

**SUBMITTAL TO THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
COUNTY OF RIVERSIDE, STATE OF CALIFORNIA**



FROM: Youth Commission

SUBMITTAL DATE:
June 21, 2016

SUBJECT: Riverside County Youth Commission Annual Report

RECOMMENDED MOTION: That the Board of Supervisors receive and file the Riverside County Youth Commission Annual Report for the 2015-2016 term, as required by Resolution 98-032 and the Youth Commission By-Laws (Article XIII)

BACKGROUND:

Summary

In its role to initiate and support projects and services involving young people in Riverside County, the Youth Commission provides advice, assistance and recommendations to the Board of Supervisors and all County Departments heads. The Youth Commission works to anticipate the educational, recreational and cultural needs of the youth of Riverside County, and its works to ensure the coordination of community resources to improve the quality of life for all its youth.

One of the directives of the Board of Supervisors is the requirement to submit an annual report. This report is designed to be a compilation of the activities and accomplishments of the Youth Commission and its comprising five Youth Advisory Councils.

(Continued page 2)

Sophia Felix

Sophia Felix
Chairman of Youth Commission

Departmental Concurrence

FINANCIAL DATA	Current Fiscal Year:	Next Fiscal Year:	Total Cost:	Ongoing Cost:	POLICY/CONSENT (per Exec. Office)
COST	\$	\$	\$	\$	Consent <input type="checkbox"/> Policy <input type="checkbox"/>
NET COUNTY COST	\$	\$	\$	\$	

SOURCE OF FUNDS: N/A	Budget Adjustment:
	For Fiscal Year:

C.E.O. RECOMMENDATION: N/A

County Executive Office Signature

MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

- A-30
- 4/5 Vote
- Positions Added
- Change Order

Prev. Agn. Ref.: | **District: 5** | **Agenda Number:**

2-18

**SUBMITTAL TO THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS, COUNTY OF RIVERSIDE, STATE OF CALIFORNIA
FORM 11: Riverside County Youth Commission Annual Report**

DATE: June 21, 2016

PAGE: 2 of 2

BACKGROUND:

Summary (continued)

The Commission and Youth Advisory Councils wish to thank the Board of Supervisors for their continued support, insight and commitment by appointing the Commission to advise the Boards on issues directly affecting youth. We are confident that the Youth Commission will continue to be a voice for the youth in Riverside County.

Impact on Residents and Businesses

Each of the five Riverside County Youth Advisory Councils works toward improving the community by volunteering their time and efforts with organizations and members of the community. The Youth Commission also hosts several events aimed toward improving the lives of young people throughout Riverside County by providing them the resources to achieve their goals.

The Riverside County Youth Advisory Councils consists of 210 high school students from throughout the County. Cumulatively, they volunteer for over 7,809.50 hours of community service during the past year. If those students were paid California's minimum wage of \$10/hour, they donated the equivalent of over \$78,095 in free services to their communities. The website "IndependentSector.org" places a value of over \$27.59 per hour for volunteer work, and using this figure the YAC donated nearly \$215,464 this year. While in reality it is not possible to place a dollar value on the services they provide, it is important to understand that they are accomplishing real goals, learning incredibly valuable life lessons and making Riverside County a better place for all of us.

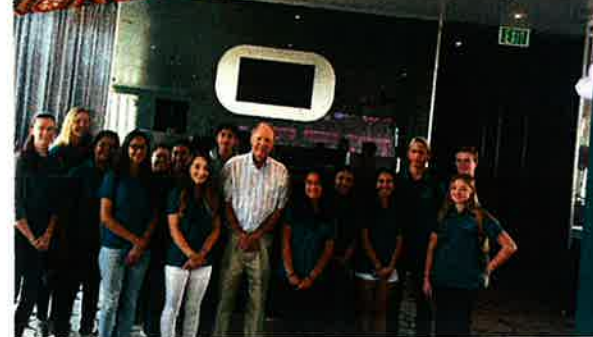
SUPPLEMENTAL:

Additional Fiscal Information

N/A

Contract History and Price Reasonableness

N/A



ANNUAL REPORT 2015- 2016



RIVERSIDE COUNTY YOUTH COMMISSION
Today's Youth, Tomorrow's Leaders

Riverside County First District Youth Advisory Council **Annual Report 2015-2016**

The Youth Advisory Council is a representative student body from high schools in the First District of Riverside County. High Schools that are located within the First District include: Alvord, Arlington, Bethel Christian, California Lutheran, Citrus Hill, Corner Stone Christian, Elsinore, Hillcrest, John W. North, Keith McCarthy Academy, Lakeside, La Sierra, Lincoln, Martin Luther King, Notre Dame, Ortega Continuation, Poly, Raincross-Independent, Riverside Christian, Sherman Indian, Temescal Canyon, and Woodcrest Christian High School.

Listed below are key projects that the Youth Advisory Council of 2014-2015 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.

Youth Retreat – August 6, 2015

The 2015 Youth Commission Annual Retreat was held at the Crestmore Manor located in Rubidoux. The event had two keynote speakers: Kama Burton and Aaron Hake. Kama Burton is the president of the local Toastmasters chapter and held a workshop on improving on public speaking skills. Aaron Hake (a former Youth Advisory Council member) gave a speech on leadership and networking. Both the workshop and speech were intended to assist the Youth Advisory Council members in becoming better leaders not only within their Council but in their community as well. The students also participated in a workshop led by Fourth and Fifth District Council Coordinators which taught them how to build a community service project; from idea to actuality. Throughout the day, the students had a chance to interact with their fellow Councilmembers and the Council members from other districts, through team building games and activities.

Operation SafeHouse Labor Day Potluck – September 12, 2015

This was an event intended to be a more laid back, mixer-style day for the Council members to liven up the Labor Day weekend for the Operation SafeHouse clients. This gave new members a chance to familiarize themselves with what kind of people Operation SafeHouse assists and who will be receiving the donations from the Stuff the Bus event. Returning Council members were given a chance to lead by example in showing new Council members what kind of behavior they should exhibit when visiting Operation SafeHouse and what kind of activities the clients enjoy most. Over the day, the clients warmed up to the Council members and some even asked if we could return the following weekend. The new members even came up with several items they will encourage others to bring to the Stuff the Bus donation event as they noted Operation Safehouse was lacking these items.

Mariachi Festival – September 19, 2015

Council members were recruited by Riverside County's Parks Department to assist with set-up and other tasks at this year's annual Mariachi Festival. Returning Council members were excited to return to the event due to its lively nature. All Council members assisted vendors, picked up trash and coordinated the performers. Council members also had a chance to view

the exciting performances and visit the interesting vendors. Council members were delighted to see Riverside's Hispanic culture come to life at this event.

Lakeland Village Clean-Up – September 26, 2015

This year, instead of participating at the main site of this clean-up, Council members were asked to begin cleaning the newly acquired Butterfield Elementary School property. The elementary was closed down several years ago and Supervisor Jeffries has since purchased it with intentions of transforming it into a community recreation center. The Council members were filled with excitement to be cleaning up an area which would be turned into a fun resource for their district. The Council members cleared overgrown weeds, picked up trash and cleared other debris as needed. The Council members were also surprised to be joined by Supervisor Jeffries who worked alongside them throughout the morning. They are hoping to return in the future to continue on this venture.

Deleo Sports Park Halloween Event – October 24, 2015

The Halloween events for this year kicked off with the Halloween Festival at Deleo Sports Park in Corona. Council members had a spooky time handing out goodies, running games and even participating as cast members in a haunted house. Prior to the event, three students spent an afternoon handing out event fliers in the surrounding neighborhood to encourage attendance.

Mead Valley Trunk-or-Treat Event – October 28, 2015

The next Halloween event the Council participated in was Trunk-or-Treat at the Mead Valley Community Center. This event offered the local neighborhood a safe night of candy collection, carnival games, food and drink and even a haunted house. Council members worked as traffic control and crowd control during this event.

Western Riverside County 18th Annual Youth in Government Day – October 28, 2015

This year's annual Youth in Government day had an amazing turnout and was revamped in a productive way. Instead of the usual mentor-mentee pairing done by the interns, Riverside County's Human Resources department allowed participants to use their career aptitude survey to match mentees with an accurate and interesting mentor. The Human Resources department was so gracious and helpful in matching all of our mentees and mentors to ensure a more accurate match for everyone involved. This year, Youth in Government Day opened applications to our local Youth Opportunity Centers which serve at-risk and foster youth. The Youth Opportunity Centers and their members were excited to participate and made up a large part of our participants. The Youth Commission looks forward to growing our relationship with the centers in years to come.

Good Hope Halloween Event – October 30, 2015

The Good Hope Halloween Event was another opportunity for local families to enjoy Halloween festivities and trick-or-treating in a safe and family-friendly environment. The students worked crowd control, ran carnival games and handed out candy.

NAMI Walk – November 7, 2015

The National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI) holds an annual walk to raise money and awareness for mental illness. The NAMI walk was held at the Diamond Lake Marina where seven of First District's Council members participated with two of our office staff joining us as well. First District was invited to this walk by Robyn Rhodes of Third District who participates annually with her Council. Together, the Council members were able to raise their goal dollar amount for the organization.

