

661-396-2301

NEWSLETTER.



December 2020

kernbridges.com

SUPERVISED VISITATION PROGRAM DREAM TEAM



FACSIMILE

661-396-2349

My name is Patty G., Bakersfield born and raised (well technically Arvin). I'm a singlemother who's world revolves around Mia and Logan. I completed my Bachelors in Psychology during this COVID-19 Pandemic. Currently, I am a Sergeant serving in the United States Army Reserves for the past 4 years. If I'm not playing mom or soldier, I enjoy a great long hike, lifting some weights and kickboxing. In order to stay sane and provide the best version of me, I find self-care a very important part of my daily life. I enjoy traveling and experiencing the world (I've been to Middle East-Kuwait, Dubai, Qatar, Bahrain, Korea, Hawaii, & Thailand). Fun fact, my first plane ride was on my way to Army basic training

I'm Cindy, the Supervised Visitation Program Coordinator. You may recognize me from my 6 years as a resource parent with Kern Bridges. I just couldn't walk away from the people I had come to love and I was blessed to join the KBYH team and combine two things I am passionate about: children in foster care and organizing stuff! things I am passionate about, children in foster care and organizing stuff!





I was raised in San Diego and came to Bakersfield about 20 years ago. I am a mother of two and also a new grandmother who enjoys spending time with my grandchildren whenever possible. I enjoy hiking, hot yoga, and Zumba as I enjoy being active with self-care in mind. I was raised with five sisters and two brothers and recently learned of four more siblings that I had not met until last year. I am currently a social worker for DHS and work in the Employment & Financial Services Division. I look forward to finishing school in May with my Masters Degree in Social Work and eager to see what the future has for me in my career.



Hello everyone my name is Brianna C. I love to go on trips and hikes. I love being adventurous and trying new things. I am a senior at California State University, Bakersfield. My major is Sociology with a concentration in Human Services. I hope to eventually become a School Social Worker.

They call me Ms. Netta. I was born and raised in Bakersfield. I have seen this city transform from a small-town to a metropolitan city, and throughout these changes, I too have changed. I became a wife twice, mother of 4, grandmother of 12 (ten of them are boys), and a great-grand mother to another boy (lol, basketball here we come). I have been with KBYH for 14 years and worked as a childcare worker in both KBYH Group homes and recently joined the Supervised Visitation Program.

I have watched KBYH transform into this mega center that covers many of the needs of our youth today.

-Claudia Trevizo

My name is Shannan M. I was born and raised in Bakersfield and graduated from Frontier High School where I maintained honor roll. At 20 years old I became a mother to my son. For as long as I can remember I have had a huge place in my heart for loving and caring for children. I was a nanny to 6 children out of my own home and I am now working at the visitation center for KBYH. I

enjoy building relationships with the children and their families here and I am thankful to be a part of such an amazing company.



SAFETY

Safety Guidelines for this holiday season

- 1. Stay up to date on COVID-19 infection numbers in your area: You can find a county by county breakdown of infection rates and tier levels at covid19.ca.gov/safer-economy/.
- 2. Stay Home if You are Sick: Persons in care, facility staff and others who are sick should not plan to visit each other. Those who are sick should stay away from others. People at higher risk of severe illness or death from COVID-19 (such as older adults and people with chronic medical conditions) are strongly urged to use alternatives to in-person visits. Be sure to contact a doctor or physician and request a COVID-19 test. California also has several state-sponsored testing sites that are free of charge.
- 3. Face Coverings: Face coverings must be worn in accordance with the California Department of Public Health (CDPH) Guidance on the Use of Face Coverings, unless an exemption is applicable. Note in Regard to Children and Youth: As a reminder, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) advises that face coverings should never be worn by children under the age of two. Children over the age of two are highly encouraged to wear face coverings. 4. Enhance Good Hygiene: Wash or sanitize your hands often, and especially before serving or eating food. Clean and disinfect frequently touched items regularly. Have hand sanitizer available in addition to hand washing areas. Use single-use towels or towelettes or paper towels and paper or plastic goods, whenever possible.
- 5. Consider preparing individually wrapped portions of food instead of family style meals. Or, consider having only one person serve food.
- 6. Practice Physical Distancing: Stay at least six feet away (three or more adult steps) from all other people who are not part of your own household, especially while talking, eating, drinking, and singing.
- 7. Minimize Mixing: Plan activities to limit mixing between different households. In accordance with California Department of Public Health (CDPH), gatherings of more than three households are prohibited in California. Californians are permitted to gather with a maximum of two other households. This means that if you are spending time with others, you must stick with a maximum of three households (including your own), and not mingle with others.
- 8. Gather Outdoors: Outdoor activities are safer than indoor activities. If an outdoor event is not possible, avoid crowded, poorly ventilated, or fully enclosed indoor spaces. Increase ventilation by opening windows and doors to the extent that is safe and feasible based on the weather.
- 9. Keep it Short: Gatherings should be two hours or less. The longer the duration, the risk of transmission increases. Providers should avoid hosting gatherings in the facility to the extent possible.
- 10. Consider reducing non-essential travel. Travel can accelerate the spread of COVID-19. As of November 13, 2020, a travel advisory is in effect for California, Oregon, and Washington. Consider having digital gatherings in lieu of in-person gatherings.

