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



FROM: Youth Commission

SUBMITTAL DATE: June 28, 2011

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 2010-2011 term, as required by resolution 98-032 and the Youth Commission By-Laws (Article XIII).

**JUSTIFICATION:** 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 Department heads. The Youth Commission works to anticipate the educational, recreational and cultural needs of the youth of Riverside County, and it 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.

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 Board on issues directly affecting youth. We are confident that the Youth Commission will continue to be a voice for the youth in Riverside County.

Elena Hermenegildo, Board Assistant 1<sup>st</sup> District

# MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

On motion of Supervisor Stone, seconded by Supervisor Benoit and duly carried by unanimous vote, IT WAS ORDERED that the above matter is received and filed as recommended.

Ayes:

Buster, Tavaglione, Stone, Benoit and Ashley

Nays:

None

Absent:

None

Date:

June 28, 2011

XC:

Commission -

Kecia Harper-Ihem
Clerk on the Board

Deputy

2 24
[Type text]

Type text]

# Riverside County Youth Commission

2010-2011 Term Year

# **Annual Report**

# RIVERSIDE COUNTY YOUTH COMMISSION ANNUAL REPORT 2010-2011

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

Listed below are key projects that the Youth Commission of 2010-2011 accomplished throughout the year. Following that are the projects of each independent Youth Advisory Council in order of district number. The Commission would also like to thank the community for their constant support through their endeavors and dedication to the youth in Riverside County.

# • 13<sup>th</sup> Annual Summer Retreat-July 2010

This year's Youth Commission Annual Retreat was held at the Knott's Soak City Water Park in Palm Springs on July 28, 2010. The event serves to welcome both new and returning member into the new council term year. Motivational speaker John Vandenberg provided the keynote and leadership workshops for the event. John focused on building leadership, communication and teamwork skills. The annual retreat provided an opportunity for our youth council members from all districts to interact with one another as well as with the other council members in respective districts. Youth Advisory Council members also discussed ideas for the Youth Summit.

# "Stuff the Bus," Operation SafeHouse-August 2009

Each year, Operation SafeHouse shelters more than 600 teens in need of a safe place to stay. The house provides emergency shelter, intervention and outreach services to youth in crisis. By providing a warm caring environment, youth can address their problems and are offered positive alternatives to becoming victims of the streets. Like many other nonprofits, the organization has been facing decreases in donations and grants while needs are increasing. In response, SafeHouse and Riverside Transit Agency, a partner agency, brainstormed ways to meet those needs. RTA suggested "Stuff the Bus" this event drove buses around downtown Riverside to gather donations of pillows, blankets, bathroom tissue, paper towels, toothbrushes, cleaning supplies and food. From September through November, the Riverside County Youth Commission hosted a drive to directly support Operation SafeHouse's "Stuff the Bus." The Youth Commission was able to collect a total of 431 items to donate. Please refer to the following link for release this event: a news on http://www.pe.com/rss/inland/stories/PE News Local E wstuff20.40d98e0.html

# • 11th Annual Youth In Government Day-October 2010

The Youth Advisory Council members engaged in the 11<sup>th</sup> Annual Youth in Government Day on Wednesday, October 20, 2010. The event provided a unique learning opportunity where participants were matched with County of Riverside employees. Each youth shadowed an employee for the day to learn and understand the importance of local government inter-workings and to become familiar with the wide array of occupational opportunities that the County offers. YAC members expressed the educational significance of this event and urged that this project continues in operation. A few examples of participating departments included: Superior Court, Public Defender, Flood Control, Animal Services, Fire Department and the Board of Supervisors.

# • 11th Annual Youth Summit-March 2011

On Thursday, March 3, 2011, the County of Riverside Youth Commission held their Eleventh Annual Partnership Summit titled "Passport to Your Future" at The Country Club at Soboba Springs located at 1020 Soboba Road San Jacinto, CA 92583. Enthusiastic key note speaker Aric Bostick inspired students to channel their potential and to live up to their dreams. The objective of the Youth Partnership Summit is to create an avenue where Riverside County youth can discuss issues that affect their lives and community. Each year a theme is selected to discuss at the summit based on feedback from previous participants. Motivational speakers and various agencies assist in creating a forum where youth can engage other students on a particular topic. The ultimate goal of the Youth Partnership Summit is to discuss these issues, provide a solution, and to improve the present and future lives of Riverside County youth. This year, students had the opportunity to enjoy workshops on the following topics: financial aid and scholarships, the admissions process for schools including the UC's, CSU's, community colleges, etc., and how to prepare for college while in high school.

# Riverside County First District Youth Advisory Council Annual Report 2010-2011

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

Listed below are key projects that the First District Youth Advisory Council of 2010-2011 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.

# • "Stuff the Bus" Scavenger Hunt-August 2010

The Youth Advisory Council asked First District Residents to donate items for Operation SafeHouse. The SafeHouse provides emergency shelter, intervention and outreach services to runaway, homeless and other youth in crisis. Items being collected include sponges, napkins, toilet paper, deodorant, toothbrushes and silverware sets etc. A total of 431 items were collected.

# • Book Drive and Celebration of Children Literacy Event-September 2010 through October 2010

First District Youth Advisory Council hosted a book-drive to collect new children's books to give out at Riverside County Volunteer Center's "Celebration of Children" event held in Riverside. Donation boxes were placed at the following First District libraries: Lake Elsinore County Library, Lakeside County Library, Mission Trail County Library, and Wood Crest County Library. Boxes were also placed at the First District office in Wildomar and the Mead Valley Community Center. Council members placed boxes at schools and at parents' job-sites. Further, council members also passed around fliers in order to generate more donations. In 2009, 558 books were collected from throughout First District. This past year, 391 books were collected.

#### Celebration of Children Day Event-October 2010

First District Council members donated books raised through a drive to the Riverside County Volunteer Center's for their "Celebration of Children" event. 391 books were donated and given to 100 pre-school aged children.