Stuff the Bus – November 12, 2015

Each year, the Youth Commission participates in the annual Stuff the Bus event which is a donation collection event that supports our local Operation SafeHouse locations. The Council has a long standing history of involvement with Operation SafeHouse and feels it is one of the most important resources that at-risk youth have access to in Riverside County. Operation SafeHouse is run entirely off of donations meaning this annual event ensures the organization will keep running and be able to help more youth. The Council was stationed outside of a Target store located on Tyler Street. They handed out fliers to shoppers which listed what supplies SafeHouse was in need of and told shoppers what the collection was helping. Council members then assisted with loading supplies onto an RTA bus which delivered the donations to the local SafeHouse location.

Adopt-a-Family Thanksgiving Collection – November 23, 2015

With the help of Robyn from the Commission's Third District Council, First District adopted a family through the Grandparents Raising Grandchildren program to provide them with a Thanksgiving dinner. The students provided donations including but not limited to: turkey, ham, vegetables, rolls, gravy, pie and much more. All of this was delivered to the family the evening before Thanksgiving so they were able to enjoy their holiday together without having to worry about the financial burden of providing dinner for the household. The family was so grateful and extended their warmest thanks to the Council members.

Butterfield Elementary Cleanup – November 21, 2016

The Council returned to the Butterfield Elementary site to participate in another round of cleaning and renovating the property. This time, the Council was joined by several members of Supervisor Jeffries' staff and some members of the local area. Council members again cleaned up garbage or debris littering the property, peeled wallpaper, lifted carpeting, painted and pulled weeds. The students were happy to see the results of their hard work and said they relieved some stress during the challenging manual labor. They are excited to return and continue working on this resource that will help their community.

Deleo Winter Wonderland – December 5, 2015

This event was the first of several Christmas themed events that the Council participated in. The event was held at the Deleo Sports Park in Lake Elsinore. The event had carnival games, a cookie decorating station, a snow area, a petting zoo, a train ride and pictures with Santa. Santa gave cookies and a stuffed animal to each child who visited. The local community was happy to see this event returning this year at their local community center.

Woodcrest Cookies with Santa – December 10, 2015

Council members joined office staff member Kristen Hyuck to help with this smaller scale Christmas event. Hosted at the Woodcrest Community Center families had the chance to take a picture with Santa and enjoy delicious holiday cookies.

Mead Valley/Good Hope Breakfast with Santa – December 12 and 19, 2015

Breakfast with Santa has been a successful and well-loved event each year around the holidays. This year, the Council attended two separate breakfast events; one in Mead Valley and one in Good Hope. This event provides the local community with free breakfast and a photo-op with Santa. Carnival games, bouncy houses, face painting and many other fun activities for the children were available. Council members assist at all booths ensuring a smooth running event for all involved.

Adopt-a-Family Christmas Gift Giving – December 23, 2015

With the assistance of Robyn from Third District, the First District Council adopted a family of five through the Grandparents Raising Grandchildren program. The family consisted of: a great grandmother, a grandmother (the head of the household), two teenagers and a toddler. The Council members collected money and shopped for gifts according to the family's listed interests. The Council was very lucky to have our Commissioner, Chanel Tracey-Pessin, ask the law office she works at for donations. The office provided a large amount of gifts that doubled the amount we were able to donate to the family we were helping. The family was so grateful for the gifts and said they would never forget the kindness that we extended to them.

Sub-Committee Break off Groups – January 8, 2016

Starting with the New Year, the Council made the decision to redesign the way we operate within our meeting times. The students expressed that they would like to form sub-committees which addressed issues in their community that they are most concerned with. Within each group, students would begin planning how they would help the group(s) they are concerned with whether it be donations, an open event, or hosting workshops. The committees formed include: Peer Outreach, Environmental Committee, Committee for Literacy, and the Social Services Committee. Their goals are as follows:

- ❖ Peer Outreach: *The goal of the Peer Outreach Committee is to reach out to troubled, homeless and less fortunate youth in our community and make a positive impact on their lives. We aim to unite the youth, support each other through times of difficulty, and expose each other to social events and life-enriching opportunities.*
- ❖ Environmental Committee: *As a committee, we seek to engage youth in environmental activism through direct community involvement and educating the youth of today about environmental problems.*
- ❖ Committee for Literacy: *Our main goal is to improve literacy of the youth in Riverside County. We will do this through tutoring in multiple areas, book drives and programs at local libraries.*

- ❖ Social Services Committee: *We aspire to provide aid and services to those in need in our district in Riverside as well as globally.*

The aim of these committees is to allow the Council members creative freedom and to teach them event planning skills. They felt it was the best way to get their own goals accomplished and as the year progresses, we hope to complete at least two of the events the Council members plan.

Valentine's Day Card Making - February 9, 2016

The Council members spent an evening meeting creating Valentine's Day cards to give out to our local senior center in hopes of brightening the days of the elderly. In one hour's time, the students were able to create 60 cards with supplies provided by our Commissioner Chanel Tracey-Pessin and her mother.

Deleo Sports Park Easter Event – March 19, 2016

This was the first of back-to-back weekend Easter events for our Council. The events were an open invitation Easter egg hunt for the area. Several rounds of hunts were coordinated for the varying ages attending the events. Council members helped with running carnival style games, distributing eggs and cleanup.

Riverside County 18th Annual Youth Summit – March 24, 2016

The Youth Commission hosted the 18th Annual Youth Summit at the Pechanga Resort and Conference Center in Temecula. High schools from throughout all five supervisorial districts were invited to the event, which covered topics such as: Mental Health Awareness, Active Shooter Safety Training, Drug and Alcohol Abuse Awareness and overall Self-Empowerment. This year's Youth Summit started with a presentation by A.L.I.C.E. Training, which is one of the most well-respected active shooter safety training programs in the country. The workshop ran for the entire morning portion of the event. The A.L.I.C.E. training session was also opened to principals, vice principals, campus safety officers, student welfare coordinators and other school administrators and faculty from local schools as a way to open the door for more discussion on active shooter response policies at the school district level. Other speakers at the Youth Summit included Adrienne Jordan, a member of our own Riverside County Mental Health Department. Ms. Jordan's presentation was designed to help students identify when one of their classmates was experiencing a mental health issue and what they can do to help them. Rocky Hill, an addiction and recovery specialist, made a presentation to the group about this very important topic. Eddie Peterson, a motivational speaker, shared his personal life struggles to inspire self-empowerment in the audience. All attendees of the Youth Summit were given an event bag with useful information about the day's topics, which included Eddie Peterson's inspirational autobiographical book *You Don't Know My Life*. The Youth Commission hopes that students use the book as a reminder of all they learned at the Youth Summit and that they can empower themselves regardless of the obstacles they face.

Mead Valley Easter Eggstravaganza – March 26, 2016

This was the Council’s second Easter event for the year. Council members again helped hide eggs and run the hunts in an organized manner. Students also helped with breakdown and cleanup at the end of the event.

Eastern Riverside County 14th Annual Youth in Government Day - April 14, 2016

The Western Youth Advisory Council offered our assistance to the Fourth District Council in helping them host a Youth in Government Day of their own. Due to the size of the County, the councils find it more convenient and productive to hold an entirely separate Youth in Government Day in the Fourth District area. The same tasks completed for Western Youth in Government Day were completed for this event including the mentor-mentee pairing through the STRONG Inventory Assessment provided by Riverside County’s Human Resources Department.

Riverside’s Dancing With The Stars – April 16, 2016

Council members participated in the Dancing With The Stars event, where local residents compete in hopes of winning. The Council has facilitated this event in the past and our own Supervisor has been a judge in previous years. This year students helped with seating, crowd control and cleanup.

Jamil Dada Character Excellence Awards - May 20, 2016

The Commissioner and the Co-Commissioner of the Fifth District Youth Advisory Council volunteered at the Jamil Dada Character Excellence Awards. This event honors youth throughout Riverside County who were able to overcome difficult situations such as child abuse, neglect, homelessness or witnessing violent crimes such as the murder of someone in their family.

Temescal Faire - May 21, 2016

YAC members helped volunteer at Temescal Valley’s Watermelon Festival where they were responsible for running all the game and activity booths, including the bouncy houses.

YAC Recruitment for the 2016 - 2017 Term

Recruitment for the next Council term began as early as the Youth Summit where an interest form was placed at the YAC exhibitor booth and attending students were invited to leave their names and contact information. First District Council members were also invited to bring a friend to our last two meetings this year to spur interest and build up our council for the upcoming term.

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

Goals for the 2016-2017 YAC term:

1. Outreach to underprivileged peers
2. Community Resource Awareness
3. Outreach to English as a Second Language (ESL) families

Total number of community service projects and hours:

Council members delivered 24 projects and dedicated 1,200 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.

The First District Youth Advisory Council would like to thank the Board of Supervisors for their ongoing support throughout the year.

Riverside County Second District Youth Advisory Council Annual Report 2015-2016

The Second District Youth Advisory Council (YAC) is a representative student body of members who reside in or attend high school within the Second District of Riverside County. Communities within the Second District include: a portion 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, Highgrove and Home Gardens.

