



NEWSLETTER



TELEPHONE
661-396-2301

October 2022

kernbridges.com



Please join us at the
GRAND OPENING
of our new visitation station.

Thursday, October 6, 2022, at 10:00 a.m.

WESTRA VISITATION STATION

1705 30th St.
Bakersfield, CA 93301



CELEBRATING 35 YEARS

Please join us at the
GRAND REOPENING

Thursday, October 20, 2022, at 10:00 a.m.

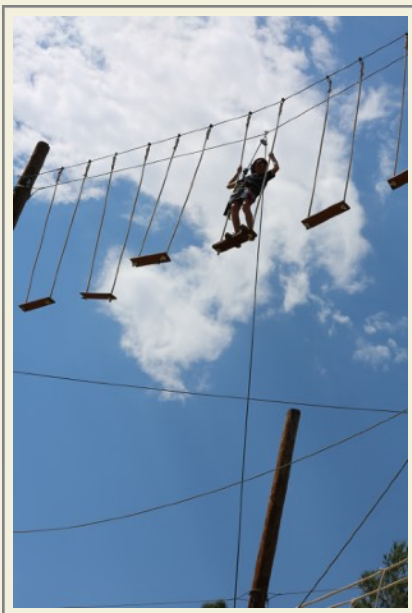
KERN BRIDGES YOUTH HOMES

1321 Stine Rd.
Bakersfield, CA 93309



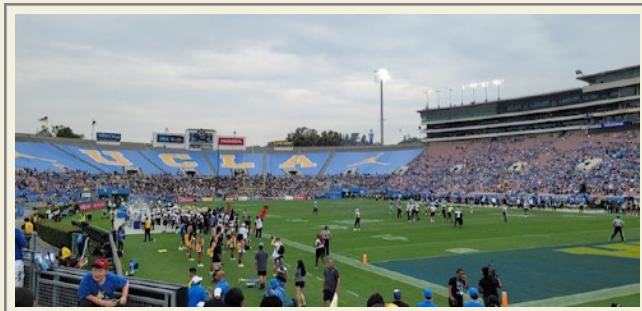
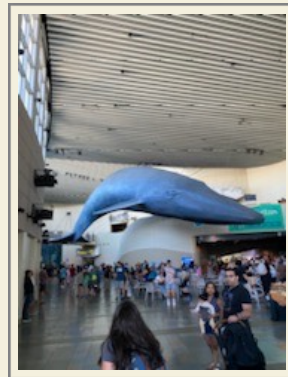
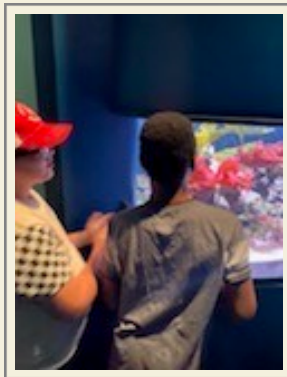
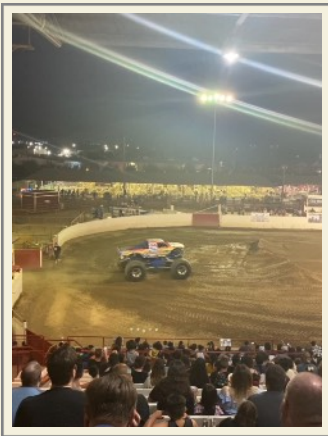
Camp Forever

On the weekend of September 2-4, sixteen families attended KBYH's annual adoption family camp-Camp Forever. Families were able to participate in archery, ropes course, go-karts, swimming, fishing, field games, campfire, talent night, and really great food at the Canyon Creek Retreat Center. Parents were offered training on Trauma Informed Care as well as a support group. A big thank you to all the families who participated for making it a fun and memorable event. If you attended, remember that the camp reunion will be on October 20 at Tony's Pizza on Coffee Rd. RSVP to Marina (marina@kernbridges.com) if you plan to attend and let us know if you have any food requirements.



Kern Bridges STRTP's Life Adventures

The boys living in our STRTP's did a multitude of fun outings over the past few weeks which included a UCLA football game at the Rose Bowl, a trip to the Kern County Fair, and a visit to the Aquarium of the Pacific. The boys described the UCLA game as thrilling. According to a few of our boys, it was such an exciting experience to be part of an event with fans screaming, yelling, and cheering. Likewise, all the boys really enjoyed this year's Kern County Fair outing. The main attraction of the night was the monster truck show. Monster Jam has been a world leader in adrenaline-charged, family friendly entertainment for years. If you've never been you are missing out! When the monster trucks rolled into the Fair Grounds, you can hear them before you see them. These towering, speeding, and stunting vehicles put on a heart-racing show that was perfect for a night of entertainment. Lastly, our boys went to the Aquarium of the Pacific in Long Beach. This outing was very unique because the boys were able to have in-person animal encounters. The Aquarium features more than 100 exhibits, including 19 major habitats. At Kern Bridges, we really believe in exposing and connecting our boys to many positive experiences while living in our program. Learning in assorted ways can appeal to various learning styles. This in turn affords each boy the ability to learn something from exposures whether they are visual, auditory, or kinetic learners.



Support Group Returns!

KBYH will be relaunching its Resource and Adoptive Family support group in November. Support group will be held monthly on the **third** Tuesday of every month from 6:00-8:00pm (this is a change from before, when it was the second Tuesday of the month). Dinner will be provided, but childcare will no longer be offered (sorry). Email Marina (marina@kernbridges.com) for information or to RSVP, or Like the KBYH Facebook page to see support group notifications and reminders.

