

Catch them being awesome!



Kern Bridges Youth Home staff expressed his gratitude with an acts of kindness for the kids he serves. We've all had those wonderful moments where someone "made our day" through even the smallest kind gesture. Well, last month, this was the case for Almklov staff Raymond Brown who went out and purchased Sea Food at Crab in The Bag for all the boys living at the Almklov House. Raymond was so ecstatic by the boys improved behavior for the month he felt led to do something special. Almklov had 4 boys test clean all month and many of them got off to an awesome start with virtual schooling. So, Raymond surprised all of the boys by buying a luxury sea food platter. Some of the boys never had crab legs before, so it was a pleasure watching them make a big mess.

No matter what time of the year it is, though, KBYH believes that random acts of kindness can benefit everyone. Random acts of kindness can positively impact others and they are great for the soul too. All kids have strengths and challenges. It is so easy to focus on things that aren't going well for these boys and on skills that need improving, but it's just as important to see these boys strengths.

Kern Bridges would like to take this time to say thanks to staff Raymond Brown. Thank you for your thoughtfulness. You are a true treasure to KBYH and the boys!

"Be kind whenever possible. It is always possible." ~ Dalai Lama

Community Partner Spotlight:

This month, Kern Bridges Youth Homes would like to recognize KCDHS Social Worker, Celia Villarreal. Celia has worked with KCDHS for about 5 1/2 years and she said her favorite assignment so far has been working with youth under Permanency Services. Many Kern Bridges social workers and youth get to see Celia’s commitment to youth and families on a daily basis as she goes out of her way to seek out resources, plan visitation, and coordinate services with other service providers the youth are working with. Even during these challenging times with COVID, Celia still makes time to spend time with the youth on her caseload in person as much as possible. Celia has said regarding the youth on her caseload that “I really enjoy spending time with the youth and seeing them accomplish goals or make improvements that will better themselves or their futures, even though they might think it’s something small or count for nothing right now”.

Thank you, Celia, for your dedication and hard work with youth and families!



Upcoming Trainings

Please RSVP. Trainings will be conducted via Zoom.

October 7, 6:00 - 8:00pm

“Effects of Drug and Alcohol Abuse on Children and Non-Minor Dependents”
with Mike Ramirez

December 2, 6:00 - 8:00pm

“Cultural Competency & Best Practices with LGBTQ Youth”
with Jennifer Robbins

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. RSVP to Carrie Wombacher carrie@kernbridges.com

October 27, 6:00 - 8:00pm

“Positive Parenting”

November 17, 6:00-8:00pm

“Child Development and Behaviors”

SAFETY

Teens Crash Because They Are Inexperienced Drivers

Contrary to popular belief, teens crash most often because they are inexperienced. They struggle judging gaps in traffic, driving the right speed for conditions and turning safely, among other things.

National Teen Driver Safety Week

The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration sponsors Teen Driver Safety Week each year in October. Parents are the biggest influencers on their teen drivers, even if you think they aren't listening.

NHTSA reminds parents to set the rules before they hit the road with "5 to Drive":

- No cell phones while driving
- No extra passengers
- No speeding
- No alcohol
- No driving or riding without a seat belt



October



Child Birthdays

- Steven O. 10/9 6 years
- Malaki J. 10/28 11 years

Resource Parent Birthdays

- Janice Rohifing 10/10
- Lila Leon 10/12
- David Mongold 10/17
- Daren Brains 10/30
- Ashley Reyes 10/31

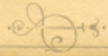
KBYH Staff Birthdays

- Raymond Brown 10/3
- Justin Smith 10/4
- Michael Ramirez 10/15
- Marlon Wilkerson 10/15
- Antonio Balderas 10/18
- Alwayne Mustin 10/20
- Bianca Ruiz 10/20
- Steven Kresha 10/31

KBYH Staff Anniversaries

- Jim VanderZwan 19 years
- Ana Landeros 14 years
- Michael O'Doherty 3 years
- Catherine Santere 1 year





Family Spotlight:

Kern Bridges would like to welcome the Miyakawa family to our family! Josh and Christina Miyakawa officially became Resource Parents on 7/28/20. Mr. and Mrs. Miyakawa have been married for two years. Mrs. Miyakawa has two adult daughters. The Miyakawa's have two Great Danes that are sweet and really want to have a little brother!! Welcome Miyakawa family!

Child Spotlight:

This month we proudly honor two children, Mackenzie P. from the Boss Resource Family Home and Mylee P. from the Palencia & Hernandez Resource Family Home. Mackenzie and Mylee are two sisters who joined the Kern Bridges family one year ago. Both are active, sociable and smart girls who have brought joy to their Kern Bridges Homes. Mackenzie enjoyed playing basketball, playing board games with her family and living life to its best. Mylee enjoys Billie Eilish, playing with her foster siblings and also enjoying life to its fullest.

Sadly for us and their extended families, Mackenzie and Mylee left to join their aunt. We wish them the best in their future. Thank you Mackenzie and Mylee for illuminating our lives. You will be sorely missed.