#### Santa Ana River Watershed Clean Up-October 2010

Council members volunteered their time to assist collect water and reusable bag donations for participants. Although they were unable to assist the clean-up this year, they look forward to assist this event in 2011.

# Mead Valley Day-October 2010

The Council volunteered their services at the Mead Valley Fair. The event served to bring the community together for a fun and informational day. Information was provided on voter registration, a graffiti clean-up program and environmental awareness. YAC members also helped volunteers set up booths.

#### Second Harvest Food Bank-October 2010

The Council volunteered their services at the Second Harvest Food Bank in Riverside. Tasks included stocking the kitchen, cleaning and organizing inventory. Food items are then donated to local non-profits and food kitchens throughout the area.

#### Taking Action for HOPE-November 2010

The Youth Advisory Council collected items at the Albertsons in Lake Elsinore located at 30901 Riverside Drive to help fill the cupboards at the Help Our People of Elsinore (HOPE) food bank. 475 items were collected! Please refer to the following links for news releases on this event: <a href="http://www.pe.com/localnews/lakeelsinore/stories/PE\_News\_Local\_S\_shope20.40e8548.html">http://www.pe.com/localnews/lakeelsinore/stories/PE\_News\_Local\_S\_shope20.40e8548.html</a> or <a href="http://www.nctimes.com/news/local/lake-elsinore/article\_933033d5-4458-52bf-9857-3f390fde77d9.html">http://www.nctimes.com/news/local/lake-elsinore/article\_933033d5-4458-52bf-9857-3f390fde77d9.html</a>.

# • "Dog Wash" at the Van Buren Animal Shelter-November 2010

1<sup>st</sup> District Council members volunteered washing, socializing with and walking dogs at the Van Buren animal shelter.

### Christmas Tree Lane Project-November 2010

The YAC assembled an exhibit of a little girl's room and two Christmas trees at the Lake Elsinore Outlet. This exhibit was auctioned in December, along with other rooms. All proceeds went directly to youth programs such as the Girls and Boys Club and the Student of the Month Program of Lake Elsinore. YAC members also come up with the name and theme of this room. All of the items and decorations for this room were provided.

# • "Harvest for HOPE"-November 2010 through December 2010

First District Council members held a Canned Food Drive to help fill the cupboards at the Help Our People of Elsinore (HOPE) food bank. Last year the First District YAC collected almost 500 non-perishable food items to contribute to HOPE. Drop off sites included: Supervisor Bob Buster's office at 32100 Clinton Keith Road, Wildomar, CA 92595; the Riverside County Clerk of the Board office by the elevators inside the County Administrative Center at 4080 Lemon Street; Lake Elsinore Sheriff's Station at 333 Limited Avenue in Lake Elsinore; DPSS office at 4060 County Circle Drive, Riverside; the Woodcrest Library at 16625 Krameria Avenue in Riverside. Please refer to the following link for a news release on this event: <a href="http://www.pe.com/localnews/lakeelsinore/storics/PE News Local S hope12.40e4525.html">http://www.pe.com/localnews/lakeelsinore/storics/PE News Local S hope12.40e4525.html</a>.

#### • Collecting food items for "Harvest for HOPE"-December 2010

546 items were collected from various drop-off locations throughout Riverside, Lake Elsinore and Wildomar. The items were delivered to HOPE as well. The volunteers were very touched by the council members' hard work and generosity.

#### • "Clean \$" Clean-Up-December 2010

In an effort to keep Temescal Valley and El Cerrito clean, Code Enforcement has invited all local, youth-based, nonprofit organizations and clubs to earn \$500 and help the environment. The First District Youth Advisory Council conducted a clean-up in Temescal Valley. The funds were donated to a local non-profit within First District, Family Services Association. The money was used to purchase gifts for children that attended the annual "Breakfast with Santa and His Elves."

• Mead Valley's 4<sup>th</sup> Annual "Breakfast With Santa and His Elves"-December 2010
On this special day, Mead Valley families came together, shared breakfast and took a picture with Santa. Children made arts and crafts in "Santa's Workshop," participated in "Reindeer Games" and received prizes from council members. YAC members wore elf hats while assisting the community's youth and had a terrific time. A total of 600 Mead Valley residents attended this

event along with an honored visit from Supervisor Buster. 60 volunteers assisted from the following agencies: Mead Valley community volunteers, Riverside County DPSS, Mead Valley Code Enforcement, Tomas Rivera Middle School, the Riverside Matrix basketball team, Riverside County EDA, the Mead Valley Youth Leadership Program, Mead Valley's Fire Station and the Perris Sheriff Station.

#### Potluck at Operation Safe House-January 2011

The SafeHouse provides emergency shelter, intervention and outreach services to runaway, homeless and other youth in crisis. Council members each brought brunch items such as sandwiches, donuts, milk and juice to share with SafeHouse members. After they ate, council members played spoons, basketball and got to know each other by sharing school and family experiences. Council members really enjoyed this event and would love to come again soon.

# • Charles Dickens Festival-January 2011

The purpose of the event was to enhance a sense of community among citizens of Riverside County and Southern California by creating a series of literary events and to provide educational, family-oriented, literary entertainment and activities such as plays, musical performances, pageants, living history presentations, workshops, lectures, classroom study, exhibits and a street bazaar with free entertainment, vendors and costumed characters. The YAC assisted with arts and crafts in "Oliver's Alley" (inspired by Charles Dickens's novel, <u>Oliver Twist</u>). The event was hosted at the Riverside Convention Center. More information can be found by clicking the following link: <a href="http://www.dickensfest.com/index.php?option=com\_content&view=article&id=70&Itemid=78">http://www.dickensfest.com/index.php?option=com\_content&view=article&id=70&Itemid=78</a>.

# • Valentine's Project at Sunrise Assisted Living-February 2011

In the spirit of Valentine's Day, YAC members decided to assist at the Canyon Crest Sunrise Senior Living Assisted Living. The center focuses on individual wellness, and encourages continued independence with a tailored plan of assistance provided by well-trained team members, available 24-hours a day. Members from the council made Valentine's Day cards, delivered them, and spoke with residents in an effort to share the joy and love of the season.

