

Riverside County
Youth Commission

2011-2012 Term

Annual Report

**RIVERSIDE COUNTY YOUTH COMMISSION
ANNUAL REPORT 2011-2012**

In its role to initiate and support projects and services involving young people in Riverside County, the Commission shall provide advice, assistance and recommendations to the Board of Supervisors and all County Department heads. They shall work to anticipate the educational, recreational, and cultural needs of the youth of this county, and work to ensure the coordination of community resources in order to improve the quality of life for all its youth.

Listed below are key projects that the Youth Commission of 2011-2012 accomplished throughout the year. The Commission would also like to thank the community for their constant support through their endeavors and dedication to the youth in Riverside County.

- **Youth Retreat – July 2011**

The Youth Commission Annual Retreat was held at Pharaoh's Lost Kingdom and focused on leadership, team building, and one-on-one interaction. This year, the youth had the opportunity to experience motivational speaker Scott Backovich, who discussed the importance of leadership and personal connections within all relationships. The annual retreat provided for an opportunity for our youth council members to interact with one another as well as with the other council members in respective districts. Council members really enjoyed the annual retreat and thank the Board of Supervisors for their continued dedication and support.

- **Youth In Government Day –October 2011**

The 13th annual Youth in Government Day was an exciting and important day for council members that participated. The event is an Annual Youth Commission Event, and provides a unique learning opportunity where participants are matched with County employees and spend the day learning from one another. Each participant was provided with a chance to job shadow a county employee and find out more about local government and the wide array of occupational opportunities that the County offers. Our council members were able to job shadow positions in various departments including the offices of: Superior Court, Public Defender, Waste Management, Flood Control, Animal Services, Code Enforcement, Fire Department and the Board of Supervisors. The event was very successful and was the highlight of the year for many of the participants.

- **“Stuff the Bus” Operation SafeHouse-November 2011**

Each year, Operation SafeHouse shelters more than 600 teens in need of a safe place to stay. The house provides emergency shelter, intervention and outreach services to youth in crisis. By providing a warm caring environment, youth can address their problems and are offered positive alternatives to becoming victims of the streets. Like many other

nonprofits, the organization has been facing decreases in donations and grants while needs are increasing. In response, SafeHouse and Riverside Transit Agency, a partner agency, brainstormed ways to meet those needs. RTA suggested to “Stuff the Bus;” this event drives buses around downtown Riverside to gather donations of pillows, blankets, bathroom tissue, paper towels, toothbrushes, cleaning supplies and food. The council members assisted with the program by organizing a scavenger hunt earlier in the month that collected most of these items.

- **9th Annual Coachella Valley Youth In Government Day- January 2012**

On January 25, 2012 the Fourth District YAC coordinated the Coachella Valley Youth in Government Day, pairing high school students with Supervisor Benoit and 35 county employees. Students shadowed Supervisor Benoit and Assessor-County Clerk-Recorder Larry Ward, rode along with public safety agencies, witnessed court trials, inspected restaurants and got a glimpse into the rewarding career choices available in public service. After six hours of seeing county government in action, students regrouped to discuss their experiences. Participating departments included Cal Fire, Sheriff’s Department, District Attorney’s Office, Probation, Economic Development Agency, Transportation and Land Management, Social Services, Law Offices of the Public Defender, Office on Aging and the Environmental Health Agency.

- **12th Annual Youth Summit-March 2012**

Riverside County’s Youth Commission held their Twelfth Annual Youth Summit titled: “Understanding Safety-It Starts with You!” at the Lake Perris Fairgrounds. The objective of this annual event is to create an avenue where Riverside County youth can discuss issues that affect their lives and community. Each year a theme is selected based on feedback from previous participants. This year’s theme was safety and anti-bullying and was titled, “Understanding Safety- Its Starts with You!”

Students were given the opportunity to enjoy workshops focusing on Self-Esteem, Bullying and Internet Safety. They discussed how to address bullying in schools properly while dealing with personal self-esteem, and how to monitor personal activity over the Internet that keeps individuals safe. Scott Backovich served as the key-note speaker; Scott inspired students to communicate with others and lend a hand to their fellow peers as to make them feel no different from anyone else.

**RIVERSIDE COUNTY FIRST DISTRICT YOUTH ADVISORY COUNCIL
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The Youth Advisory Council is a representative student body from the high schools in the First District of Riverside County. High Schools that are located within the First District include: Alvord, Arlington, California Lutheran, Citrus Hill, Corner Stone Christian, Elsinore, John W. North, Lakeside, La Sierra, Lincoln, Linfield Christian, Martin Luther King, Norte Vista, Notre Dame, Ortega, Poly, Riverside Christian, Sherman Indian, Temescal Canyon, and Woodcrest Christian High School.

Listed below are key projects that the Youth Advisory Council of 2011-2012 accomplished throughout the year. The council would also like to thank the community for their constant support through their endeavors and dedication to the youth in Riverside County.

- **“Mead Valley Health & Safety Fair”-October 2011**
The Council volunteered their services at the Mead Valley Fair. This event aims to raise health awareness. It will also provide more information on voter registration, a graffiti clean-up program and environmental awareness. YAC members also helped volunteers set up & tear down booths.
- **“Stuff the Bus” Scavenger Hunt-November 2011**
The Youth Advisory Council asked First District Residents to donate items for Operation SafeHouse. The SafeHouse provides emergency shelter, intervention and outreach services to run away, homeless and other youth in crisis. Items being collected include sponges, napkins, toilet paper, deodorant, toothbrushes, silverware sets, and etc. First District YAC members collected 431 items from this event.
- **Mead Valley’s 5th Annual “Breakfast With Santa and His Elves”-December 2011**
On this special day, Mead Valley families came together, shared breakfast and took a picture with Santa. Children made arts and crafts in “Santa’s Workshop,” participated in “Reindeer Games” and received prizes from council members. YAC members wore elf hats while assisting the community’s youth and had a terrific time. A total of 700 Mead Valley residents attended this event along with an honored visit from Supervisor Buster. 60 volunteers assisted from the following agencies: Mead Valley community volunteers, Riverside County DPSS, Mead Valley Code Enforcement, the Riverside Matrix basketball team, the Mead Valley Youth Leadership Program and Mead Valley’s Fire Station.
- **Good Hope’s 1st Annual “Breakfast With Santa and His Elves”-December 2011**

On this special day, Good Hope families came together, shared breakfast and took a picture with Santa. Children made arts and crafts in “Santa’s Workshop,” participated in “Reindeer Games” and received prizes from council members. YAC members wore elf hats while assisting the community’s youth and had a terrific time. A total of 500 Mead Valley residents attended this event along with an honored visit from Supervisor Buster. Volunteers assisted from the following agencies: Good Hope community volunteers, Fire Station, Supervisor Bob Buster’s Staff and 1st District Youth Advisory Council.

- **Riverside RainCross 5K Walk/Run-February 2012**

The Youth Advisory Council assisted other volunteers to provide the participants with food and beverages. The council members handed out items that consisted of water, bananas, and oranges, as well as goody bags that were prepared by the City of Riverside. The council members also participated in the awards ceremony to pass out medals to the top participants in each age range.

