

CAMPAIGN FOR
YOUTH JUSTICE

BECAUSE THE CONSEQUENCES AREN'T MINOR

The second annual Campaign for Youth Justice 5K Run/Walk was held Sunday, October 25th at North Cape County Park in Cape Girardeau, Mo. The race course is purposefully challenging and is advertised as such because this issue is difficult and challenging on a variety of levels. Incarcerated children and their families live very difficult, challenging lives. Changing the current laws can also be compared to running a long, hard race. Although the recurring theme is a hard race for a hard cause; each year has a specific focus. This year's focus centered on the 7,500 youth who are incarcerated in America's jails on any given day. Race participants, volunteers and sponsors all received a package containing a black, long sleeved t-shirt touting the message as well as fact sheets and information addressing this specific issue of juvenile transfer. They also received a personal letter from Tracy McClard detailing her son's story of juvenile transfer and information about supporting the Reauthorization of the Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Act of 2009. The Join the Movement literature, pins and bracelets from the Campaign for Youth Justice were also included and worn. Attendance at this year's race doubled from last year. Local exposure was huge. Several bystanders have already committed to helping at next year's race and a well-known racing company offered to advertise next year's race for free! They also want to post pictures from this year's race on their website. It was an excellent day!