

KERN COUNTY NETWORK FOR CHILDREN

NETWORK NEWS



SUMMER
2009
JUL. - SEPT.

... IN THIS ISSUE

Summer Safety Tips for Keeping your Family . . .	1
KCNC Leadership Class Comes to an End	2
Chevron Supports KCNC	3
2009 KCNC Leadership Development Graduates	4
KCNC RFP Update	5 - 6
Creative Partnering Leads to New Playground	6
Foster Youth Services	7
Violence Breaks Out at Kids Summer Camp	7
Recognition Continues for Lamont SAL Girl	8
Local Youth Lead the Way in Reducing . . .	8
Shafter Healthy Start	9
Wasco Collaborative	9
KCNC General Information	10
Guide to Local Collaboratives	11
First 5 Kern Announces Request for Proposals	12
Cal-Learn & Adolescent Family Life Graduation	13
The Immunization Registry and You	13
Girl Scouts for Foster Youth	14
Need Parent Project or Loving Solutions . . .	14
Farmer's Market	15
Leadership Bakersfield Mentors . . .	16 - 17
Guild House Celebration	17
Changes to WIC Food Packages	18
Softball Smash 2009	19
Save the Date for Artfest 2009	19
Kern River Valley Family Resource Center	19 - 20
Head Start/Early Head Start Policy Council	20
Kern County Museum Summer Events	21

SUMMER SAFETY TIPS FOR KEEPING YOUR FAMILY HEALTHY

Summer has arrived in Kern County bringing more time outside, summer vacations, and the potential for more injuries in children and family members. By far the most inexpensive way of preventing an ill family member is an ounce of prevention. Adult supervision and awareness goes a long way in potentially preventing any summer time injuries.

Heat in Bakersfield is a major problem for all members in the family. Drinking enough fluids, even if not thirsty is a way to ward off heat-related illnesses. There are many reasons why children are more susceptible to having problems with hot weather. First of all, children take a longer time to adjust to hot weather and sweat less than adults. Sweating is one of the ways the body cools its self when it's hot outside. Also, when children are having fun playing and exercising in the heat, they forget to take breaks, making them more at risk for heat illness.

The good news is that heat illness can be prevented by taking several steps. Make sure that you and your family:

- Provide plenty of water and other drinks to your children. Encourage them to drink even if they are not thirsty. Avoid drinking sodas and other caffeinated beverages that will further dehydrate them.
- Dress your children in light colored, loose fitting clothing.
- Try and schedule sport practices, and other outdoor activities in cooler parts of the day.
- Have your children wear hats, or sunscreen of at least an SPF of 15.
- Teach your children to take breaks and drink when active
- Never leave your children in your car even for a moment **IT'S AGAINST THE LAW.**
- If your child has a medical condition, consult with your doctor as some conditions and medications are exacerbated by heat.

Anyone wanting additional information on heat-related safety can call the Kern County Public Health Department at (661) 868-0306 or visit their web site at <http://www.co.kern.ca.us/health/>.

KCNC LEADERSHIP CLASS COMES TO AN END

REFLECTIONS OF A 2009 PARTICIPANT

Thank you for the opportunity to participate in the KCNC Leadership Program. The experience has been memorable and invaluable. It allowed me to expand my community service beyond Clinica's programs, and make valuable contacts in the community.

For the past four years, I worked with high school students in a strikingly similar service learning program on the teen level. We use curriculum for goal-setting and public speaking, etc., in addition to group community service projects. While I fully believe in the power of service learning for students, I never imagined I'd have the same reaction to *this* program as what I normally see on the student post-tests!

I've been sharing my experiences in this program with friends and family throughout California and surrounding states, and not one of them has heard of opportunities like this in their area. Of course their areas have nothing comparable to the Network for Children, either. Nobody could believe our police chief, superintendent of schools, sheriff, a judge, and so many others would spend their time training and talking with a small group of regular citizens like us, inspiring us to follow in their footsteps or create our own.