- **SafeHouse Fundraiser- March 2012**

The Youth Advisory Council partnered with Wendy’s and California Pizza Kitchen in an attempt to assist with funds for victims of Human Trafficking. The council members passed out discounted flyers throughout First Districts High schools and the community for both Restaurants. The proceeds from these events went to Operation SafeHouse. Operation SafeHouse is a shelter for homeless, run away and other youth in crisis.

- **Wildomar Senior Fair- March 2012**

The Youth Advisory Council volunteered at the Wildomar Senior Fair. Members assisted with set-up and tear-down of booths, food preparation, as well as the distribution of food. The vendors really enjoyed the council members and welcome them back next year.

- **“SafeHouse Hangout”-April 2012**

The SafeHouse provides emergency shelter, intervention and outreach services to run away, homeless and other youth in crisis. Council members each brought lunch items such as pizza and juice to share with SafeHouse members. After they ate, council members played spoons, monopoly, apples to apples and many other games and got to know each other by sharing school and family experiences. Council members really enjoyed this event and would love to come again soon.

- **7th Annual Path to Success Tour-May 2012**

YAC members coordinated the 7th Annual “Path to Success Tour” on Saturday, May 12th. Seventy Five 8th and 9th grade students attended this year in addition to seventeen YAC members. The participants were given the opportunity to tour Riverside Community College (RCC) and the California Baptist University (CBU). Before departing on RTA to RCC the students were provided breakfast that was donated from Chick-Fil-A. The students then went on a 30 minute tour of the campus and listened to a presentation by Tony Ortiz regarding community college and the benefits that come with attending such an institution. While at CBU, participants went on a 20 minute tour of the campus, heard a 30 minute presentation from an admissions counselor, dined at the Alumni Dining Commons, enjoyed a few games throughout the tours. The students then heard a panel from First & Third District’s Youth Advisory Council, current CBU and recent graduates regarding the college application process. Students also received a resource bag filled with youth centered information. YAC members were successful in encouraging early college preparation among eighth and ninth grade students through this program.

- **Riders Street Clean Up - June 2012**

The Youth Advisory Council organized a “Clean up Day” for the Trail that was adopted by Supervisor Bob Buster. Council members picked up trash, collected dismantled fences and cleared the trail. The council members were assisted by the Riverside County Parks & Recreation Department.

- **Temescal Valley Clean Up-June- 2012**

The Youth Advisory Council will assist agencies such as; Riverside County Waste Management Department, County of Riverside Code Enforcement and U.S. Department of the Interior Bureau of Land Management with keeping open space in Lake Matthews clean!

- **End of Year Celebration-June 2012**

Youth Advisory Council members hosted their end of the year celebration at BJ’s Restaurant as a closure to the 2011-2012 YAC term. Council members were congratulated for their efforts in formulating a successful year, presented with an award and provided dinner.

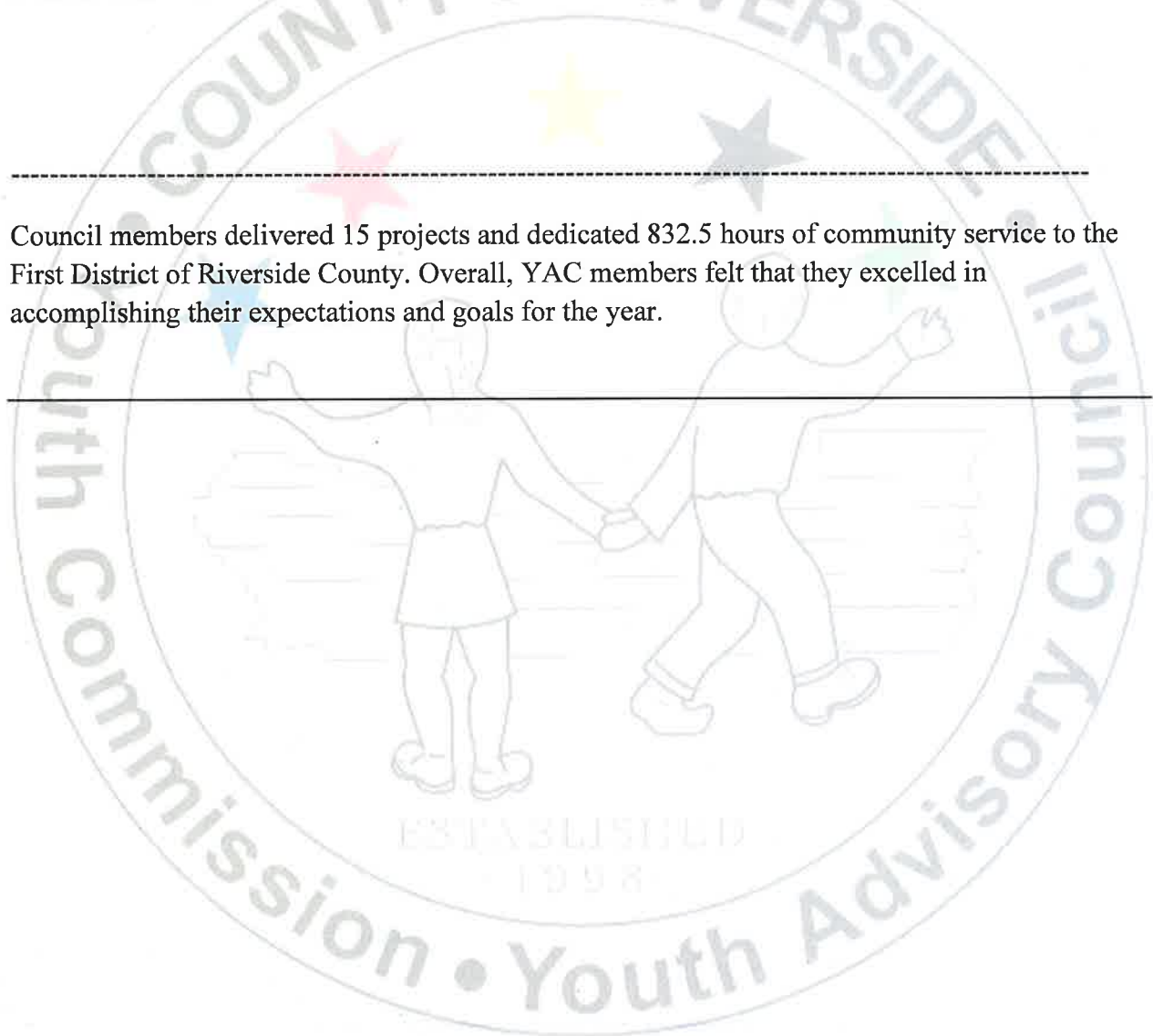
-----Summary of the Year-----

Goals for the 2011-2012 YAC term:

BELIEVE! We pledge to **B**etter our **E**nvironment through effective **L**eadership and a positive **I**nfluence while also **E**mbracing the **V**alue of **E**ducation.

