



KERN BRIDGES
YOUTH HOMES

NEWSLETTER

January 2015

kernbridges.com

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KERN BRIDGES YOUTH HOMES

Wishmases

Thank you to the businesses who participated in our annual Wishmas Tree campaign. We are continuously impressed by the generosity of our community and this year was no exception. Thank you for helping make the wishes of foster children a reality.

Wishmas Tree Sponsors

Beautologie	Halliburton
Borton & Petrini	Village Grill
Brown Armstrong	Stinsons
Chevron Valley Credit Union	Essentials Spa
First Solutions	Kwik Signs
Golden Valley High School	Mauricio's
Bakersfield Signs	Pro's Inc
Serenity Salon and Spa	J&M's Cafe
Premier Medical Associates	
Lorene's Coffee Shop	
Mauricio's	
Pappy's Coffee Shop	
TooFat Sandwiches	
Walter Mortensen Ins.	
Young Wooldridge	
Premier Equipment	
County Council	
Daniels Phillip Vaughan Bock	



Schmidt family fun



Upcoming Trainings

(please RSVP)

January 22, 6:00-8:00PM: "Avoiding the Misuse of Power" with Bibi Carrasco

February 7, 9AM-1PM: "Children's Record Maintenance" with Joe Ortega

March 23, 9AM-11AM: "Managing Aggressive Behavior" with Mark D.

Ongoing Trainings

Mark Dominguez will be offering the following trainings on an ongoing basis:

CPR/1st Aid Recertification (for anyone who has previously had CPR/1st Aid training): First Thursday of every month from 10:00am-Noon and from 6:00-8:00pm. Participants must RSVP by the Monday of the week of training.

CPR/1st Aid initial course (for those who have never had the training before): First Saturday of February, May, August, and November, 10:00am-5:00pm. Participants must RSVP by the Monday of the week of training.



Petrina Williams's father, Ernest Dorsey, passed away on December 9, 2014. He had played the role of a cherished grandfather to a multitude of foster children placed with Petrina. He was often available to the children for guidance and support. He died at the age of 84. He was married to his wife Mary for 62 years. Ernest was an active participant in many organizations. He was a member of the Patriot Guard Riders who escorted new recruits out and welcomed them back home. He was especially active and dedicated to the Toy Runs for 31 years with his motorcycle friends. We will miss him but will have many fond and grateful memories of him. And we hope there are many motorcycles in heaven.



For Christmas this year, the Waymire, Honaker, Greenwald, and Lake families decided it was better to give than to receive.

Through the "Together We Rise" program (togetherwerise.org), they put together 25 "Sweetcases" that include blankets, stuffed animals, coloring books, crayons, and other toys. These will be invaluable as foster children make caregiver transitions.



Child Birthdays

- January 8: Tre'sor H.
- January 10: Marlin V.
- January 23: Louis R.
- January 29: Isak R.



Foster Parent Birthdays

- January 5: Emelio L.
- January 11: Rose Hernandez
- January 15: Patrick Kennedy
- January 22: Jose Martinez
- January 22: Charles Thompson
- January 28: Sabrina Jennings

KBYH Staff Birthdays

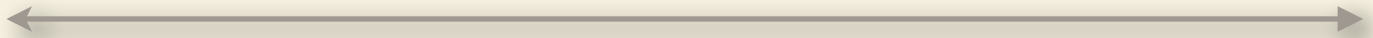
- January 9: Lillian Adkins
- January 16: Donte Williams
- January 26: Diana Gil
- January 28: Trina Smith

KBYH Staff Anniversaries

- Juan Vasquez: 8 years

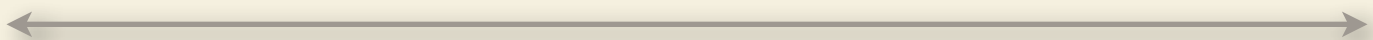
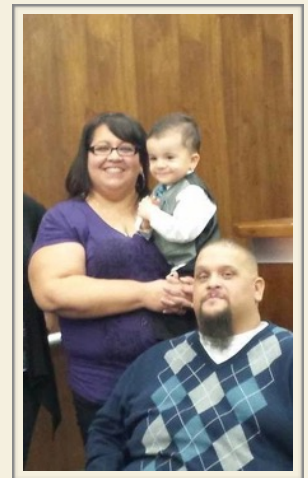
Foster Child of the Month: Alexandria C.

Kern Bridges Youth Homes is proud to present Alexandria C. as Foster Child for the Month of January 2015. Alexandria is a pretty child who lives with her two older sisters and a foster sister in the Carrillo home. This is her first year of winter in the Frazier Park area. She has been waiting for a good ground layer of snow so that she may participate in snow activities. Alexandria participated in the KBYH sponsored Camp Out of 2014 last summer. She made many friends at that time. Since then, she has made many other friends in Frazier Park. When not completing her homework, she has enjoyed playing and interacting with her sisters. The foster parents have always complimented Alexandria and have reported how well behaved and polite she is. We wish the very best for Alexandria this year and congratulate her for being selected Child of the Month.



Foster Family of the Month: Angel and Kelli Cortez

KBYH would like to congratulate the Cortez family on their adoption! On December 19, 2014, the Cortez family grew by one adorable little guy, Angel Cortez! It was a long road, but the Cortez family persevered and made it to finalization. Kelli and Angel have been a KBYH certified foster family since 2012. Congratulations on your new addition!



DHS Social Worker of the Month: Yolanda Covian

We proudly recognize Yolanda Covian as Kern Bridges' DHS Social Worker of the Month for January. Ms. Covian has always been available to care for the issues and needs of the foster children which were placed in our care. We find her to be a highly competent professional who is thoroughly familiar with children's issues and who has advocated for foster children. Whenever we required assistance, Ms. Covian promptly responded, greatly helping to resolve our case management issues. Ms. Covian is a friendly, cheerful and fair social worker who is lauded and highly respected by our staff. We are grateful for her support. Congratulations Ms. Covian on your selection as Social Worker of the Month.

