

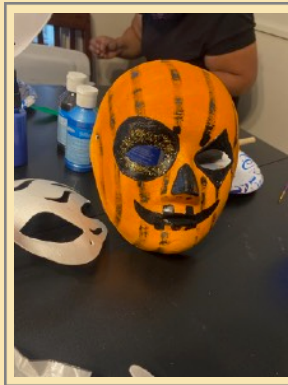
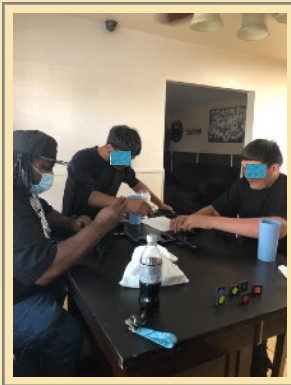


TELEPHONE  
661-396-2301

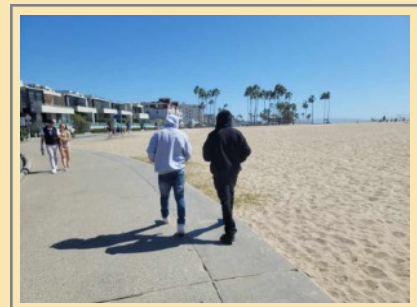
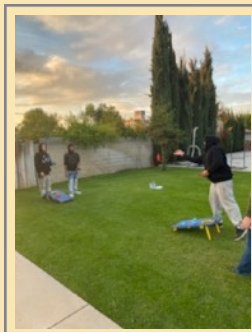
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## Boys Just Wanna Have Fun!

The boys at both STRTPs had a wonderful Halloween and an adventurous October 2021. One of the many events the boys participated in last month was a daily tour to Santa Monica beach. It was a beautiful day in Los Angeles that day. While at Santa Monica, they walked around the pier, rented bikes, and visited Venice Beach. After a full day at the beach, all the boys had a nice dinner at Joe's Crab Shack. Also this month, many of the boys participated in cooking activities, pumpkin carving, and art exercises. Also, they played a lot of board games and outside games like Cornhole with the staff at each facility. These games become very competitive and entertaining. The games teach the boys good sportsmanship plus show them how to work together to accomplishment goals through teamwork.



**“Kern Bridges is All About Building Lifelong Positive Memories”**



## ISFC Corner

### *Developmental Stages*

#### **6-12 years old**

- Orientated to parents and teachers
- Focused attention on learning and solving problems
- Enjoys group play with peers of same gender
- Often competitive
- Manages fears, anxieties, and aggression
- Impressed by older role models
- Learns behaviors from parents, peers, TV, role models
- May begin to experiment with drugs-more concerned with physical effects than social

#### *Ways to Encourage Growth*

- Teach coping skills
- Involve the child in setting up expectations, rules and consequences before problems arise
- Provide feedback on behavior
- Use peer assistance and positive role models (limit negative influences)
- Help them to become competent at making good decisions/choices
- Promote healthy eating habits

#### **13-18 years old**

- Focused on the present rather than the future
- Preoccupied with self-presentation and acceptance of peers
- Beginning of sexual exploration
- Seeking opportunities for independent moral judgment
- Feeling unsure and awkward in social skills
- Motivated by peer pressure regarding drug use more than physical effects
- Critical thinking skills are developed with practice

#### *Ways to Encourage Growth*

- Promote leadership skills and identifying the consequences of their choices
- Focus on self-respect
- Encourage goals
- Value and know their friends
- Open lines of communication

## Upcoming Trainings

### **December 1, 6:00 - 8:00pm**

“Cultural Competency & Best Practices with LGBTQ Youth”  
with Jennifer Robbins. RSVP to [jrobbins@kernbridges.com](mailto:jrobbins@kernbridges.com)

### **January 13, 6:00 - 8:00pm**

“Core Practice Model” with Ruth Jackson. RSVP to [rjackson@kernbridges.com](mailto:rjackson@kernbridges.com)

## CPR/1st Aid

CPR and First Aid trainings are on an as needed basis at this time. Contact your KBYH Social Worker if you need to renew your certification.