In other words, the council pledged to: Take action for their commitments, in doing so the council members created a slogan that would hold them accountable throughout the year. The slogan for 2011-2012 is to; “Go Green, Focus on Health Care, Increase our Education, “Well done is better than well said”

Council members delivered 15 projects and dedicated 832.5 hours of community service to the First District of Riverside County. Overall, YAC members felt that they excelled in accomplishing their expectations and goals for the year.



**RIVERSIDE COUNTY SECOND DISTRICT YOUTH ADVISORY COUNCIL
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The Second District Youth Advisory Council is a representative student body of members who either reside in or attend high school within the Second District of Riverside County. Communities within the Second District include: part of the City of Riverside, the City of Corona, the City of Norco, the City of Eastvale, and the City of Jurupa Valley. In addition, the Second District includes the unincorporated communities of Coronita, El Cerrito, and Home Gardens.

If you want to find out more about the Second District YAC visit:

2nd District YAC: <http://www.rivcodistrict2.org/opencms/boards/yac/index.html>

Youth Commission Website for 2nd District: <http://www.rivcovac.org/district-2>

In order to achieve our two 2011-2012 goals, the council was divided up into three committees. Each committee worked to coordinate and volunteer at events which were related to their goals.

▪ ***H.E.L.P. (Helping Everyone Live Prosperously)- September 2011***

The Youth Advisory Council members were very committed to setting out and helping all those in

▪ ***S⁴ (Students Serving Seniors Squad)- September 2011***

The Youth Advisory Council members were very excited to have an opportunity to participate in a variety of projects that pertained especially to the elderly of our community. The S⁴ Committee members volunteered at local activities within the community and worked to help bring new light to the elderly community. This committee was extremely dedicated to getting involved within the Second District as they extended their vision and service by becoming active volunteers at the Riverside Soup Kitchen to help feed the homeless populous.

▪ ***Team T.R.E.E. (Team Teenagers Reducing Earth Endangerment) –September 2011***

The Youth Advisory Council members were very interested in working to clean, maintain and beautify the community. Team T.R.E.E. sought to provide assistance in community clean-ups, endorsing a smoke-free environment and adopting a trail within our district.

Based on the 2011-2012 goals for the year, the council identified the following aspects that could be improved upon next year:

- Further recruitment for members in the Corona and Eastvale communities.
- Continuing to work with local organizations and non-profits to support them with needed volunteers during a difficult economy.
- Creating another signature annual event for the 2nd District YAC to host.

Listed are the key projects the 2011-2012 Second District Youth Advisory Council accomplished throughout the year. The Second District YAC would like to thank the Board of Supervisors for their ongoing support throughout the year.

- **33rd Annual Mayor's Ball for the Arts - September 2011**

YAC members participated in attending and assisting at an event to benefit local arts and cultural organizations located in Riverside. During the event volunteers enjoyed setting up the event and monitoring the silent auction. Each volunteer felt the event was successful and enjoyed being in a formal fundraising event that helps to better the Riverside community.

- **KRCB Santa Ana River Watershed Cleanup- October 2011**

YAC members volunteered to help clean-up the local Santa Ana River. Throughout the day volunteers were separated to pick up trash in the surrounding area while others painted over graffiti filled walls. With over 400 volunteers in attendance, members and volunteers alike were able to witness the end result of a cleaner area that was appreciated by the community and neighboring residents.

- **Supervisor Tavaglione's Columbus Day Event – October 2011**

Council members volunteer their time to help check in guests at the Columbus Day Event that was held at the Riverside Convention Center. Volunteers enjoyed the dinner and entertainment of the event and also enjoyed being able to provide support to the Supervisor. The event also gave members an opportunity to network and meet new people while volunteering.

- **Step Out: Walk for Diabetes – October 2011**

Council members assisted in the First Annual Step Out: Walk for Diabetes held at Fairmount Park. Council members in attendance were able to help check-in runners and direct them throughout the walk. They also handed out water and cheered on those participating in the walk as runners and as walkers.

- **Zombie Crawl- October 2011**

The Council participated in the 1st Annual Riverside Zombie Crawl held in Downtown Riverside. Members were encouraged to dress the part and “zombie-fy” themselves as they took part in the event. During the event members assisted in tabling, advertising and face painting. Downtown Riverside was overtaken with zombies of all ages. The Council found this event highly entertaining and enjoyable.

- **Ghost Walk – October 2011**

The Ghost Walk is an annual event hosted by the Riverside Ballet Company. The event provides a chance for participants to see many of the historic buildings of Riverside, through a guided ghost tour. During the event, volunteers assisted in crowd control and assisting the tour guides lead their groups. The council really enjoyed being a part of the large scale event and would like to participate again next year.

- **Annual Mission Inn Run – November 2011**

Council members were given the opportunity to participate in the large-scale run held in Downtown Riverside. Members were able to assist in trash clean-up as well as cheering on the runners. Volunteers appreciated the high energy of the event and the activities throughout the run.

- **Soup Kitchen – November 2011**

Council members participated in their first Soup Kitchen a day before the Thanksgiving holiday. Members said that it was an eye opening experience for them as they were able to service the homeless and those in need with at least one warm holiday meal. Members were able to interact with those they served and see their direct impact. The S⁴ Committee has taken charge of this service project and encouraged all members to attend throughout the year.

- **Thanksgiving Baskets – November 2011**

S⁴ worked to collect items to include in Thanksgiving dinner care packages for nine families that participate in the Grandparent Raising Grandchildren program through the County of Riverside. The council worked diligently to secure donations and collect goods from family and friends. In addition, they were able to obtain gift cards to include with the baskets that would help the families purchase a Thanksgiving turkey. The baskets were completely full with all of the necessary items for an enjoyable Thanksgiving

dinner! All three families were grateful for the baskets and members were exceptionally happy to do something nice for those less fortunate in the community.

▪ **Festival of Tress – November 2011**

Council members participated in assisting various booths throughout the event. Council members were stationed at the Gingerbread house where they restocked the items and helped customers decide on gifts to buy while others assisted in giving children temporary holiday tattoos and making holiday related crafts. The members enjoyed the event as it was overflowing with the holiday spirit.

▪ **Winter Carnival – December 2011**

The Council was able to participate in the Jurupa Parks Winter Carnival. Members were able to assist with various activities throughout the day such as holiday crafts for the children, pictures with Santa and distributing breakfast to the families. The council enjoyed the holiday spirit and the lively atmosphere that the event held throughout the day.

▪ **Operation SafeHouse Social – December 2011**

The H.E.L.P. committee coordinated an event with Operation SafeHouse to provide a fun Movie night filled with pizza, activities, games and fun. The members stated that it was a truly heartwarming event to partake in as they were able to see kids their age enduring so much and still maintaining a smile and great spirits. Council members were moved and inspired to continue providing services to those at the Operation SafeHouse.

▪ **Adopt-A-Trail – January 2012**

Team T.R.E.E. undertook the planning of an Adopt-A-Trail. The Council adopted a trail on Bain St. where they will execute four dates to clean up and clear the trail for the benefit of the community, the people and horses that make use of the trail.