In order to achieve our 2015-2016 goals, the Council formed three committees. Each committee worked to coordinate and volunteer at events which were related to their goals.

◆ **T.Y.T.L. Today's Youth, Tomorrow's Leaders – September 2015**

The Youth Advisory Council members were very committed to setting out and helping all those in need, with a particular focus on the youth. The T.Y.T.L. committee's main focus is helping to create an impact on the communities' youth. The committee was flexible and willing to help in all areas with their primary focus on serving their community.

◆ **H.E.L.P. Help Everyone Live Prosperously – September 2015**

The Youth Advisory Council members were very interested in helping out the community as a whole, however, with a focus on the elderly. Their main goal is to volunteer at events created for senior citizens as well as plan events to interact with them.

◆ **E.V.O. Environmental Volunteer Organization –September 2015**

The Youth Advisory Council members were also very interested in working to clean up, maintain and improve their community. The E.V.O. committee sought to provide assistance with community clean-ups, promoting environmentally friendly practices and participating at local nature centers.

Listed below are the key projects the 2015-2016 Second District Youth Advisory Council (YAC) accomplished throughout the year. The Second District YAC would like to thank the Board of Supervisors for their ongoing support throughout the year.

Youth Retreat – August 6, 2015

The 2015 Youth Commission Annual Retreat was held at the Crestmore Manor located in the City of Jurupa Valley. The event had two keynote speakers: Kama Burton and Aaron Hake. Kama Burton is the president of her local Toastmasters chapter and held a workshop on improving public speaking skills. Aaron Hake (a former Youth Advisory Council member) gave a speech on leadership and networking. Both the workshop and speech were intended to assist the Youth Advisory Council members in becoming better leaders not only within their Council but in their community as well. The students also participated in a workshop led by fourth and fifth district Council Coordinators which taught them how to build a community

service project; from idea to actuality. Throughout the day, the students had a chance to interact with their fellow Council members and the Council members from other districts, through team building games and activities.

SafeHouse Thrift Store Parking Lot Sale- September 12, 2015

The Council helped to set up and stock donated items in the newly opened Operation SafeHouse Thrift Store. The members were able to learn customer service skills by greeting the customers and helping them to find what they were looking for. The members had a great time organizing the store and found some interesting items that they bought for themselves. All of the profits go towards providing shelter for homeless youth.

Project Food Soup Kitchen – September 16, 23 & 30, 2015; October 7 & 14, 2016, January 13, 20, 27, 2016, March 9, 16, 2016

The Council was able to participate in a continuing event called the Project Food Soup Kitchen event. Members worked with the First Congressional Church to serve a hot meal to the homeless community in downtown Riverside. Along with serving dinner, the members put out donated items such as clothes, shoes, school supplies and blankets for the homeless to pick up. Members always love assisting with this event and find it to be very humbling and fulfilling. This ongoing partnership allowed for a recurring event throughout the term to allow all new members to share the experience of this event.

Downtown Riverside Fall Fashion Show- September 24, 2015

The Council worked with the Riverside Downtown Partnership at their annual event, the “Fall Fashion Show” in downtown Riverside. Members played a key role by providing information about the Downtown Partnership and assisted with the coordination of all the invited local fashion designers. The Council loved working this event and will be continuing to assist with next year’s annual Fall Fashion Show.

Zombie Crawl – October 17, 2015

The Council participated in the Annual Riverside Zombie Crawl held in Downtown Riverside. During the event members assisted in booth set up, advertising, crafting, running the carnival games, photo booth, and being in charge of the costume contest registrations. There was a great turn out for the event and the members enjoyed interacting with all the children and families who were in attendance. The Council found this event highly entertaining and enjoyable.

Operation SafeHouse Stuff the Bus Mini Drive – October 24, 2015

Each year, the Youth Commission participates in the annual “Stuff the Bus” event which collects donations that supports our local Operation SafeHouse locations. The Council has a long standing history of involvement with Operation SafeHouse and feels it is one of the most important resources that at-risk youth have access to in Riverside County. Operation SafeHouse is run entirely off of donations meaning this annual event ensures the organization will keep running and be able to help more youth. The Council was stationed outside of a Target store located on Tyler Street in Riverside. They handed out fliers to shoppers which listed what supplies SafeHouse was in need of and told shoppers what the collection was

helping. Council members then assisted with loading supplies onto an RTA bus which delivered the donations to the local SafeHouse location.

Western Riverside County 17th Youth in Government Day - October 28, 2015

This year's annual Youth in Government day had an amazing turnout and was revamped in a productive way. Instead of the usual mentor-mentee pairing done by the interns, Riverside County's Human Resources department allowed participants to use their career aptitude survey to match mentees with an accurate and interesting mentor. The Human Resources department was very gracious and helpful in matching all of our mentees and mentors to ensure a more accurate match for everyone involved. This year, Youth in Government Day opened applications to our local Youth Opportunity Centers (YOC's) which serve at-risk and foster youth. The Youth Opportunity Centers and their members were excited and sent a large group of kids to participate. The Youth Commission looks forward to growing our relationship with the YOC's in years to come.

Country Village Veteran's Day Brunch – November 11, 2015

On Veteran's Day, Council members were able to honor local military veterans by assisting with the Veteran's Day Brunch at the Country Village Senior Apartments. Council members served the veterans a warm cooked breakfast, and catered to them, and listened intently to their war stories. It was a very welcoming and humbling experience for the Council, and it inspired many members in the Help Everyone Live Prosperously Committee to create more events relevant to veterans within the community.

UCR Keeping Our Gardens Clean and Beautiful – November 21, 2015

This was the E.V.O. Committee's first event and they invited their fellow Council members to participate in University of California Riverside's Botanical Garden Clean Up. The members were divided into groups of five with each group assigned an area to work on. The tasks included pulling weeds and interacting with the elders who garden as a hobby. The Council enjoyed learning new things and the elders had a great time teaching them gardening techniques. The members enjoyed a nice break to refresh themselves with cold water and tangerines straight from UCR's trees. The Council is looking forward to participating in the second clean up scheduled for the spring season.

Eddie Dee Smith Senior Center Food Distribution – November 23, 2015

At the beginning of the Council's Thanksgiving break, the members helped distribute food packages to senior citizens at the Eddie Dee Smith Senior Center. The line of seniors wrapped around the entire building and the members helped to not only distribute the food packages but also helped seniors carry items to their cars.

Grandparents Raising Grandchildren Adopt a Family – November 24, 2015

This year the Council adopted two families from the Grandparents Raising Grandchildren program. One family had five grandchildren and the second family had two grandchildren. Each Council member donated \$5.00 each to buy a complete Thanksgiving dinner for the families. Two days before Thanksgiving the Council members personally delivered the items

to each family and spent some time talking to them and hearing their stories. The families were extremely grateful for the generous donations and the Council members got the opportunity to see the impact of their work first hand. The Council members were truly touched by the experience and it inspired them to seek out more opportunities like this or initiate their own projects.

No One Eats Alone Country Village Thanksgiving Event – November 26, 2015

The Council participated at the Country Village Apartments with their annual Thanksgiving Lunch. This event was held to give those who don't have anyone to share Thanksgiving with a place to come and enjoy the holiday. It was a great opportunity for those who just want some company during the holiday and the Council enjoyed making a difference in the lives of individuals from County Village. The Council was able to assist with setting up and taking down the event as well as having the privilege to interact with the seniors who attended. The Council loved this event and wanted to have more events at the Country Village Apartments.

Jurupa Valley Adopt-a-Family Santa Express Parade – December 5, 2015

The Council members dressed up and walked in the Santa Express Parade put on annually by Jurupa Valley Adopt a Family. Some of the Council members dressed up as chefs and waiters and danced to the "Hot Chocolate" song with the Polar Express float. Other Council members dressed up as elves and handed out candy canes to the children watching and helped to collect the donated gifts from the houses they passed by. At the end of the parade, a family opened their home to everyone in the community and the Council members enjoyed hot chocolate and cookies with the residents of Jurupa Valley.

Riverside Downtown Partnership Presents Miracle on Main Street – December 13, 2015

In December the Riverside Downtown Partnership asked for assistance with their "Miracle on Main Street" event. The Second District assisted with setting up the event and unloading all of the toys for the children's visit with Santa. The Council was able to run the booth which was set up to allow the children to pick up gifts for their loved ones. The Council members laid out donated items such as jewelry, scarves, hats, books, and trinkets for the children to select from. The Council appreciated the opportunity to go out and enjoy a local event and participate in helping to improve the local community.

Country Village Christmas Caroling – December 18, 2015

The Council joined the Country Village staff and some senior citizens and went caroling around the Country Village community for the Christmas holiday. Members of the Council brought along their families to join in this joyous event. The Council members enjoyed riding in decorated golf carts to each apartment section and seeing the senior citizens waiting by their doors to hear Christmas carols. The members felt the impact they were making when they sang "Silent Night" and "Feliz Navidad" to a senior citizen who started crying because it reminded her of her childhood in New York. This night of caroling was very enjoyable for the Council members as well as the senior citizens living at the Country Village apartments.

