

RCP

QUARTERLY

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RIVERSIDE COUNTY
PROBATION
DEPARTMENT



IN THIS ISSUE OF *RCP QUARTERLY*, WE SHINE A LIGHT ON HARDWORKING STAFF: CORRECTIONAL COOK VIPA BUCHMANN AND SENIOR PROBATION CORRECTIONS OFFICER HEATHER TINOCO.



MESSAGE FROM THE CHIEF



THIS ISSUE OF OUR QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER CAPTURES THE GREAT WORK BEING DONE THROUGHOUT THE DEPARTMENT BY AWESOME STAFF. THANK YOU FOR ALL THAT YOU DO IN "SERVING COURTS, PROTECTING OUR COMMUNITY, AND CHANGING LIVES."

AS YOU HAVE SEEN THROUGH RECENT MEMOS AND POLICY UPDATES, CHANGES ARE BEING MADE TO IMPROVE OUR BUSINESS ENVIRONMENT. IT HAS TAKEN SOME TIME BUT WE ARE NOW STARTING TO SEE THE FRUIT OF OUR RCP MANAGEMENT EFFORTS. MORE OPPORTUNITIES ARE COMING. THANK YOU FOR THE COMMENTS AND SUGGESTIONS. I AM LOOKING FORWARD TO INCREASING OUR MISSION SUCCESS LOCALLY AND SETTING THE PACE FOR CALIFORNIA PROBATION DEPARTMENTS.



A handwritten signature in gold ink that reads "Ronald L. Miller II".

RONALD L. MILLER II
CHIEF PROBATION OFFICER





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SENIOR PROBATION CORRECTIONS OFFICER



Training is the backbone of our department. Through training we learn our roles and responsibilities and develop our skill-sets. Instructors are the key component to making this possible. Instructors are selected because of their distinguished reputations, expertise in subject matter, communication skills, and passion for their assignments. Being an instructor comes with great responsibility and an additional workload. Instructors are asked to develop lesson plans, create training materials, stay current on laws and procedures, and spend time away from their own assignments to provide this noble service.

It is important that we acknowledge our instructors for their hard work and dedication. Therefore, it is with great pleasure that we recognize Senior Probation Corrections Officer Heather Tinoco. Growing up, Heather never imagined being in this line of work. Although her father was a correctional officer, she struggled as a teenager. When deciding on a career, she felt success is not about a person's title or the amount of money one makes, but about being a leader and relating to others. With her upbringing and life lessons, she made the decision to continue in her father's footsteps and joined Riverside County Probation in 2006. Heather is now an experienced officer with more than 15 years of dedicated service to the department. She is currently assigned to the Alan M. Crogan Youth and Education Center where she is responsible for teaching the CPR/AED/First Aid and Defensive Tactics courses to institution staff.

In 2012, Heather became an instructor to make a difference and provide knowledge in an enthusiastic way. She enjoys working with other instructors and considers them her friends. Her favorite part of teaching is interacting with staff while they are having fun and learning at the same time. She understands the importance of her curriculum because it provides staff with the skills to protect themselves, as well as life-saving techniques in emergency situations.

Outside of work, Heather has a full plate; in addition to working 40+ hours a week, she is pursuing a bachelor's degree in early education at California Baptist University and takes care of her lovely family of six. She considers her children to be her greatest accomplishment and she values every moment she has with them.

The Staff Development Unit would like to acknowledge Heather for her hard work and dedication. She is a tremendous asset and exemplifies the core values of our department.

SENIOR PROBATION OFFICER
VIKKI FRIES

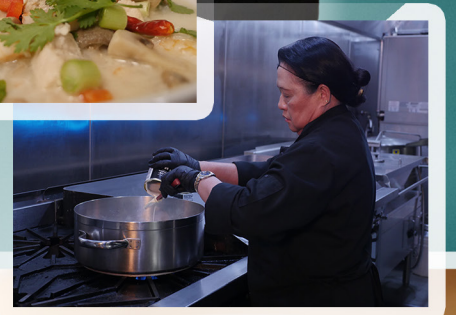


bonappétit!

Correctional Cook Vipa Buchmann grew up in Nakhon Phanom, Thailand. Learning from her father, she soon took a quick interest in cooking. Vipa especially enjoys making American food and her favorite dish, Papaya Salad.

Vipa joined the RCP institutional kitchen staff in 1999. Vipa has demonstrated vast culinary knowledge in her 23 years with RCP, which led to her selection to be a part of the inaugural staff to open AMC-YTEC. Vipa has been continually relied upon to cater department events such as conferences and award ceremonies. She is perpetually motivated to operate at a high standard for the sake of representing the department with pride and integrity and she steps up to be a pillar of support to her peers. She has showcased a high standard of professionalism as she fulfills her responsibilities of providing more than 200 meals and 60 mid-morning snacks daily. She is continually considering the needs of the youth at AMC-YTEC and thoughtfully prepares numerous meals for youth requiring special diets. From the moment her shift starts at 5 a.m., Vipa exemplifies teamwork and aims to provide support to the department's initiatives and programs. All that have had the privilege of working with and knowing Vipa have been touched by her natural ability to care for others and put others first with acts of kindness and servitude. Vipa has contributed more to RCP than we can ever measure; she has been a rock to food services, professionally and beyond. Thank you Vipa!

By Correctional Food Services
Supervisor Glenn Franco



Tom Kha Gai Soup



BREAKING THE CYCLE

OYCR PRAISE PATHWAYS TO SUCCESS

California Office of Youth and Community Restoration (OYCR) Director Katherine Lucero and County Liaison Ramon Leija toured the Alan M. Crogan Youth Treatment and Education Center on May 17, 2022, specifically the Pathways to Success program (PTS) which is Riverside County's secure youth track facility (SYTF). Riverside County Probation (RCP) implemented PTS in response to the passage of Senate Bill 823, which transfers the responsibility of the California Department of Juvenile Justice to counties providing housing and treatment to youth in a SYTF.

RCP and PTS collaborative partners provided the OYCR representatives with a presentation detailing the program structure, therapy and educational programs, involvement of community-based organizations and how the voice of the youth and parents are incorporated into the program. They then made their way to the living units where they observed classes, toured the youths' individualized rooms and conversed with youth. The representatives remarked that they were pleased to see the units were set up as living spaces rather than detention spaces.

