

Finally A Forever!



On July 1, 2016, KYBH's own CEO, John Bacon, adopted RJ. While the ceremony was brief, it was a long time coming. Especially for RJ, who had spent the better part of 15 years in and out of the foster care system. You can find a video slide show of RJ's journey to adoption on the KBYH Facebook page. Many congrats to John and RJ!



Congrats

- Marlin V:** Accepted at UC Davis
- Anthony:** Graduated from Head Start
- Joshua:** Going to Cuesta College
- Lilianna:** Graduated from Head Start
- Courtney:** Going to Bakersfield College



Upcoming Trainings

(please RSVP)

July 13, 6-8PM: "Communication" with Lillian Adkins

August 18, 6-8PM: "Managing Aggressive Behavior" with Mark Dominguez

September 10, 9-11AM: "Positive Discipline/Self-Esteem" with Ruth Jackson

October 12, 6-8PM: "Attachment" with Jessica and Carrie

Ongoing Trainings

Mark Dominguez will be offering the following trainings on an ongoing basis (participants must RSVP by the Monday of the week of training):

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.

CPR/1st Aid-Initial Course (*for those who have never had the training before*): First Saturday of February, May, August, and November, 10:00am-3:00pm.

Going to the Beach!!!

Sand, water, and kids- it's a natural combination for easy family fun. California beaches offer appealing, family-friendly features, such as calm water for new swimmers, tide pools for intrepid explorers, picnic grounds for family gatherings, wetlands alive with birds and sand crabs, and, in some cases, concessions for full-day sustenance. Con't on next page...



Save the Date

KBYH's annual foster care summer camp will be held July 31-August 3. If you are a KBYH foster parent and are interested in sending your child to camp, please be sure to contact your KBYH social worker.

Child Birthdays

August 4: Wendy D.
 August 8: Efrain C.
 August 8: Liliana G.
 August 16: Kayla M.
 August 22: Charisma D.
 August 26: Madelyn L.
 August 27: Ella L.
 August 28: Kariann P.
 August 28: Anthony G.



Foster Parent Birthdays

August 1: Jennifer Long
 August 7: Jody Nichols
 August 11: Chris Boss
 August 17: Armando Reyna
 August 22: David Hibbard

KBYH Staff Birthdays

August 17: Willie Tenner
 August 23: Jim VanderZwan

KBYH Staff Anniversaries

Clark Weathers: 1 Year
 Nicole Juarez: 1 Years
 Tienna Ortiz: 1 Year
 Diana Gil: 2 Years
 Judy Pilchard: 2 Years
 Fernando Ortega: 3 Years
 Tonya Person: 4 Years
 Marlon Wilkerson: 8 Years
 Lillian Adkins: 17 Years

Our group home boys at KBYH went on a few beach outings during the month of June. First, they traveled to Ventura Beach for a water battle. While at the beach, they split into groups and had water fights using water balloons and water guns.

Next, the boys traveled to Pismo Beach for some boogie boarding and beach football. Also, some of the boys had a great time searching for sea shells and polished rocks on the shore. The boys also

went to Santa Monica Beach to do some surfing and San Pedro for stand-up paddle boarding.



Foster Child of the Month: Paige G.

We take great pleasure presenting Paige G. as the child of the month for July. Paige is a well-mannered, polite and cheerful girl who is happy in her placement. Paige enjoys playing sports, especially volleyball, and is a talented artist. Hopefully soon she will put her skills to use by painting the wall of one of our visitation rooms. Also, she has been taking college preparatory classes and intends to attend college. She enjoys accompanying her foster mother and enjoys helping the family. We are glad to have Paige as part of our family and hope that her stay with us is fruitful. Congratulations on your selection as foster child of the month.

Foster Family of the Month: Griselda Carrillo

This month we would like to honor Griselda Carrillo. Griselda is the daughter of Maria Carrillo and is her alternate caregiver. Griselda helped her parents with the foster care children before her father's passing. When her mother lost her husband and son, Griselda was right by her mother's side keeping the foster children and family stable. She has clearly demonstrated her skills as a caretaker under pressure. Griselda is well liked and respected by the foster children in her mother's care. She enjoys the children and is always smothering them with kindness and attention. Thank you Griselda for being a kind, caring and generous person.

Social Worker Spotlight: Eddy Perry

This month we are proud to present Eddy Perry as Kern Bridges Youth Homes' selection as social worker of the month for July. Mrs. Perry is a skilled social worker who has always been available to care for the issues or needs of the foster children she oversees. She is thoroughly familiar with her cases and she has promptly responded to any requests for help. Mrs. Perry has always been cheerful, professional and accessible when dealing with KBYH social workers. On complicated or sticky issues, Mrs. Perry has given us results or solutions rather than excuses. She is a dedicated Social Worker who is always at the service of the foster child or social worker. Mrs. Perry is highly respected and trusted, and we are grateful for her support. Congratulations, Mrs. Perry on this well deserved recognition.



SAFETY

Fire Season

Despite a relatively wet winter season, the U.S. Forest Service has recently warned of a difficult wildfire season ahead for this year in California. In light of this, foster parents are reminded to take fire-prevention measures with respect to their own facilities and to adequately plan for fire-related emergencies as indicated in their respective Emergency Disaster Plans. The California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection offers helpful fire safety and emergency planning tips and related, information online. Foster parents are requested to report any fires or explosions occurring in or on their facility premises or nearby wildfires either affecting the safe operation of their home or forcing a relocation to CCL within the agency's next working day, and during its normal business hours. CCL tracks fires that may pose a danger to our facilities on a seven day a week, 24-hour basis. By notifying us if you have to relocate, we can assist you to ensure that your residents and children are safe and get the services they need.

Camp Forever

For the second year, KBYH is proud to offer an adoption family camp that we call Camp Forever. If you have adopted in Kern County and your child(ren) are at least 5 years old, look for this flier or contact KBYH for more information.

Thank you to the Kern County Department of Human Services and the Children's Home Society of California for their support in making this camp possible.

CANYON CREEK
RETREAT
CENTER



Nestled in the Angeles National Forest, CCRC is a completely self-contained campground located within 1.5 hours of Bakersfield. The 81 acre complex features a ropes course, climbing wall, go-karts, archery, hiking, fishing, frisbee golf, swimming, fire pit, large soccer field, and much more. Visit <http://www.canyoncreeksportscamp.com/home.asp> for more information about the campground.

KERN BRIDGES YOUTH HOMES
1327 13th St. Rd.
Bakersfield, CA 93307

CAMP
FOREVER



August 26-28, 2016

Kern Bridges Youth Homes and the Kern County Department of Human Services invite you to join us for a weekend of fun and relaxation with fellow adoptive families at the Canyon Creek Retreat Center facility located near Lake Castaic.

Download a registration form at www.kernbridges.com or email jimv@kernbridges.com