▪ **Soup Kitchen – January 2012**

The S⁴ committee took charge of overseeing the council's involvement in the Soup Kitchen as to rally all members to attend and enjoy the experience of giving back to the less fortunate. Members were able to feed those in need, serve drinks and gain invaluable insight from those with humble backgrounds.

- **Senior Sweet Heart Social Workday- February 2012**

The council spent a day putting together gifts and centerpieces for one of the year's most anticipated events. The members were able to bond over crafts and finalizing the event's logistics to ensure its success.

- **Senior Sweet Heart Social – February 2012**

Our most memorable event each year is undoubtedly our annual Sweet Heart Social. During our Annual Sweet Heart Social, council members plan and coordinate a variety of events for the senior community to participate in. Senior participants are served a delicious meal by the council members while enjoying music and dancing. During the latter part of the event the senior participants receive a handmade Valentine's Day card. In addition, a wide variety of gifts and goodies are distributed during the bingo games. This was a successful event that brought the elderly citizens of the community and the Youth Council together.

- **Love in Riverside – February 2012**

Love in Riverside gave the community the opportunity to record a video expressing their love and appreciation for spouses, children, family or friends. Council members were able to make their own in appreciation for the council as well as help advertise throughout Downtown Riverside. The videos were then displayed for all to see in Downtown on Valentine's Day.

- **Adopt-A-Trail –February 2012**

Team T.R.E.E. planned their second Adopt-A-Trail. The Council adopted a trail on Bain St. where they will execute four dates to clean up and clear the trail for the benefit of the community, the people and horses that make use of the trail. The council has teamed together to pick up trash and make the trail safer for horses and riders alike.

- **Corona Skyline Hike and Clean-up – February 2012**

Team T.R.E.E. created a clean-up and hiking event at the Corona Skyline as a way to do both service and bond amongst one another. A council member served as the trail guide as the members followed, learning about plants, the history attached to the skyline and clearing any trash along the way. The members really enjoyed the experience of having an outdoors event that allowed them to come together and interact.

- **Bring a Friend Recruitment – March 2012**

During the March meetings, YAC members were encouraged to bring a potential member for the 2012-2013 term. Members were also asked to recruit friends and family members to join the council for the upcoming term. Applications were accepted during the months of March and April.

▪ **Adopt-A-Trail –March 2012**

Team T.R.E.E. planned their third Adopt-A-Trail. The Council adopted a trail on Bain St. where they will execute four dates to clean up and clear the trail for the benefit of the community, the people and horses that make use of the trail. The council has set out to clear as much area as possible with their given abilities. Residents nearby the trail even help to assist the council in their efforts.

▪ **Soup Kitchen – April 2012**

The S⁴ committee has made their best efforts in getting the majority of the council members to attend the Soup Kitchen. Members were able to feed those in need, serve drinks and gain invaluable insight from those with humble backgrounds. Members have expressed the Soup Kitchen as being one of their favorite projects.

▪ **Adopt-A-Trail –April 2012**

Team T.R.E.E. planned their fourth Adopt-A-Trail. The Council adopted a trail on Bain St. where they will execute four dates to clean up and clear the trail for the benefit of the community, the people and horses that make use of the trail. The council has teamed together to pick up trash and make the trail safer for horses and riders alike.

▪ **Corona Rotary Lobster Fest – May 2012**

Volunteers helped provide support at the Corona Rotary Lobster Fest by directing guests to their assigned table and distributing the delicious lobster dinner. Volunteers enjoyed working at the event because it was held at the Fender Museum in Corona and were able to give back to the Corona community.

▪ **End of the Year Dinner – May 2012**

Council members enjoyed dinner with Supervisor Tavaglione and staff, as they celebrated the end of the YAC term. During the event, council members received special certificates for their dedication and volunteerism. Overall, it was an enjoyable event and the members really had fun celebrating the term year.

**RIVERSIDE COUNTY THIRD DISTRICT YOUTH ADVISORY COUNCIL
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The Third District Youth Advisory Council (YAC) forms one-fifth of the County of Riverside Youth Commission under the Board of Supervisors. The Third District YAC is committed to improving their community through ongoing community service events, outreach, and community involvement. The Third District Youth Advisory Council is a representative student body from the high schools in the Third District of Riverside County. High Schools in the Third District include: Hemet, Hamilton, Tahquitz, Hemet Academy for Applied Academics and Technology, West Valley, Alessandro, Helen Hunt Jackson, San Jacinto, Mountain View, Paloma Valley, Murrieta Valley, Vista Murrieta, Murrieta Mesa, Creekside, Calvary Murrieta Christian, Chaparral, Great Oak, Temecula Valley, Temecula Preparatory, Rancho Vista, Rancho Christian, and Linfield Christian High School.

The 2011-2012 Third District YAC goals are:

1. To increase efforts targeting issues affecting the youth population of Riverside County.
2. To actively participate with various populations of our local community such as the elderly, children, and youth to initiate unity within our community.
3. To help initiate a positive change in our community by becoming involved with various causes and hosting meaningful events.

Listed below are all of the 2011-2012 Third District YAC events. The council would like to thank everyone who contributed, supported, and facilitated their participation following the events:

- **A Day of Caring—August 2011**
The Third District Youth Advisory Council participated in United Way's 5th Annual Day of Caring on August 27, 2011 in Riverside. Our council was responsible for cleaning the lake in Fairmont Park. We were able to help the environment by clearing debris and brush from in and around the lake for both the wildlife and the local community residents to enjoy. We enjoyed spending the day giving back while also bonding with each other and look forward to participating again next year.
- **San Jacinto Community Park Restoration—September 2011**
Council members collaborated with the City of San Jacinto's Public Works Department to clean an area of San Jacinto that needed restoration. On September 17, 2011, our council painted the benches and rails and picked up debris at a local community park to help make our community a nicer place to live.
- **Temecula College and Vocational Invitational Fair—September 2011**
The Third District Youth Advisory Council participated in the City of Temecula's College and Vocational Invitational where over 150 colleges, universities, technical, and vocational schools from around the country participated. Our council members were able

to gain valuable information about local and national programs available to them. It was a very enjoyable and educational event.

- **Stater Bros. Food Drive—October 2011**

The Third District Youth Advisory Council hosted their first of two food drives on Saturday, October 10, 2011 at Stater Bros. in Murrieta benefiting Stuff the Bus, Valley Restart Center, and the Grandparents Raising Grandchildren Program. We collected a total of 54 items including: 1 12-pk of noodles, 6 cereals, 1 box of cheese its, 3 cans of fruit, 8 cans of soup, 4 cans of green beans, 6 cans of corn, 2 spaghetti sauce, 3 cans of beans, 10 packets of pasta, 1 bag of rice, 2 pancake mix, 2 boxes of stuffing mix, 2 boxes of cornbread mix, 3 boxes of mac & cheese.