OYCR's goal is to promote trauma-responsive and culturally informed services by using public health approaches that support positive youth development, build the capacity of community-based methods and reduce the justice involvement of youth. Mr. Leija has lived experience within the Riverside County juvenile justice system and helped build the framework for PTS as part of the Riverside County Juvenile Justice Coordinating Council SB 823 subcommittee. He stated what he saw on the tour is in line with the vision he had for the program. "What I like here is that it seems that everyone is on the same page in terms of providing all the possible resources for the young people," Mr. Leija said. "They're establishing positive role models, positive relationships and connections that encourage a warm handoff from the facility to the community."

Ms. Lucero also saw positives with the department's enactment of PTS. "I was just so impressed," she stated. "I learned about current and future programming which brought me a lot of hope about the program and future success of the youth when they get back home and for the rest of their lives."

"In less than one year, RCP stood up a new program in response to SB 823," Chief Deputy Elisa Judy said. "Little did we know at the time, that the seeds that were originally planted would have blossomed in such a way that the Pathways to Success program would be considered a leader in California. This huge accomplishment would not have been possible without our collaborative partners and probation personnel who have walked alongside us every step of the way; we have leaned on each other to be better for the youth in our care. It is inspiring to see how lives are truly being changed. Our youth are starting to see life through a new lens. Kudos to everyone who has contributed to the strong foundation on which the program sits today."



YOUTH COUNCIL GIVES VOICE TO PATHWAYS YOUTH

Earn voice, establish cooperation, youth create own future, youth voices heard, valued, collaborate

The Pathways to Success program officially opened its doors on July 1, 2021. Since then, the team has diligently worked to ensure the program is meeting the needs of the youth. As the program has evolved, it was decided a Youth Council would be formed to give the youth a voice. The youth council's primary function is to speak on behalf of the youth regarding any unit operations. Two youth currently sit on the council and represent the unit. One member of the council created a handout describing the Youth Council; he did a fantastic job and below are highlights of his work:

WHAT IS THE YOUTH COUNCIL?

The Pathways to Success youth council is a group of two to three youth who take on a 'leadership role' in the program. These youth are recommended by unit staff and approved by the unit supervisor.

The Youth Council consists of youth who not only strive to do well but encourage others. Members of the Youth Council can be described as the spokespersons of the program. For example, if there is something in the program that can be improved, the Youth Council will elicit responses from their fellow youth about their thoughts and what can be implemented. Once all youth come to an agreement on a particular topic, the Youth Council will complete a written proposal and submit it to the unit supervisor for review. If the proposal is approved, the supervisor will take action to begin the new process.

The Youth Council also created the Welcoming Committee. This takes place when a new youth is inducted into the Pathways to Success program. A member from the Youth Council will ask the new youth a series of ice breaker questions. They will also ask what might trigger them and how they might react in a situation. The answers are written down and provided to the youth's behavioral health therapist for follow up. The Youth Council welcomes the new youth and lets them know what to expect from the program.

In closing, the Youth Council are people the staff applaud and the youth respect. It is not a position given to just anyone and those selected take their responsibility seriously.

WRITTEN BY YOUTH WHO CO-FOUNDED COUNCIL



A POEM FROM PATHWAYS TO SUCCESS YOUTH COUNCIL

July 1st, 2021 was one of the biggest days of my life. It was the day I signed for the Pathways To Success program. For some people, signing for this program would be somewhat of a big deal. After all, it would be their home for the next few years. But to me it was only a step closer to doom.

July 5th, 2021, I was transferred to the Pathways To Success program, being one of the first two youth to be inducted. The first month was the slowest, boredom being my biggest issue. As time went by, and the more youth came in, we slowly began to get our groove.

We'd received new items to keep us busy and began attending a series of programs. It was around this time when I had a conversation with a staff member that would change my view of the program throughout the course of my stay. He said to me, "I guarantee anybody in a worse situation than us would kill for boredom to be their biggest problem." This hit me hard. It was at that moment I realized how foolish I must've sounded complaining how bored I was all day.

I began doing things to keep busy, taking advantage of every program offered to us. I began to notice how fast time was going when I kept busy. I started to put 100% in everything I did. Whether it was sports, writing, puzzles, I even took a liking to arts and crafts. I began to put all of my crafts around my room. Pretty soon, my room was filled with origami and pictures.

Before I knew it, I was showing people how decorated my room was. I also put a series of motivational quotes all over my walls, finding inspiration everywhere I looked. I began explaining my room to guest speakers as well as important visitors.

I'd also become one of two members of the 'Youth Council' Which are youth who represent the program and propose changes that the rest of the youth feel are necessary. Within my first six months I was being referred to as a role model and was being applauded for all of my hard work. And all because of the message I received that day during my conversation with the staff member.

It isn't the situation you're in, but what you do about it that matters.



Partner Recognition

JANNETTE PRICE

RCOE COURT SCHOOLS PRINCIPAL

Riverside County Probation (RCP) extends a sincere congratulations to Jannette Price for being honored with the 2022 Riverside County Principal of the Year Award for her inspiring work leading the juvenile court schools operated by the Riverside County Office of Education within RCP's three juvenile institutions. Ms. Price has led the district since the 2019-20 school year. The district has achieved the highest graduation rate among California juvenile court schools in all three years she has been at the helm, which serves as a testament to Ms. Price and her team's dedication. The high graduation rate has been possible thanks to Ms. Price and her team's focus on advocating for the students and helping them realize their past doesn't define their future; that this is a fresh start and anything is possible.

The team builds Individual Education Plans for each student that identify what the student needs to finish and establish a path to making it happen. They then set about recovering every credit possible that the student may have earned during their time in school. Students become hopeful and motivated when Ms. Price shows them that graduating is achievable with some hard work and focus. "It's really heartwarming to see their faces brighten when they find out how many credits they actually have and realize 'Wow, I didn't know how close I was!'" Ms. Price said. For students who leave the institution prior to graduating, the team initiates a transition plan in conjunction with the student's parents and home district to continue their momentum toward graduating.

Ms. Price and her team make life after high school an important aspect of the program as well. Students fill out financial aid applications, scholarship applications and apply to college.