# Adopt-A-Trail Clean-Up at Cajalco Springs-March 2011

Council members assisted to beautify the Supervisor's trail at Cajalco Springs. Tasks included collecting and properly discarding litter, filling ditches and making the trail easier to walk, horse-back or bike on.

# • Earth Day Clean up & Tree Planting-April 2011

Council members beautified Coral Canyon Park in Temescal Valley. In addition to picking up trash, YAC members also planted 15 trees to promote better air quality within the neighboring community.

#### Mead Valley Community Clean-Up-April 2011

Council members assisted residents that were dropping off waste such as tires, e-waste and metal at Tomas Rivera Middle School. In addition, members will made certain that hazardous materials were not left. A total of 72.08 tons of trash were collected.

# • 6<sup>th</sup> Annual Path to Success Tour-May 2011

YAC members coordinated the 6<sup>th</sup> Annual "Path to Success Tour" on Saturday, May 07<sup>th</sup>. Forty Six 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> grade students attended this year in addition to eleven YAC members. The participants were given the opportunity to tour Riverside Community College (RCC) and the University of California, Riverside (UCR). While at RCC, students were provided breakfast, went

on a 30 minute tour of the campus and listened to a presentation by Tony Ortiz regarding community college and the benefits that come with attending such an institution. While at UCR, participants went on a 60 minute tour of the campus, heard a 45 minute presentation from an admissions counselor, dined at Lothian's residence hall, toured a hall of rooms in Pentland and Aberdeen Inverness's residence hall and heard a panel from First District's Youth Advisory Council regarding the college application process. Students also received a resource bag filled with youth centered information. YAC members were successful in encouraging early college preparation among eighth and ninth grade students through this program.

# • Temescal Valley Fair May- 2011

The Youth Advisory Council volunteered at the annual fair in Temescal Valley. Members assisted set-up and booths.

#### End of Year Celebration-June 2011

Youth Advisory Council members hosted their end of the year celebration at Olive Garden as a closure to the 2010-2011 YAC term. Council members were congratulated for their efforts in formulating a successful year, presented with an award and provided lunch.

# Goals for the 2010-2011 YAC term:

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

In other words, the council pledged to: better their environment for youth and the community of Riverside; demonstrate leadership for youth and the community of Riverside; positively influence youth and the community of Riverside; add value to and educate the youth and community of Riverside.

Council members delivered 22 projects and dedicated 1,794.5 hours of community service to the First District of Riverside County. Overall, YAC members felt that they excelled in accomplishing their expectations and goals for the year.

# Riverside County Second District Youth Advisory Council Annual Report 2010-2011

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

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

2<sup>nd</sup> District YAC: <a href="http://www.rivcodistrict2.org/opencms/boards/yac/index.html">http://www.rivcodistrict2.org/opencms/boards/yac/index.html</a> Youth Commission Website for 2<sup>nd</sup> District: <a href="http://www.rivcoyac.org/district-2">http://www.rivcoyac.org/district-2</a>

In order to achieve our two 2010-2011 goals, the council was divided up into two committees. Each committee worked to coordinate and volunteer at events which were related to their goals.

• P.E.A.C.E. (People Encouraging Active Community Engagement)— September 2010

The Youth Advisory Council members were very excited to have an opportunity to participate in a variety of projects that pertained especially to the people of our community. The P.E.A.C.E Committee members volunteered at local activities within the community and worked to help get the word out about YAC. This committee was extremely dedicated to getting involved within the Second District.

• C.A.P.E. (Care for the less fortunate, Assist the animals, Preserve the environment, Engage in youth issues). - September 2010

The Youth Advisory Council members were very interested in also working within a wide variety of organizations within the community. The C.A.P.E. Committee sought to provide assistance with a wide range of interest and issues including helping the environment, working the Animal Services, and participating in youth related events.

Based on the 2010-2011 goals for the year, the council identified the following aspects that could be improved upon next year:

- Further recruitment for members in the Corona and Easvale communities.
- Continuing to work on the scrapbook as a recruitment tool.
- Continuing to work with local organizations and non-profits to support them with needed volunteers during a difficult economy.
- Creating another signature annual event for the 2<sup>nd</sup> District YAC to host.

Listed are the key projects the 2010-2011 Second District Youth Advisory Council accomplished throughout the year. The Second District YAC would like to thank the Board of Supervisors for their ongoing support throughout the year.

# Mayor's Ball for the Arts - September 2010

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

# American Heart Association Heart Walk –September 2010

In September council members were able to volunteer at the American Heart Association Heart Walk in Riverside. Volunteers helped distribute water to participants, and also provided support in setting up and tearing down community vendors that were at the event. The event provided an opportunity for the C.A.P.E. committee to attain one of their committee goals in working closely to provide support for local non-profit organizations.

# Supervisor Tavaglione's Columbus Day Event – September 2010

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

# Corona Business Expo – October 2010

Volunteers assisted vendors set up for the 2010 Corona Business Expo hosted by the Corona Chamber of Commerce. Volunteers helped the various businesses in setting up and tearing down their display for the expo. This event provided for an opportunity for YAC members to network with local organizations and business leaders in the Second District, while also providing support to the Corona Chamber of Commerce.

#### Ghost Walk – October 2010

The Ghost Walk is an annual event hosted by the Riverside Ballet Company. The event provides a chance for participants to see many of the historic buildings of Riverside, through a guided ghost tour. During the event volunteers assisted around the children's play area by organizing games and helping with crafts. The council really enjoyed being a part of the large scale event and would like to participate again next year.

# Operation SafeHouse Cream & Chill Social – October 2010

During the Cream & Chill Social volunteers visited Operation SafeHouse and provided ice cream to the kids that were at the SafeHouse. The event provided for a unique opportunity to interact and socialize with teens at the facility. The council really enjoyed this event and felt empowered by providing support and encouragement to kids in crisis.