Thank you again for this opportunity. I will use it for the good of our community.

By: Carrie Eveland, 2009 Leadership Graduate



The last class for the *KCNC 2009 Leadership Development Program* took place on *June 26th* and concluded with a Beach/Luau Party. The participants were given the option to dress up and decorate their areas and participate in a musical chair contest. The class was split up into three teams: Movers & Shakers, Generation to Generation and Getgos. The Movers & Shakers won the dress up contest and will be featured on the KCNC website for the month of July. Please see page 4 of the newsletter for more information on class participants and for the date of graduation and team project presentations.

Movers & Shakers



Generation to Generation



Musical chair winner April Dominguez



Getgos



What kind of energy does it take to get energy?



Chevron is proud to support the Kern County Network for Children.

2009 KCNC LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT GRADUATES

The Kern County Network for Children would like to congratulate the 2009 Leadership Development Program participants upon six months of training! Graduation will take place **Thursday, July 16th, 8:30 a.m.** at the University Square Building in Bakersfield.

The Leadership Development Training Program originated in 1997 out of a desire to help those already in leadership positions in their neighborhoods or their organizations gain the skills to improve our communities and organizations. The focus of this six-month training program is to train and nurture natural grassroots leaders in communities where they are already engaged in local collaborative groups and community mobilization efforts.

The Leadership Development Training Program includes thirty-six (36) hours of instruction time in nine (9) subject areas: Powerful Public Speaking, Effective Time Management, Facilitating Effective Community and Organization Meetings, Strategic Planning for Communities and Organizations, Conflict Resolution Practice, Community Mobilization Techniques, Resource Development, Media and Marketing Relations and Legislative Advocacy: Moving Beyond Bureaucracy to Action.

Twenty-nine (29) graduates also identified and completed team projects that benefited children and their families in our communities. The goal of these projects was to create a forum in which small subgroups of the Leadership Development Training Program participants could work closely together toward a common goal as an exercise in team leadership. Each project also provided a window of opportunity for solving community problems and making positive changes in a small facet of our community.

Congratulations and kudos to Kern County's newest Leadership Graduates!

Jerri Alvarado	Bakersfield Homeless Center
Angela Arredondo	Richland School District
Juan Avila	Parent Institute for Quality Education
Ray Ballard	Operation Soul Winner
Sean Battle	Stop the Violence
Annalyse Baziuk	Community Action Partnership of Kern
Teri Charbonneau-Hay	Kernville Union School District Family Resource Center
Leslie Devitt	Bakersfield Police Department
April Dominguez	Kern County Superintendent of Schools
Carrie Eveland	Clinica Sierra Vista
Catherine Ferrel	Health Net
Luanne Jones	Kern County Aging & Adult Services
Kathleen Johnson	West Side Community Resource Center
Patricia Keefer	Henrietta Weill Memorial Child Guidance Clinic
Angela Lauer	Kern High School District
Stephanie Meyer	Kern High School District
Candice Monge	Kern County Department of Public Health
Donny Monsibais	Darrell's Auto & Smog Repair
Lydia Ortiz	Greenfield Walking Group
Hilda Osorio	Richland School District
Brian Parnell	Kern County Department of Human Services
Shirelle Perez	Community Connection for Child Care
Robert Rincon	Haven Counseling Center
Patricia Scott	Alliance Against Family Violence/Bethany Services
Mardi Sharples	Housing Authority of the County of Kern
Adam Stanley	National Corporation for Community Service
Debra Tolle	Community Action Partnership of Kern
Maria Ulloa	Kern Corps/AmeriCorps
Abrina Wade	Bakersfield Police Department



KCNC RFP UPDATE

KCNC REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL FOR CHILD ABUSE PREVENTION SERVICES PROCESS CONCLUDES

On September 23, 2008 the Kern County Board of Supervisors approved Kern County's FY 2008-2012 Plan for Promoting Safe and Stable Families; Child Abuse Prevention Intervention and Treatment; Children's Trust; and, Community Based Child Abuse Prevention services. The Plan identified Differential Response and Court Ordered Parent Education Services as key strategies to measurably prevent child abuse and neglect, improve the condition of Kern children and families, and Child Welfare Service outcomes.