They also develop a resume, a cover letter and get two letters of recommendation so that they're prepared to apply for jobs. "We really take our education seriously and we really do want our kids to earn the diplomas and go on to college or have the skill set to prepare themselves for the workforce," she said. "We want them to have a second chance and be successful."

"RCP, the institutions, and most importantly our youth are so fortunate to have Jannette Price as the principal leading the charge over our three schools," Chief Deputy Elisa Judy said. "She has been a tremendous collaborative partner who understands the vision and mission. Her intellect is only matched by her compassionate heart. She gives of herself continuously to ensure our youth have all that they need. We appreciate you Jannette and this recognition is very well deserved."

SENIOR PUBLIC INFORMATION SPECIALIST
KEVIN SLUSARSKI



Ms. Price was awarded a \$10,000 Unique Projects Grant to purchase 300 backpacks stuffed with school supplies to gift to students transitioning out of the institutions to motivate them to continue their educational success when they return to their home district.



YTEC GIRLS UNIT TRANSITIONS TO IJH

RCP and Riverside University Health System - Behavioral Health staff provided a warm welcome as the YTEC Girls Unit made the transition to Indio Juvenile Hall. They were greeted with a BBQ and Shadow the therapy dog provided comfort and support. The girls appreciated the friendly reception to the new facility.

MOTHER'S DAY JOY BRIGHTENS SPIRITS

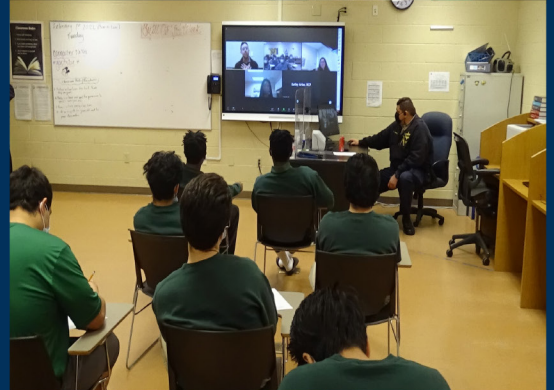
The girls at Indio Youth Treatment and Education Center spent a week personalizing Mother's Day cards to be delivered to the residents at Indio Nursing and Convalescent Center. They learned the value and satisfaction that comes with brightening a stranger's day. Their kind and uplifting words are sure to bring a smile to those ladies who may otherwise be overlooked.

SPECIAL MENTORS MOTIVATE GROWTH AT PATHWAYS

Pathways to Success youth met with Assistant Sheriff Delgado and Mr. Serbantes from the Riverside County Office of Education. The youth enjoyed a presentation and were truly impacted by Mr. Serbantes' words. Following the meeting a youth said, "that was the best presentation we've had so far." On behalf of the Pathways to Success program, we would like to extend a big thank you to Mr. Delgado and Mr. Serbantes. We look forward to connecting with them again.

Pathways to Success and Indio Juvenile Hall youth had the pleasure of learning virtually from motivational speaker and author Abe Cruz, who told his story of overcoming incarceration. He actively engaged the youth as he shared his own life experiences. While difficult, those experiences shaped him into the positive person he is today. He taught the youth about developing a champion mindset, finding their "why" and taking action every day to become their best self.

Royal Ramey from the Forestry and Fire Recruitment Program met with the youth in the Pathways to Success unit. Mr. Ramey shared his impactful story and gave the youth hope for the future. The presentation went great and we thank Mr. Ramey for taking the time to come down to our program.



IJH STAFF AND PARTNER AGENCIES MAKE YOUTH'S GRAD DAY SPECIAL

BY SPO ANGELICA DANIEL

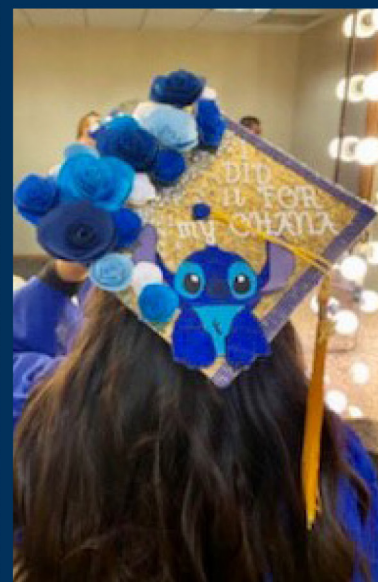
Indio Youth Treatment and Education Center (YTEC) staff celebrated several small “wins” in just the few months we’ve been up and running, one of which deserves special mention, especially given the restrictions and shutdowns our treatment facilities have faced with COVID-19. We wanted to be sure one youth’s opportunity to speak at her high school graduation was celebrated with all the pomp and circumstance it deserved.

After gaining the Courts full support, I set off on drafting a detailed security plan and securing a solid team of staff with whom we would carry out the plan. SPCO Max Lara and PCO Janet Boyland were just the right combination. Both selflessly agreed to come in on their days off to share this special milestone with our young graduate. Then came the question of who would escort her

across the stage. I asked her assigned aftercare DPO Jennifer Avila if she was up for the task and without hesitation, she agreed! We had her sized and fitted for a ceremonial gown; the youth was nervous and didn’t want to stand out as being “locked up.” DPO Avila blended in with the presiding Riverside County Office of Education staff and speakers and went unnoticed in the background. Sr. PO Brandee Contratto expressed her interest in supporting the cause and behold, we had our Dream Team ready to go!

SPCO Marina Perez worked behind the scenes gathering clothing, shoes and helping the youth with her makeup so she would look and feel fabulous on her special day. Our Amazing Behavioral Health duo of Tonya Strickland and Francine Duran met the group at the Palm Springs Convention Center

to cheer her on. The youth’s case workers, PCO Adriana Martinez and PCO Yvette Villegas showed up on their time off to support the youth as well. PCO Martinez had spent hours helping her write and practice her speech on the unit. PCO Villegas helped her “bedazzle” her cap so she stood out as a special student speaker should. Kayla and Shadow from Canine Companions, as well as Chief Deputy Elisa Judy joined in the momentous celebration. The youth mentioned how excited she was that her family would see her doing something good and be proud of her, which is why the bedazzled inscription on her cap was so perfect, it read, “I did it for my Ohana,” which means “family” in the Hawaiian language - and that’s exactly what we are here at Indio Girls YTEC.



A FURRY VISITOR TOURS SJH - MEET ALITA!