# Thanksgiving Baskets – November 2010

Both of the committees worked to collect items to include in Thanksgiving dinner care packages for nine families that participate in the Grandparent Raising Grandchildren program through the County of Riverside. The committees worked diligently to secure donations and collect goods from family and friends. In addition, they were able to obtain gift cards to include with the baskets that would help the families purchase a Thanksgiving turkey. The baskets were completely full with all of the necessary items for an enjoyable Thanksgiving dinner! All three families were grateful for the baskets and members were exceptionally happy to do something nice for those less fortunate in the community.

# Festival of the Lights Lighting Ceremony – November 2010

Council members volunteered at the annual Festival of the Lights Lighting Ceremony at the Mission Inn. During the event, volunteers assisted by providing support as needed during the event. Volunteers enjoyed working at the largely attended event, and felt that it was an enjoyable experience.

#### Senior Sweet Heart Social – February 2011

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

# Bring a Friend Recruitment – February 2011

During the February meetings, YAC members were encouraged to bring a potential member for the 2011-2012 term. Members were also asked to recruit friends and family members to join the council for the upcoming term. Applications were accepted during the months of March, April and May.

# Easter Cards / Welcome Materials – April 2011

Council members decided to make hand crafted Easter Cards to send to the local hospice. The council thought that by sending beautiful cards to those that were in hospice, they would be able to brighten their day. In addition, council members also worked on creating welcome cards and materials to send to Operation Safehouse, in order to reach out to those that may be in crisis. The materials that were sent to the SafeHouse included welcome cards, door design hangers, and other cheerful materials that could be distributed to the teens at the SafeHouse.

#### Scrapbook – April 2011

The council opted to start a scrapbook that highlights the activities that the council has participated in during the year. The scrapbook was started by council

member Christina Favela, and will be used at events, and for recruitment to help show what YAC is all about.

# Teen Expo – May 2011

Volunteers for this event attended the Teen Expo at Jurupa Spectrum, and served as DJ's for the event. The event provided an opportunity for community members to visit the expo and obtain resources including college information, job opportunities, and local resources they can rely on. As DJ's to the event, a few of the members helped to announce the available exhibitor booths, and also worked to recruit new members for the council by distributing flyers and encouraging teens to apply. The event was a success and it provided a chance to get the word out about YAC.

# Dollars for Scholars Fundraising Dinner – May 2011

Council members had a chance to volunteer at the annual Dollars for Scholars gala at the Mission Inn. The event is an annual fundraiser that generates funds to help students in the Second District of the County of Riverside attend college. During the event volunteers provided support by checking in and greeting guests as they entered the gala. Volunteers really enjoyed attending this event because they felt it was a worthwhile event that directly benefits the youth of Riverside.

# Corona Rotary Lobster Fest – May 2011

Volunteers helped provide support at the Corona Rotary Lobster Fest by directing guests to their assigned table and distributing the delicious lobster dinner. Volunteers enjoyed working at the event because it was held at the Fender Museum in Corona and because they got to sample the Lobster dinner, all while giving back to the Corona community.

# End of the Year Dinner – May 2011

Council members enjoyed dinner with Supervisor Tavaglione and staff, as they celebrated the end of the YAC term. During the event, council members received special certificates for their dedication and volunteerism. Since all of the council members except for four were graduating from high school, each member took time to update the council on their future plans for college. Overall, it was an enjoyable event and the members really had fun celebrating the term year.

# Dollars for Scholars Award Presentations – June 2011

Council members had the distinct honor to attend the scholarship presentations at all of the schools in the Second District and present the Dollars for Scholars award to the recipients. Council members were provided with a script, certificate, and information to distribute to the awardees at the respective high schools. This was an enjoyable event for council members because they got to lend their support to a local non-profit organization, and helped to award much needed scholarships to many of their peers.

# Riverside County Third District Youth Advisory Council Annual Report 2010-2011

The Third District Youth Advisory Council is a representative student body from the high schools in the Third District of Riverside County. High Schools in the Third District include: Hemet, Hamilton, Tahquitz, Hemet Academy for Applied Academics and Technology, West Valley, Alessandro, Helen Hunt Jackson, San Jacinto, Mountain View, Paloma Valley, Murrieta Valley, Vista Murrieta, Murrieta Mesa, Creekside, Calvary Murrieta Christian, Chaparral, Great Oak, Temecula Valley, Temecula Preparatory, Rancho Vista, and Linfield Christian High School.

# The Third District goals for the year are:

- 1. To raise money to donate to our local animal shelters as well as host supply drives, promote pet adoptions, and volunteer at these animal shelters so that we may help our animal shelters provide the necessary care for the animals in our community.
- 2. To participate in fundraising walks to raise awareness of diseases affecting all people, including mental illness, breast cancer, leukemia, etc. in order to help those who are suffering and help find a cure.
- 3. To help initiate a positive change in our community by becoming involved with youth activities.

Listed below are all of the 2010-2011 Third District YAC events. The council would like to thank everyone who contributed, supported, and facilitated their participation following the events:

# Nursing Home Fundraiser-August 2010

Council members hosted their first fundraising event of the year at Valley Wide Park in San Jacinto. Members sold baked goods, drinks, and other snacks to park guests benefiting the Village HealthCare Center, a nursing home in Hemet. They were able to raise over \$50.00.

# Nursing Home Luau-August 2010

On Friday, August 27, members of the council attended the Village HealthCare Center's annual summer luau for its residents. Council members assisted in serving snacks, drinks, and even put on a hula show! Council members spent an afternoon interacting with and getting to know their local senior citizens.

# French Valley Airport Open House-September 2010

Council members attended the annual French Valley Airport Open House presented by the Board of Supervisor's and EDA. At the event, members assisted staff in setting up and breaking down, guiding traffic, managing the food line, and in managing the kid's zone. Despite the blazing heat, members enjoyed participating and being part of the event.

# • Winchester Community Clean Up-October 2010

Riverside County Code Enforcement hosted the Winchester Community Clean Up on Saturday, October 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2011. Council members were able to assist in monitoring traffic, checking in residents, handing out flyers and information, answering questions, and helping residents unload their trash. Overall, members had a great time helping Code Enforcement in the event.

