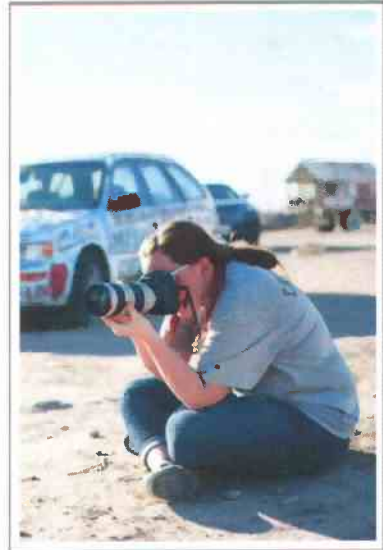


THE ZONE

at Roosevelt Williams



Salvation Mountain Leaves Lasting Impression

With the deadlines for ImageMakers submissions approaching quickly, we made it our mission to go out and take as many amazing pictures as we could at as many places as we could.

During Presidents' Week, we took a two-hour road trip to Niland, California, in the middle of nowhere to photograph and explore Salvation Mountain — the life work of Leonard Knight. Knight used donated paint and formed this mountain of adobe and other natural resources to help spread his life's passion. Although many of the quotes and paintings were religious in nature, it was seeing how one man dedicated his life to his passion that moved the teens.



"I can't believe he made all of this," Madison Elliott, 16, said. "It must've really been important for him to live out here in the middle of nowhere and allow people to come see it." The teens took away a lesson about pursuing your passion and the sacrifice that it sometimes takes to do so.



Youth of the Month

Hannah Gomez is our February Youth of the Month. She has been one of our most consistent members since my arrival in January 2015. She is a sophomore at Banning High School and maintains a GPS of over 3.5.

Hannah began digging her heels into photography and has developed a thirst for knowledge that is unmatched by any other member. I love watching her learn new things daily and see her passion explode. She wants to pursue a career in photography and she has the talent to do just that.

She also was key in making 15 wreaths for our visit to the Lakes. Hannah worked hard to complete the wreaths in time for our distribution the week before Valentine's Day.



Salton Sea Teaches Teens Unexpected Ecology Lesson

From far away, and with the van windows rolled up, the Salton Sea was a beautiful site — a calm body of water reflecting the orangey glow of the sunset, backdropped by blue and gray mountains. The beaches look white and sandy and the teens couldn't wait to run out to the water's edge.

Then we parked, and opened the doors.

A putrid smell of dead fish and sulfur smacked us across the face as we walked towards the water. The mud we trampled through was slippery, but we had a goal of getting some images of the waterline.

As we walked further and further, we realized the white sandy beaches were actually the bones of hundred of thousands of decomposed fish.

"Val! Why didn't you prepare us?" Jaren Thompkins, 15, said. To be honest, I didn't really know how bad it was! Hannah Gomez, our model for the seaside pictures waded ankle deep in fish bones to get the shots for which we came.

Our experience led us to research the sea and what that smell was! We learned it was a shallow, saline rift lake located directly on the San Andreas Fault, in which few fish can handle the saline levels. Despite the smell, we accomplished our photography goals!



Teens Pass Out 100 Wreaths at The Lakes

One of the most enjoyable experiences this month has been our growing relationship with The Lakes, an assisted living facility in Banning. Together, with the other Boys & Girls Clubs of the San Gorgonio Pass sites, we were able to make enough wreaths to hang on more than 100 resident doors. The teens absolutely enjoyed meeting the residents and sharing a bit of Valentine's Day cheer with them.

It was so much fun talking with some of the wreath recipients and getting to know their stories. Gloria, pictured in blue above, said she hasn't received a Valentine in more than five years. "Ever since my husband and my children passed, I don't get things like this! This is so special!" Gloria said.

She, along with the other residents were overjoyed that we had thought of them and put so much work into handing out the wreaths.

The idea to make them came when we passed out friendship bracelets to the residents in January as a way to introduce our volunteerism efforts to the residents. We noticed that some doors had very old wreaths or doors that weren't very attractive, while other residents had been able to decorate theirs very well. Lorilee, the activities director at The Lakes, said that some residents don't have family to help them. Nor are they healthy enough to do it. Our trip was an overwhelming success!

Recording Studio Brings In New and Old Faces

If you happen to hear some sick beats echoing out of the Roosevelt Teen Center, chances are, our teens members are hard at work writing them.

In November, we hired an amazing music producer, Shane Arch, to help the members develop their music skills. With his influence, the beats program has brought in both new and old faces.

