specialist—Treeci Bond; and Tutors—Melissa Garner and Edie Kans.

Charles County Judy Center History—Charles County received its first Judith P. Hoyer grant and opened at Dr. Mudd Elementary School in January 2001. A second grant was received in 2002 and a Judy Center opened at Eva Turner Elementary School. In 2004, the Judy Center expanded services to C. Paul Barnhart but with the same level of funding.

Free and Reduced Lunch

School	Total FARM [In percent]	
Dr. Mudd Judy Center	63.9	
Eva Turner Judy Center		
C. Paul Barnhart Judy Center	61.4	

Total Number of Charles County Judy Center Children Receiving FARM: 231.

#### CHARLES COUNTY JUDY CENTER PROGRAMS

**Head Start**—The Judy Center participates and assists Head Start with their activities and events. The Charles County Judy Center and Head Start collaborate in providing referrals to one another. The Charles County's Judy Center Coordinator is on the Head Start Tri-County Advisory council, Head Start Tri-County Health Advisory Council and the Head Start Self-Assessment Team. Charles County's Judy Center Health Service Coordinator serves on the Head Start Healthy Advisory

Charles County Infants & Toddlers—Our Judy Center assists the Charles County Infant & Toddlers in activities and events. Infants & Toddlers have children that attend all three of the Judy Center Schools. Through this partnership we have that attend all three of the Judy Center Schools. Through this partnership we have established playgroups for children with special needs so that they can interact with typically developing peers. The Charles County Judy Center and Infant & Toddlers collaborate in providing referrals to one another. The Charles County's Judy Center Coordinator is on the Charles County Infants & Toddlers Advisory Council.

Healthy Families of Charles County—The Charles County Judy Center and Healthy Families collaborate in providing referrals to one another. The Charles County's Judy Center Coordinator is on the Healthy Families of Charles County Advisory Council. Our Judy Center assists the Healthy Families of Charles County with activities and events

with activities and events.

Dental Services—Our goal for our families each year is that every Judy Center child from 18 months of age has a dental home. Identification of children with no dental home is done through our parent surveys and screenings. Our Judy Center dental application is sent home to all our families and assessed by our Health Service Coordinator. Children in need of dental care are referred to the Department of Health, local dentists, or our partner Dr. Aguto and Associates. Dr. Aguto's office sees our Judy Center families at a 50 percent discount from non-Judy Center children and the Judy Center uses grant funds to pay most of the remaining balance. The families are responsible to pay 10 percent or less. Our partnership with Dr. Augto's office allows us to have children seen in a short period of time. Dr. Augto will see our children identified during screenings with urgent care needs or tooth pain immediately.

The Charles County Department of Health in partnership with the Judy Center provides yearly dental screenings and fluoride treatments for Judy Center Families. The Charles County Judy Center Health Service Coordinator works with the families of children who fail these screenings to assure services are obtained.

We distribute dental health bags annually four times a year. The dental packets contain a tooth brush, tooth paste, and dental hygiene information.

Vision and Hearing Screenings—The Charles County Department of Health in partnership with the Judy Center provide vision and hearing screenings for Judy Center children. The Charles County Judy Center Health Service Coordinator works with the families of children who fail these screenings to assure services are obtained

Amblyopia Screenings—The Charles County Judy Center arranges for the Lions Club to provide Amblyopia (Lazy Eye) screenings for all our Judy Center children. The Charles County Judy Center Health Service Coordinator works with the

Mental Health & Behavior Services—The Charles County Judy Center freath Services are obtained.

Mental Health & Behavior Services—The Charles County Judy Center contracts for a Mental Health and Behavior Therapist from Center for Children. Our Mental Health and Behavior Therapist works with whole classrooms to provide positive of the contract of th tive behavior activities or one on one/small groups for children needing more intense

Tutoring—Our Judy Center has an academic tutoring and mentoring program. We work closely with teachers, school staff, and parents/guardians to identify children in need of tutoring. Permission slips are signed by parents/guardians for tutoring/mentoring to seek parent involvement that will help bridge the gap between school and home.

Accreditation/Validation-All Head Start, Three's, Pre-Kindergarten and Kindergarten programs at the three Judy Center locations are validated by MSDE. KinderCare, our child care partner, has two locations that are both NAEYC accredited. We are working with additional childcare facilities in the area with the process of becoming accredited.

Adult Education—The adults in our Judy Center families are offered many opportunities for continuing their educational advancement through programs in Charles County i.e.; Adult Education at the Lifelong Learning Center, transition programs at the College of Southern MD, parent workshops and other educational programs in Charles County.