BY SPO TIFFANY MCELVENY

Alita was born in Slovakia on January 10, 2018, which makes her a Capricorn. Alita has been working with her handler, Correctional Corporal Salas, for two and a half years. Both are currently assigned to the Riverside County Sheriff's Department Corrections Division stationed at Cois Byrd Detention Center in Murrieta, CA. Alita is a single-purpose narcotics detection dog, which means her job is only to find

narcotics and drugs in the institutions. Alita is all business when she is working and is very independent but occasionally likes to snuggle up to her partner's shoulder for some pets. Alita loves frozen green beans as a treat and is obsessed with the water hose and playing tug of war.

Alita visited all the living units at Southwest Juvenile Hall (SJH) in March in a preventative effort to detect any drugs or narcotics in the facility. She searched through the youths' rooms, cubbies and the common areas of the units. Safety is extremely important to the juvenile facilities and SJH continues to work toward improving the client safety index. She didn't find any contraband, but she did locate some leftover snacks youth had taken back to their living spaces.

This was a collaborative effort to ensure we maintain and promote a safe and secure facility while assisting Alita with some

additional training. After her duties were complete, Alita took a few minutes to snap a picture with her handler and Supervising Probation Officers Kyle Hernandez and Tammy Olivares. Alita's handler appreciated the opportunity to assist a fellow agency.

You can follow Alita's adventures at <https://www.instagram.com/k9alita>



SJH WELCOMES EVERYONE BACK TO THE DINING HALL!

BY SPO ALANA JONES

On March 21, 2022, Southwest Juvenile Hall welcomed our youth, staff and collateral agencies back to the dining hall. While the past couple years have been challenging with constant changes and limited social interactions, including the closure of our dining hall, we have gratefully bounced back from a COVID "intermission." We have reunited and are safely enjoying the social setting and yummy food in the dining hall.



CLIENT SUCCESS ACROSS THE COUNTY

DAY REPORTING CENTERS CELEBRATE CLIENT GRADUATIONS

By DPO Kara McKinley

Excitement was in the air at the Riverside County Office of Education (RCOE) Graduation Ceremony on May 17, 2022. After two years of virtual ceremonies, graduates and staff were excited to celebrate in-person at the Moreno Valley Conference Center. The Day Reporting Centers (DRCs) had a cumulative total of 32 graduates for the school year. The students in attendance either obtained their diploma or passed the High School Equivalency Test. For many of the graduates, this is a day they never imagined as a possibility. The event features speeches by students from the Riverside and Temecula DRCs. They commented on the helping hand received by attending the DRC for their education and how much they appreciated the kindness and support from probation and RCOE staff. They described how the environment at the DRCs made them feel welcomed and accepted, which made them want to continue attending. The two students shared their experiences in the justice system and how they now look forward to what they can accomplish in the coming years with their high school education in hand.

As with any other high school completion, several graduates have plans for their future. Two students from the Temecula DRC have already enrolled in college. One student is participating in a computer programming internship with University of California, Riverside while another student is enrolled at Mount San Jacinto Community College and is working on his associate's degree to become a youth counselor. Two more Temecula students are in the process of applying to community colleges. One student aspires to become a drug and alcohol counselor while the second will be studying software and web development at Northland Pioneer College in Arizona. The feelings of accomplishment were apparent in each graduate as they celebrated with their families and introduced their loved ones to probation staff. Several family members expressed their appreciation for the DRCs, stating they had waited years for this day to come. Thank you to all dedicated members of the DRC teams; each one of you played a pivotal role in these students' success.



REBUILDING FAMILIES THROUGH RECOVERY

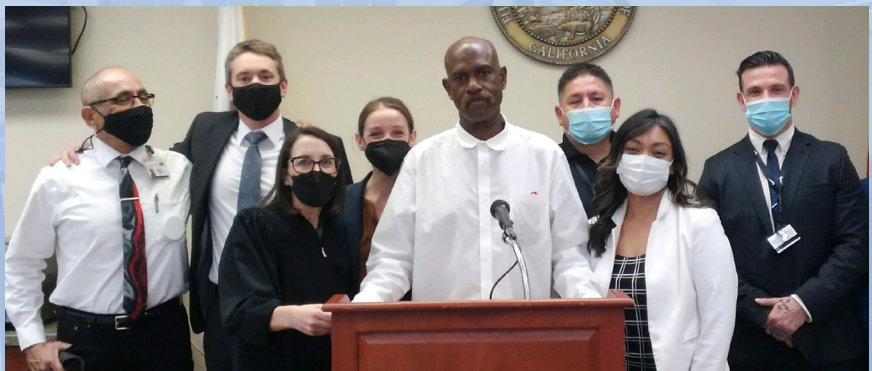
By DPO Efrain Melendrez and SPO Yvonne Quintana

Julio was admitted into the Indio Recovery Opportunity Center (ROC) program on October 23, 2020. After completing residential treatment at Metcalf Recovery Center in Blythe, he entered the Coachella Valley Rescue Mission (CVRM) Gateway program. He graduated the program with flying colors. Because he did so well, he was afforded the opportunity to continue to participate in the program and later transitioned into a sober living home for the duration of his ROC program. During his time in ROC, Julio accomplished many milestones; he graduated from high school, obtained his driver's license, maintained two jobs, bought a vehicle, secured stable housing and paid his victim restitution in full. He completed all of this in a two-year period while maintaining his sobriety. The ROC program has been instrumental in reconnecting him with his family and teaching him the skills to live a sober and happy life. Julio is a role model to his peers and demonstrates the true commitment it takes in recovery.

Joshua completed a residential treatment program at the ABC Club Recovery Center in Indio and was accepted into the Indio ROC program on October 9, 2020. Upon his completion of the ABC Club, he transitioned into a sober living home. Joshua struggled to maintain sobriety after leaving the sober living home. However, he worked with the ROC staff and reentered residential treatment. He later transitioned to CVRM. Joshua made great improvements in his recovery. In the last two years he obtained his driver's license, purchased a vehicle, gained employment, paid off his victim restitution, made child support payments and returned home to his family. Julio and Joshua successfully completed the Indio ROC program on April 22, 2022. They did so with hard work, a willingness to change and a commitment to recovery.