Jurupa Valley Adopt a Family Food Distribution Preparation – December 19 & 20, 2015

The Council members helped the Jurupa Valley Adopt a Family to assemble all of the food packages and gifts to be distributed before the Christmas holiday. All of the donated food items were delivered to an empty grocery store and the Council members opened the boxes of food and other necessities and stocked them on the shelves. After all of the items were shelved, the members assembled packages of food, cleaning products, and hygiene products. The members also wrapped all of the donated gifts which were then distributed to the families in the Adopt-A-Family program. After a long day of preparing and assembling packages, the Council members helped with the actual distribution the next day. The Council members continuously made rounds through the grocery store, filling up each grocery cart with packages of food, hygiene products, cleaning products and gifts for each family. Other members of the Council helped with regulating the line to meet with Mr. and Mrs. Claus and the booth for free flu shots.

Senior Sweetheart Social – February 20, 2016

Our most memorable event each year is undoubtedly the Annual Sweet Heart Social. The Council spent a month and a half to plan and coordinate a variety of events for the seniors at the Eddie Dee Smith Senior Center. Senior participants were served a delicious meal catered by Food Runners while enjoying music and games. During the latter part of the event the participants were able to enjoy bingo and handmade centerpieces created by the YAC members. In addition, a wide variety of gifts and goodies were distributed during the bingo games. The Council members put on a show with a couple of songs on the piano and our Commissioner and Co-Commissioner put together a duet, singing and playing the guitar. This was a successful event that brought the senior community and the Youth Council together.

Jurupa Valley Arts Council Evening in Tokyo – February 27, 2016

The Jurupa Valley Arts Council did an amazing job putting on such a wonderful event to share Japanese culture. The members served food to the guests and helped set up the venue. The members felt the event was fun and rewarding, as many of the guests continuously thanked them and the staff for their help. The members personally enjoyed interacting with the guests, making small talk and getting to put on an enjoyable event. The members also got to learn and experience Japanese food and culture.

Riverside County 18th Annual Youth Summit - March 24, 2016

The Youth Commission hosted the 18th Annual Youth Summit at the Pechanga Resort and Conference Center in Temecula. High schools from throughout all five supervisorial districts were invited to the event, which covered topics such as: Mental Health Awareness, Active Shooter Safety Training, Drug and Alcohol Abuse Awareness and overall Self-Empowerment. This year's Youth Summit started with a presentation by A.L.I.C.E. Training, which is one of the most well-respected active shooter safety training programs in the country. The workshop ran for the entire morning portion of the event. The A.L.I.C.E. training session was also opened to principals, vice principals, campus safety officers, student welfare coordinators and other school administrators and faculty from local schools as a way to open the door for more discussion on active shooter response policies at the school district level. Other speakers at the

Youth Summit included Adrienne Jordan, a member of our own Riverside County Mental Health Department. Ms. Jordan's presentation was designed to help students identify when one of their classmates was experiencing a mental health issue and what they can do to help them. Rocky Hill, an addiction and recovery specialist, made a presentation to the group about this very important topic. Eddie Peterson, a motivational speaker, shared his personal life struggles to inspire self-empowerment in the audience. All attendees of the Youth Summit were given an event bag with useful information about the day's topics, which included Eddie Peterson's inspirational autobiographical book *You Don't Know My Life*. The Youth Commission hopes that students use the book as a reminder of all they learned at the Youth Summit and that they can empower themselves regardless of the obstacles they face.

UCR Botanical Garden Plant Sale – April 2, 2016

Members of the YAC were thrilled to volunteer at another UCR Botanical Garden event. At the annual Spring Plant Sale the members set up for the event, sold a variety of plants to customers, assisted in helping children decorate garden T-shirts, and helped to teach children about the water cycle and ways to conserve water to save our environment. The YAC members enjoyed interacting with the community, learning customer service skills, and giving back to the youth.

Annual Healthy Living Extravaganza – April 9, 2016

Second District's Youth Advisory Council had another opportunity to participate at the Annual Healthy Living Extravaganza which is an expo providing information and resources regarding health. At this year's fair, YAC members mainly worked in the kid's zone and facilitated games for children such as human foosball, and throwing bottles and cans into recycling bins. The members were also given the opportunity to educate the audiences by reading scripts on recycling. The members enjoyed how interactive and educational this event was.

UCR Botanical Garden Spring Clean Up – April 23, 2016

The E.V.O. Committee coordinated another event to participate in University of California Riverside's Botanical Garden Spring Clean Up. The members were divided into groups of five with each group assigned an area to work on. The tasks included pulling weeds and interacting with the elders who garden as a hobby. The Council enjoyed learning new things and the elders had a great time teaching them gardening techniques. The members enjoyed a nice break to refresh themselves with cold water and tangerines straight from UCR's garden.

Downtown Riverside Film Festival – May 6, 2016

The Council members attended the opening night gala where award recipients arrived and walked the red carpet. Second District YAC members dressed up in street clothes and lined up on both sides of the carpet to cheer-on the celebrities and took pictures, acting like paparazzi and fans.

Dollars for Scholars – May 7, 2016

Dollars for Scholars is a non-profit organization that fills a void in our community by providing scholarship assistance to high school graduates who live or attend high school in

Riverside, and who want to pursue education beyond high school. The annual Dollars for Scholars dinner was held at a private home in Riverside for donors to learn about this important scholarship program. All of the money raised at this event will go towards scholarships for seniors at high schools throughout Riverside. The YAC members provided support to this event by assisting with set up, check-in, and clean up, which alleviated the need to hire staff and increased the amount of money going towards scholarships.

Historic Downtown Riverside Building Tour – May 12, 201

The Council was thrilled to participate in this new event organized by Riverside Downtown Partnership, the Old Riverside Foundation, and the Riverside Arts Council. Second District YAC helped to assist and regulate tour groups while learning about the history and architecture of historic buildings located here in Riverside.

Jurupa Valley Community Run - May 14, 2016

The H.E.L.P. Committee coordinated their first volunteer event and invited their fellow Council members to participate in assisting with the 8K run. The members on the committee did research on this event and contacted the person in charge to have the Council volunteer. Through this process, the members learned event coordination, management and communication skills. The YAC members provided assistance with set up, runner registration, and directing the runners on the course.

YAC Recruitment for the 2016 - 2017 Term

This year Second District's Youth Advisory Council consisted of mostly new members with only eight from last year. Members were grouped by schools and encouraged to spread the word about the council to their respective high schools throughout the year. Second District created a Facebook page to document and share all of their hard work and successes from throughout the 2015-2016 YAC term. YAC members invited their family members, teachers, and friends to like the page. The Council also hosted a "Bring A Friend to YAC" potluck at our last meeting of the term. There was a great turn out of interested students for the 2016-2017 YAC term.

Jamil Dada Character Excellence Awards - May 20, 2016

The Commissioner and the Co-Commissioner of the Fifth District Youth Advisory Council volunteered at the Jamil Dada Character Excellence Awards. This event honors youth throughout Riverside County who were able to overcome difficult situations such as child abuse, neglect, homelessness or witnessing violent crimes such as the murder of someone in their family.

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

Goals for the 2016-2017 YAC term:

1. Homeless Outreach
2. Outreach to At-risk Youth
3. Environmental Awareness

Total number of community service projects and hours:

Council members delivered 34 projects and dedicated 1,700 hours of community service to the Second District of Riverside County. Overall, YAC members felt that they excelled in accomplishing their expectations and goals for the year.

The Second District Youth Advisory Council would like to thank the Board of Supervisors for their ongoing support throughout the year.

Riverside County Third District Youth Advisory Council **Annual Report 2015-2016**

The Youth Advisory Council (YAC) is a representative student body from the high schools in the Third District of Riverside County. Third District YAC is comprised of students from Chaparral, Great Oak, Hemet, San Jacinto, Temecula Valley, Vista Murrieta, Murrieta Mesa, Rancho Christian and West Valley high schools.

Listed below are key projects that the Youth Advisory Council of 2015-2016 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.

Youth Retreat - August 6, 2015

The 2015 Youth Commission Annual Retreat was held at the Crestmore Manor located in Rubidoux. The event had two keynote speakers: Kama Burton and Aaron Hake. Kama Burton is the president of The local Toastmasters chapter and held a workshop on improving public speaking skills. Aaron Hake (a former Youth Advisory Council member) gave a speech on leadership and networking. Both the workshop and speech were intended to assist the Youth Advisory Council members in becoming better leaders not only within their Council but in their community as well. The students also participated in a workshop led by fourth and fifth district Council Coordinators which taught them how to build a community service project; from idea to actuality. Throughout the day, the students had a chance to interact with their fellow Councilmembers and the Council members from other districts, through team building games and activities.

Habitat for Humanity – August 18, 2015

Youth Council members volunteered with the San Jacinto Valley Habitat for Humanity to work on a house they were building for a single mom and her 3 daughters. Youth Advisory Council members helped with the landscape by pulling weeds in the front yard, painting the living room, bedrooms and bathrooms. This event taught Council members the skill of painting as well as improved teamwork because they had to work as a team to complete the work efficiently.