Members that haven't attended the club in years have started to frequent the club again. Jaiquan Barner, an 18-year-old senior, is showing some amazing talent. He has already placed some of his songs up for purchase on music web sites.



Shane said his goal is to get the members thinking about music as a viable option at which to make a living as an adult. He wants them to see that working in the music industry doesn't mean you have to be a well-known performer. Rather, these performers have songwriters, engineers, producers, and all kinds of other behind-the-scene people that make a salary working in the industry.

This month, we prepared a song to enter in the National Boys & Girls Club Digital Arts Competition. We are excited to see how we fare!

Looking Ahead

The month of March means St. Patrick's Day, Boys & Girls Clubs Week, Easter, and Spring Break.

For St. Patrick's Day, we plan on making some treats for the Lakes residents and handing them out. The members love visiting with the Lake residents and are really looking forward to fostering more meaningful relationships.

During Boys & Girls Clubs weeks, we are focusing on the daily themes: Education, Volunteerism, Teens, Open House in Club, and Healthy Lifestyles. We have some fun events planned, including making a college dream board, trying yoga, visiting other elementary sites, and cooking some healthy food. We are looking forward to celebrating our club and playing games that help us gather around one another.

The Friday before Spring Break, we will be stuffing and hiding eggs for Hoffer Elementary's Easter Egg Hunt. We did it last year and the teens had a great time hiding the eggs and watching the kids run around and open them. It's also a chance for the teens to get to know the younger kids and take on a mentor role.

We've got lots of exciting events coming up!



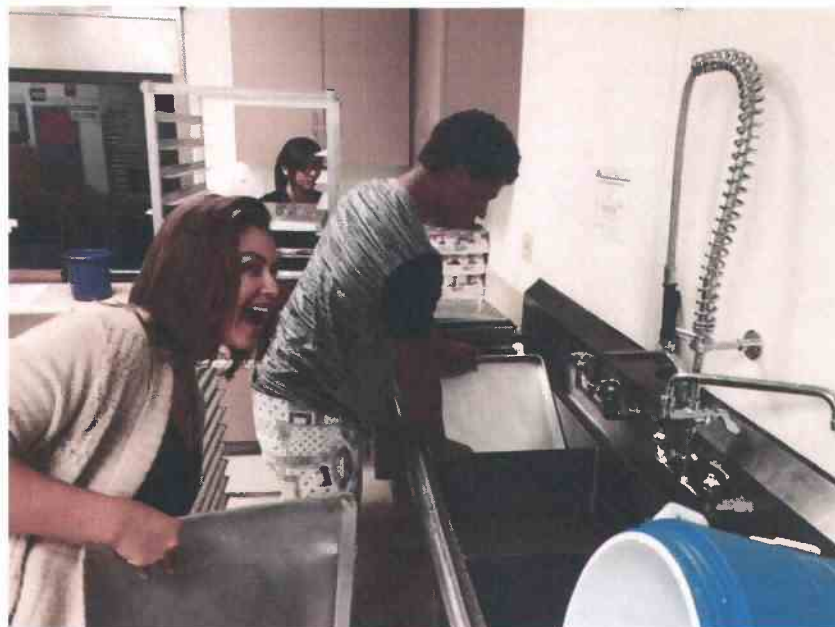
BOYS & GIRLS CLUBS
OF THE SAN GORGONIO PASS

Teen Leaders program in Banning, California

Above: Teen Members volunteering at our Camp Kids program.



Below: Members volunteering at Carol's Kitchen





BOYS & GIRLS CLUBS
OF THE SAN GORGONIO PASS



Boys & Girls Clubs of America National Image Makers Competition winner, taken by 11th grade member Damien