Upcoming Trainings

December 2, 6:00 - 8:00pm

"Cultural Competency & Best Practices with LGBTQ Youth" with Jennifer Robbins. RVSP to <u>jrobbins@kernbridges.com</u>

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 open to any Kern County approved ISFC Resource Family and include child care (over 2 years old) and dinner.

RSVP to Carrie Wombacher carrie@kernbridges.com

December 15, 6:00 - 8:00pm

"CSEC and Runaways"

FFA CHRISTMAS PARTY

Due to COVID-19, KBYH's Annual FFA Christmas party, normally scheduled for December 6 at Rollerrama, will be held at KBYH on December 13 from 1:30-3:30. Event will be held following all CDC and state COVID-19 guidelines. Details TBD.











Child Birthdays

Andrew S. 12/1 16 years
Noah S.. 12/6 10 years
David O. 12/22 17 years
Eli'jon T, 12/27 1 year
Drina L. 12/29 4 years



Resource Parent Birthdays

Benny Gutierrez 12/4Frank Cortez 12/4

KBYH Staff Birthdays



Avian Newsome 12/18
Kathy Irwin 12/30
Shannon Martinez 12/31
Ronnie Woffard 12/30

KBYH Staff Anniversaries

Ruth Jackson
Reggie Phillips
Ryan Buck
Avian Newsome
Mary Romas
15 years
14 years
1 year
1 year







Kern Bridges Resource Parent on the Month: Laura Cruz

Laura Cruz was certified on July 20, 2009. She was a resource parent in

Los Angeles for 10 years prior to moving to Bakersfield. Laura has a wealth of knowledge and continues to make a positive impact on the children's lives placed in her home. The Cruz RH has wonderful qualities which allow each child placed in her home the opportunity to be assimilated into the family. The Cruz RH provides numerous activities and family outings in and out of the home. Laura stays connected to the children long after they leave her home. The children affectionately called her "Grandma". Laura is actively involved in the medical, educational and mental health needs of each child placed in her home. Laura has traveled to Children's Hospital in Madera and attended many specialized appointments. Laura attends CFTM's, IEP's, school conferences and counseling services. Thank you Laura for opening up your heart and home.

Child Spotlight:

Kern Bridges Child of the Month: Jaxton Smith

This month we would like to recognize Jaxton Smith as child of the month. Jaxton was placed in the Doverspike RH home on July 12, 2019 along with his 2 brothers. Jaxton is a very bright, friendly, polite and curious child with a warm personality. He stated that he likes living in the home and calls his Resource Parents "Mom and Dad". Jaxton has been able to handle the COVID-19 crisis with no issues or concerns. He attends 3rd grade at Harding Elementary School. Virtual learning has not been an issue for Jaxton as evidenced by him receiving straight "A's" for the first reporting period.



Obituary for Kevin James Schull

Our loving Kevin James Schull, passed away peacefully in his sleep on October 26, 2020 after a long battle with respiratory issues. Kevin was brave to the end, and continued to bring joy and humor to his family and friends with his "Tales from the Dale" and "Driver's reports".

Kevin is survived by his parents, Gary and Sherry Schull, his wife, Deborah Schull, 3 children, Elizabeth Schull, Krystyna Adams, and Peter Schull, 4 grandchildren, Alaina Adams, Serenity Ronk, Shelby Schull and Stormy Schull, his brother Chris Schull and sister in law, Shyanne Schull, niece and nephew, Kailyn Schull and Dylan Schull.

Kevin was born in Hollywood, California, on November 11, 1966. At an early age, Kevin professed his faith in Jesus Christ and was a regular church attendee. In 1969, the family moved to Bakersfield, CA. Kevin worked for Floyd's hardware store for several years, until 2003, when he joined Stinson's. Kevin was very proud of The Stinson Company (Family) and thoroughly enjoyed his time there. Kevlar, as Debbie Stinson called him, had a abundance of tales to share of his many adventures at Stinson's.

Kevin was a dedicated member and former President of the Golden Empire Mustang Club (GEMS). His passion for Mustangs, led his wife Debbie and him on many adventures in Ruby, his faithful STANG! The delightful videos of Kevin giving his "Driver's Reports from the Driver's seat, with Debbie as NAGigator, were entertaining to all.

Kevin was always cheerful and positive, and never uttered an unkind word to anyone. He will be sorely missed.