## ISFC Training & Support Group

### **December 14, 6:00 - 8:00 pm**

“CSEC and Runaways”

### **January 25, 6:00 - 8:00 pm**

“Welcoming a New Child into your Home”

ISFC trainings are open to any Kern County approved ISFC Resource Family. RSVP to Carrie Wombacher: [carrie@kernbridges.com](mailto:carrie@kernbridges.com)

# Kern Bridges Donations




KBYH founder Dan Marble recently paid KBYH a visit to drop off a Christmas donation. Dan has maintained a tradition of making a donation this time of the year for as long as we can remember. We appreciate this very special place that Dan founded over 30 years ago and his ongoing support of the work that we do. Thank you Dan.

KBYH recently received a grant from Citizen's Business Bank for the work KBYH was doing to provide caring and responsive solutions for Kern County's most vulnerable families by providing accessible services, such as the Court Ordered Supervised Family Visitation Program. Chris Aldritt, SVP and Center Manager of Citizens Business Bank on California Avenue delivered the check.

ALWAYS IN YOUR HEART  
Author Unknown  
Picture me as I was,  
Full of life and love.  
Although not with you now;  
I'm watching from above.  
I know how much you miss me,  
And I miss you too.  
It was my time to leave,  
As each of us will do.  
Although not in your arms,  
I'm always in your heart.  
The precious love we shared,  
means we're never far apart.

In Memoriam  
Laura Cruz  
Born March 18, 1945  
Died October 6, 2021



Laura Cruz was a resource parent at KBYH for over 12 years. Laura was also a resource parent in Los Angeles for 10 years prior to moving to Bakersfield. Laura was a compassionate, kind and loyal person who fostered many children through the years with KBYH. Laura was known to many of us as a person who could be relied on to care for children in times of need. Although she raised her children to adulthood, she still had a lot of love to give and adopted a lovely daughter, Kimberly. We had the pleasure to be a part of seeing her family grow and bloom. On October 6, 2021 Laura Cruz suddenly and unexpectedly passed away, and as her extended family, we mourn with her family and feel the pain and sting of this sudden loss. Laura Cruz was an amazing resource parent who, as Ruth, her long time Social Worker and friend recently stated, has left endearing qualities of herself in each of the kids whose lives she touched, and we will all miss her. Laura is survived by her children, many relatives and friends.

# Happy Birthday

## Child Birthdays

### December

- Andrew S. 1 17 years
- Noah S. 6 11 years
- David O. 22 18 years
- Eli'jon T. 27 2 years
- Drina L. 29 5 years



## KBYH Staff Birthdays

### December

- Avian Newsome 18
- Lori Lockard 28
- Kathy Irwin 30
- Shannon Martinez 31
- Ronnie Woffard 31



## Resource Family Parent Birthdays December

- Stephanie Martinez 3
- Benny Gutierrez 4
- Frank Cortez 4
- Michelle Trujillo 26



## Resource Parent Anniversaries

### December

- Mohesly & Hugo Hernandez 10 years
- Jenifer Royer 3 years



## Staff Anniversaries December

- Ruth Jackson 16 years
- Mary Ramos 2 years
- Ryan Buck 2 years
- Reggie Phillips 15 years
- Avian Newsome 2 years



# Happy Anniversary



# SAFETY



## How to prevent abuse

Most people want to love and care for their children, but parents can harm their children when stress, tiredness, lack of skills, information or support combine to make the pressures of caring for them overwhelming.

Understanding the behavior of parents and the possible triggers does not justify harm to a child or young person.

Parents are responsible for the care of their children and need to recognize when they need help before harm occurs.

With early identification and an appropriate response and support, children and young people can recover from their experiences of harm.

*-Courtesy of: <https://www.cyjma.qld.gov.au/protecting-children/how-prevent-abuse>*





## KBYH ADOPTION NEWS:



### **Daniels Family**

From left to right: Alaynah Daniels, Xavier (2), Ms. Laura Daniels, Kali Rose Daniels, Xavier Adkins-Webster, Patrick Daniels and Isaiah Daniels.

We take great pride in announcing the adoption of Alaynah and Isaiah, which was finalized on October 29, 2021. It was a long three years, but the happy moment arrived on that special day. Xavier (2) is expected to become the last to become a permanent family member. If everything goes well, the adoption will take place about March 2022.

This year, Christmas came early for Ms. Daniels. Congratulations to the Daniels family and we wish you the very best the future has to offer.