Thank you to the Kern Bridges ISFC team for embracing these principles when working with our youth and families on a daily basis.



Upcoming Trainings

October 5, 6:00-8:00 pm

“Effects of drug and alcohol abuse on children and non-minor dependents”

with Lori Lockard

RSVP to llockard@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

Trainings are open to any Kern County approved ISFC Resource Family.

RSVP to marina@kernbridges.com

“Positive Parenting”

October 25, 2022

6:00 pm - 8:00 pm

Youth Spotlight: Angelica B.

Angelica B. was a shy person and always kept to herself. This year she has made a choice to get out of her comfort zone and try out for the school's tennis team. Angelica made the team and has shown dedication by having morning practice before school. Angelica is not only a student athlete with straight A's but also is involved in school clubs. She also has dreams of becoming a lawyer.

We are proud of you Angelica!



KBYH Staff Birthdays

- 10/3 Raymond Brown
- 10/12 Karen Ramos
- 10/15 Mike Ramirez
- 10/18 Antonio Balderas
- 10/20 Bianca Ruiz
- 10/20 Alwayne Mustin

KBYH Staff Anniversaries

- 10/1 Micheal O’Doherty 4 years
- 10/11 Ana Landeros 16 years
- 10/14 Abraham Nesheiwat 2 years
- 10/18 David Roberson 1 year
- 10/21 Catherine Santerre 3 years
- 10/29 Jim VanderZwan 21 years



Child Birthdays

- 10/3 Martin Y. 17 years
- 10/29 Jazzbrena M. 9 years

Resource Parent Birthdays

- 10/17 David Mongold
- 10/31 Ashley Reyes

Resource Parent Anniversaries

- 10/14 Petrina Williams 23 yrs
- 10/29 Mario & Anita Caudillo 32 yrs



Thank You Bakersfield Angels and Dr. Michael Thurmond

We wish to thank the Bakersfield Angels and Dr. Michael Thurmond of Thurmond Orthodontics for coming to the rescue. This year two of our youths required orthodontic work ranging from braces to removal of braces. All of the orthodontic providers contacted in the area refused to assist. The Bakersfield Angels contacted Dr. Thurmond to advocate and he volunteered his services to fix the orthodontic problems with our foster children. Thanks to both of you for supporting our children in time of need!



NOW HIRING

Supervised Visitation Provider

Musts:

- ✓ High school diploma or equivalent
- ✓ Ability to work evenings and weekends
- ✓ Ability to write case notes for court
- ✓ Be at least 21 years old and be able to pass a Live/Scan background check
 - ✓ Pass a drug screen, pre-employment physical and TB skin test
 - ✓ Covid Vaccination
- ✓ Be clear of a conviction, including DUI within last 10 years
- ✓ Reliable transportation, and have proof of automobile insurance

Education/Experience Preferred:

- ✓ Have experience working with families and children affected by foster care
 - ✓ Spanish Speaking
- ✓ Completion of at least 30 semester units of college coursework: including courses in the social or behavioral sciences or any equivalent combination of training and work experience in Child Welfare

Email resume and cover letter to
Cindy@KernBridges.com

SAFETY

Reminder on car seats for children



Current California Law:

- Children under 2 years of age shall ride in a rear-facing car seat unless the child weighs 40 or more pounds OR is 40 or more inches tall. The child shall be secured in a manner that complies with the height and weight limits specified by the manufacturer of the car seat. (California Vehicle Code Section 27360.)
- Children under the age of 8 must be secured in a car seat or booster seat in the back seat.
- Children who are 8 years of age OR have reached 4'9" in height may be secured by a booster seat, but at a minimum must be secured by a safety belt. (California Vehicle Code Section 27363.)
- Passengers who are 16 years of age and over are subject to California's Mandatory Seat Belt law.

When can a child graduate to a booster seat?

California law does not address graduation time from a five point harness to a booster seat. In the interest of safety, do not rush to move a child into a booster seat before they're ready. Each time you "graduate" your child to the next seat, there's a reduction in the level of protection for your child. Keep your child in each stage for as long as possible.

A child is ready for a booster seat when they have outgrown the weight or height limit of their forward-facing harnesses, which is typically between 40 and 65 pounds. Read the forward-facing car seat's owner's manual to determine height and weight limits, and keep your child in a harnessed seat for as long as possible. Children at this stage are not yet ready for adult safety belts and should use belt-positioning booster seats until they are at least 4'9" and between 8 and 12 years old. Safety belts are designed for 165-pound male adults, so it's no wonder that research shows poorly fitting adult belts can injure children.

-Courtesy of: California Highway Patrol - <https://www.chp.ca.gov/Programs-Services/Programs/Child-Safety-Seats>





Judy

Judy Pilchard passed away on 9/29/22. Judy worked as the KBYH donation coordinator for years and always had a larger than life presence. While she could be loud and cantankerous, it was always laced with love, kindness, and an appreciation of others. Judy welcomed those who stopped by to “shop” in our donation room and made them feel welcomed and supported, often taking a grandmotherly role to complete strangers. Everyone knew Judy and smiled when they heard her coming. She had an infectious laugh and was quick to engage in a spirited conversation. KBYH is so thankful to her family for sharing her with us, she will be sorely missed.