And congratulations to Charles on achieving sobriety and graduating from the Indio ROC program! After entering the program, Charles completed a 90-day residential treatment program at Metcalf Recovery Ranch in Blythe. Upon completion of residential treatment, he entered the CVRM and later entered a sober living home. During this time, Charles dealt with medical issues and struggled to maintain sobriety. To assist in his recovery, he returned to CVRM where he made great improvements in his recovery and volunteered as an on-site security guard. Within a few months he graduated from the CVRM men's program and transitioned to another sober living home. Charles maintained compliance with all requirements of the program, obtained his California Driver's License, bought a vehicle, had his social security income reinstated, obtained part-time employment, and has maintained sobriety for over a year. The ROC program provided him with the foundation and structure he needed to live a sober and happy life. He has reunified with his estranged family, and they too are grateful to have the 'real Charles' back.



SOUTHWEST ROC GRADUATES

by DPO Benton Loyd

On May 19th, 2022, Julie and Mark graduated from the Southwest ROC. Julie accepted a job with McDonald's to meet phase requirements in her early days in ROC. She has since been promoted twice and is now one of the managers at her location. As a manager, Julie has hired multiple fellow ROC participants. She is also the assistant manager for the women's house at her sober living facility and has re-established a relationship with her parents and children.

Mark recently completed trucking school and is currently fielding multiple offers to work as a driver. He too has re-established a relationship with his family; he is living with his stepfather, wife and children again.



ROC SOFTBALL TOURNAMENT RETURNS

By DPO Benton Loyd

After a two-year hiatus, the annual ROC softball tournament was held on May 19, 2022. This tournament is held each May to celebrate Collaborative Court Month. Teams from the Riverside County Drug Court programs in Blythe, Indio, Riverside, and San Jacinto competed in a single-elimination tournament with the Blythe team being crowned champions. The event included current drug court participants and program graduates, as well as staff from collaborative court agencies- Riverside County Probation, Riverside University Health System - Behavioral Health, Riverside County Public Defender's Office, and Riverside County District Attorney's Office.



HUMBLE CAUSE, LARGE EFFECT

BY SR. PO CRYSTAL RIVERA AND DPO DIANNE STUART

A small gesture can cause a positive change of view, leaving a great impact in our community

Deputy Probation Officer (DPO) Lindsay Moore visited her client Claudia at Restoration Agape in Perris soon after she entered the program. Despite Claudia's short time in the program, DPO Moore saw a positive transition from her past office visits. Just a few months prior, the defendant reported using methamphetamine three to four times a day.

Since her admission into Restoration Agape, Claudia has maintained her sobriety and has taken a lead in preparing meals for residents. On the weekends, Claudia prepares food for over 140 people who attend retreats on the property. While touring the property with program administrator Nancy Gonzalez, DPO Moore was told the residents work on site, meet with a pastor for counseling and their housing is fully paid for. The program relies on donations from a local church; however, DPO Moore learned they needed snacks, drinks and hygiene items.

DPO Moore came back to the office and spoke to her unit about how impressed she was with this program and how excited she was to see that her client was

improving her situation. "Hey unit! I visited a program today in Perris that has a legit desire to help people struggling with substance abuse," she told them. "They are a religious-based, fully funded by the church and are running low on supplies for their residents." She was motivated to help this program and wanted to donate some of the items they needed. With the assistance of her coworkers, she was able to collect two cases of water, a case of Gatorade, several boxes of snacks and enough hygiene packets for 20 residents.

DPO Moore, along with DPO Dianne Stuart and Senior Probation Officer Crystal Rivera delivered the needed items to Restoration Agape. They were very grateful and could not stop expressing their gratitude to DPO Moore and the Riverside County Probation Department. Ms. Gonzalez stated how as they grew up, they often had negative views or experiences with law enforcement officers. This gesture, however, helped to change that view and see officers in a new, positive light.

Claudia was very grateful for DPO Moore's support during her past three months at Restoration Agape and said she plans to remain in the program for the coming year.

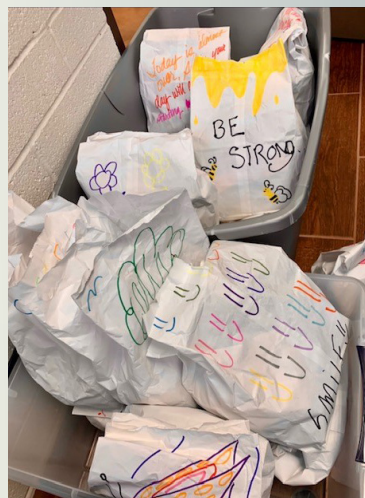
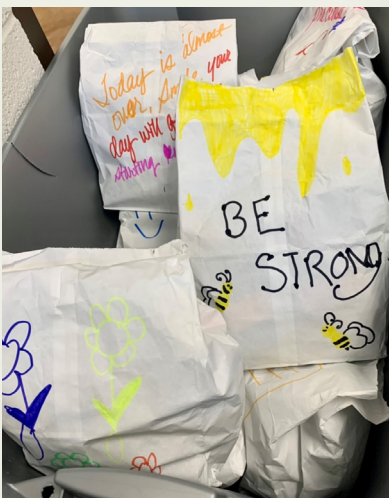
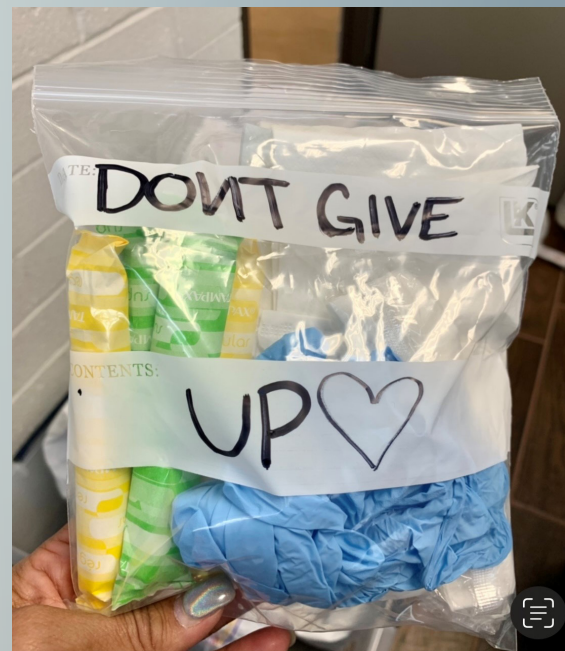