In compliance with County of Kern policies, and with Office of County Counsel's approval, the KCNC subsequently implemented a competitive Request for Proposals process for these funds. As approved by the Kern County Board of Supervisors on June 2, 2009, the following services and agencies have been awarded funds for the FY 2009-2012 funding cycle:

SERVICE TYPE

Differential Response (DR)

- Services that target families referred to Child Protective Services (CPS) for suspected abuse, but whose referral did not meet established California Welfare and Institutions Code (WIC) requirements for an in-person response by CPS. These services will include integrated case management services that coordinate services to families, provide in-home services, and utilize best practices, strength-based, and multi-disciplinary approaches.
- A FY 2007-2008 study, utilizing random sampling of 218 closed cases, found that only 12.8% of the Kern families who received DR services (experimental group, n=109) had one or more additional referrals since their first referral to CPS, whereas 33.9% of the families that did not receive DR services (control group, n=109) had one or more additional referrals since their first referral to CPS.
- The FY 2007-2008 average annual cost for DR services per child is \$780. The average annual cost for out of home placement per child is \$8,484. Kern spends more than \$8,000,000 annually in county funds on foster care placement costs alone.

Court Ordered Parenting

- Parenting education services for families at-risk of experiencing child abuse and/or neglect, especially those that are court-ordered to receive them, that use practical as opposed to theoretical approaches, and that meet the WIC requirements. Classes for special needs populations (e.g. hearing impaired/deaf, mentally ill, Spanish speaking) are available.
- During FY 2007-2008, 401 parents enrolled and 83% of parents completed classes. Those completing classes had an average pre-test score of 69% and an average post-test score of 93%.

GEOGRAPHIC AREA & SERVICE PROVIDER

Differential Response (DR)

Service Area 1: *Kern River Valley*

Kernville Union School District

Service Area 2: *Indian Wells Valley*

Clinica Sierra Vista

Service Area 3: *East Kern*

Clinica Sierra Vista

Service Area 4: *South Kern*

Clinica Sierra Vista

Service Area 5: *West Kern*

Taft City School District

Service Area 6: *North Kern*

Richland School District

Service Area 7: *Metro Bakersfield*

Clinica Sierra Vista

Metro Bakersfield*: Kern Child Abuse Prevention Council/Haven Counseling Center

Parents from all areas of Kern are welcome. Class schedules include flexible, family-friendly hours.

(continued on next page)

Although FY 2009-2010 funding levels mark a second year of funding reductions, creative leveraging, staunch commitments from the service providers, and concerted efforts to maximize other available resources have made it possible to maintain DR service levels throughout Kern County. DR services continue to be an effective strategy that measurably prevents child abuse and neglect, reduces the recurrence of child abuse and neglect, improves outcomes for children and families, and saves the County of Kern significant amounts in foster care costs that would otherwise be incurred.

Please join the Kern County Network for Children in congratulating the agencies that have been selected, via the competitive RFP process, to receive funds for the FY 2009-2012 funding cycle.

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CREATIVE PARTNERING LEADS TO NEW PLAYGROUND AT STIERN PARK

On May 1st, in the midst of pouring rain, over 500 people celebrated a new playground in Stiern Park. The need for the new playground emerged last year from a Photo Voice project done by students at Ollivier and McKee Middle Schools who participate in the Cesar Chavez Leadership Program. These students took pictures of the park with the goal in mind of making it a safer place to play and be physically active. Next they answered a series of questions about their photos including, what was really going on in the pictures, how it affected them and what they could do about it.

