

Integrating Adventure

KBYH STRTP's recognize the isolation related to the COVID-19 pandemic is causing both physical and mental health concerns for children across the world. As our communities make slow progress to reopen recreational activities after the coronavirus shutdown, we have made safe and strategic plans to get our boys back to being active. Recently, we adventured to Santa Monica and Ventura beaches. While at the beaches, the boys rented bikes and scooters to ride the bike trails. Also, the boys have spent time at River Walk Park and Buena Vista Lake. During the outings, our boys had the opportunity to fish and BBQ with our staff. And at the end of the month, we rented a Waterslide Jumper for a few days which kept our boys busy at home. Despite COVID shutdowns, our mission continues to help them thrive by providing nurturing and healthy relationships through experiences that will last a lifetime.

"Residential Treatment is an Intervention, not a Destination"



Upcoming Trainings

August 19, 6:00-8:00 PM
“Managing Aggressive Behavior”
with Mark Dominguez
RSVP @ mark@kernbridges.com

September 5, 9:00-11:00 AM
“Effects of Domestic Violence on
Children and Non-minor
Dependents”
with Marina Hernandez
RSVP @ marina@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

Trainings are being offered via Zoom and
are open to any Kern County approved
ISFC Resource Family.
RSVP to Carrie Wombacher
carrie@kernbridges.com

August 25, 6:00PM - 8:00PM
“Substance Abuse”

September 22, 6:00PM - 8:00PM
“Teenagers and Unique Challenges”

School's "back"!

As kids prepare to go "back" to school, we offer the following suggestions:

- 1) Begin working them back towards a more regular sleeping pattern. Many youth have grown accustomed to staying up late and sleeping late into the morning. Most schools will be requiring students to log in during normal school hours and as such, students will have to acclimate to a more regular sleep cycle. Don't wait until the day school starts to get them back on track. Start a week early and ease them back into a school-friendly sleep cycle.
- 2) Be sure you have the technology that will be required in order for your students to fully participate in their classes. If you don't have what you need, please let us know before the school year starts.
- 3) KBYH is working to be able to offer some tutoring services, either in person or via Zoom. If you find that any of your foster youth need some extra assistance, please let us know and we will do our best to help you find the right solution.
- 4) Watch for updates from your local schools as things will surely continue to change and evolve.



August



Child Birthdays

- Ignacio R. 8/3 16 years
- Isis T. 8/5 5 years
- Victoria G. 8/13 17 years
- Damirrah L. 8/14 5 years
- Jaxton S. 8/19 8 years

Resource Parent Birthdays

- Chris Boss. 8/11
- Amando Reyna 8/17

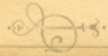
KBYH Staff Birthdays

- Michael O'Doherty 8/17
- Jim VanderZwan 8/23

KBYH Staff Anniversaries

- Alfredo Hernandez 2 years
- Fernando Ortega 7 years
- Bobby Brown 2 years
- Saxton Zachary 1 year
- Judy Pilchard 6 years
- Marlon Wilkerson 12 years
- Stephen Zuniga. 3 years
- Diana Gil 6 years
- Nestor Serna 1 year





Resource Family Spotlight: The Gutierrez's

On 6/24/20 a successful raid took place upon the Gutierrez Resource Family Home through COVID-19 weather. The Baby Stork delivered a direct hit on the Gutierrez home leaving the surprised family with a 5 lb. 9 oz. boy. In celebration of this event, the family named their son Atticus Jasper Gutierrez. Atticus joins his brother Dawson. We welcome Atticus to the Kern Bridges Youth Homes family and we congratulate the Gutierrez family.

Child Spotlight: Micah M.

Micah M. Micah is a 16 year-old junior at Independence High School. He resides in the home of C. Caudillo. Micah is respectful, goal-oriented and interesting. He is an avid gamer and has proven to be very skillful at his craft. In fact, recently Micah got the attention of a national company who offered to sponsor him. Micah strives to pursue gaming professionally in the future and we have complete confidence that he will be successful in whatever he puts his mind too. Congrats Micah, you rock!

Kern Bridges Youth Homes Safety Committee

The Kern Bridges Youth Homes Safety Committee is an administrative body comprised of KBYH employees. This body represents the employees of Kern Bridges, Resource Families and clients. Presently, Joe Ortega, FFA Social Worker, serves as member and committee chairman.

The Safety Committee meets at least quarterly and the chairman is a member of the Performance and Quality Improvement (PQI) Committee. The committee primarily reports to the KBYH Chief Executive Officer (CEO). It also is an advisory body. It responds to the needs of the agency and may undertake tasks which may be directed by the CEO.

We encourage anyone to contact the Safety Committee on any safety matters. One may contact the committee through telephone, mail, e-mail or in person. Either of the following may be contacted:

Kathy Irwin 661-396-2301 or kirwin@kernbridges.com
Joe G. Ortega 661-619-5335 or jortega@kernbridges.com

One may also contact any staff member and ask that a safety concern, report or idea be forwarded to the Safety Committee.