Parent and Child Activities—Throughout the year, we provide a variety of parent and child activities. Some of our activities include: National Literacy Day, Borders Story Time, Harvest Festival, Literacy and Math Nights, Fitness Nights, Game Night, Transition Activities, and Month of the Young Child Activities. We acknowledge that some of our parents are unable to attend events at school so we send take home activities for the parents and children to do together. Our partners are actively engaged in the planning of activities and events for the Judy Centers.

Tuition Assistance—Funds are budgeted in our grant for child care assistance for Judy Center families. Tuition Assistance is available to families that do not qualify for Purchase of Care Vouchers through the Department of Social Service but do not earn enough to provide their children with quality child care. All child care centers that partner with the Charles County Judy Center are NAEYC (National Association of the Education of Young Children) or MSDE (Maryland State Department

of Education) accredited.

Jump Bunch—As part of our grant the Judy Center contracts services with Jump Bunch to provide a physical education activity once a week for Judy Center classrooms at Dr. Mudd and Barnhart.

Story Time at Border's Books & Cafe—Story Time occurs once a month and is open to the Waldorf community for children birth to Kindergarten and their families. This activity is available to childcare programs in Waldorf and families with children with special needs birth to Kindergarten in Charles County. Charles County Public Library's Children's Outreach Librarians use stories, songs, and activities that model good literacy practices for families and child care providers.

Spanish/English Story Time—The Charles County Judy Center in partnership with the Charles County Public Library is able to provide all Judy Center class-rooms and Adult Education classrooms with once a month Spanish/English Story

Daytime Playgroups—The Charles County Judy Center conducts playgroups for children birth to age four in the Waldorf community and for children birth to Kindergarten with specials needs. We currently have eight playgroups occurring at our three Judy Center schools. Several of the playgroups are in partnership with Infants & Toddlers

Stroller Walks—The Charles County Judy Center implements "Families on the Move" stroller walks in the spring. Stroller walks are for families and their children birth through age four, and childcare providers in the Waldorf community. Families gather for a walk around the neighborhood and are provided a snack and drink. The parents/providers are given educational materials and books for their children each

Special Education Services—All of our programs are fully inclusive. The Family Service Coordinators work closely with families and school staff during the IEP process and with IEP services. We work closely with Infants & Toddlers with children with IFSP services.

Parent/Provider Workshops—We have done extensive outreach and offer free training for the local child care provider community. Participants receive clock hours

for participating in the workshops.

The Judy Center offers parents opportunities throughout the school year to increase their educational knowledge and parenting skills. Most of these training opportunities are sponsored by our Judy Center partners, i.e., Priority Partners, Charles County Public Library, MD Cooperative Extension, College of Southern Maryland, Lifelong Learning Center, Healthy Families, and Center for Children and the Promise Center.

Title I—The Charles County Judy Center works with the title I parent liaisons at each of the Charles County Judy Center schools to coordinate services, family nights, workshops, and parent groups for our families. The Charles County Judy Center helps with title I family nights at the schools and the county wide title I

night each year.

Parent and Sibling Surveys—Quarterly, the Charles County Judy Center surveys its families. The survey helps us determine our family's needs for health, and dental care, child care, behavior and mental health, adult education, and other services. The sibling survey identifies children, birth through age four in the Judy Center catchment area not yet attending school.

Marketing of Materials-The Charles County Judy Center distributes marketing materials to our partners, local Obstetricians and Gynecology offices, Pediatric Dental offices, and child care centers to promote the Judy Center. Distribution of these materials helps us to identify children that are not yet school age that may be able to benefit from our services.

Donation from the Community—We have received several donations from community partners as well as from families thru their place of employment. The Lions

Club has donated eye exams and glasses for children in our programs. We have received donations of toys, clothing, and food from the community that we pass on to our families in need. In addition we have received monetary donations from B.K. Miller. During the holiday, the Charles County Judy Center with the help of our partners collects toys and clothing to distribute to our neediest families.

Family Field Trips—The Charles County Judy Center through the grant pro-

vides funds for family field trip transportation and admission throughout the school

In-school Assemblies-The Charles County Judy Center provides in-school assemblies for all Judy Center families. A few examples of in-school assemblies that we have provided are Reptile Wonders, Blue Sky Puppet Theater, Interact Story

Theater, Carol's Critters, Sheriffs Department, and the Humane Society.

Student Involvement—The Charles County Judy Center arranges for North Point High School and College of Southern Maryland Early Childhood students to volunteer at our Judy Center family events. This enables the students to receive service hours needed for their programs. North Point High School Cosmetology students provide hair cuts, hair styling, and manicures to Head Start/Judy Center children each year.