Habitat for Humanity – August 29, 2015

Youth Council members returned to the same house to help complete the project. After they finished the painting work, Council members began building a fence around the perimeter of the house. Youth Advisory Council members were split up into groups based on the portion of work they were completing. The groups depended on each other to ensure the work was complete and done efficiently. By working as a team the Council was able to finish quickly and move on to the next task.

Temecula Promenade College Fair – September 26, 2015

The Youth Advisory Council ran a booth at Temecula Promenade College Fair. This booth allowed YAC members to interact with the community and educate them about the Riverside

County Youth Commission. This event helped YAC members improve their public speaking skills as well as connect more with the community.

Stuff the Bus – October 17, 2015

Each year, the Youth Commission participates in the annual Stuff the Bus event which donates and collects items that support our local Operation SafeHouse locations. The Council has a long standing history of involvement with Operation SafeHouse and feels it is one of the most important resources that at-risk youth have access to in Riverside County. Operation SafeHouse is run entirely off of donations meaning this annual event ensures the organization will keep running and be able to help more youth. The Youth Advisory Council volunteered for Operation SafeHouse Stuff the Bus event in Temecula. They handed out fliers to shoppers which listed what supplies SafeHouse was in need of and told shoppers what the collection was helping. Council members then assisted with loading supplies onto a bus which delivered the donations to the local SafeHouse location.

Western Riverside County 18th Annual Youth in Government Day – October 28, 2015

This year's annual Youth in Government Day had an amazing turnout and was revamped in a productive way. Instead of the usual mentor-mentee pairing done by the interns, Riverside County's Human Resources department allowed participants to use their career aptitude survey to match mentees with an accurate and interesting mentor. The Human Resources department was so gracious and helpful in matching all of our mentees and mentors to ensure a more accurate match for everyone involved. This year, Youth in Government Day opened applications to our local Youth Opportunity Centers which serve at-risk and foster youth. The Youth Opportunity Centers and their members were excited to participate and made up a large part of our participants. The Youth Commission looks forward to growing our relationship with the centers in years to come.

Empower Youth Harvest Fest – October 29, 2015

The Youth Advisory Council had a booth at the San Jacinto Chamber of Commerce's Candy Corner Event. The purpose of the event was to provide an alternative to trick-or-treating to kids and their families. Our booth consisted of an activity where the kids would "bob for cookies". We also had sweet treats, candy, county resources and an area where the kids could take pictures with Council members. This event allowed the Council to connect with young kids in the community.

NAMI Walk – November 07, 2015

The First and Third District Youth Advisory Council members participated in the National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI) Walk at Diamond Valley Lake in Hemet. The walk is a charity event to raise awareness about mental illness and help fund mental health services. Council members collected donations and then participated in the 5km walk. Council members also had the opportunity to learn more about mental illness and the programs available through the exhibitor booths that were present. This event helped the Council members support a cause that they are passionate about.

Adopt-A-Family Holiday Giving – November 24, 2015

The Third District Youth Advisory Council donated food to three families for the Thanksgiving Holiday. Each family was provided with ham, turkey, stuffing, macaroni and cheese, cranberry sauce, sweet potatoes, dinner rolls, and pies. Youth Advisory Council members bagged all the items and delivered them to the families on November 24, 2015.

Make-A-Wish Letters to Santa – December 15, 2015

The Make-A-Wish Letters to Santa is a campaign that Macy's hosts every year to raise funds for the Make-A-Wish Foundation. Macy's will donate \$1 to the foundation for every letter to Santa that they receive up to \$1 million dollars. The Youth Advisory Council wrote 45 letters to Santa and drew pictures during a Council meeting. We then put the letters in envelopes addressed to the North Pole and placed them in the mail box inside of Macy's stores. This activity allowed the Council members to be creative and crafty while helping raise funds for Make-A-Wish foundation.

Adopt-A-Family Holiday Giving – December 1, 2015

The Third District Youth Advisory Council donated toys and money in order to buy children, who are currently being raised by their grandparents or in the KinCare program within the Third District, presents for the holidays. This year the Council adopted five families with a total of 19 children for the holidays. The Third District Council raised enough funds to buy each child three outfits and three toys. Council members wrapped the presents at their Council meeting and delivered them wearing Santa hats on December 17th and 21st.

College Tour – January 22, 2016

The Council members of Third District received a guided tour of California Baptist University and the University of California, Riverside. During the tour Youth Council members were able to see the benefits that each campus offered to its students. The Council members were also given private counseling by both of the schools. In this counseling session the schools covered the cost to attend, possible majors, career paths, and student life activities. This college tour allowed for the Council members to see the possibilities and opportunities that are offered on college campuses. Each member walked away more comfortable with the idea of going to college because of all the things they had learned.

Valentine Grams for Seniors – February 13, 2016

YAC members created Valentine Grams for the senior citizen residents at the Murrieta Gardens Senior Center. The valentine grams included handmade cards as well as a sweet treat and keepsake. The YAC members hand delivered each Valentine gram to the residents individually. This allowed the Council members to spend time and interact with each of the residents.

Waste Wednesday – February 17, 2016

Youth Advisory Council members volunteered at the Department of Waste Resources Waste Wednesday event at the Riverside County Fair. Waste Wednesday was an event that was designed to create community awareness about the Department of Waste Resources as well as ways to recycle. YAC members helped at this event by distributing handouts, operating the

games at the booth, monitoring the children in the play area, and wearing the Waste-Bot costume in the fair area to direct people to the booth. YAC members not only increased community awareness at this event, but they were also able to educate themselves about waste resources.

Habitat for Humanity Marathon – March 12, 2016

The Youth Advisory Council volunteered at the Habitat for Humanity Marathon. The marathon was a fundraiser for Habitat for Humanity, in order to be able to build more homes in the community. The Council helped in various areas such as setting up different aid stations throughout the marathon, conducted registration, monitored the kid play area, and food distribution. The Council members also maintained all of the aid stations throughout the marathon. The aid stations provide runners with water, Gatorade, electrolytes, snacks, and first aid. There were two YAC members at each station. This event helped increase teamwork and bonding amongst the Council members.

Youth Summit Goodie Bag Assembly – March 22, 2016

The Third District Youth Advisory helped assemble the Youth Summit goodie bags. Each student that attends the Youth Summit receives a goodie bag with the event materials as well as giveaways from the event sponsors. Youth Council members helped assemble and sort 500 goodie bags. This process helped streamline registration and increase teamwork among the Council members.

Riverside County 18th Annual Youth Summit – March 24, 2016

The Youth Commission hosted the 18th Annual Youth Summit at the Pechanga Resort and Conference Center in Temecula. High schools from throughout all five supervisorial districts were invited to the event, which covered topics such as: Mental Health Awareness, Active Shooter Safety Training, Drug and Alcohol Abuse Awareness and overall Self-Empowerment. This year's Youth Summit started with a presentation by A.L.I.C.E. Training, which is one of the most well-respected active shooter safety training programs in the country. The workshop ran for the entire morning portion of the event. The A.L.I.C.E. training session was also opened to principals, vice principals, campus safety officers, student welfare coordinators and other school administrators and faculty from local schools as a way to open the door for more discussion on active shooter response policies at the school district level. Other speakers at the Youth Summit included Adrienne Jordan, a member of our own Riverside County Mental Health Department. Ms. Jordan's presentation was designed to help students identify when one of their classmates was experiencing a mental health issue and what they can do to help them. Rocky Hill, an addiction and recovery specialist, made a presentation to the group about this very important topic. Eddie Peterson, a motivational speaker, shared his personal life struggles to inspire self-empowerment in the audience. All attendees of the Youth Summit were given an event bag with useful information about the day's topics, which included Eddie Peterson's inspirational autobiographical book *You Don't Know My Life*. The Youth Commission hopes that students use the book as a reminder of all they learned at the Youth Summit and that they can empower themselves regardless of the obstacles they face.

Eastern Riverside 14th Annual County Youth in Government Day – April 14th, 2016

This year's annual Youth in Government Day had an amazing turnout and was revamped in a productive way. Instead of the usual mentor-mentee pairing done by the interns, Riverside County's Human Resources department allowed participants to use their career aptitude survey to match mentees with an accurate and interesting mentor. The Human Resources department was so gracious and helpful in matching all of our mentees and mentors to ensure a more accurate match for everyone involved. This year, Youth in Government Day opened applications to our local Youth Opportunity Centers which serve at-risk and foster youth. The Youth Opportunity Centers and their members were excited to participate and made up a large part of our participants. The Youth Commission looks forward to growing our relationship with the centers in years to come.

Temecula Helping Hands – April 16, 2016

Youth Advisory Council members participated in the Temecula Helping Hands event where they helped assemble thousands of hygiene kits for the homeless. This event occurred on the National Day of Service. The hygiene kits included soap, shampoo, toothbrushes, toothpaste, hair products, and many other products. Once the hygiene kits were finished, they were donated to local resource centers in the area.