# • City of Menifee 2<sup>nd</sup> Birthday Celebration-October 2010

The City of Menifee celebrated their second birthday as a City by hosting a community fair for its residents. There were various activities, shows, vendors, and food places for everyone to enjoy. Council members assisted the MARS kids zone, helped manage traffic, and assisted show performers. The council enjoyed attending the event and putting on a show for viewers.

#### • San Jacinto Youth Court-October 2010

San Jacinto High School's Resource Officer, Deputy Searl, invited the Third District Youth Advisory Council to be part of the City of San Jacinto's Youth Court. The youth court serves as an alternative to a formal citation. Council members were able to act as both defense and prosecutor attorneys as well as jury members. Members who participated truly enjoyed being part of the court and taking on roles. They would like to continue participating in this endeavor in upcoming years.

#### NAMI Fundraiser-October-November 2010

As a means to raise money for the National Alliance on Mental Illness' annual fundraising walk, the council sold candy bars at their school during the months of October and November. Together, the council was able to raise over \$60.00.

### • NAMI Walk-November 2010

The National Alliance on Mental Illness hosted their annual walk on Saturday, November 6, 2010 at Diamond Valley Lake in Hemet. Council members walked alongside hundreds of other participants in the 5k walk as team "Y.A.C" (young and cool). Team members enjoyed participating in the event for a great cause while also benefitting from the work out.

#### • Breakfast with Santa-December 2010

The Economic Development Agency in collaboration with MARS hosted their annual Breakfast with Santa on December 4<sup>th</sup>, 2010 at the Kay Ceniceros Senior Center in Menifee. The YAC members were invited to volunteer at the event by hosting Santa's Workshop game booths, serving breakfast, checking-in people, greeting, and helping make the event a fun and enjoyable experience for all those involved. The council had an enjoyable time and looks forward to participating next year.

# • Adopt-a-Family-December 2010

The council offered their assistance to the Riverside County Office on Aging for their annual adopt-a-family service through their Grandparents Raising Grandchildren Program. The council was able to adopt two single-grandparent families for a total of four children and two adults. The council was able to raise funds to buy each child two presents, stockings full of goodies, and volunteered their services to make each family a box of non-perishable and canned food goods.

# • Caroling for Canned Goods-December 2010

Members of the council took advantage of the holiday season to contribute to needy families. They went around the City of Temecula and parts of unincorporated Murrieta caroling for canned goods. Within a couple of hours, they managed to collect enough canned food items and non-perishable foods to give to each of the two families they adopted for Christmas through the Office on Aging's Grandparents Raising Grandchildren Program.

# • Care Holiday Event-December 2010

The EOPS program at Mount San Jacinto Community College hosted their annual holiday banquet for student parents enrolled in the program. YAC members were invited to volunteer at the event by helping set up the lunch area, keeping the children entertained, helping manage the Santa line, and help distribute Christmas presents for all of the children who were present. The event was a success and council members enjoyed their time at the event. The expressed a desire to help fundraise for the Christmas presents next year.

#### Christmas Potluck-December 2010

The Third District Youth Advisory Council enjoyed their holiday potluck on December 17, 2010. At the potluck, council members participated in a white elephant gift exchange, played karaoke, and ate plenty of holiday food.

# • VRS Fundraiser-December 2010

Council members took it upon themselves to raise funds for their annual homeless shelter dinner to be hosted at the Valley Restart Center. By selling candy bars to their friends and family, the council was able to raise enough funds to host their holiday dinner.

# Valley Restart Shelter Dinner-December 2010

The council signed up to host a dinner at the Valley Restart Shelter, a homeless shelter, in Hemet on December 29, 2010. With their fundraising efforts, they were able to provide, make, and serve an entire meal for over 40 people. The dinner included an appetizer, dinner rolls and butter, ham, mashed potatoes and gravy, salad, corn, drinks, and dessert. All the participating council members had a great time and are looking forward to hosting the next dinner.

# Southwest Detention Center Tour-January 2011

The Third District YAC had the opportunity to get a first-hand look into one aspect of the criminal justice system: jails. Council members received a tour of the Southwest Detention Center in Murrieta. They able to see inside the jail, learn about the jail lifestyle, rules, regulations and had the opportunity to talk to both sheriffs and inmates about their experiences. Council members learned about the consequences of negative actions and felt a new sense of gratitude for their freedom and their positive chosen way of life.

# Habitat for Humanity-January 2011

Council members teamed up with Habitat for Humanity to help construct one of the four homes being built in Hemet. They assisted in preparing the construction sites of the home which included digging ditches, finishing the lawn, and resurfacing pipes. At the end of a hard day's work, the council felt a great sense of accomplishment for their diligent work since they knew that much needed families would be able to own their own home thanks to their volunteer efforts. The council members had a great time and hope to participate in future events.

# Valentine's Day Cards for Seniors-January, February 2011

The council members thought that it would be a great idea to make heartfelt Valentine's Day cards for local senior citizens. The council worked on making the cards in late January and early February before their schedule meeting time. They were able to make a total of 65 cards that were given to Hospice of the Valleys in Temecula who delivered them to seniors enrolled in their program. The council had a great time making them and will continue to do this activity next year.

# • Valentine's Day Elementary Festival-February 2011

Every year, the council hosts fun and interactive events at local elementary schools during their after school program. In February, the council members hosted a Valentine's Day themed festival at Whittier Elementary in Hemet for 165 children. The YAC members were able to play games, do arts and crafts, and hand out prizes to all the children. Both the YAC members and the children had a great time! At the end of the day, everyone was treated to a tasty dessert provided by the council.

# • Western Science Center Tour-February 2011

On February 25, 2011 council members had the wonderful opportunity to tour the Western Science Center in Hemet free of charge. During their tour, the council had the opportunity to discover the science and culture behind our region through a variety of exhibits such as the geological timeline, the hall of archeology, 270-degree immersion theatre, and much more. The also participated in a scavenger hung. For being members of the third district YAC, council participants got an exclusive behind the scenes look at the dinosaur exhibit, and were able to make an art and craft to take home. Council members enjoyed the tour and would like to do this again in the future.