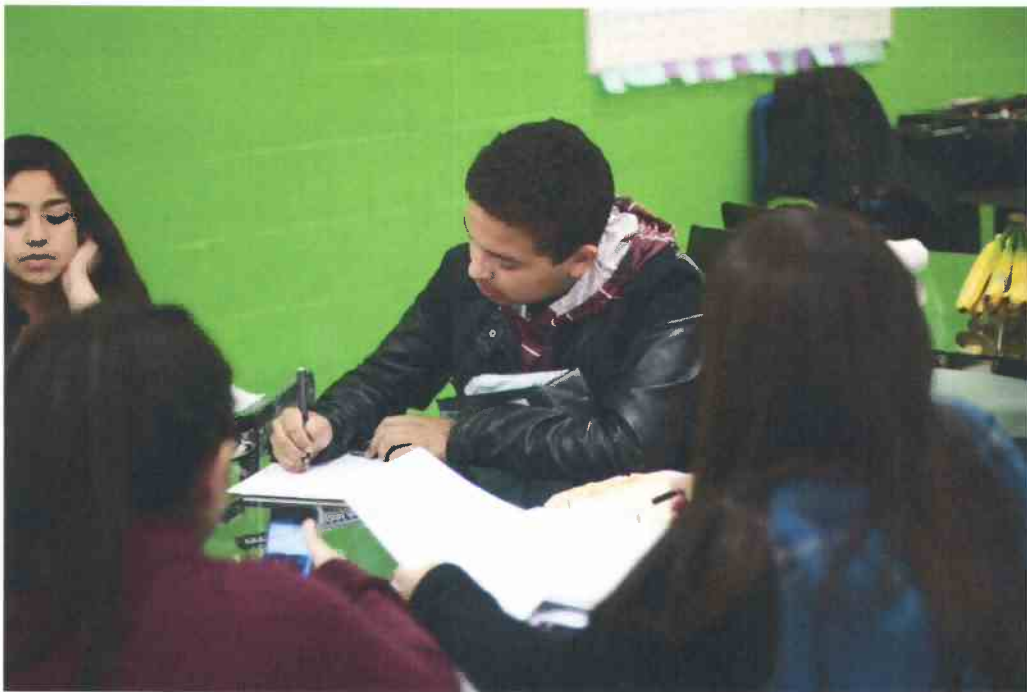


Above: Member with "Music Maker's" instructor.



BOYS & GIRLS CLUBS
OF THE SAN GORGONIO PASS

Below: Teens having Christmas Eve Dinner with our staff.



Above: Members working on homework during Power Hour.



BOYS & GIRLS CLUBS
OF THE SAN GORGONIO PASS

Below: members at the Lakes Assisted Living



The Teen Leaders program (formerly Teen Town) provides highly impactful programming for youth ages 13-18 at our Teen Center location in Banning. Our staff provide mentorship, guidance and enriching programs with courses offered in our core program areas: Character & Leadership, the Arts, Health & Life Skills, Education & Career and Sports & Recreation. The Club conducts activities to combat low self-esteem, drugs and alcohol with programming such as SMART Girls and Passport to Manhood, courses in career exploration, technology skills, volunteerism and public speaking. The Teen Center is free to our members. CDBG funds go toward the salaries of our highly trained, professional staff.

All of our members participate in mentoring sessions, both one on one and within a group setting. Through this setting, we have learned how desperately our members need us. Many of our teens come from single parent households or are living with another family member. A portion of them have incarcerated parents or parents who are physically in the home, but checked out mentally. This leads to youth failing academically as they have no support or anyone to hold them accountable at home. Over the past year, we have enrolled each of our members in our Goals for Graduation program as a mandatory requirement. As we gained new members, we were faced with the harsh reality of how underprepared so many youth are and that many of our new members were credit deficient and had not met with their counselors to go into credit recovery. Fortunately, Goals for Graduation teaches members to successfully goal plan to reach on time graduation. We understand that for some of the members we serve, graduation itself is a tremendous obstacle, so the idea of planning for post-graduation success can feel overwhelming when they are struggling to find balance and support while in high school. Through short term and long term goal setting, members can visualize their accomplishments and paths leading them to success. Our Teen Director has obtained our member's Illuminate

online grade portal accounts, which has made a tremendous difference in grades, as our staff have real time updates to member grades and assignments.

Aside from ensuring our members are striving academically, we want to ensure that the youth we serve understand the importance of giving back to their community. The act of giving back has given many of our members a sense of belonging and purpose, which in turn has given many of our teens a confidence boost. Our Club regularly volunteers at The Lakes assisted living facility, where they conduct crafts and activities with the residence. Our teens also volunteer at our sites with our elementary members and have assisted Carol's Kitchen, our local soup kitchen in the San Geronio Pass.

At the Club we also have two professionals in the Arts field. Valerie Dew, our Site Director is a professional photographer who has taught her passion to many of our members and helped one of our youth win Boys & Girls Clubs of America's National Image Makers contest. Our Youth Development Professional, Shane Arch runs our Music Maker's program and has taught our members how to write songs and compose beats, as well as all of the engineering behind producing music. We entered our first Music Makers National competition this year and are hoping to win that title as well.

We are also advocates of a healthy lifestyle and run nutrition courses, healthy cooking classes, Muay Thai classes and partner with our local gym during summer months so that our members may work out for free at Anytime Fitness. The goal of the Teen Leaders program is to create youth who are caring, self-motivated and hungry for success.



