

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE** **CONTACT:**

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**September 30, 2016 DJJ Communications**

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**MEDIA ADVISORY: DJJ Faith and Community Alliance to Meet in Dawson**

 **- *An Invitation to Impact the Lives of Troubled Teens -***

**(Dawson, GA) –** Department of Juvenile Justice (DJJ) Commissioner Avery D. Niles is pleased to announce the kick-off of DJJ’s first ***Faith and Community Alliance*** meeting in Terrell County. The October 3rd meeting of this alliance will focus on building support among local community and faith partners to strengthen state juvenile justice system outreach to young offenders from the Terrell County and Southwest Georgia area.

* **WHAT:** DJJ’s first Faith and Community Alliance meeting in Terrell County
* **WHERE:** Robert Albritten Neighborhood Service Center

 771 Round Tree in Dawson

* **WHEN: Monday, October 3rd, 2016 from 6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.**
* **WHO:** DJJ Commissioner Avery D. Niles will officiate

Community, Faith and DJJ leaders will attend and participate

* **MORE:** DJJ Chaplain Danny Horne at 404-508-6500 (office) or 404-295-0057 (cell)

**DJJ hopes to obtain local commitment for the following concerns:**

* Teaching parenting and counseling skills classes for youth and parents
* Providing character development instruction within the local DJJ facility
* Developing mentoring programs for DJJ youth at churches and community organizations
* Establishing re-entry assistance for youth returning to Terrell County and surrounding communities

**SPECIAL NOTE:**

Ministers, community leaders and those interested in making a positive change in the lives of local young people are urged to attend this hands-on opportunity to help develop effective strategies for increasing youth success andcreating safer communities where we live. News media coverage is invited.

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