# • Opening Night at the Races-March 2011

As part of the County of Riverside Youth Commission, the Third District Youth Advisory Council was invited to attend the Opening Night at the Races at the Perris Auto Speedway. Council members had the opportunity to meet and greet with the sprint car drivers, make announcements over the telecom, play games during the intermission, and enjoy a night full of racing. All of the participants were treated to dinner and dessert. Overall, council members had a great time and would like to return to the Perris Auto Speedway in the future.

# • Temecula Youth Innovation Conference-March 2011

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

# • Pet Supply Drive-March-May 2011

The new San Jacinto Animal Clinic was in dire need of new and used towels and blankets, so the council hosted an inter-council pet supply drive to raise the needed items. As a whole, the council was able to raise over 30 new and used towels and blankets. The council will proceed with this venture in the next council year.

# • Spring Break Fun Event-April 2011

As a treat for a year of diligent work and dedication, the council was treated to a fun night of bowling. Over 15 members attended the Spring Break event at AMF Bowling Lanes in Hemet where they had a chance to socialize and intermingle with existing members.

# 1<sup>st</sup> Annual Town Hall "Teen Talk"-April 2011

In cooperation with the Perris Valley Recovery Program, the Third District Youth Advisory Council hosted their first annual "Teen Talk" event in the Southwest County. The event was held at Vista Murrieta High School in Murrieta. Its purpose was to raise awareness about the dangers of underage drinking, as well as to come up with ideas and strategies to decrease the number of incidents in the local area. Participants were able to enjoy a morning of special guest speakers, games, raffles, and food. The council looks forward to host their second event in the next council year.

# Ramona Play-May 2011

Council members had the opportunity to attend the longest running outdoor play, Ramona, on Sunday, May 1<sup>st</sup>, 2011. Over 15 members attended the event along with their friends and families. It was a fun and enjoyable event for all those who were able to attend the event.

# "Know Limits" Teen Health Challenge-May 2011

MFI Recovery hosted their second annual "Know Limits" Teen Health Challenge at the Hemet Valley Mall on Saturday, May 7, 2011. The purpose of the event is to inform local youths about opportunities and agencies around the community available to them. The Third District Youth Advisory hosted a booth and recruited members for the next term year while also assisting other booths in setting up and breaking down.

# • Spring Elementary Festival-May 2011

On Friday, May 13, 2011, the Third District YAC hosted their Spring Elementary Festival at Winchester Elementary during their SAFE After School program. Council members hosted various different stations from musical chairs, to arts in crafts, to bingo for over 60 elementary children. Both the students and YAC members had a wonderful time and look forward to hosting another festival at this school.

# • Night at the Races 2-May 2011

The Perris Auto Speedway invited the Third District Youth Advisory Council to attend a second night at the races. This time, council members had the opportunity to spend time with the drivers. Each member was paired up with a driver to interview them, take pictures, and act as a pit reporter. Throughout the evening, the members rotated drivers and had the opportunity to speak with all of them. It was a very fun and enjoyable night.

# • End of the Year Dinner-June 2011

This year, the Third District's End of the Year Dinner was hosted at Chuck-e-Cheese in Hemet. At the dinner, each member received their council award in honor of their commitment and dedication to the council while enjoying a memorable night of fun and food.

# Summary:

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

- 1. Service to animals by collecting new and used towels to donate to the San Jacinto Animal Clinic.
- 2. Awareness walks, such as the NAMI Walk, by both fundraising and participating in the event to help raise awareness and help find a cure.
- 3. Volunteering at local elementary schools where council members have an opportunity to positively impact on the lives of young children and steering them into a positive direction.

# Riverside County Fourth District Youth Advisory Council Annual Report 2010-2011

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

The Fourth District Youth Advisory Council of 2010-2011 accomplished the following:

# Fourth District Inaugural Meeting- September 2010

The first meeting for the Fourth District Youth Advisory Council was held September 7 for the Coachella Valley Council and September 1 for the Blythe Council. YAC members selected goals to work on throughout the 2010-2011 term. The Coachella Valley council decided to help people with disabilities, local animal rescue groups and shelters, the Desert AIDS project, homeless shelters, food pantries, and military families. The Blythe council members decided to focus on building a better foundation for YAC in Blythe by fulfilling many community service projects. Elections for council officers took place at the first meeting, the results were:

<u>Coachella Valley</u>: Michael Tseng, Commissioner: Sanket Worlikar, Co-Commissioner; Tanya Durst, Secretary; Brittney Baird, Secretary; Sarah Azody, Parliamentarian; Audrey Wegerle, Youth Summit Representative.

<u>Blythe</u>: Matthew Ramos, Commissioner; Kaelin Sprawls, Co-Commissioner; Tamara Shasky, Secretary; Cole Krisell, Parliamentarian; Yecenia Keller, Youth Summit Representative

#### Blythe YAC Member Recruitment- September 2010

YAC members in Blythe hosted a member recruitment booth at Palo Verde Valley High School throughout September. This project helped to spread the word about YAC and encouraged 16 more teens to join the council for the 2010-2011 term.

# Animal Shelter Supplies Drive- September 2010

Coachella Valley YAC members hosted a supplies drive for local animal shelters during the month of September. YAC members solicited local hotels for linens, stores for food and their peers for additional items. YAC members collected so many towels, pillows, bed sheets and blankets that the extra items were distributed to three homeless shelters.

# Relay for Life at Palm Desert Civic Center- October 2010

YAC members volunteered at Relay for Life at the Palm Desert Civic Center. This event is an annual fundraiser hosted by the American Cancer Society. YAC members helped out with registration, handed out T-shirts and passed out cancer prevention literature.

#### For the Children Softball Game- October 2010

Coachella Valley YAC members attended a softball game with For the Children, a nonprofit for foster kids and parents, and Riverside County's Child Protective Services. YAC members played softball, provided entertainment for kids too young to play softball, and helped pass out refreshments.