SPREADING CARE IN INDIO

BY SPO ANGELICA DANIEL

Two young female youth at Indio's Youth Treatment and Education Center, recently took notice of the harsh desert climate we experience in the Coachella Valley. Their minds quickly went to how difficult it must be to be homeless in the area during the summer months. They enthusiastically set off on a project to assemble care packages that could be distributed to local persons experiencing homelessness. They started by gathering extra snacks and water bottles and placing them in bags decorated with inspirational messages of hope and encouragement. This sparked an interest for our program volunteers and staff to join in on the project. Before we knew it, we had TONS of toiletry, hygiene and food items pouring in! What started with empathy and compassion from two young girls quickly developed into an all-hands-on-deck team effort! We donated almost 40 bags filled to the brim with towels, toothbrushes, wipes, feminine hygiene items, combs, snacks, waters and much more. One of the youths shared that she has experienced several bouts of homelessness in her young life, and wished that someone would have extended her a helping hand; this was her chance to be that "someone."

This is what we aim for in our program, for our youth to look past themselves and give back to the community. Cristian Jelmgberg, Director of Street Life Project, reports the care bags were given out over a two-day span. He shared the colorful hand drawn pictures and beautiful messages brought smiles to the recipients' faces, even more than what was inside the bags.



IN APPRECIATION OF RCP ARMED OFFICERS

In the pursuit of serving courts, protecting the community and changing lives, the Riverside County Probation Department utilizes more than 50 armed Deputy, Senior, and Supervising Probation Officers. These armed officers serve in a wide range of assignments, including adult supervision, transportation, professional standards, collaborative teams with partner agencies such as PACT and child sexual exploitation. These officers play a vital role in our department accomplishing its mission.

All department assignments are challenging, requiring dedication and skill to meet the high standards expected. However, these armed officers have also willingly accepted further responsibilities. They have voluntarily sought additional challenges and skills to effectively meet the demands of their complex assignments. They volunteered to complete several weeks of physically and mentally demanding training. They have undertaken the additional significant responsibility of qualifying with and carrying a firearm in the service of the department. The skills and equipment utilized by our armed officers enhance their knowledge and abilities to effectively serve in their assignments.

Regarding these assignments, most of our armed officers have the responsibility to supervise and assist those clients who have been assessed at the highest risk for violence or recidivism. In pursuit of their duties, our armed officers are regularly faced with additional challenges to the safety of themselves and the community. In seeking rehabilitation and success for their clients, our armed officers must balance the complex nature of case planning and support for rehabilitative services with the safety risks presented by some of these clients. Although the primary duty of armed officers is supervising high-risk clients, our armed officers have also participated with other department staff and law enforcement agencies with high-risk functions, such as warrant contacts, probation searches and transportation.



"NO PERSON WAS EVER HONORED FOR WHAT HE RECEIVED.
HONOR HAS BEEN THE REWARD FOR WHAT HE GAVE."

-CALVIN COOLIDGE

In all of these duties, our armed officers serve with incredible integrity, dedication, and excellence. Their commitment to additional training and going into these higher-risk scenarios has resulted in scores of drugs and weapons being removed from the community. In addition, probation clients actively engaged in criminal activity have been effectively engaged and detained. But it must not be forgotten that even more significant than their enforcement duties, our armed officers continue to provide a real, effective rehabilitative support to the clients with the highest risks.

There is no question our department could not fulfill its mission or meet the high expectations of the community and our justice partners without the efforts of our armed staff. We recognize you for your diligent and faithful service. We commend you for giving our department and our community your very best. We value all our staff members, but today we especially recognize our armed officers for their incredible efforts and contributions. For what you have given to your department, your community and your clients, we sincerely thank you.

RIVERSIDE COUNTY PROBATION DEPARTMENT ARMED STAFF:

ALMA ALCANTARA, ANTONIO ALVARADO,
RAY AMEY, MOISES BARRAGAN, TESSA BERGMAN,
MARIO BERMUDEZ, MICHAEL BRAZIL,
LINDSAY BRETADO, JACOB BROWN,
PETER CASTANEDA, HUGO CHAVEZ,
LILIANA CHAVEZ, DOTTIE CROSS,
JEREMY CRUZ, CHRISTOPHER DECOUDRES,
ESTEBAN DE LOS REYES,
DERRICK DORSEY-DAVIS, SARAH DURHAM,
JOHN DYER, AARON ELLINGWOOD,
PHILLIP ENGLISH, MICHELE EWING, HILDA FAVELA,
ANTONIO FIGUEROA, CHRIS FOSTER,
CINDY GIL, SAL GOMEZ, EDUARDO GONZALEZ,
TIM GOODWYN, BRIAN GRAY,
JONATHAN HALAS, JACK HANSEN,
KYLIE HANSEN, CARLOS HERNANDEZ-ALVEAR,
DENISE HUSS, CRISTINA KAYVON,
HEATHER KELLEY, STEVE KIKUCHI,
THOMAS KIRK, CHRISTOPHER MACHADO,
MICAH MACHADO, SUMMER MCGILL,
KEVEN MEARS, IRWIN MILITANTE, CESAR MUNOZ,
HENRY PASSMORE, JENNIFER RIVAS,
CHARLES ROBERTS, CESAR ROMERO,
CHRIS SANCHEZ, BRADLEY SANDIFER,
ADRIAN SANDOVAL, GREG ST. CLAIRE,
DANIEL ULRICH, GUILLERMO URQUIZA,
JOSE VALDEZ, TRAVIS ZMOTONY

SEARCH WARRANT LEADS TO GUN AND DRUG SEIZURE

BY DPO MOISES BARRAGAN

The Indio Police Department (IPD) Street Crimes Unit requested the East Post-Release Accountability and Compliance Team's (PACT) assistance serving a search warrant at an active probation client's home where a resident was suspected to be in possession of several handguns and rifles, as the suspect was posting photos on social media and selling gun parts to make the rifles and handguns fully automatic. As IPD and East PACT executed the search warrant at the home, a resident threw something over the back wall. The item turned out to be a baggie of M-30 Pills. During the search of the residence, a handgun was located in the suspect's room. A large safe was located containing five rifles, nine handguns, several large capacity magazines, and ammo. In another resident's room, approximately 1,000 M-30 pills and a large amount of cash was located. The client and three others were arrested.