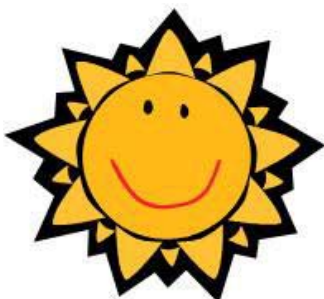
These students then met with the Bakersfield Recreation and Parks Department to talk about their Photo Voice findings and discover common ground for park changes that included the need for a new playground. The Photo Voice data was then used in grant proposals with the help of the Kern County Network for Children to fund the project. Inspired by the hard work and determination of these youth, the parks department took out the old equipment, Kaiser Permanente covered the cost of the new equipment through a community benefits grant and Game Time, a playground manufacturer, contributed the installation of the equipment as well as certifying it for safety. The City of Bakersfield worked with the middle school youth before the May 1st celebration to plant shrubs and set

up new trash cans. In response to the other Photo Voice suggestions, city staff also replaced a broken fence, painted and fixed lights, repaired the water fountain and trimmed trees.

During the celebration undergraduate students taking a program evaluation class at UCLA administered surveys to those who attended and found that neighbors were pleased with the park changes and planned to use the park more, even at night. The Cesar Chavez Leadership students also gathered data by taking a second round of pictures for a Photo Voice project that would show before and after evidence of the park changes and what kind of affect they ended up having on the student's level of physical activity and empowerment.

For local television coverage of the event visit: <http://www.kget.com/mostpopular/story/Younth-inspire-healthier-safer-playground/o7VNYqC4VkyUOX5GB14tFg.csp>

For more information on how to use Photo Voice as a low cost interactive way that residents can conduct their own assessments and evaluation or to see the findings from the UCLA student surveys contact Jennifer Lopez at 661-205-3743.



Happy Summer

The Foster Youth Services Dream Center & Coffee Shop was recently nominated for a 2009 Beautiful Bakersfield Award, in the category of Public/Private Partnership, highlighting the effort to enhance the quality of life in Kern County. In support of the nomination the entire Dream Team attended, including 10 adults, both Dream Center staff & co-located partners, as well as 6 emancipated youth. It was a memorable evening of food, fun and anticipation.

Picture (front row) Kristen, Olivia, David, Stefanie, Mercedes, Carrie, Ashlie, (back row) Alex, Jennifer, Karine, Matt and Korrinna.



VIOLENCE BREAKS OUT AT KIDS SUMMER CAMP

A big fight broke out at the annual Optimist Kids Cancer Camp in Springville on Saturday June 13th. The camp is a four day event to benefit San Joaquin Valley children with cancer and give them a chance to camp out at the River Ridge Ranch and enjoy activities. The camp has a different theme each year with a Renaissance theme this year.

This years activities included camping, hiking, outdoor cooking, swimming, crafts and Renaissance demonstrations. The kids dressed in costumes and made candles, chain mail bracelets and learned how to sword fight from knights. There were also Royal visits from the Queens of England, Ireland and Scotland.

I was at the camp supervising Lamont Sheriff's Activities League kids (who volunteered to work at the event) when I witnessed a shocking fight in the upper River Ridge Pasture. The afternoon seemed peaceful enough with about 60 of the campers watching a jousting match by armor wearing Knights. The kids rooted for their favorite Knights for about an hour and were impressed by the Knight's horsemanship, weapons handling and bravery.

After the jousting was finished the Knights were talking to the kids when a real or imagined insult was communicated to one of the kids by a Knight. One of the kids responded and soon all of the Knights were squared off against the campers with tempers flaring and threats of violence traded back and forth.

The kids (armed with wooden swords, shields and pugil sticks) were attacked by the Knights (armed with lances, swords, knives and supported by cannon and catapults). It was soon apparent the Knights were in big trouble. The crutched crusaders and wheel chair warriors set upon the Knights with great vigor and intensity and gave them a Royal beat down. Soon the Knights were all on the ground and after being pummeled for several minutes; begged for mercy and were let up by the benevolent campers.

Before the Knights were fairly away one of them remarked that the kids were lucky in their victory and had cheated in the combat.