- **Valley Wide's Haunted House—October 2011**

The Youth Advisory Council volunteered for Valley Wide's Haunted House on opening night, Friday, October 21, 2011. Council members led the tour groups, greeted guests, decorated the house, and dressed up to scare guests inside the house. YAC members had a great time and were able to volunteer on following nights.

- **Valley Wide Fundraising Yard Sale—October 2011**

In an effort to raise funds for both our Valley Restart Center dinner and adopted families from the Grandparents Raising Grandchildren program, our council hosted a fundraising yard sale on Saturday, October 22, 2011 from council member donations. Our council was able to raise over \$30 in donations for the events.

- **NAMI Walk—October 2011**

On October 29, 2011 the Third District Youth Advisory Council participated in the National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI) Walk at Diamond Valley Lake in Hemet. Council members walked alongside hundreds of other participants in the 5k walk as team "Rolling Stones." Team members enjoyed participating in the event for a great cause while also benefitting from the great outdoor work out.

- **Candy Fundraiser—October to November 2011**

From October to November of 2011, council members sold \$1 candy bars in order to raise funds to buy the supplies for our dinner at Valley Restart Center and gifts for our adopted families for the holidays. Our council raised almost \$200 through their collaborative efforts.

- **Wal-Mart Food Drive—November 2011**

On Saturday, November 12th, the Third District Youth Advisory Council hosted their second food drive at Wal-Mart in Murrieta. Our council collected a total of 87 items including: 26 cans of corn, 17 cans of green beans, 18 cans of soup, 2 pasta packets, 8 cans of beans, 4 cans of fruit, 2 spaghetti sauce, 2 pumpkin sauce, 3 cereals, 1 box of mash potatoes, 2 boxes of stuffing, 1 12-pk of top ramen, 1 8-roll of napkins. Like with the first food drive, the items were used for Stuff the Bus, Valley Restart Center, and our adopted families.

- **Adopt-a-Family Thanksgiving Holiday Baskets—November 2011**

The Third District YAC adopted two families from the Grandparents Raising Grandchildren Program. Family number one from Murrieta has 4 family members (1 grandfather, 1 adult daughter, and 2 grandchildren) and family number two from Hemet has 7 family members (1 grandmother and 6 grandchildren). For Thanksgiving, we were able to donate a food box for each family as well as a \$50 gift card to Stater Bros. The items were delivered by Yecenia to each family before Thanksgiving.

- **Valley Restart Shelter Dinner—November 2011**

Our council signed up to host a dinner at the Valley Restart Center, a homeless shelter in Hemet, on November 25, 2011. With our fundraising efforts, we were able to provide, make, and serve an entire meal for over 50 people. The dinner included an appetizer salad, dinner rolls and butter, steamed vegetables, mashed potatoes and gravy, grilled chicken, corn, pink lemonade, and cookies for dessert. All the participating council members had a great time and are looking forward to hosting another dinner next year.

- **100 Dresses for Africa—November 2011**

In collaboration with the Hemet YOC, the Third District Youth Advisory Council collected a total of 14 pillow sheets that will be used to make dresses to donate to their efforts for 100 Dresses for Africa.

- **Office on Aging Cell Phone Drive—November 2011**

Our council collected a total of 13 used cell phones to donate to the Riverside Office on Aging. Old cell phones will be refurbished and given to our local senior citizens to be used for emergency purposes.

- **CSUSB Campus Tour—December 2011**

The Third District Youth Advisory Council was invited to participate in the “Mentoring Day” program by the Sociology Club at CSUSB. The event aimed at inspiring local high school students to attend college. EOP counselor Michael Edwards presented on additional opportunities available to underprivileged, low-income students through EOP. YAC members both participated and volunteered at the event. They enjoyed the campus and hope to return on a second tour.

- **Breakfast with Santa—December 2011**

Valley Wide hosted their annual Breakfast with Santa on December 10, 2011 at the San Jacinto Valley Wide Sports and Recreation Center. YAC members were invited to volunteer at the event to help serve breakfast and help make the event a fun and enjoyable experience for all those involved. The council had an enjoyable time and looks forward to participating next year.

- **Adopt-a-Family for Christmas—December 2011**

The council offered their assistance to the Riverside County Office on Aging on their annual adopt-a-family service through their Grandparents Raising Grandchildren Program. The council was able to adopt two single-grandparent families for a total of eight children and two adults. The council was able to raise funds to buy each child two

presents, stockings full of goodies, and used-donated items (books, clothes, toys). Supervisor Stone and staff were also able to donate a \$25 clothing gift card for each child, pajamas, board games, and cooked hams for each family. As a council on Tuesday, December 20, 2011, YAC members delivered the food and gifts to each family, first singing them carols, then giving them the presents, and ultimately taking pictures with the families. Each family received a food box of non-perishable and canned food goods along with a \$75 gift card to Wal-Mart. Council members reported this event as one of the most heart-warming and fulfilling events and would like to continue this event next year.

- **Christmas Potluck—December 2011**

The Third District Youth Advisory Council enjoyed their holiday potluck on December 14, 2011. At the potluck, council members participated in a “secret elf” gift exchange in which each member was responsible for hand making a gift for their exchange, and ate plenty of holiday food. This was a joyous celebration in which members were able to reward themselves for all their diligent work so far.

- **Cawston Elementary Festival—December 2011**

On Friday, December 16, 2011 the Third District Youth Advisory Council hosted their seasonal elementary festival at Cawston Elementary in Hemet. Council members hosted a variety of activities for the 110 kids including: arts & crafts, musical chairs, outdoor obstacle course, bingo, and a holiday coloring station. At the end, we were able to give each child a tasty dessert! Both the children in the afterschool program and YAC members had a great time.

- **San Jacinto Community Clean Up—January 2012**

The Youth Advisory Council coordinated with the City of San Jacinto Public Works Department for a second clean-up project on January 27, 2012. This time, council members cleaned the streets of a busy area in San Jacinto (Ramona Blvd. & State). This was a very rewarding event as we were able to clean up an area of much need that is part of our member’s local community. The results were clearly evident and local passersby showed their support for our efforts.

- **Valentine’s Day Cards for Seniors—January, February 2012**

Council members participated in their annual hand-made Valentine’s Day cards for our local senior citizens. The council worked on making the cards from January to February before the scheduled meeting time. They were able to make a total of 61 cards that were given to the Murrieta Senior Center who will deliver them to the seniors in the “Meals on Wheels” program. The council had a great time making them and will continue to do this activity next year.

- **Valentine’s Day Card & Candy Gift Exchange—February 2012**

YAC members participated in a council Valentine’s Day card and candy gift exchange during our second February meeting. The council enjoyed fun and bonding over candy.

- **Lambs Canyon Landfill Tour—February 2012**

On Thursday, February 23, 2012 the Third District YAC along with Fifth District YAC toured the Lambs Canyon Sanitary Landfill in Beaumont. The property is approximately 1,189 acres and is classified as a class III sanitary landfill. Council members were able to tour the entire site, learn about the decomposition process, watch electronic recycling, and much more. It was a very informative event that should continue for years to come.