BOYS & GIRLS CLUBS
OF THE SAN GORGONIO PASS

The Camp Kids project provides impactful programming to youth during out of school sessions. Summer, Fall, Winter, President's Week and Spring break are held through the Boys & Girls Clubs of the San Gorgonio Pass. During these camps, members age 5-13 enjoy a vast multitude of high yield learning activities and projects that fall within our five categories: The Arts, Character and Leadership, Education and Career, Sports and Recreation and Health and Life Skills. The camps are open to all Beaumont youth and is promoted within the schools. To keep the cost of camp low and to ensure scholarships ranging from 30%-100% are available to the many families we serve in need of financial assistance, funding for the Camp Kids program will be used for the salaries of our highly trained, professional staff, as well as supplies.

Over the past year, the Camp Kids program has been highly successful and serves well over 100 members throughout the year, with 45 of those members being served directly through CDBG funding. During our summer camp members went on field trips to the USS Midway Museum in San Diego, the Western Science Center in Hemet, worked on team building activities at the Huntington Adventure Park in Huntington Beach, held a 100 pound python among other creatures with the Reptile Party People. The field trip that we hold most dear however is our annual summer beach trip to Corona Del Mar, where for many of our members, it is the first time they have ever been to a beach.

Aside from the amazing trips, members learned about healthy life skills in our Healthy Habits Nutrition and exercise program. This year we brought in a garden specialist to encourage members to become excited about healthy eating as they planted and watched their own food grow. Aside from healthy eating members enjoyed sports, Zumba, yoga and aerobics.

Summer camp is also the perfect opportunity to battle summer learning loss. Members focused on fun math games and relays, but also participated in book clubs which allowed them to read and discuss the books to ensure reading comprehension. Members chose which book club they wanted to join and then participated in high yield activities and fun crafts and relays related to the books. Some of the books covered included the Hunger Games, James and the Giant Peach and Peter Pan. Members journaled a theme from their book each day.

The Camps during the holidays are very special at the Club. We learn about the holiday in our culture as well as others around the world, participate in holiday themed crafts, science projects and games. Many members struggle during this time, as it can often be a reminder of divorce or parents who have to work through the holidays, so it is our Club's duty to ensure our members have a memorable and impactful experience.



BOYS & GIRLS CLUBS
OF THE SAN GORGONIO PASS

Camp Kids- Out of School Program in Beaumont



Above left: members working on a marble track for STEM. Right: members ready to shoot their film canister rockets.



Above left: Fierce pirates, fully equipped with DIY hats and swords. Right: members competing in a team building competition.



BOYS & GIRLS CLUBS
OF THE SAN GORGONIO PASS



Above: Members exploring during a field trip to the Western Science Center.



Above left: Members inside a plane at the USS Midway Museum. Right: Member and staff working to get across the lake on a raft at the Huntington Adventure Park.



BOYS & GIRLS CLUBS
OF THE SAN GORGONIO PASS



Above: Members with some of the amazing creatures brought in by the Reptile Party.

Below: Members in the garden.





Above: Members gearing up for a relay race based on countries they learned about. Below: Members at the Corona Del Mar Beach





BOYS & GIRLS CLUBS
OF THE SAN GORGONIO PASS



Above left: Members at the Fire Memories Museum. Right: Members playing a math game





BOYS & GIRLS CLUBS
OF THE SAN GORGONIO PASS

Above Left: STEM bridge building. Right: Members participating in a team building activity.

Community Center For Healthy Minds (CCHM)

13800 Heacock Street, Suite D-139-B Moreno Valley, CA 92553

Mailing Address:

P. O. Box 9819, Moreno Valley, CA 92552

Office: 951-656-6969

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Community Center for Healthy Minds (CCHM) is a non-profit organization whose concerns are that of the mental and emotional needs of the community and how to effectively find the means to help reduce or eradicate these maladies. Our objective is to provide the tools and techniques which clients can use that will help develop a healthier way of thinking and problem solving. These methods are designed to meet the challenges that may arise from an array of environmental, mental, medical, emotional, and economical issues.

CCHM is a program that is dedicated to supporting the community by providing Domestic Violence, Domestic Violence Victims, Child Abuse, Substance Abuse, Anger Management, Parenting, Victims Awareness, Socialization, Criminal Addictive Thinking and Individual, Couples and Family Counseling to court-ordered participants and the general public. With the assistance of our trained facilitators, the objective is to raise the participant's awareness through education and make it possible to affect change and empower participants with the knowledge that can positively help them make healthier decisions and equip them with the tools that can be beneficial for a lifetime.

