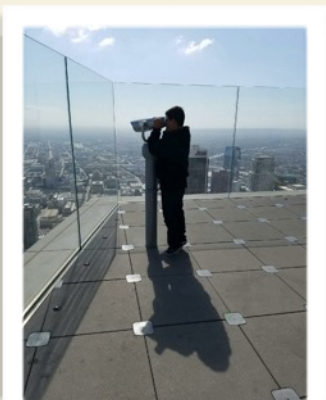
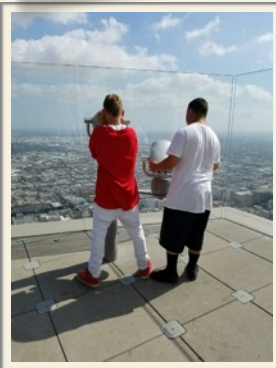


## Adventure Abounds at KBYH



At KBYH, we believe learning exists when children are exposed to an experience to which they can relate. We want to give our boys the opportunity to go beyond the group home boundaries and have first hand experiences. One of many events that took place last month was an outing to Santa Barbara to play "Bubble Games". Our boys participated in all of the games which included Bubble Soccer, Zombie, Quittage, and Sumo Circle. Both staff and the kids had lots of fun running and knocking each other down. After the bubble games, the boys went to Shoreline Park and the beach. While at the beach, they explored the tide pools and walked the shores before calling it a day. The very next day, our boys traveled to Los Angeles to experience SKY Space LA. Sky Space LA is the tallest building in downtown Los Angeles. All of the boys were able to participant in an interactive sky slide. The boys were so amazed to see all of downtown Los Angeles. They really enjoyed looking at the freeway designs from the sky view and received a souvenir after their trip down the sky slide.



# Are you ready for RFA?

If you are a KBYH foster parent, the answer to the above question is yes, because we are working hard to make sure our agency is ready for new foster care regulations and standards that go into effect 1/1/17. RFA stands for "Resource Family Approval" and refers to new requirements that apply to all foster families in the state of California. Beginning 1/1/17, foster families will no longer be called foster families. What will they be called, you ask? Resource Families. All foster caregivers, whether they are a relative, with the county, or with an FFA like ours, will be called Resource Families. Look for upcoming information and trainings from KBYH that will be provided to ensure you are familiar with what these changes entail.

## Upcoming Trainings

(please RSVP)

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

**December 7, 6-8PM:** "Planning and Adjusting for Change" with Bibi Carrasco

## Ongoing Trainings

Mark Dominguez will be offering the following trainings on an ongoing basis 6-8PM: "(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.



**Save the Date**  
 KBYH's annual Halloween Carnival will  
 be on October 27 at Silvercreek Park



**Child Birthdays**

November 2: Braydon F.  
 November 3: Fina C.  
 November 12: Nathaniel D.  
 November 25: Haley C.  
 November 29: Fayth T.



**Foster Parent Birthdays**

November 2: Roger Perry  
 November 3: Lindsay Call  
 November 5: Jose Montoya  
 November 7: Jesus Salas  
 November 13: Ninfa Montoya  
 November 15: Shawna Schmidt  
 November 16: Cindy Perry  
 November 19: Monica Alfaro  
 November 20: John Rivera  
 November 30: Teresa Viramontes

**KBYH Staff Birthdays**

November 1: Robert Carter  
 November 3: Juan Vasquez  
 November 25: Shawn Wilcox

**KBYH Staff Anniversaries**

Antonio Balderas: 9 Years  
 Mike Nieto: 14 Years



## Foster Child of the Month: Nathaniel D.

We are proud to present Nathaniel D as Foster Child of the Month. Nathaniel is a well mannered, polite, outgoing young man. He enjoys playing sports, especially football and basketball. His favorite NFL team is the Dallas Cowboys. Nathaniel is in the 8th grade. On his last report card he earned a 4.29 GPA ranking him # 10 out of 247 students, which is remarkable since he is was taking advanced courses in Math and English. We wish the very best the future has to offer. Congratulations Nathaniel for your selection as Kern Bridges 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 Kern Bridges (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 CH 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. They have received accolades from the Department of Human Services 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 the belief that every child deserves a home, as evidenced by them giving 2 foster children a forever home on September 19, 2016. The children felt like they were a permanent part of the family long before they were adopted. Thank you Salas family for opening up your heart and home.