- **Veteran Speaker's Corner—March 2012**

World War II Veteran Edwin Buck and the Third District YAC hosted a Speaker's Corner on March 16, 2012. Mr. Buck was a US Air Force B17 bomber during World War II. He shared his personal combat stories and answered questions. Council members enjoyed his speech and look forward to having him attend another speaker's corner in the future.

- **2nd Annual Temecula Youth Innovation Conference—March 2012**

This event, hosted on March 24, 2012, aimed to provide the youth in the community an opportunity to meet with other young leaders in and around Temecula. The youth were able to exchange ideas with their peers and increase their youth development skills. Youth were given the opportunity to work with local area politicians and business professionals in the following topics: service learning, event planning, business plan development, and message campaign development. All of the ideas generated at the event will not only be worked on, but also implemented by the City of Temecula. Special guests were invited to speak throughout the conference so that they can lend their voices on diverse topics. All participants are given a chance to express their opinions. Overall, the council was able to both gain skills and ideas for future YAC events.

- **Harmony Elementary Festival—March 2012**

On Friday, March 30, 2011, the Third District YAC hosted their spring elementary festival at Harmony Elementary during their SAFE After School program. Council members hosted various different stations from musical chairs, to arts in crafts, to bingo for over 100 elementary children. The event concluded with a delicious dessert. Both the students and YAC members had a wonderful time and look forward to hosting another festival at this school.

- **Million Kids Presentation—April 2012**

Jennifer O'Farrell from Operation SafeHouse presented to the Third District Youth Advisory Council on the Million Kids Program and human-trafficking on Friday, April 6, 2012. Council members were exposed to important issues that are affecting the youth community and brainstormed ideas on how to help. Our council will be helping Operation SafeHouse and their mission to help victims of human-trafficking by donating much needed items for their home in the desert.

- **Supervisor Stone & YAC Meet & Greet—April 2012**

The Third District YAC had the opportunity to host a meet and greet with Supervisor Stone at their April 11, 2012 council meeting. Supervisor Stone shared a little about himself and talked to each member about their aspirations for the future.

- **Teen Injury Prevention Expo—April 2012**

On Saturday, April 21, 2012, the Third District YAC participated in the 2012 Teen Injury Prevention Expo of Southwest Riverside County by hosting an informational booth. The event aimed at educating teens and parents about safety. The Inland Valley Medical Center in collaboration with the City of Temecula, Temecula Valley Unified School District, and area agencies sponsored the event. The event featured exhibits, demonstrations and presentations about preventing injuries. Free food and giveaways were available. It was a very fun and welcoming event, and we hope to participate again next year.

- **1st Adopt-a-Trail Clean Up—May 2012**

The Third District Youth Advisory Council has adopted about a one-mile trail in Lake Skinner from the Adopt-a-Trail program of Riverside County. Our first clean-up was held on Saturday, May 5, 2012. Council members were able to enjoy the beautiful day while cleaning debris and brush their personal trail. Two more cleanings are to come during the upcoming year.

- **7th Annual Path To Success Tour—May 2012**

The Third District Youth Advisory Council joined the First District Youth Advisory Council on their 7th Annual Path To Success Tour on Saturday, May 12, 2012. Council members and participants were able to tour RCC and CBU in Riverside. The tour was followed by a fun array of activities, lunch, and a panel in which YAC members participated. It was a very fun event and Third District would like to look into hosting a similar event.

- **Coroner's Office Tour—May 2012**

On Saturday, May 26, 2012 the Third District YAC was able to tour the Sheriff-Coroner's Office in Perris. Anthony Townsend, Coroner Sergeant, led a presentation about the history of the Coroner, their duties and responsibilities, and showed interesting cases and pictures. He concluded the presentation by leading the council on a tour of the facility. Council members truly enjoyed the interesting and informational event.

- **Operation SafeHouse Recreation Room Decoration—June 2012**

On Friday, June 1, 2012 the Third District YAC went to SafeHouse of the Desert to help decorate their recreation room with much needed supplies. YAC was able to fund the decorations through a personal member donation of \$1,000. We supplied a table, lamp, decorations, pillows, blankets, art, and personal, hand-made decorations/contributions in addition to donating eight \$25 gift cards for the victims of human-trafficking residing at the home.

- **End of the Year Dinner-June 2012**

This year, the Third District's YAC End of the Year Dinner Event was hosted at Mulligan's Family Fun Center in Murrieta on Sunday, June 10, 2012. At the dinner, each member received their council award in honor of their commitment and dedication to the council while enjoying a memorable night of fun and food.

Summary:

The Third District YAC was able to meet all of its goals of the year by participating in various events that targeted:

1. An increase in efforts to target issue affecting the youth population of Riverside County by hosting the annual Youth Partnership Summit that included workshops in human-trafficking, self-esteem, internet safety, and anti-bullying; collaborating with Operation SafeHouse and their anti-human trafficking campaign; helping youths dealing with these issue by assisting Operation SafeHouse's Stuff the Bus.
2. Active participation with the various populations in our community such as the elderly, the youth, and children by hosting elementary festivals, speaker's corners, field trips, and the Youth Summit.
3. Initiating a positive change in our community by becoming involved with various agencies such as NAMI, Operation SafeHouse, Office on Aging, and hosting meaningful events that ranged from community clean ups, to elementary festivals, to conferences, to fundraising, to informational tours.



**RIVERSIDE COUNTY FOURTH DISTRICT YOUTH ADVISORY COUNCIL
ANNUAL REPORT 2011-2012**

The Fourth District Youth Advisory Council (YAC) identifies youth-related concerns and issues specific to the Fourth District. YAC is comprised of students from Desert Christian Academy, Palm Desert, and La Quinta, Palo Verde and Xavier College Preparatory high schools.

The Fourth District Youth Advisory Council of 2011-2012 accomplished the following:

▪ **Fourth District Inaugural Meeting- September 2011**

The first meeting for the Fourth District Youth Advisory Council was held September 6 for the Coachella Valley Council and on September 7 for the Blythe Council. YAC members selected goals to work on throughout the 2011-2012 term. The Coachella Valley Council decided to direct their efforts toward assisting: Operation SafeHouse, cancer research, support troops and their families, local animal shelters, and raise awareness for human trafficking. The Blythe Council decided they wanted to assist with: improving their local community through recycling and clean up, helping the homeless, spread awareness for human trafficking, support Operation SafeHouse, cancer research, children with special needs, and the Blythe Nursing Home. Elections for the 2011-2012 officers took place at the first meeting, the results were:

Coachella Valley: Brittney Baird- Commissioner, Ashley Josephson- Co-Commissioner, William Nelson- Secretary, Cassidy Collins- Parliamentarian, and Brandi Wegerle- Public Relations.

Blythe: Sydnie Gallegos- Commissioner, Nancy Gariby - Co-Commissioner, Shiloh Whitson- Secretary, Da'za'Nique Kidd- Parliamentarian, Courtnie Gallegos and Keliyah Northrup- Public Relations

▪ **Blythe YAC Member Recruitment- September 2011**

YAC members in Blythe hosted a member recruitment booth at Palo Verde Valley High School in September. This project helped to spread the word about YAC and encouraged 28 more teens to join the council for the 2011-2012 term.