Community Readers—We arrange for community readers such as Kiwanis,

PNC bank, and local businesses to read in our classrooms.

Professional Development—We work closely with the Charles County Public School Specialist in Early Childhood Education to maintain and support the highest quality of instruction for the Judy Center children. This includes Maryland Model for School Readiness training, new teacher orientation, teacher conference days, workshops, and other professional development. The Judy Center Staff participates in the Judy Center Annual Conference, general conferences, as well as partner and community professional development.

Materials of Instruction—We purchase supplemental Materials of Instruction for our 19 classrooms and child care partners that further aide in the validation process. This year the focus of the supplemental Materials of Instruction is in Math-

ematical Thinking and Scientific Thinking.

Summer Program—The summer program served approximately 95 Judy Center children which is 20 percent of our total enrollment in Head Start, Pre-K and Kindergarten. Children were selected for the summer program based on Working Samples Systems, Individual Language Assessment scores and Dynamic Indicators of Basic Early Literacy Skills, as well as children being tutored by the Judy Center and family situations. Children received free breakfast, lunch, snacks, and free transportation. Once the summer program ends home visits by our Early Childhood/Family Liaison and Judy Center Family Service Coordinators continued to provide enrichment activities

Coordinated Calendars-We coordinate calendars with our partners and community agencies to help prevent any scheduling conflicts. Calendar coordination alerts our families of events and programs throughout the local southern Maryland

Charles County Early Care and Education Team (CCECET)—The Charles County Judy Center facilitates CCECET. The CCECET plans a countywide Early Childhood Day each year. This years Early Childhood Day was May 21, 2011 and was attended by 780 children and their families.

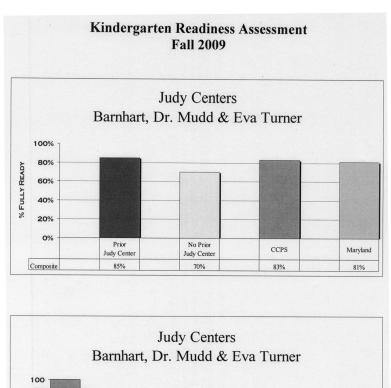
For further information contact: Leigh Stalter lstalter@ccboe.com 301-934-7493.

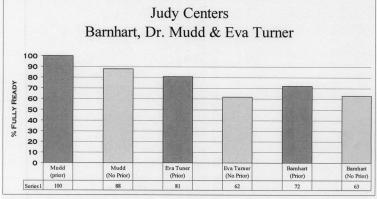
## STEERING COMMITTEE MEETINGS AND PARTNERS

The Charles County Judy Center Steering Committee meetings are held once a month with our 36 community partners to guide the direction of our Judy Centers. Our Judy Center has many partners here in Charles County who are working together to make sure our children are safe, healthy and ready to learn. Our community partners include:

Charles County Public Schools; Center for Children; Healthy Families Charles County; College of Southern Maryland; American Community Properties Trust; Borders Books, Music & Cafe; Dr. Felix J. Aguto, DDS; Charles County Sheriff's Office; Maternal Child Health; Charles County Local Management Board; Charles County Infants and Toddlers; Maryland Cooperative Extension; The College of Southern Maryland; Charles County Department of Social Services; Charles County Public Library; Department of Health Charles County; Department of Community Services; KinderCare Learning Centers, Inc.; Lifelong Learning Center; Promise Center; So. MD Tri-County Community Action Committee-Head Start; The Arc of Southern Maryland; Greater Baden Medical Services; PNC Bank; Health Partners, Inc.; Parent Resource Center; Southern Maryland Dirt Riders; Alphabest; Priority Partners; Gwynn Center; Parent Center; Tri-County Youth Services Bureau; My Gym; Kiwanis; St. Charles Early Learning Center; Good Shepherd Education Center.

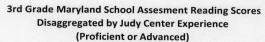
PROGRAM DATA

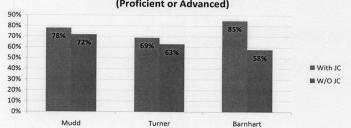




## **Maryland School Assessment** Spring 2010

3rd Grade MSA Scores			
	Reading (Proficient or Advanced)	Mathematics (Proficient or Advanced)	
MD	85%	84%	
Chas. Co.	81%	81%	
Dr. Samuel A. Mudd	75%	74%	
Eva Turner	68%	76%	
C. Paul Barnhart	67%	72%	





# **3rd Grade Maryland School Assesment Mathematics**



■ With JC ■ W/O JC Mudd Turner