RCP COUNTY-WIDE SWEEPS KEEP COMMUNITIES SAFE

On April 1, 2022, the RCP Mid County Division took part in a multi-agency probation and parole compliance sweep in April that yielded more than 115 arrests, fifteen pounds of meth, two pounds of heroin, twelve unlawfully possessed firearms and explosives components.

Riverside County Probation's Mid County & Southwest Divisions took part in a multi-agency probation and parole compliance sweep in March that resulted in 42 arrests, the recovery of one stolen vehicle, various stolen property, as well as the seizure of a large amount of Fentanyl, other narcotics, and drug paraphernalia. Five unlawfully possessed firearms were also seized as a result of the operation.



RCP DIRECT CONNECT

BULLETIN BOARD

GROUNDBREAKING CEREMONY AT NEW COURTHOUSES

Members of the Executive Team attended the groundbreaking ceremony for the new Juvenile and Family Court in Indio. It will include five courtrooms within a 53,255 sq. ft. space. Included in the picture is Presiding Judge John Monterosso, Assistant Presiding Judge Judith Clark, and Presiding Juvenile Court Judge Mark Petersen. This event was part of a historic two Court groundbreaking ceremonies on the same day. The second event was the groundbreaking for a five-courtroom building in Menifee.



COMMUNITY TOGETHERNESS CONFERENCE IN BLYTHE

Chief Ron Miller, Assistant Chief Chris Wright, Chief Deputy Tari Spear, Director Cristine Castro, Assistant Director Crystal Nieto and Supervising Probation Officer Tony Figueroa attended the 64th Annual Palo Verde Valley Outlook Conference, hosted by the City of Blythe. The event included community leaders and visiting dignitaries from across the county. Speakers shared the accomplishments and pending projects benefiting the city and discussed opportunities to increase tourism and revenue.



RIVERSIDE COUNTY DEPARTMENT HEADS MEETING

The RCP Executive Team attended the first in-person department head meeting with the Riverside County CEO in two years. Division Director LaToya Thomas presented on the department's efforts to address the Board of Supervisors proclamation declaring systemic racism as a public health crisis.



CHIEF MILLER TO SERVE AS CPOC SOUTHERN REGION CHAIR

Chief Miller will continue his commitment to helping to shape the future of probation in California, as he will be serving as the 2022 Chair for the Southern Region Chiefs of the Chief Probation Officers of California. Pictured (L-R) Chief Miller, Dan Prince – Imperial, Tamika Nelson – San Diego, Steve Sentman – Orange, Tanja Heitman – Santa Barbara, Tracy Reece – San Bernardino, and Mark Varela – Ventura, NP - Adolfo Gonzales – Los Angeles.



RCP SUPPORTS MOLINA HEALTHCARE BRA DRIVE

The RCP Victim Restitution and Resources Department participated in the Molina Healthcare Bra Drive in April and delivered bras to SAFE Family Justice Center to benefit sexual assault survivors. Pictured (left to right) are Victim Restitution Technicians Valbuena and Cussimano.



RAISING FLAGS AND HOPE

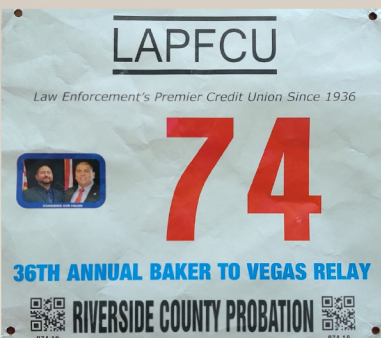
RCP Mid County Division staff joined HOPE Collaborative for its National Children's Memorial Flag Raising Ceremony. Abuse or neglect can have lifelong and even intergenerational impacts. Childhood maltreatment can be linked to later physical, psychological, and behavioral consequences as well as costs to society as a whole.



DPO JULIO BELTRAN HONORED

On May 2, 2022, Fallen Deputy Probation Officer Julio Beltran was honored at the California Peace Officers' Memorial Ceremony in Sacramento, as his name was added to the Peace Officers' Memorial Monument in recognition of making the ultimate sacrifice while serving and protecting the citizens of the State of California. The Beltran family was supported by Chief Miller, Assistant Chief Wright, Chief Deputy Spear, Director Jaime, and Supervising Probation Officers De Los Reyes and Roberts, who were proud to be present to pay tribute to Julio.





"120 miles of pavement, 20 stages, over 8,000 runners, guests, family members, and support staff. Hot days and cold nights. Blood. Sweat. Pride. Honor."

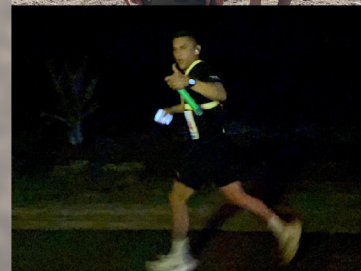
Congratulations to the 2022 RCP Baker to Vegas Challenge Cup Relay team for finishing first among the six competing probation teams, placing 8th out of 37 teams in the IMIX category and 56th out of 216 teams overall, earning a coveted trophy "mug" in the process! Baker to Vegas, or "B2V" as it is often called, is a grueling 120-mile, 20-stage law relay run that starts in Baker, California and ends in Las Vegas, Nevada.

It was the eighth consecutive race in which the team "mugged." The team completed the race with an overall team run time of 17:10:27 and three runners placed in the top 20 for each of the three hardest legs in the event. The team ran the event in honor of our fallen brothers Deputy Probation Officer Julio Beltran and Probation Corrections Officer Ryan Santana. Julio's wife Ke'Shae was at the event and traveled to each of the 20 stages to encourage the runners throughout the night.

This event wouldn't be possible without selfless Team Captains Kylie Hansen and Johnny Ortega and Running Captain Angel Ruiz, who dedicated countless hours to the team. And while the runners are an important piece to the race, the volunteers who drove, timed, caught, provided water and encouragement are equally as important. The team is already back at it preparing for next year and would love it if you'd like to join them for a run or as a volunteer.

"It was truly an honor to be the captain of the 2022 Baker to Vegas team. Coming back to the race after a two-year hiatus was a challenge. We struggled with finding enough team members, runners and volunteers. However, thanks to the dedication of each and every member of the team, we were able to finish as the best probation department in the race, with our best overall finish placement to date. We're ready for B2V 2023!"