# "Trick or Treating" for Canned Goods- October 2010

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

# "Give Thanks. Walk!" St. Jude Children's Hospital Fundraiser- November 2010

YAC members volunteered at the St. Jude Children's Hospital annual fundraiser, "Give Thanks. Walk!" At this event YAC members were route guides for the walking participants at the event, assisted with refreshments, passed out St. Jude's literature, and greeted the participants as they crossed the finish line.

# • For the Children Toy Drive & Holiday Party-November/December 2010

With help from *Sherry Mesa THE Salon*, a local business, YAC members diligently collected more than 100 gifts to make Christmas special for children living in foster homes. The toys were wrapped and distributed to the children at the annual Christmas party of For The Children, a nonprofit that supports foster children. The Christmas party was held at Hotel Zoso in Palm Springs on December 19. In addition to providing gifts, YAC members decorated cookies and did arts and crafts with the kids.

# • Game & Movie Night at Operation SafeHouse of the Desert- January 2011 YAC members hosted a game & movie night at Operation SafeHouse of the Desert, a shelter for homeless, runaway and other youth in crisis. YAC members brought pizza, drinks and dessert, interacting and bonding with the teens living at SafeHouse.

# Game Day at the Palo Verde College Child Development Center - January 2011

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

# Eight Annual Fourth District Youth in Government Day- January 2011

Fourth District YAC coordinated their annual Youth in Government Day, pairing up high school students with Supervisor Benoit and 27 other county employees. Students shadowed Supervisor Benoit and Assessor-County Clerk-Recorder Larry Ward, rode along with public safety agencies, witnessed court trials, inspected restaurants and got a glimpse into the rewarding career choices available in public service. After six hours of seeing county government in action, students regrouped to discuss their experiences. Participating departments included Cal Fire, Sheriff's Department, District Attorney's Office, Probation, Economic Development Agency, Transportation and Land Management, Social Services, Law Offices of the Public Defender, Office on Aging and the Environmental Health Agency. The Youth in Government Day was highlighted in *The Desert Sun* newspaper and on local television.

# Riverside County Fair & National Date Festival Events- February 2011

# o Battle of the Bands

YAC took an active role in the 65th Annual Riverside County Fair & National Date Festival, helping to coordinate two unique attractions. On opening day, YAC held the Second Annual Battle of the Bands, where seven local youth bands competed for the grand prize of top-of-the-line Fender instruments and equipment. The competition was a popular attraction at the Fair and generated great attendance and excellent news coverage. YAC members had a hands-on role in organizing the event and working with judges to ensure the event ran smoothly. In addition, YAC members raised \$150 from the raffle of a donated Fender guitar, donating the funds to the World Craniofacial Foundation.

# o High School Competition

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

#### Walk for Animals Fundraiser- March 2011

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

#### Baseball Buddies- April 2011

Baseball Buddies is a local group that hosts weekly t-ball games for kids with disabilities. On April 4, Coachella Valley YAC members volunteered their time and helped these kids hit a baseball, run bases and cheer on their teammates.

# The HUE Music and Arts Festival- April 2011

Members from Blythe and the Coachella Valley volunteered at the inaugural HUE Music and Arts Festival in Coachella on April 9. This event displayed art from local young artists, films from local young filmmakers, and music from 15 bands on three different stages. YAC members worked at the first aid and general information tents.

# Blythe Cultural Day and 5k Walk- April 2011

Blythe YAC members set up a booth at the city's Cultural Day. YAC members distributed information on YAC, displayed posters to show what YAC has been doing around Blythe and raised \$57 for the Palo Verde Valley District Library through a game called "Pick a Duck." The YAC members set up the booth and decorated it and ran the game throughout the event.

# Palo Verde College Talent Show- April 2011

The Blythe council volunteered at the ticket and snack booths at the Palo Verde College second annual talent show on April 29. All of the money raised at this event went to fund scholarships for the Palo Verde Valley College students.

# Palo Verde Cemetery Clean Up- April 2011

The Blythe council volunteered to help clean up the Palo Verde Cemetery. On April 30 Blythe YAC members raked leaves that were blocking the irrigation system, filled in uneven ground with soil, and picked up trash.

# Cinco De Mayo Celebration- May 2011

The Second Annual Cinco De Mayo Celebration was held May 7 in Blythe. This event was hosted by The Blythe Recreation Center. Blythe YAC members volunteered at various booths at this event. Proceeds went to the Blythe Recreation Center.

# Building Self Esteem Through Literary Awareness- May 2011

Building Self Esteem Through Literary Awareness was hosted by The Miss Blythe Organization. Blythe YAC members went to the Palo Verde Valley District Library on May 14 to help Miss Blythe 2011, and Elise Bishoff read to groups of children. The purpose of this event is to encourage young children to go to the local library and explore the joys of reading.

#### Recruitment

Recruitment for the Fourth District Youth Advisory Council is ongoing through the end of the term and summer. Council members provide contact information of students they recommend for the 2011-2012 council. Youth Advisory Council members have also invited potential applicants to events and meetings during the end of the term. The Fourth District Youth Advisory Council is advertised through local media, Supervisor Benoit's Web site and monthly e-report The Benoit Bulletin, letters to school officials and word of mouth.

#### **General Recommendations:**

- Work with Supervisor Benoit to develop a program where YAC students can shadow Supervisor Benoit at a Board of Supervisors meeting in Riverside
- Continue to host innovative community service projects
- Establish better methods of communication with members
- Recruit members from all high school in the Fourth District
- Host more presentations from community organizations
- Continue council's positive attitude
- Host more events with fellow Riverside County YACs

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

# Riverside County Fifth District Youth Advisory Council Annual Report 2010-2011

# Riverside County Fifth District Youth Advisory Council Annual Report 2010-2011

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 5<sup>th</sup> District includes the cities and unincorporated areas of Moreno Valley, Perris, Calimesa, Beaumont, Banning, Desert Hot Springs, North Palm Springs, Nuevo, Lakeview, Juniper Flats, Good Hope, Romoland, Homeland, Green Acres, Highgrove, Box Springs, Pigeon Pass, Reche Canyon, San Timoteo Canyon, Oak Valley, Cherry Valley, Banning Bench, and Cabazon.