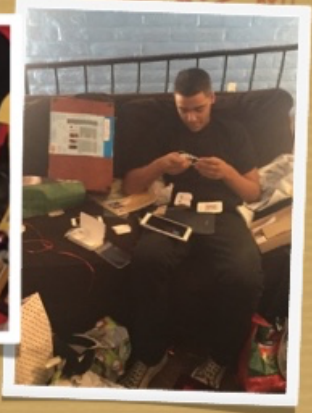


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There are plenty of reasons why they say winter is the most magical time of the year for children. From secret santa, delicious food to ringing in a new year, what's not to love? Our (KBVH) greatest joy during this time of the year, is to see the children living in our group homes smile from ear to ear when they receive unique charitable Christmas gifts. To all of our donors, please accept our heartfelt thanks for your gift donations. KBVH Christmas was a huge success, in part due to your help. Thanks again from KBVH



Christmas Mania 2014 at Kern Bridges Group Homes



flt-1657
December
25, 2014



Casa De Niño's Hits the Snow Over Winter Break

A major component of program at Kern is Adventure.

In addition to the many that can be gained from activities, therapeutic

residents to discover new and productive ways to fill their leisure hours or to process stresses and pressures. For individuals who previously spent much of their days acquiring and using drugs, or who responded to stress by engaging in self-harming activities, learning healthy new pursuits can be a key element in promoting recovery and preventing relapse.



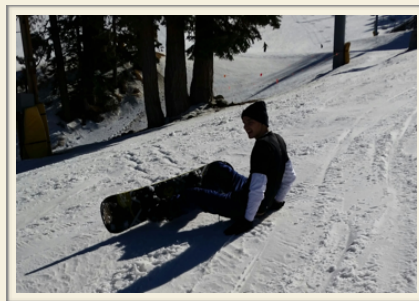
our treatment Bridges Youth Homes

therapeutic benefits participating in these recreation also allows

Many activities are within 2 or 3 hours of home

Mountain High is home to not one, but three distinguished resorts. Even though they are only a mile apart, they offer stunning differences in both terrain and atmosphere.

West Resort: The West Resort is filled with a seemingly endless assortment of technical trails and skillfully-designed terrain features for progressive riders and skiers of all skill levels. It is the most youthful of the three areas and the site of many on-hill contests, promotions and live performances. It is also Southern California's only local resort open five nights-a-week peak season.



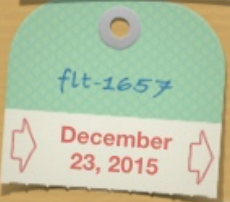
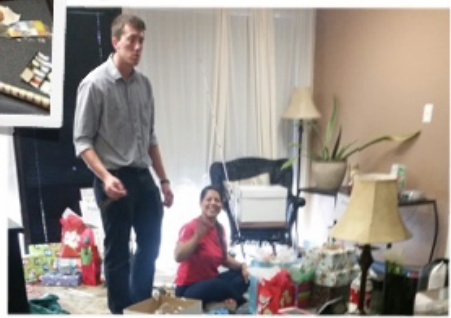
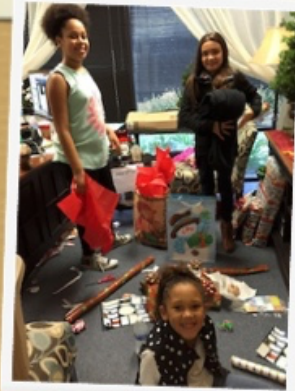
“There are many opportunities to fail on the way to success. What sets us apart is that we have caring staff who are skilled and knowledgeable. Teenagers need to know that they have an adult who is trustworthy before they are willing to try new experiences. Most of all... we will be there to motivate them, and help them get back on their feet and try it again”.

- Mark Dominguez MA Psych, KBYH Social Worker.

Every Year, KBYH host a volunteer day two days before Christmas to wrap all the donated gifts for our youth. This year, we had two of our Board Members, Jeff Petrini and Stephanie Baker donated their time to help with some of the volunteer festivities. KBYH just want to thank all of you who helped with this event; even to the small children who put in their donated time. "There is not a more pleasing exercise of the mind than gratitude".
 —.Insenh Addison



KBYH Volunteer Day-Wrapping Gifts that makes a Difference!!





SAFETY

Sleep Safety

There is nothing more beautiful than a sleeping baby, especially for parents who are often overtired themselves. By following a few simple tips, you can create a safer sleeping environment for your baby.

The Hard Facts

Unintentional suffocation is the leading cause of injury-related death among children under 1 year of age. Nearly three-quarters of suffocation deaths among infants are from accidental suffocation or strangulation in bed.

Top Safety Tips

- Because most infant suffocation occurs in the sleeping environment, babies should always sleep in a safe crib, bassinet or pack-n-play.
- Lay your baby on his or her back for every sleep.
- We know that stuffed animals, bumpers and all those cute accessories make a baby's crib seem warm and cozy. Unfortunately, they can often do more harm than good. Soft bedding can block a baby's airway during sleep. A firm mattress covered with a tight-fitting crib sheet is all you need to make your baby sleep like a baby.
- Room-sharing is a safer option than having your baby sleep in bed with you. Place your baby's crib, play yard or bassinet in your room for more convenient feeding and close contact.
- Remember to always return your baby to his or her own crib when you're ready to go back to sleep. This is tough sometimes because parents are often more tired than the babies, but it is much safer.

-From Safe Kids Worldwide