Valley Restart Dinner – April 22, 2016

The Youth Advisory Council donated food items and supplies to the local homeless shelter in Hemet. The Council members prepared, cooked and served the meal to 60 residents. This was a great event for the Council because they were able to see the direct impact that they had on their community. The Council members also learned how to cook and prepare different food items. The menu for dinner included spaghetti and meatballs, salad, garlic bread, cookies, ice cream, and drinks.

Temecula Special Games – April 23, 2016

Youth Advisory Council members volunteered at the Temecula Special Games event. This event allows students with developmental disabilities to participate in non-competitive games and sporting events. YAC members helped with event registration, game monitoring, lunch distribution, and clean up.

Habitat for Humanity Home Dedication – April 30, 2016

Youth Advisory Council members participated in the Habitat for Humanity Home Dedication event. This event occurs when a family receives their completed house from the Habitat for Humanity organization. The Third District Youth Advisory Council members were able to present the keys to the family of the new home, in which they helped build. This was a wonderful event because it allowed the Council members to see the final product of a house that they helped build as well as the impact that they had on the family.

YAC Recruitment and Information Session – May 10, 2015

The month of May is the recruitment time for the Youth Advisory Council, Third District. The YAC members have planned an information session for prospective members to attend on May 10, 2016 in Hemet. The Council members used a PowerPoint presentation to

convey information about the Council. The Council also provided food and drinks to everyone in attendance. The recruitment session was very successful and we were able to fill every spot on the Council.

KinCare Celebration Carnival – May 14, 2015

Youth Council members participated in the KinCare Celebration Carnival. The event was held at Mary Henley Park in Hemet. This event was designed to give kids in the KinCare program a chance to have fun and enjoy themselves with carnival style attractions. The Third District YAC had a carnival style booth set up with games and treats for the kids. YAC members operated the booth and interacted with the children.

Riverside County Animal Shelter Dog Wash - May 20 & 28, 2016

The Youth Advisory Council toured the Riverside County Animal Shelter in San Jacinto. Through this tour they had the chance to learn about all aspects of the shelter from patient intake to grooming and adoption. After the tour the council members began washing the dogs. Once they were finished washing the dogs, they were able to interact with the animals. They played with animals, walked them and fed them. At the conclusion of the day some YAC members applied to be an ongoing volunteer with the shelter.

Jamil Dada Character Excellence Awards - May 20, 2016

The Commissioner and the Co-Commissioner of the Fifth District Youth Advisory Council volunteered at the Jamil Dada Character Excellence Awards. This event honors youth throughout Riverside County who were able to overcome difficult situations such as child abuse, neglect, homelessness or witnessing violent crimes such as the murder of someone in their family.

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

Goals for the 2015-2016 YAC term:

1. Outreach to At-risk Youth
 2. Community Awareness
 3. Senior Citizen Bonding
-

Total number of community service projects and hours:

Council members delivered 25 projects and dedicated 1,400 hours of community service to the Third District of Riverside County. Overall, YAC members felt that they excelled in accomplishing their expectations and goals for the year.

The Third District Youth Advisory Council would like to thank the Board of Supervisors for their ongoing support throughout the year

Riverside County Fourth District Youth Advisory Council **Annual Report 2015-2016**

The Fourth District Coachella Valley and Palo Verde Valley Youth Advisory Councils (YAC) identify youth-related concerns and issues specific to the Fourth District. YAC is comprised of students from Cathedral City, Coachella Valley, La Quinta, Palm Desert, Palo Verde, Rancho Mirage, and Xavier high schools.

Listed are the key projects the 2015-2016 Fourth District Coachella Valley and Palo Verde Valley YACs accomplished throughout the year:

Youth Retreat- August 6, 2015

The 2015 Youth Commission Annual Retreat was held at the Crestmore Manor located in Rubidoux. The event had two keynote speakers: Kama Burton and Aaron Hake. Kama Burton is the president of her local Toastmasters chapter and held a workshop on improving on public speaking skills. Aaron Hake (a former Youth Advisory Council member) gave a speech on leadership and networking. Both the workshop and speech were intended to assist the Youth Advisory Council members in becoming better leaders not only within their Council but in their community as well. The students also participated in a workshop led by Fourth and Fifth District Council Coordinators which taught them how to build a community service project; from idea to actuality. Throughout the day, the students had a chance to interact with their fellow Councilmembers and the Council members from other districts, through team building games and activities.

30th Annual College Voc-Tech Night – October 14, 2015

With Supervisor John J. Benoit's assistance, the Palo Verde Valley YAC facilitated transportation to Indio for Palo Verde High School students attending the 30th Annual College Voc-Tech Night. This college and career fair, held at the Riverside County Fairgrounds, featured representatives from more than 80 four-year universities, community colleges, vocational-technical schools, the military, law enforcement and scholarship organizations. This event provided a valuable experience to students from the Palo Verde Valley, who don't typically have exposure to as many college representatives in a single college fair in their community. YAC and Supervisor Benoit are proud to make this opportunity available to them and hope to serve even more students in the future.

Steps for the Cure – October 17, 2015

The Palo Verde Valley YAC volunteered at the Blythe Cancer Resource Center's 9th annual "Steps for the Cure" fundraising event. At the event, YAC members built a balloon arc, helped with set up and tear-down, and hosted a photo booth. YAC's photo booth was consistent with the event's Hollywood theme and gave participants the opportunity to wear props and have their photo taken. The Council charged \$2 for a Polaroid or \$1 for cellphone selfies. The profits from the photo booth, \$88, were donated to the Blythe Cancer Resource Center.

Children's Craft Day at Coachella Valley Rescue Mission – October 25, 2015

Coachella Valley YAC members hosted a Halloween-themed craft day at the Coachella Valley Rescue Mission's (CVRM) Family Center. CVRM's Family Center provides temporary housing to mothers and children who have been displaced from their homes and need support. YAC members wanted to bring some joy and laughter to the children. The Council facilitated crafts and activities with the families, including cookie decorating, cape and mask decorating, face painting and coloring.

Writing Workshop – November 1, 2015

The Coachella Valley YAC expressed a desire to get better prepared on college admission essays, resume writing and interview skills. An admissions representative from the University of California, Riverside provided an afternoon workshop for YAC members. The workshop helped YAC gain a better understanding of what colleges are looking for and provided them with techniques to improve their writing.

Grandparents Raising Grandchildren "Adopt A Family" – November 2015

Palo Verde Valley and Coachella Valley YAC each adopted two families from the Riverside County Office on Aging's Grandparents Raising Grandchildren program. The objective was to provide complete Thanksgiving Dinners for the entire family. YAC members collected turkeys, side dishes, desserts, and beverages to feed all four families.

Healing Field – November 7, 2015

For the third consecutive year, in Cathedral City, Coachella Valley YAC had the honor of participating in the Healing Field memorial event at Patriot Park. Hundreds of volunteers came together to remember the lives of fallen service members from the war in Iraq and Afghanistan. YAC members helped place 8,000 flags and accompanying name tags, in memory of each fallen service member.

Stuff the Bus Drive at Target – November 3-5, 2015

"Stuff the Bus" is an annual donation drive hosted by SafeHouse of the Desert with the goal of collecting enough daily essentials for the organization to fill a school bus. Over a three-day period, Coachella Valley YAC members volunteered at the Palm Desert Target parking lot and provided information to shoppers about the event and the items needed. In addition, YAC helped sort all the donated items before placing them on the bus.

Rock Out With Your Socks Out – November 20, 2015

As part of Palo Verde Valley YAC's goals to create an engaging community for youth, they hosted a "crazy socks" themed event at the Joe Wine Blythe Recreation Center. The Council noticed that there weren't many events available where elementary and middle school aged youth could participate. In an effort to change this, YAC partnered with the recreation center and facilitated an evening of cookie decorating, sock coloring and games.

Palm Springs Festival of Lights Parade – December 5, 2015

The 24th Annual Festival of Lights Parade was held in downtown Palm Springs, helping local residents and tourists ring in the holiday season. Coachella Valley YAC members had the privilege of walking alongside Supervisor John J. Benoit's float while singing Christmas carols.

Civil Servants for Santa – December 19, 2015

The Blythe Police Department invited children from low-income families to go shopping for their own Christmas gifts. Palo Verde Valley YAC members assisted with check-in, while keeping children entertained with crafts and games. Additionally, Council members assisted with preparing lunch.

Toy Wrapping for Oasis Mobile Home Park – December 21, 2015

Coachella Valley YAC members wrapped more than 150 toys collected by the California Highway Patrol for underprivileged children residing at a mobile home park in the community of Oasis. YAC members helped distribute the gifts at a Christmas celebration and felt rewarded when they saw the smiles on everyone's faces.

Donate A Dime, Donate A Dollar, Donate A Ham– December 22, 2015

The Palo Verde Valley YAC raised funds for the Blythe Emergency Food Pantry in an effort to help families during the holiday season. The Council was able to donate \$180 in spare change to purchase food items during the food pantry's neediest season.

DIY Toys Benefitting the Blythe Animal Shelter – January 14, 2016

The Palo Verde Valley YAC provided support for the Blythe Animal Shelter by facilitating a do-it-yourself project. Council members made 13 kitty wands and 16 tug braids, and donated them to the shelters, helping offset the cost of cat and dog toys.