▪ **Palo Verde Cemetery Clean Up- September 2011**

The Blythe Council volunteered to help clean up the Palo Verde Cemetery. On September 17, Blythe YAC members raked leaves that were blocking the irrigation system, filled in uneven ground with soil, and picked up trash.

▪ **SafeHouse's Stuff the Bus supplies drive - September - October 2011**

Coachella Valley YAC members collected toiletries and household supplies to donate to Operation SafeHouse's Stuff the Bus event on November 17. YAC members collected toothbrushes, razors, hairbrushes, toothpaste, deodorant, pillows, bed sheets and

blankets. All of the items that were collected were given to SafeHouse of the Desert during the week of the Stuff the Bus event.

▪ **After School Party at the Joe Wine Recreation Center- October 2011**

October 11 through the 13, Blythe YAC members assisted staff at the Joe Wine Recreation Center with their First Annual After School Party. YAC members played sports games and did arts and crafts as well as assisted the elementary school children with their homework.

▪ **Steps for the Cure- October 2011**

On October 22, Blythe Cancer Resource Center hosted its annual Steps for the Cure fundraising event. YAC members helped by passing out information about the event and assisted with set up and tear down. YAC members also served refreshments and participated in the walk.

▪ **Palm Desert Golf Cart Parade- October 2011**

On October 23, YAC members and Supervisor Benoit participated in the Palm Desert Chamber of Commerce annual Golf Cart Parade. This event was used to educate the community about the council and to highlight some of the noteworthy projects that YAC has participated in.

▪ **Rubio's Fundraiser to benefit SafeHouse of the Desert- October 2011**

Coachella Valley YAC members organized a fundraiser with Rubio's restaurant in La Quinta to benefit SafeHouse of the Desert. YAC members spent the week of October 3 passing out Rubio's fundraiser flyers to family and friends. On October 7th, Rubio's donated 20 percent of all proceeds from sales to customers who presented the fundraiser flyers.

▪ **"Trick or Treating" for Canned Goods- October 2011**

YAC members in both Blythe and the Coachella Valley went door to door on Halloween night asking for donations of canned goods or other non-perishable food items. All of the items collected were donated to the Office on Aging Grandparents Raising Grandchildren program and were distributed to five families throughout the Fourth District.

▪ **Desert Arc Italian Festival- November 2011**

YAC members volunteered at Desert Arc Italian Festival. At this event YAC members assisted with selling raffle tickets, twirled signs pointing guests in the direction of the festival, and greeted guests as they arrived.

▪ **Grandparents Raising Grandchildren "Adopt a Family"- November 2011**

Blythe and Coachella Valley Councils adopted five families, three in the Coachella Valley and two in Blythe, from the Riverside County Office on Aging's Grandparents Raising Grand Children to provide complete Thanksgiving Dinners for their entire family. YAC members collected enough turkeys, side dishes, desserts, and beverages

to feed all five families and more. The extra items were donated to the Coachella Valley Rescue Mission.

- **Prevent Child Abuse- Riverside County Celebrity Meet and Greet/Toy Drive- November 2011**
On November 11, YAC members attended the Celebrity Meet and Greet/Toy Drive at the Colorado River Fairgrounds. YAC members collected tickets at the front door and handed out goodie bags to ticket holders.
- **For the Children Toy Drive & Holiday Party-November/December 2011**
With help from local businesses, YAC members diligently collected more than 100 gifts to make Christmas special for children living in foster homes. The toys were wrapped and distributed to the children at the annual Christmas party of For The Children, a nonprofit that supports foster children. The Christmas party was held at Hotel Zoso in Palm Springs on December 18. In addition to providing gifts, YAC members decorated cookies and did arts and crafts with the kids.
- **Blythe Light Runner- December 2011**
On December 8 and 9, YAC members in Blythe volunteered at the Joe Wine Recreation Center and served hot chocolate and refreshments to the people in line waiting to take the trolley around Blythe to look at the Christmas Lights. They also hosted a coloring contest for the children waiting as well.
- **Civil Servants for Santa- December 2011**
Each year for Christmas the Blythe Police Department invites children from low-income families to go shopping for their own Christmas gifts. On December 17, YAC Blythe members entertained the kids as they waited for their turn to shop with representatives from the Blythe Police Department.
- **Game & Movie Night at Operation SafeHouse of the Desert- January 2011**
YAC members hosted a game & movie night at Operation SafeHouse of the Desert, a shelter for homeless, runaway and other youth in crisis. YAC members brought pizza, drinks and dessert interacted and bonded with the teens living at SafeHouse.
- **Game Day at the Palo Verde College Child Development Center - January 2011**
Blythe YAC members spent a day at the Palo Verde College Child Development Center reading children's books. They also painted and drew pictures with the children and played games outside with the kids at the day care. It gave a well-deserved break to the women that work very hard at the day care and brought laughter to both the children and the YAC members.
- **Palo Verde Cemetery Clean Up- January 2012**
The Palo Verde Cemetery needed assistance with the upkeep of the grounds. On January 21, Blythe YAC members raked leaves that were blocking the irrigation system and filled in uneven ground with soil.

- **Riverside County Fair & National Date Festival Events- February 2012**

- **Battle of the Bands**

- YAC took an active role in the 66th Annual Riverside County Fair & National Date Festival, helping to coordinate two unique attractions. YAC held the Third Annual Battle of the Bands, where seven local youth bands competed for the grand prize of top-of-the-line Fender instruments and equipment. The competition was a popular attraction at the Fair and generated great attendance and excellent news coverage. YAC members had a hands-on role in organizing the event and working with judges to ensure the event ran smoothly. Fly By Night from Temecula won the 2012 competition.

- **High School Competition**

- In an effort to bring more young people to enjoy Fair traditions, YAC members also organized the Third Annual High School Competition, featuring a series of funny Fair contests: date pit spitting, funnel cake eating, “camel” racing, lasso throwing, and school spirit. Teams from five high schools competed for the prestigious Date Cup Trophy. YAC members selected the games, acted as referees and awarded trophies to the first, second, and third place teams. Cathedral City High School won the 2012 competition.

- **Palo Verde College 5k Run- March 2012**

- Blythe YAC members set up a booth at Palo Verde College 5k run on March 17. YAC members distributed information on YAC and discussed ways that the community can help the homeless population in Blythe.

- **Desert Arc Annual Golf Fundraiser- March 2012**

- The annual Desert Arc Golf Tournament is a vital fundraiser for Desert Arc client services. The 2012 event was held March 23 at the Classic Club in Palm Desert. The Coachella Valley YAC members assisted with the silent auction at this event.

- **Hidden Harvest Fruit Picking- March 2012**

- Every winter and spring Hidden Harvest, a Coachella Valley nonprofit that helps get nutritious fruits and veggies on the tables of families in need, collects edible fruit from the decorative fruit trees that line the streets of the Coachella Valley. On March 24, YAC members went to homes in Indian Wells and Palm Desert to help residents pick grapefruits, oranges, and lemons off their trees so that can be donated to Hidden Harvest.