## DHS Worker Spotlight: Guadalupe Hernandez


This month we proudly recognize Guadalupe Hernandez, MSW DHS Social Worker of Month. Ms. Hernandez is a county social worker with the Department of Children and Family Services in Los Angeles County and has been the social worker for one of our clients in the Palencia and Hernandez Home since December 2013. Despite the distance, Ms. Hernandez has always been available to care for the issues or needs of our client she oversees. She has been thoroughly familiar with our client's case, and she has promptly responded to many last minute requests for help. Ms. Hernandez has always been cheerful and professional. On many sticky issues, Ms. Hernandez has given results rather than excuses. She is a dedicated Social Worker who is always at the service of our client and has given us the support that we have needed to support his case management, leading to better meeting our client's needs. Ms. Hernandez is highly respected by us and our foster parents caring for the child. We are grateful for her unwavering support. Congratulations Ms. Hernandez on this well-deserved recognition.



**Plug into Community Action Partnership of Kern's Home Weatherization Program.** Weatherization makes your home more energy-efficient. That's good for you, as it saves on utilities, and good for the environment, as it reduces green house gas emissions. Upgrades and brand-new appliances are provided **AT NO COST** if you qualify.


**CAPK Energy Program**  
300 19th Street  
Bakersfield, CA 93301

**Phone:** (661) 336-5203  
**Fax:** (661) 336-5263  
**Email:** energy@capk.org



Weatherization | Utility Bill Assistance  
**a program of CAPK**

*Call 2-1-1 for more information or to schedule an appointment*




**Home Weatherization**


You may qualify for energy-efficient appliances or upgrades whether you own or rent your home.

*Look inside to see how you can save!*


**The average value from a CAPK Energy Weatherization package is \$3,500.** You may qualify for items such as the ones pictured below. Call 2-1-1 for more information or to schedule and appointment.



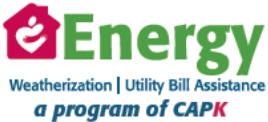
Stove Replacement




Microwave Replacement




Refrigerator Replacement




Weatherization | Utility Bill Assistance  
**a program of CAPK**




Ceiling Fan with LED Lights



Low-Flow Shower Head



Low-Flow Toilet  
*(Based on availability)*



Set-Back Thermostat, Carbon Monoxide Detector, Weatherstripping, Attic Insulation, Smoke Alarm, etc.

Note: Installations will be contingent upon feasibility.



## SAFETY

With Winter approaching we suggest that foster parents review safety procedures of their homes and service safety equipment. Please consider the following to help you examine home safety.

### Smoke and Carbon Monoxide Detectors

- **Install smoke alarms and carbon monoxide detectors generously.** These should be on each floor of the house, covering all sleeping areas.
- **Test alarms monthly.** Replace any that don't work. (In any case, alarms should be replaced every 10 years.)
- **Replace batteries annually.** Or sooner, if the alarm chirps. Alarms with a battery life of 10 years are available.
- **Clean all detectors.** Vacuum each grille.
- **Post the fire department's carbon-monoxide-reporting emergency number.** If it differs from 911, keep the number by every phone.
- **Demonstrate the sound of each detector.** Family members need to know the difference.

### Fire Extinguishers

- **Place extinguishers strategically.** Keep one in the kitchen and one on every floor. And learn how to use them.
- **Replace extinguishers when necessary.** Follow the schedule suggested by the manufacturer, and always replace an extinguisher that appears damaged. Please keep purchase receipts to verify the life of the fire extinguisher.
- **Consider installing a sprinkler system.**

### Escape Plans

- **Create an escape plan with two exit routes in case of fire.** Practice it twice a year (once at night) with the whole family. For details, see the National Fire Protection Association's website, [nfpa.org](http://nfpa.org).
- **Choose a meeting place.** Set a plan for meeting up in case of a local or national disaster. See [nfpa.org](http://nfpa.org).

### CPR and First Aid

- Ensure CPR and First Aid Certifications are current.
- You may consider having as many individuals as possible, including foster children, CPR and First Aid qualified.