After this remark the cowardly knights tried to run away but were quickly caught by the now angry campers and were given a punitive beating they will not soon forget.

Bertha Covarrubias (one of the SAL kids who was in the area remarked) "it is not wise to underestimate the power and strength of kids with cancer ". Good advice for everyone.



Article by: Detective John Money

RECOGNITION CONTINUES FOR LAMONT SAL GIRL



Lamont SAL girl Clara Bruno has received loads of attention since she was named the California Police Activities League “Young Woman of the Year” last month in Sacramento. Clara was picked for her 440 hours of community service in 2008 and her academic prowess of winning an oratorical contest, essay contest and science fair. This was a great honor as she was picked from over 200,000 kids in California. Clara has been featured in presentations including: Kern County Network for Children, Community Action Partnership of Kern, Spirit of Service Awards, Lamont Chamber of Commerce and Respect for Law Dinner.

The thirteen year old Bruno was honored with kind words and a Resolution presented by Supervisor Michael Rubio at the Kern County Board of Supervisors Meeting, presented a certificate by the Lamont School District, received a nice letter from Bakersfield Mayor Harvey

Hall and received a standing ovation at the Spirit of Service Awards in Bakersfield.

Bruno was also interviewed on the Channel 17 Sunrise news.

Kern County Sheriff Donny Youngblood called Clara a great success for her and the SAL program and said he was very proud of her.

LOCAL YOUTH LEAD THE WAY IN REDUCING ILLEGAL SALES OF TOBACCO

The teen years are a time of exploration and growth. It is a moment where rules are tested and questioned. Although this is a normal stage in our children’s development, as parents we are concerned that it will also be a time where they develop unhealthy habits. One of these is the use of tobacco products.

However, the youth in our county are leading the charge in making sure that the illegal sale of tobacco products doesn’t occur in Kern. Through a state grant and with the collaboration of the local law enforcement agencies, local high schools, and the Kern County Department of Public Health Tobacco Education Program has been monitoring illegal sales of tobacco products to minors by conducting yearly inspection of local tobacco retailers countywide. Under the supervision of an undercover officer, a volunteer minor posing as a “decoy” enters a pre-selected store and attempts to purchase tobacco products.

The project started in 2005 with a baseline illegal sale rate of 34% that caused the County Board of Supervisors to adopt one of the strongest tobacco retailer’s permit ordinances in California on October 31, 2006. The County’s ordinance requires tobacco retailers’ owners to attend a mandatory training in California Tobacco Laws as a condition to apply for the permit. The yearly fee is set at \$165 and repeat violators can have their license to sell tobacco products revoked. Fees collected help fund the implementation and management of the program by the Kern County Environmental Health Services.

Since this program began, the illegal sales rate of tobacco products to minors in Kern County has taken a sharp drop. In 2008, the project involved 243 retailers and resulted in 7% illegal sales. This dramatic reduction was the result of the great work done by all the partners.

Anyone wanting additional information on the monitoring of illegal tobacco sales to minors, the Tobacco Retailers Training, or local tobacco education efforts can call the Kern County Public Health Department at (661) 868-0306 or visit their web site at <http://www.co.kern.ca.us/health/>.

SHAFTER HEALTHY START

Shafter Healthy Start is offering the following events:

- **Parenting Classes:** Begin on August 13, 2009 from 6 pm - 8 pm at the Shafter Youth Center located at 431 East Euclid Ave. The classes are taught by Community Action Partnership of Kern and Shafter Healthy Start.
- **Parent Support Groups:** Groups are held in Shafter, Wasco, McFarland, and Delano. A support group for parents with children with special needs is also offered in Shafter.
- **Differential Response:** Differential Response is an approach that ensures child safety by expanding the ability of child welfare agencies to respond to reports of child abuse or neglect. The program covers the North Kern area.
- **School Readiness:** Classes will prepare children for Kindergarten. The classes will start in September.
- **Collaborative Meetings:** Held every third Wednesday of each month from 9 am - 10 am at the Shafter Police Department located at 201 Central Valley Hwy. (***Note:** new time and location).
- **Operation School Bell:** 50 children will be participating on September 2, 2009.