DisAbility Sports Festival – January 30, 2016

The Coachella Valley YAC volunteered at the DisAbility Sports Festival, an event that provides opportunities for people with disabilities to try multiple sports. YAC members served as leaders in different sports and assisted participants with the various activities, including judo, soccer, baseball and self-defense. YAC helped the organization with set-up and tear-down.

The 7th Annual High School Competition – February 12, 2016

In an effort to bring more young people to the Riverside County Fair & National Date Festival, Coachella Valley YAC members organized the Seventh Annual High School Competition, featuring a series of entertaining Fair contests: musical carpets, relay race, blanket balloon toss, reverse charades and school spirit. Teams from four high schools competed for the coveted Date Cup Trophy. YAC members selected the games, acted as judges and awarded trophies to the first place team.

First 5 Riverside – February 13, 2016

Coachella Valley YAC members volunteered at First 5 Riverside's booth at the Riverside County Fair & National Date Festival. First 5 provides programs for babies, toddlers and preschoolers. YAC members welcomed visitors, ran activities and distributed information.

Volunteer at the Animal Shelter – February 18, 2016

The Riverside County animal shelter in Blythe welcomed YAC members to spend hours grooming, playing and feeding animals. YAC was pleased to volunteer their time after school in assisting abandoned and orphaned animals in the care of the shelter.

Graffiti Cleanup – February 27, 2016

The Palo Verde Valley YAC collaborated with the City of Blythe and the Palo Verde Valley Transit Agency to remove graffiti throughout the Blythe community. The combined effort consisted of cleaning, washing and painting local areas to keep the environment safe, beautiful and clean.

Riverside County Youth Summit Goody Bags – March 10, 2016

The Palo Verde Valley YAC helped prepare 500 goody bags for high school students attending the 18th Annual Youth Summit. The students were from schools throughout Riverside County.

Youth Force Cleanup – March 12, 2016

The C.L.E.A.N Youth Force program, sponsored by Supervisor John J. Benoit, provides an opportunity for schools and nonprofit organizations to raise funds for their programs by cleaning illegal dumpsites. Coachella Valley YAC dedicated a Saturday morning to the community of Thermal, cleaning a site that is used as an illegal dump. Household waste, agricultural waste, dead animals and tires were found along the roadside. More than eight tons of trash and more than 300 tires were collected at the cleanup. For their hard work, YAC members received \$2,000. They donated \$1,000 each to two non-profit organizations, SafeHouse of the Desert and Shelter from the Storm.

Baseball Buddies – March 14, 2016

One of Coachella Valley YAC's most cherished projects involved volunteering for the Baseball Buddies program, which allows children with physical and emotional challenges to play baseball. Each child had a buddy to help play the game. YAC members acted as buddies and helped the children hit and catch balls and run bases.

The Riverside County 18th Annual Youth Summit - March 24, 2016

The Youth Commission hosted the 18th Annual Youth Summit at the Pechanga Resort and Conference Center in Temecula. High schools from throughout all five supervisorial districts were invited to the event, which covered topics such as: Mental Health Awareness, Active Shooter Safety Training, Drug and Alcohol Abuse Awareness and overall Self-Empowerment. This year's Youth Summit started with a presentation by A.L.I.C.E. Training, which is one of the most well-respected active shooter safety training programs in the country. The workshop ran for the entire morning portion of the event. The A.L.I.C.E. training session was also opened to principals, vice principals, campus safety officers, student welfare coordinators and other school administrators and faculty from local schools as a way to open the door for more discussion on active shooter response policies at the school district level. Other speakers at the Youth Summit included Adrienne Jordan, a member of our own Riverside County Mental Health Department. Ms. Jordan's presentation was designed to help students identify when one of their classmates was experiencing a mental health issue and what they can do to help them. Rocky Hill, an addiction and recovery specialist, made a presentation to the group about this

very important topic. Eddie Peterson, a motivational speaker, shared his personal life struggles to inspire self-empowerment in the audience. All attendees of the Youth Summit were given an event bag with useful information about the day's topics, which included Eddie Peterson's inspirational autobiographical book *You Don't Know My Life*. The Youth Commission hopes that students use the book as a reminder of all they learned at the Youth Summit and that they can empower themselves regardless of the obstacles they face.

Donate a Penny, Donate a Dime, Donate a Dollar – April 2016

The Coachella Valley YAC facilitated a fundraiser to create care packages for homeless individuals in the Fourth District. The project was named "Donate a Penny, Donate a Dime, Donate a Dollar." All funds collected were used to purchase materials for the care packages. YAC members collaborated with local shelters to deliver the care packages.

Palo Verde Valley Cemetery Clean-up – April 9, 2016

Palo Verde Cemetery staff asked YAC for help in cleaning up the cemetery's most problematic areas. The Council assisted in cleaning up trash and trimming bushes, allowing the cemetery to look as beautiful as ever.

Care Kits for Troops – April 28, 2016

To show their gratitude, the Palo Verde Valley YAC took the opportunity to supply overseas troops with care items. The Council collected about 90 items. The items included: toothbrushes, toothpaste, deodorant, hand warmers, mini flashlights, batteries, wipes and chapstick. The Council assembled these items in care packages and donated them to Operation Gratitude, a non-profit volunteer-based organization that supports service members.

Palo Verde Valley YAC Bring a Friend & Potluck – May 20, 2016

Palo Verde Valley YAC hosted a potluck to celebrate their accomplishments during the 2015- 2016 term. YAC members also had the opportunity to invite potential 2016-2017 YAC members.

2016-2017 Recruitment

Recruitment for the Fourth District Youth Advisory Council is ongoing through the end of the term and summer. YAC members provide contact information of students they recommend for the 2016- 2017 Council. YAC members have also invited potential applicants to events and meetings during the end of the term. The Fourth District YAC is promoted through local media, Supervisor Benoit's website and the e-report, The Benoit Bulletin, letters to school officials, community leaders, local organizations, and word of mouth.

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

Goals for the 2016-2017 Youth Advisory Council term:

1. Continue to host innovative community service projects
2. Recruit members from all high schools in the Fourth District
3. Host more presentations from community organizations
4. Host more events with fellow Riverside County YAC

Total number of community service projects and hours:

The 2015-2016 Youth Advisory Council had 46 members and they delivered 26 projects in total. They have dedicated 1,739 hours of community service to the Fourth District of Riverside County. Overall, YAC members felt that they excelled in accomplishing their expectations and goals for the year.

The Fourth District YACs would like to thank the Board of Supervisors for their ongoing support throughout the year.

Riverside County Fifth District Youth Advisory Council **Annual Report 2015-2016**

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. 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 Fifth District Youth Advisory Council of 2015-2016 accomplished throughout the year. The Fifth District Youth Advisory Council would also like to thank the community for their constant support through their endeavors and dedication to the youth in Riverside County:

Riverside County 18th Annual Youth Retreat - August 6, 2015

The 2015 Youth Commission Annual Retreat was held at the Crestmore Manor located in Rubidoux. The event had two keynote speakers: Kama Burton and Aaron Hake. Kama Burton is the president of the local Toastmasters chapter and held a workshop on improving on public speaking skills. Aaron Hake (a former Youth Advisory Council member) gave a speech on leadership and networking. Both the workshop and speech were intended to assist the Youth Advisory Council members in becoming better leaders not only within their Council but in their community as well. The students also participated in a workshop led by fourth and fifth district Council Coordinators which taught them how to build a community service project; from idea to actuality. Throughout the day, the students had a chance to interact with their fellow Councilmembers and the Council members from other districts, through team building games and activities.

Honey Hollow Back to School Supply Drive - September 9, 2015

The Think Together after school program at Honey Hollow Elementary School in Moreno Valley looks after children from kindergarten up to sixth grade. In the weeks prior to the event, the Fifth District Youth Advisory Council collected school supply items to donate to the afterschool program. On the day of the event the Youth Advisory Council brought in the supplies and played games with the students inside their respective classrooms. Some of the games consisted of creating a game board, a marshmallow launcher, as well as self-portraits.

Stuff the Bus - October 3, 2015

Operation Safehouse has an annual supply drive throughout Riverside County to collect supplies for the SafeHouse locations. The Youth Advisory Council gathered outside a local target within the Fifth District to assist in passing out flyers, collecting donated items, and

loading those items onto the bus that was parked in front of the store. The Youth Advisory Council really enjoyed joining together within their community to assist in a greater cause.

Moreno Valley Haunt set-up/event - October 26 and 30, 2015

The city of Moreno Valley hosts an annual three-day MoVal Haunt event at a local golf course. The event is provided to give the local families a safe and fun alternative to trick-or-treating on the streets. The Fifth District Youth Advisory Council assisted in setting up the tent and decorations prior to the event and came back to participate as characters in the haunted maze when it was open to the public. Not only was this event fun and entertaining, the Council was able to assist in creating a safe and enjoyable event for the children and families of the city of Moreno Valley.

