

# The Blue Print

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August 2011

## Golf Tournament

Justice Initiatives is proud to partner with the Mecklenburg County Bar Mecklenburg Bar Foundations for the first annual Legal Eagles Charity Golf Tournament. Net proceeds will be used to offer grants that support organizations/projects with a legal nexus in our community.

- **When:** Oct 21, 2011
- **Where:** Verdict Ridge Golf & Country Club Denver, NC
- **Prizes:** Longest Drive, Closest to the pin & top net team score
- **Cost:** \$85/player or \$340/foursome. Entry fee includes greens fees, box lunch, golf cart, prizes, and post-tournament reception and awards ceremony. \$25 for reception only.
- **Pay by Credit Card:** Please visit [www.MeckBar.org](http://www.MeckBar.org) to register and pay using American Express, Visa, or MasterCard.
- **Registration Deadline:** Monday, October 17, 2011. Space is limited, so register now.
- **Sponsorship Opportunities:** Contact Leah Campbell at [lcampbell@meckbar.org](mailto:lcampbell@meckbar.org) or 704/375-8624, ext. 114 for more information.

## Drug Court Month

Justice Initiatives, Inc. and Anuvia Prevention and Recovery Center were proud to co-sponsor National Drug Treatment Court Month. The month of May was dedicated to increasing awareness among elected officials, media, and the community of the existence and effectiveness of the Drug Courts. Events that took place included the 2nd Annual DTC Cookout and a rally held in front of the Courthouse. Both provided an opportunity for individuals who have been impacted by the Drug Courts to celebrate and speak out.

## Court Camp

Justice Initiatives in partnership with the 26th Judicial District held the third annual Court Camp for children between the ages of 14-18. This year hosted a record high of 57 students throughout three week-long sessions during the months of June and July. Students examined a mock crime scene staged by the Charlotte Mecklenburg Police Department Crime Lab in preparation for a mock trial conducted later in the week. Charlotte School of Law, the Parker Poe Law Firm, the Mecklenburg County Sheriff's Office and the CMPD Crime Lab also opened their doors for tours to students. Guest speakers included the Honorable Judge Lisa Bell, Public Defender Kevin Tully, Officer Henderson of the CMPD Canine Unit, and Officer Barbour of the CMPD crime lab.

## Strengthening Community Relations: Mexican

Mr. Carlos Flores Vizcarra, the Consul General of Mexico in the Carolinas, provided information to court officials and personnel regarding ongoing issues and dilemmas that affect the local Mexican-American community during a lunch and learn that took place Tuesday, August 2<sup>nd</sup>. Mr. Vizcarra also highlighted cultural nuances officials may encounter when serving this population. To enhance the cultural experience, participants were treated to a sampling of authentic traditional foods catered by Fonda Las Cazuelas, a local restaurant noted for its authentic Mexican cooking. This lunch and learn was created by the Trial Court Administrator's (TCA) Office through a partnership with Justice Initiatives, Inc, who has provided the TCA's Office with a generous grant to host a series of lunch and learn sessions titled "Strengthening Community Relationships." The mission of the series is to build informal social capital within our community by developing programs and projects that foster bridge-building between the court system and diverse individuals, communities, neighborhoods and organizations.

## Raising the Bar Award

Justice Initiatives was proud to announce Charles W. Keller, Jr., the Community Access & Outreach Administrator for the 26th Judicial District as the winner of the 2011 Raising the Bar Award. Mr. Keller has worked for the TCA's Office for over ten years and has served in various roles. In his current role, Mr. Keller was noted for his establishment of a volunteer program for the courts, his educational outreach efforts to teach children about the North Carolina Court system, including Court Camp, as well as the numerous educational tours and presentations he provides to various civic and citizen groups.

## Spring 2011 Grants

Justice Initiatives awarded grants in the following areas during the 2011 cycle:

Strengthening Community Relations  
Drug Treatment Court

I-CAN! Strategic Marketing  
Court Camp

TCA Employee Incentives  
Customer Satisfaction Surveys

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