For more information on any of these events please contact Jesus Cordova at 661-746-8690.



WASCO COLLABORATIVE

The Wasco Collaborative continues to move forward with community resources continually making themselves available to attend the monthly meetings. Facilitated in concert by the Wasco Union Elementary School District and the Kern County Probation Department networking and communication continue to be the collaborative's strong points.

Concerned Wasco citizen, Monica Cortez continues to update the local community members of the formation of a Wasco Youth Center – The Wasco E Center. Their mission is to Educate, Encourage, Empower and Entertain the youth of the community. The planning stages are to develop after school and afternoon programs, projects, fundraising, and public relations. Meetings have recently met with success and for more information they are encouraging a visit to their website wascoecenter@gmail.com.

Abby Wheeler a junior attending Wasco High School recently spoke to the collaborative regarding her involvement in the HOBY (Hugh O'Brian's Youth) leadership program. The founder of the program's main objective is to bring together youth leaders from the entire state for seminars and workshops to

develop leadership skills. Abby is her class president and was chosen as a sophomore to attend the conference held at California Lutheran University. Upon concluding the conference she was observed and chosen from several other participants to represent Central California to attend the nationwide conference in Washington DC in July. She is currently fundraising to assist in off-setting the costs of the trip. In her presentation to the collaborative she indicated her desire to assist other youth in her community through community service and life lessons.

Michael Hilliard from the Federal Department of Insurance presented information about government programs to provide insurance for individuals unable to afford coverage. With an office located in Los Angeles, he indicated he is willing to travel to any part of the state to give his presentation- he even provided "goodie bags" with information regarding his program.

The Wasco Collaborative meets on the 2nd Thursday of every month at 8:15 a.m. at the Sunset Villa Complex located at 1950 Palm Ave in Wasco.

KCNC GENERAL INFORMATION

KCNC GENERAL COLLABORATIVE MEETINGS 2009 SCHEDULE

3rd Thursday of each month
8:30 a.m. - 10:00 a.m.

All meetings will be held at:
University Square
2000 'K' Street ~ Room US-1, Bakersfield, CA

July 16, 2009

August 20, 2009

September 24, 2009

October 15, 2009

November 19, 2009

December 17, 2009

Thank you
for caring for
Kern County families



Since February of 2009, over 700 items of food, baby supplies & personal hygiene products have been donated by General Collaborative attendees to benefit accredited local collaboratives!

Make a difference & donate at these upcoming Collaborative Meetings!

July 16th - Back-to-School supplies
September 24th - Food Drive
October 15th - Household Cleaning Items

Together we are building brighter futures
& strong families!



UPCOMING KCNC TRAININGS

July 8, 2009 - Be an Effective Communicator to the Media--and Others

Presenter: *Jim Varley, Kern County Superintendent of Schools*
8:30 am to 11:00 am - University Square Bldg., US-2

August 11, 2009 - Domestic Violence - The "Not So" Silent Epidemic

Presenter: *Cindy London, Bakersfield Police Department*
8:30 am to 11:00 am - University Square Bldg., US-1

Space is limited, so please register online at <http://www.kcnc.org/registration>. If you would like to be added to our e-mail training list please e-mail your information to Martha Gomez at magomez@kern.org.

If you have any ideas for future trainings, please call Michelle Humecky at (661) 636-4488.

GUIDE TO LOCAL COLLABORATIVES

Kern County's diverse communities have set the pace for California in developing community strengths through local collaboration. Neighborhood-based coalitions identify and address local issues ranging from joblessness to gang violence to graffiti removal. Many communities have brought together health and social service agencies to offer locally based family-centered services.

Note: In the following list, FRC = Family Resource Center.

