



NEWSLETTER

March 2015

kernbridges.com

TELEPHONE
661-396-2301

FACSIMILE
661-396-2349

KERN BRIDGES YOUTH HOMES



**SOCIAL WORK
PAVES THE WAY FOR**



KBYH would like to give a big shout out and a “Hoo-Rah!” to all the social workers out there who work so hard to make our community a better place. Thank you for ALL the challenges you willingly take on to assist those who need a hand up. **HAPPY SOCIAL WORKER APPRECIATION MONTH!**

KBYH EMPLOYEE RECOGNITIONS

Congratulation to **Carrie Wombacher**, who was awarded KBYH’s Employee of the Year for the FFA/Adoptions programs and to **Trina Smith**, who was awarded Employee of the Year for the Group Home programs

Upcoming Trainings

(please RSVP)

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

April 11, 9AM-11 AM: “Trauma-Based Therapy” with Lillian A.

May 13, 6PM-8PM: “Positive Discipline/Self-Esteem” with Ruth J.

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-3:00pm. Participants must RSVP by the Monday of the week of training.

KBYH’s Newest Forever Family



Daren Brians and Jennifer Mercier are the proud adoptive parents of Aiden Wayne and Jesse David. It was a long road to adoption on February 20, 2015. Despite both boy’s medical challenges, they accepted them into their hearts and home.

Their extended family has been a great support to the parents and the boys. Thank you everyone for making this adoption possible and congrats to this new family!

CONGRATS!!

Angelica: Earned three awards:
Citizenship, Perfect Attendance, AR

Thomas and Louis: Great
participation in basketball



2014 Employee Recognition Award Program



December 10, 2014
10:30 a.m.

Kern County Administrative Center
Board of Supervisors Chambers
1115 Truxtun Avenue, Bakersfield

On December 10, Rick Ramirez earned the Sustained Effort Employee Recognition Award from the County of Kern. One must have demonstrated five years of continued excellence to earn this award. That's quite a challenge. That is Rick's primary employment. Rick works as fill-in maintenance for Kern Bridges and has bailed us out on more than one occasion. He is the epitome of hard work and accepts whatever endeavor or challenge he faces. Congratulations to Rick and thanks for being part of our team as well.

Child Birthdays

March 20: Cheyenne G.
March 24: Victor G.



Foster Parent Birthdays

March 1: Benito Carillo
March 1: Maurice Harice
March 1: David Williams
March 6: Jennifer Mercier
March 14: Christen Suorsa
March 18: Laura Cruz
March 24: Anita Caudillo

KBYH Staff Birthdays

March 19: Mark Dominguez
March 26: Carrie Wombacher
March 30: Ida Rebollosa

Foster Child of the Month: Kaylie C.

Kern Bridges Youth Homes is proud to present Kaylie C. as Foster Child for the Month of March. Kaylie is a pretty little girl who lives with two of her sisters and a foster sister in the Carrillo Certified Home. She attends elementary school in Lebec, CA. This is her first exposure to cold weather in the Frazier Park area. She has been waiting for a good ground layer of snow so that she may participate in snow activities. Kaylie 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 provided favorable comments about Kaylie. We wish the very best for Kaylie this year and congratulate her for being selected Child of the Month.

Foster Family of the Month: Jesus and Hortencia Salas

This month we honor Hortencia and Jesus Salas, who have been foster parents with KBYH again since December 2012. They had already raised their own children and took legal guardianship of 2 children, but they still felt the desire to become foster parents again. The Salas home provides each child with a loving and stable environment. It is apparent that each child receives the unconditional love, nurturing and parenting they need in order to become happy, well adjusted children. The children are always well dressed. The family has received accolades from DHS and biological parents on how well they take care of children placed in their home. The Salas home is filled with lots of love and believe that every child deserves a home, as evidenced by them willing to adopt the three foster children in their care. The children already feel like they are a permanent part of the family. Thank you Salas family for opening up your heart and home.

Therapist Spotlight: Carlita Coley

This month we would like to spotlight Carlita Coley. Carlita is a therapist at Henrietta Weil Child Guidance Clinic. Carlita has worked with many of Kern Bridges Foster/Adoptive children. She easily establishes positive rapport with each child with whom she works. Carlita has gone above and beyond her work as a therapist. She has shown dedication and commitment to her children, including their foster/adoptive families and biological family members. She has made it a point to be involved in each child's case plan by attending TDM's, meeting with extended family members, and having a flexible work schedule. Thank you Carlita for all your hard work and dedication in putting our children first!



KBYH GROUP HOMES

Last month (Feb 2015), our group home boys went paint balling at Gladiator Paintball Park in San Luis Obispo, CA. Paintball is a military type war game which is played with paintball guns. The competitive game can be played in teams or individually where every person is for themselves. It really gives people the mindset of war and a feeling of being in real combat. This was such an amazing event for our boys.



Gladiator Paintball Park.... San Luis Obispo, CA



fit-1657
February 2015



Despite the LA Lakers atrocious season, the group home boys were still excited to see them in action last month against the Brooklyn Nets. Even though, the Lakers loss, the boys had such a wonderful time. According to one of our boys, " just the ambience alone was shocking. To seat around 19,000 plus fans was sensational". After the game, the boys purchased souvenirs and ate dinner at a very nice restaurant of their choice.



A Professional Thrill - Laker Nation!!!!



fit-1657
February 2015





SAFETY

10 Home Safety Tips for Kids

1. Never Leave Children Alone Near Water
2. Keep Cleaning Materials and Other Chemicals Away from Children
3. Any Firearms Should Be Unloaded and Locked Away
4. Keep Sleeping Areas as Bare as Possible, Especially for Babies
5. Cover Electrical Outlets and Protect Children from Electrical Wires



6. Keep Small Items and Food Out of Reach
7. Install a Smoke Alarm and Carbon Monoxide Detector
8. Secure Windows, Block Stairways and Lock Doors
9. Keep Children Safe Around the Family Pet
10. Be Prepared for an Emergency