-Team Captain SPO Kylie Hansen



PROMOTIONS

NASTASHA BEAM	SENIOR PROBATION OFFICER ➤ SUPERVISING PROBATION OFFICER	SOUTHWEST DIVISION
TRICIA CHADWICK	SENIOR PROBATION OFFICER ➤ SUPERVISING PROBATION OFFICER	SPECIAL SERVICES DIVISION
ESTEBAN DE LOS REYES	SENIOR PROBATION OFFICER ➤ SUPERVISING PROBATION OFFICER	DESERT DIVISION
DERRICK DORSEY-DAVIS	SENIOR PROBATION OFFICER ➤ SUPERVISING PROBATION OFFICER	METRO EAST DIVISION
SARAH DURHAM	SENIOR PROBATION OFFICER ➤ SUPERVISING PROBATION OFFICER	METRO EAST DIVISION
ANTONIO FIGUEROA	SENIOR PROBATION OFFICER ➤ SUPERVISING PROBATION OFFICER	DESERT DIVISION
COLLEEN FREITAG	SENIOR PROBATION OFFICER ➤ SUPERVISING PROBATION OFFICER	MANAGEMENT SUPPORT TEAM
KYLIE HANSEN	SENIOR PROBATION OFFICER ➤ SUPERVISING PROBATION OFFICER	SOUTHWEST DIVISION
TYRONE JONES	SENIOR PROBATION CORRECTIONS OFFICER ➤ SUPERVISING PROBATION OFFICER	AMC-YTEC
COLE LEWALLEN	SENIOR PROBATION OFFICER ➤ SUPERVISING PROBATION OFFICER	AMC-YTEC
LEON REYNOLDS	SENIOR PROBATION OFFICER ➤ SUPERVISING PROBATION OFFICER	SPECIAL SERVICES DIVISION
MARINA PEREZ	PROBATION CORRECTIONS OFFICER II ➤ SENIOR PROBATION CORRECTIONS OFFICER	INDIO JUVENILE HALL
DIANA GUZMAN	PROBATION CORRECTIONS OFFICER II ➤ SENIOR PROBATION CORRECTIONS OFFICER	SOUTHWEST JUVENILE HALL
MELISSA WALTER	PROBATION CORRECTIONS OFFICER II ➤ SENIOR PROBATION CORRECTIONS OFFICER	SOUTHWEST JUVENILE HALL
TESSA BERGMAN	DEPUTY PROBATION OFFICER II ➤ SENIOR PROBATION OFFICER	MID COUNTY DIVISION
BRANDEE CONTRATTO	DEPUTY PROBATION OFFICER II ➤ SENIOR PROBATION OFFICER	SPECIAL SERVICES DIVISION
LAVONDA DAVIS	DEPUTY PROBATION OFFICER II ➤ SENIOR PROBATION OFFICER	SPECIAL SERVICES DIVISION
JOHN DYER	DEPUTY PROBATION OFFICER II ➤ SENIOR PROBATION OFFICER	SOUTHWEST DIVISION
AARON ELLINGWOOD	DEPUTY PROBATION OFFICER II ➤ SENIOR PROBATION OFFICER	MID COUNTY DIVISION
CARLOS HERNANDEZ-ALVEAR	DEPUTY PROBATION OFFICER II ➤ SENIOR PROBATION OFFICER	MID COUNTY DIVISION
JOSHUA MORA	DEPUTY PROBATION OFFICER II ➤ SENIOR PROBATION OFFICER	DESERT DIVISION
JENNIFER RIVAS	DEPUTY PROBATION OFFICER II ➤ SENIOR PROBATION OFFICER	METRO EAST DIVISION
ELIZABETH SANTIAGO	DEPUTY PROBATION OFFICER II ➤ SENIOR PROBATION OFFICER	SOUTHWEST DIVISION
ASHLEY SEAGRAVES	DEPUTY PROBATION OFFICER II ➤ SENIOR PROBATION OFFICER	PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS BUREAU
JENNIFER SHERRELL	DEPUTY PROBATION OFFICER II ➤ SENIOR PROBATION OFFICER	METRO WEST DIVISION
ERICA SMITH	DEPUTY PROBATION OFFICER II ➤ SENIOR PROBATION OFFICER	SPECIAL SERVICES DIVISION
JOSE VALDEZ	DEPUTY PROBATION OFFICER II ➤ SENIOR PROBATION OFFICER	DESERT DIVISION
MARIA ORTIZ	PROBATION ASSISTANT ➤ PROBATION SPECIALIST	METRO EAST DIVISION
GINA RUBIO	PROBATION ASSISTANT ➤ PROBATION SPECIALIST	METRO WEST DIVISION
JENNIFER PERRY	OFFICE ASSISTANT III ➤ PROBATION ASSISTANT	DESERT DIVISION
HECTOR RAMIREZ	STOREKEEPER ➤ HOUSE MANAGER	AMC-YTEC
JACOB STACK	OFFICE ASSISTANT III ➤ SECRETARY II	PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS BUREAU
CHARLES DAWSON	OFFICE ASSISTANT III ➤ SECRETARY II	STAFF DEVELOPMENT AND BIOS
ESQUETINI ASHLEY	OFFICE ASSISTANT II ➤ OFFICE ASSISTANT III	AMC-YTEC
IESHA VAZQUEZ	PROBATION ASSISTANT ➤ DEPUTY PROBATION OFFICER I	SPECIAL SERVICES DIVISION
JOSE FERMIN POMPA NUNEZ	GARDENER ➤ BUILDING MAINTENANCE MECHANIC	INDIO JUVENILE HALL

THE MOST DISTINGUISHED HALLMARK OF THE AMERICAN SOCIETY IS AND ALWAYS HAS BEEN CHANGE.

ERIC SEVAREID



DEADLINE TO SUBMIT ARTICLES FOR THE NEXT ISSUE IS
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CHIEF PROBATION OFFICER

CHRISTOPHER H. WRIGHT
ASSISTANT CHIEF PROBATION OFFICER

TERESA SPEAR
CHIEF DEPUTY
PROBATION OFFICER

FIELD SERVICES

NATALIE RIVERA
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PROBATION OFFICER

FIELD SERVICES

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