Western Riverside County 17th Annual Youth in Government Day - October 29, 2015

This year's annual Youth in Government Day had an amazing turnout and was revamped in a productive way. Instead of the usual mentor-mentee pairing done by the interns, Riverside County's Human Resources department allowed participants to use their career aptitude survey to match mentees with an accurate and interesting mentor. The Human Resources department was so gracious and helpful in matching all of our mentees and mentors to ensure a more accurate match for everyone involved. This year, Youth in Government Day opened applications to our local Youth Opportunity Centers which serve at-risk and foster youth. The Youth Opportunity Centers and their members were excited to participate and made up a large part of our participants. The Youth Commission looks forward to growing our relationship with the centers in years to come.

Riverside County Regional Medical Center, Festival of Trees Gala- November 24, 2015

The Youth Advisory Council supported the Riverside County Regional Medical Center Foundation (RCRMC) by volunteering at their Annual Festival of Trees Gala Fundraiser benefitting RCRMC's Pediatric Units. The council assisted in the event preparation by selling raffle tickets as well as managing the items that were being raffled.

Story Time with Santa - November 25, 2015

The Council members assisted with the annual Story time with Santa sponsored by Altura Credit Union. During the event the Youth Advisory Council helped the attending children assemble the craft they were given, the coloring contest, as well as the game booths. Being able to interact with the children and see the excitement on their faces was an enjoyable experience for the Council.

Adopt-A-Family - November/December 2015

The Fifth District Youth Advisory Council partnered with Catholic Charities and proceeded to collect food items for a family in need during the holiday season in order to relieve any financial burdens. Food items were collected for Thanksgiving, while food and gifts were collected during Christmas. The gratitude and appreciation for the council's donations were exceptional. By putting others first and giving to a family in need brought a great sense of self-gratification and accomplishment for the Council.

Valentine's Day Grams - January 27, 2016

During a bi-weekly Youth Advisory Council meeting the Council created Valentine's Day grams for both active and retired military. This event was done to show their appreciation and support for our country's service men and women. Although the Council was not able to see who their grams were being sent to, they really enjoyed doing something small that they know means a lot for the individuals who have either fought or currently fight for the freedom and protection of our country.

Veterans Expo - January 30, 2016

The seventh Annual Pass Area Veterans Expo was held at the Beaumont Civic Center. This event was held to give support services and information to military veterans, families, and friends in the area that may be in need. The Youth Advisory Council lent a helping hand by guiding attendees to the opening ceremony, assisting the exhibitors in anything they may have needed, replenished the breakfast bar as well as assisted in the lunch distribution. Not only was this event exciting but it was also educational for the Council, in that they were able to see and appreciate both active and retired military personnel and all the services that are provided for them.

Riverside County Fair & National Date Festival - February 13, 2016

The Fifth District Youth Advisory Council assisted the Fourth District Youth Advisory Council with their Riverside County Fair and National Date Festival in Indio. The council worked with Waste Resources and First 5 to create crafts with children, read books, sang songs, and played a recycling game in an effort to promote and teach children the proper ways to recycle items. The Council also walked around the fair promoting Waste Wednesday. The fair was a great event for the Council to interact with children and people of the community.

Wellness Packages - February 24, 2016

Over a two-week period, the Council collected various hygienic items. During a bi-weekly Youth Advisory Council meeting, the Council assembled the collected items into wellness packages that were donated to the City of Banning for their upcoming emergency cold weather shelter. Some of the items consisted of: shampoo, soap, deodorant, socks, non-perishable food items, water bottles, and chapstick.

Easter Egg Hunt & Bunny Brunch - March 19, 2016

The Fifth District Youth Advisory Council volunteered with Moreno Valley Parks and Community Services to host their annual Easter Egg Hunt and Bunny Brunch. The Council members prepared for the day by placing the proper signs around the park as well as placing eggs for the children throughout five baseball fields. The Council members assisted with cleanup of the fields and then prepared for the Bunny Brunch at the Senior Center. At the Bunny Brunch, the Council members passed out plates of breakfast food to the children and their parents and assisted with announcements and introductions. During the Bunny Brunch the Youth Advisory Council ran specific rooms in order to assist each person with their activities. They were able to help with all the activities of the day as well as provide cleanup services.

The Riverside County 18th Annual Youth Summit - March 24, 2016

The Youth Commission hosted the 18th Annual Youth Summit at the Pechanga Resort and Conference Center in Temecula. High schools from throughout all five supervisorial districts were invited to the event, which covered topics such as: Mental Health Awareness, Active Shooter Safety Training, Drug and Alcohol Abuse Awareness and overall Self-Empowerment. This year's Youth Summit started with a presentation by A.L.I.C.E. Training, which is one of the most well-respected active shooter safety training programs in the country. The workshop ran for the entire morning portion of the event. The A.L.I.C.E. training session was also opened to principals, vice principals, campus safety officers, student welfare coordinators and other school administrators and faculty from local schools as a way to open the door for more discussion on active shooter response policies at the school district level. Other speakers at the Youth Summit included Adrienne Jordan, a member of our own Riverside County Mental Health Department. Ms. Jordan's presentation was designed to help students identify when one of their classmates was experiencing a mental health issue and what they can do to help them. Rocky Hill, an addiction and recovery specialist, made a presentation to the group about this very important topic. Eddie Peterson, a motivational speaker, shared his personal life struggles to inspire self-empowerment in the audience. All attendees of the Youth Summit were given an event bag with useful information about the day's topics, which included Eddie Peterson's inspirational autobiographical book *You Don't Know My Life*. The Youth Commission hopes that students use the book as a reminder of all they learned at the Youth Summit and that they can empower themselves regardless of the obstacles they face.

Recruitment for the 2016-2017 Council Year - April-June 2016

The Fifth District Youth Advisory Council began recruitment for new members in April 2016. Their mission is to recruit members not only from their own schools, but from several high schools in the Fifth District in an effort to have each high school represented within the Fifth District Youth Advisory Council.

Cat Tents - April 6, 2016

During a bi-weekly Youth Advisory Council meeting, the Council created cat tents that were donated to a local animal shelter. The tents were intended for a fun and unique space for cats to enjoy. The Council used recycled items, wire hangers, and cardboard to create the tents. The YAC really enjoyed bonding together while doing this hands on project.

Eastern Riverside County 14th Youth in Government Day – April 14, 2016

This year's annual Youth in Government Day had an amazing turnout and was revamped in a productive way. Instead of the usual mentor-mentee pairing done by the interns, Riverside County's Human Resources department allowed participants to use their career aptitude survey to match mentees with an accurate and interesting mentor. The Human Resources department was so gracious and helpful in matching all of our mentees and mentors to ensure a more accurate match for everyone involved. This year, Youth in Government Day opened applications to our local Youth Opportunity Centers which serve at-risk and foster youth. The Youth Opportunity Centers and their members were excited to participate and made up a large part of our participants. The Youth Commission looks forward to growing our relationship with the centers in years to come.

District Tour - April 21, 2016

The District Tour showcased several landmarks in both the Fifth District and Riverside County. Throughout the day the Youth Advisory Council members were able to take tours of places such as: The Orange Empire Railway Museum, the Morongo Band of Mission Indians Reservation and the Tribal Council Chambers, and the Palm Springs Tramway. The Council members received information about Riverside County and the Fifth District which educates them not only for their future endeavors but the importance of each of these locations.

Earth Night in the Garden - April 22, 2016

The Fifth District Youth Advisory Council assisted the Western Municipal Water District with their Earth Night in the Garden event. During the event the Council members assisted with setting up, monitoring, and collecting recyclables in addition to loading and cleaning the recycle containers. At the end of the event, the YAC was able to keep the items they collected. This event was both educational and fun for the Council members.

Moreno Valley Hispanic Chamber Commerce Cinco de Mayo - May 7, 2016

The Youth Advisory Council assisted the Moreno Valley Hispanic Chamber of Commerce with their Cinco de Mayo event. The Council members helped with set-up, passed out flyers, worked the booths, and lent a helping hand with clean-up. The YAC really enjoyed helping with this event.

Jamil Dada Character Excellence Youth Awards Ceremony - May 20, 2016

The Commissioner and the Co-Commissioner of the Fifth District Youth Advisory Council volunteered at the Jamil Dada Character Excellence Awards. This event honors youth throughout Riverside County who were able to overcome difficult situations such as child abuse, neglect, homelessness or witnessing violent crimes such as the murder of someone in their family.

Old 215 Freeway Clean-up - May 28, 2016

The old 215 freeway located in Moreno Valley is being turned into a historical landmark. Before the ceremony the Council partnered with an outside organization to clean up trash left along the highway, cover any graffiti and remove any weeds and overgrown brush in an effort to make the freeway more presentable. Being outdoors cleaning up our community was extremely beneficial for the Council to be able to see the end results of their hard work.

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

Goals for the 2016-2017 YAC term:

1. Improving our community
2. Create an opportunity for youth to get help with school, such as studying or tutoring
3. Create events that promote healthy youth behavior throughout the district

Total number of community service projects and hours:

Council members delivered 23 projects and dedicated 1,900 hours of community service to the Fifth District of Riverside County. Overall, the council members felt that they excelled in accomplishing their expectations and goals for the year.

The Fifth District Youth Advisory Council would like to thank the Board of Supervisors for their ongoing support throughout the year.