We have a professional staff that exceeds thirty years in experience. Our training in human services and behavioral modification also includes working with other specific target groups such as adolescents. Because of the broad demographic population facing various challenges in life, there is a need for our services. We have witnessed how those who have taken the classes we offer have benefitted from the education received. This not only empowers the individual in their personal development, it changes their world-view and how to relate better to others.

With the assistance of your organization, **CCHM** will accommodate clients seeking the necessary services we provide for low- income earners. **CCHM** employs current educational standards to help keep clients up-to-date.

On behalf of all the staff at **CCHM**, we would like to thank you for your time and we appreciate the concerns and issues you have that are critically affecting our communities.

Respectively,

Jack Flournoy, LMFT, Clinical Supervisor
President



February 24, 2016

Economic Development Agency
Riverside County
P.O. Box 1180
Riverside, CA 92502
Attn: Elizabeth Dearen

RE: 2016 - 2017 Community Development Block Grant Proposal No.: 44
OPERATION SCHOOL BELL® – Assistance League® of Hemacinto, Hemet, CA

Ms. Dearen,

Representatives from the Assistance League of Hemacinto will be unable to attend the Board of Supervisors Public Hearing scheduled for March 8, 2016. Please incorporate the following summary of the OPERATION SCHOOL BELL program activity into the record for this meeting:

Project Description: OPERATION SCHOOL BELL

Since 1976, the Assistance League of Hemacinto has provided a much needed and unique community service to the Inland Valley through its OPERATION SCHOOL BELL program. Underprivileged children, who are referred by administrators, health techs, and teachers from elementary and middle schools in the Hemet and San Jacinto Unified school districts, are invited to participate in the program so that they may receive new school clothing. Appointments are made for the children at the San Jacinto Walmart store located at 1861 S. San Jacinto Avenue, in Jacinto, California. While there, Assistance League members help the children to select \$100 of school appropriate clothing. Parents and guardians are also present to assist with the selections.

OPERATION SCHOOL BELL is our main public service activity. We service schools located in the cities of Hemet, and San Jacinto, and the communities of Winchester, Anza, Aguanga, and Idyllwild. The program also helps children in crisis, due to abandonment or disasters, such as house fires. It is the only service of this kind available in the cities and communities of the children we serve. As of the end of January 2016 we have clothed over 30,500 children since the chapter was founded in 1976. **Most** of the children served come from families who fall into the extremely low to low-income categories.



During the present school year, 2015- 2016, 1,525 children have already been served. During the 2016 – 2017 school year the program expects to help approximately 1,550 more children in need. The \$15,000 the Assistance League seeks from this grant will be applied toward assisting 150 of the disadvantaged children referred to OPERATION SCHOOL BELL. Our chapter is an all-volunteer organization that owns its own building. Therefore, no grant funding will be used to pay salaries, rent, or mortgage payments. All grant monies received will go solely for the purpose of assisting the children referred the program.

Our goal is to enhance the self-esteem of the students we assist and thereby raise their ability to learn in the academic schoolroom. If a child is adequately dressed, so that he may attend school, his chances of completing his schooling are much greater. The chances of being a success, as an adult, most likely develop at this point in his schooling. One of our objectives is to be able to raise enough funds to clothe these underprivileged students, thus giving them an opportunity for a smoother transition into our educational system. We feel that education is one source of solving poverty and crime. In addition, it is important to assist children at a young age so that they are able to concentrate on their studies. Also, we believe, the assistance provided by this program helps to establish positive social values for these disadvantaged children.

The funds provided by Riverside County make a difference in the lives of the students that participate in OPERATION SCHOOL BELL. The Assistance League of Hemacinto thanks the County for once again considering awarding a grant in support of this program.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads 'Nancy Urtado'.

Nancy Urtado
Grants Chairman



March 8, 2016

Dear Chairman Ashley and Supervisors,

Please accept our apologies for not being able to present to you in person at the CDBG hearing. We have recently found an opportunity to purchase our first building and we have had a conflict in scheduling.

This is very exciting for the Boys & Girls Clubs of the San Geronio Pass as this Fall, we will be celebrating 10 years of serving the youth in our community. Purchasing a building and offering our teen members a "place of their own" will be a dream come true.

Thank you for your ongoing support of our organization and for your dedication to the strength of our county.

Sincerely,

Amy Herr, CEO

Boys & Girls Clubs of the San Geronio Pass