For the 2010-2011 council year, the 5<sup>th</sup> District established three main goals that were to be reached by the end of the term. The three main goals are listed as follows:

- Assist the community through volunteer involvement and improvements
- Be more involved with the youth of Riverside County through mentoring and sponsoring events
- Promote unity in the community

Listed are the key projects the 5<sup>th</sup> District Youth Advisory Council of 2010-2011 accomplished throughout the year. We thank you for your continued support and dedication to the youth in our county.

#### • Youth Fest-September 2010

On September 11<sup>th</sup>, the Youth Advisory Council participated in Youth Fest at Moreno Valley Community Park, which is an event that showcases programs available to youth in the city. The YAC hosted a booth, which had games and information about the Youth Commission and what they do. The council gained new members from this outreach into the community.

# • Good Hope Community Clean up- October 2010

Riverside County Code Enforcement had a Community Clean-Up on October 23<sup>rd</sup> at Good Hope Elementary School. This event was for local residents to come and dump unwanted trash that cannot be put into regular trash bins at no cost. It is part of the County's beautification efforts as well as a helpful service to its residents. The council felt good about helping the community keep the county beautiful, and looks forwarding to doing future projects that are similar.

# • Carol's Kitchen- December 2010

The Youth Advisory Council volunteered their time to Carol's Kitchen on December  $2l^{st}$  to help spread some holiday cheer to people less fortunate than them. Their duties consisted of serving the homeless and less fortunate of the area lunch, cleaning

up after them, and socializing with them. It was a day to make others feel that they have not been forgotten by other local residents, and that the community is there to help them. The council really enjoyed this event, and looks forward to doing it again in the future.

#### • Twin Pines Ranch- December 2010

Council members attended the annual Christmas celebration at Twin Pines Ranch on Saturday, December 4<sup>th</sup>; an event sponsored by the Riverside County Blue Knights, Supervisor Marion Ashley, and the rest of the Board of Supervisors. The Ranch is a residential boot camp for young men from the ages of 15-18. This juvenile detention facility is designed to give these boys the opportunity to learn skills that will assist them once their term has been served. During the festivities, the Youth Advisory Council members mingled with the young men and handed out Christmas gifts to them as well. Gifts were donated items that included radios, personal hygiene items, books, and many other items as well. The council members enjoyed going to Twin Pines Ranch and think it is a good experience for both them and the cadets.

# • March Field Air Museum- January 2011

On January 4<sup>th</sup>, the Fifth District Youth Advisory Council was invited to take a tour of the March Field Air Museum to learn about what is housed there and the history of the museum. In return, the museum asked the YAC to give them feedback on possible ways to boost museum attendance, especially among youth and young adults, since the future of history lies with them. The YAC really enjoyed this event and learning about the resources and piece of history they have so close to them.

# • Perris Auto Speedway- March 2011

On March 12<sup>th</sup>, the 5<sup>th</sup> District YAC attended opening night of the Perris Auto Speedway. They had the opportunity to enter the car pit, tour the announcer's booth, and have special seating. In return, the Speedway asked for the YACs help by telling their friends about the event and giving them ideas on how to boost youth attendance at the event. The YAC enjoyed this event, and were very grateful for the opportunity to attend the event.

# Nuevo Community Clean-up- April 2011

Riverside County Code Enforcement had a Community Clean-Up on April 9<sup>th</sup> at Valley View Elementary School in Nuevo. This event was for local residents to come and dump unwanted trash that cannot be put into regular trash bins at no cost. It is part of the County's beautification efforts as well as a helpful service to its residents. The council felt good about helping the community keep the county beautiful, even if it was exhausting work.

# • 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Teen Talk - April 2011

This event was held April 23<sup>rd</sup> at Canyon Springs High School by the Youth Advisory Council and the Perris Valley Recovery Program. It was an informative event that spread awareness of April as Alcohol Awareness Month, and taught high school students the effects of underage drinking. We had speakers from Mothers Against

Drunk Driving, speakers who have lost loved ones or themselves due to drinking and drugs, a question and answer panel for the students, as well as one of our very own YAC members. The council felt that the students in attendance learned a lot and that the program was kept interesting. They look forward to hosting this event again.

# • Recruitment- April 2011

Recruitment for the 2011-2012 YAC term began in April. Council members were asked to spread the word about recruitment to their respective schools and peers by passing out flyers and information packets. Amber has sent out information to schools within the district to encourage students to join the program. The 5<sup>th</sup> District YAC looks forward to keeping a large council, and is working hard to achieve it.

# • Tobacco Control Project- May 2011

On May 4<sup>th</sup>, Dr. James Jo came to a YAC meeting to do a presentation about the Tobacco Control Project, and asked the council to support the projects efforts by telling their friends about it and by writing a letter of support. The Project's purpose is to stop people from smoking on screen, especially if the target audience is children or teenagers. The Fifth District YAC fully supports the Project's efforts, and has shared the information they have learned.

### • End of the Year Dinner- June 2011

On June 17<sup>th</sup>, the Youth Advisory Council enjoyed their End of the Year Dinner to celebrate their accomplishments from the past term. Council members gathered at Barry and Charlene Busch's home for a delicious meal and an evening full of fellowship and bonding. This was their final meeting for the term year, at which they received their certificates of gratitude and appreciation.

# • Habitat for Humanity- June 2011

On June 22<sup>nd</sup>, the Fifth District Youth Advisory Council volunteered with Habitat for Humanity to improve a home in the Moreno Valley area. The YAC assisted by painting, doing yard work, and other miscellaneous projects that needed to be done around the home. This is a project that the YAC had been longing to do, and enjoyed helping out their community. They look forward to volunteering with them again in the future.

# **General Recommendations:**

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