- **Walk for Animals Fundraiser- March 2012**

- Coachella Valley YAC members volunteered with Animal Samaritans at the annual Walk for Animals fundraiser. At this event YAC members helped at the pet art tent, operated various booths throughout the walk route, and passed out refreshments to participants.

▪ **Game Day at the Palo Verde College Child Development Center - April 2012**

Blythe YAC members spent a day at the Palo Verde College Child Development Center reading children's books. They also painted and drew pictures with the children and played games outside with the kids at the day care. It gave a well-deserved break to the women that work very hard at the day care and brought laughter to both the children and the YAC members.

▪ **Baseball Buddies- April 2012**

Baseball Buddies is a local group that hosts weekly t-ball games for kids with disabilities. On Mondays throughout April and May Coachella Valley YAC members volunteered their time and helped these kids hit a baseball, run bases and cheer on their teammates.

▪ **Fiesta De Mayo- May 2012**

On May 5 YAC members in Blythe volunteered at the Joe Wine Recreation Center Fiesta De Mayo event. Fiesta De Mayo is an annual community celebration hosted by the Joe Wine Recreation Center. YAC members assisted with the arts and crafts table and set up at the event.

▪ **Recruitment**

Recruitment for the Fourth District Youth Advisory Council is ongoing through the end of the term and summer. Council members provide contact information of students they recommend for the 2012-2013 council. Youth Advisory Council members have also invited potential applicants to events and meetings during the end of the term. The Fourth District Youth Advisory Council is advertised through local media, Supervisor Benoit's Web site and monthly e-report The Benoit Bulletin, letters to school officials, community leaders and local organizations, and word of mouth.

General Recommendations:

- Continue to host innovative community service projects
- Recruit members from all high school in the Fourth District
- Host more presentations from community organizations
- Continue council's positive attitude
- Host more events with fellow Riverside County YACs

The Fourth District Youth Advisory Council thanks the Board of Supervisors for your continued support and dedication of youth in our county.

**RIVERSIDE COUNTY FIFTH DISTRICT YOUTH ADVISORY COUNCIL
ANNUAL REPORT 2011-2012**

The Youth Advisory Council is comprised of high school students who represent the youth in their district. They identify issues that directly affect the youth and collectively search for solutions. The 5th District includes the cities and unincorporated areas of Moreno Valley, Perris, Calimesa, Beaumont, Banning, Menifee, Nuevo, Lakeview, Juniper Flats, Romoland, Homeland, Green Acres, Box Springs, Pigeon Pass, Reche Canyon, San Timoteo Canyon, Oak Valley, Cherry Valley, Banning Bench, and Cabazon.

For the 2011-2012 council year, the 5th District established four main goals that were to be reached by the end of the term. The four main goals are listed as follows:

- **Assist the community through volunteer involvement and improvements**
- **Be more involved with the youth of Riverside County through mentoring and sponsoring events**
- **Promote unity in the community**
- **Create a positive impact on the community**

Listed are the key projects the 5th District Youth Advisory Council of 2011-2012 accomplished throughout the year. We would like to thank the Board of Supervisors, staff, and community for the continued support and dedication to the youth in our county.

- **Romoland Community Clean up- October 2011**
Riverside County Code Enforcement held a Community Clean-Up on October 15th at the Marion V. Ashley Community Center. This event was for local residents to come and dump excessive or unwanted trash that cannot be put into regular trash bins at no cost. It is part of the County's beautification efforts as well as a helpful service to its residents. The council felt good about helping the community keep the county beautiful, and looks forwarding to doing future projects that are similar.
- **"Stuff the Bus" Community Drive- November 2012**
5th District YAC members went out in to local 5th District communities to distribute flyers for the collection of items for the "Stuff the Bus" fundraiser. The following week, YAC members brought their donations, as well as went back out into the community to pick up items that people were willing to donate for the event.
- **Twin Pines Ranch- December 2011**
Council members attended the annual Christmas celebration at Twin Pines Ranch on Saturday, December 3rd; an event sponsored by the Riverside County Blue Knights, Supervisor Marion Ashley, and the rest of the Board of Supervisors. The Ranch is a residential boot camp for young men from the ages of 15-18. This juvenile detention facility is designed to give these boys the opportunity to learn skills that will assist them

once their term has been served. During the festivities, the Youth Advisory Council members mingled with the young men and handed out Christmas gifts to them as well. Gifts were donated items that included radios, personal hygiene items, books, and many other items as well. The council members enjoyed going to Twin Pines Ranch and think it is a good experience for both them and the cadets.

- **Lambs Canyon Landfill Tour- February 2012**

On February 23rd, the Fifth District and the Third District Youth Advisory Councils took a tour of the Lambs Canyon Landfill to familiarize themselves with the operations of the site. They learned about how the trash is processed, where it is stored, as well as safety precautions that are involved with landfill operations. The council enjoyed the tour and learned a lot about the Waste Management department of the county. It is definitely an event they would like to see future YAC councils do.

- **Soles for Souls Shoe Drive- March 2012**

From February 27th to March 30th, the YAC collected shoes at various locations throughout the 5th district. Drop off locations included office buildings, schools, as well as person to person donations. The shoes were donated to the Soles for Souls foundation to help give shoes to people in need all throughout the world. At least 4 large size boxes of shoes were collected and given to the foundation.

- **3rd Annual Teen Talk - April 2012**

This event was held April 21st at Canyon Springs High School by the Youth Advisory Council and the Perris Valley Recovery Program. It was an informative event that spread awareness of April as Alcohol Awareness Month, and taught high school students the effects of underage drinking. We had speakers from Mothers Against Drunk Driving, speakers who have lost loved ones or themselves due to drinking and drugs, a question and answer panel for the students, as well as one of our very own YAC members. The council felt that the students in attendance learned a lot and that the program was kept interesting. They look forward to hosting this event again.

- **Recruitment- April 2012**

Recruitment for the 2012-2013 YAC term began in April. Council members were asked to spread the word about recruitment to their respective schools and peers by passing out flyers and information packets. Amber has sent out information to schools within the district to encourage students to join the program. The 5th District YAC looks forward to keeping a large council, and is working hard to achieve it.

- **End of the Year Dinner- June 2012**

On June 29th, the Youth Advisory Council enjoyed their End of the Year Dinner to celebrate their accomplishments from the past term. Council members gathered at Barry and Charlene Busch's home for a delicious meal and an evening full of fellowship and bonding. This was their final meeting for the term year, at which they received their certificates of gratitude and appreciation.

General Recommendations:

- Increasing recruitment in surrounding 5th district cities.
- Recruit council members that are fully committed to their duties as a council member.
- Be involved in more community service projects throughout 5th district.
- Keep a positive, team- working environment with respect for one another.
- Establish better methods of communication within the council.
- Reach out to the community and volunteer even more.