34th St. Neighborhood Partnership - KCNC Accredited

Sandy Morris (661) 326-3051
Community meeting, 2nd Wednesday monthly, 9 am at the Dream Center & Coffee House, 1212 18th Street, Bakersfield

Arvin Collaborative - KCNC Accredited

Arvin Union School District, 737 Bear Mtn. Blvd., Arvin, CA 93203
FRC: 207 South A St., Arvin (661) 854-6525
Karen Davis (661) 854-6526
Community meeting, 1st Thursday monthly, 9 am at the Haven Drive Middle School Cafeteria

Buttonwillow Collaborative - KCNC Accredited

Buttonwillow School, 400 McKittrick Hwy., Buttonwillow, CA 93206
Lucette Garcia (661) 764-9405
Community meeting, 4th Monday bi-monthly, 3:30 pm

Delano Neighborhood Partnership

Community Connections Center, 1842 Norwalk, Delano, CA 93215
Linda Hinojosa (661) 721-7036
Community meeting, 1st Tuesday monthly, 9:30 am

East Bakersfield Collaborative - KCNC Accredited

Boys and Girls Club, 801 Niles St., Bakersfield, CA 93305
Renee Stancil, (661) 631-5878
Community meeting, 1st Wednesday monthly, 12:15 pm

East Kern Collaborative - KCNC Accredited

15662 K St., Mojave, CA 93501
Larry Garcia (661) 824-4118
Community meeting, 2nd Thursday monthly, 2:30 - 4 pm

Fairfax/Brundage Partnership

Physical Address: 1408 Marion Dr., Bakersfield, CA 93307
Mailing: P.O. Box 70892, Bakersfield, CA 93387
Angela Acunia (661) 331-8143
Community meeting, 3rd Friday monthly, 8:30 am

Frazier Park Collaborative - KCNC Accredited

Mountain Communities FRC: 3015 Mt. Pinos Way #102
Healthy Start: P.O. Box 1902, Frazier Park, CA 93225
Anne Weber (661) 245-4303
Quarterly community meetings

Greenfield Collaborative - KCNC Accredited

Greenfield Family Resource Center
5400 Monitor St., Bakersfield, CA 93307
Linda Raygoza (661) 837-3720
Community meeting, 2nd Thursday monthly, 9 am

Indian Wells Valley Collaborative - KCNC Accredited

825 N. Downs, Ste. A, Ridgecrest, CA 93555
Nancy Ribultan (760) 375-4357
Community meeting, 2nd Wednesday monthly, 10 am at the Kerr McGee Center

Kern River Valley Collaborative - KCNC Accredited

P.O. Box 2905, Lake Isabella, CA 93240
FRC Main Office: 5109 Lake Isabella Blvd., Lake Isabella
FRC Outreach Office: 6401 Lake Isabella Blvd., Lake Isabella
Nancy Puckett (760) 379-2556
Community meeting, 4th Thursday monthly, 3:30 - 5:00 pm

Kern Senior Collaborative - KCNC Accredited

Aging & Adult Services, 5353 Truxtun Ave., Bakersfield, CA 93309
Kris Grasty (661) 868-1051
Community meeting, 2nd Friday quarterly (except April)
April 17, July 10, October 9, January 8, 1:30 pm

Lamont/Weedpatch Collaborative - KCNC Accredited

Lamont School District (Lamont Family Service Center)
8201 Palm Ave., Lamont, CA 93241
FRC: 7839 Burgundy Ave., Lamont
Jennifer Wood (661) 845-2724 ext. 300
Community meeting, 2nd Thursday monthly, 10 am

Lost Hills Collaborative - KCNC Accredited

Lost Hills Union School District Office
14823 Office Lane Lost Hills, CA 93249
Alesha Hixon (661) 797-3042
Community meeting, 2nd or 3rd Thursday bi-monthly, 10 am

McFarland Community Collaborative - KCNC Accredited

McFarland Unified School District
601 Second St., McFarland, CA 93250
FRC: Browning Rd School, 410 E Perkins Ave, McFarland
Margie Perez (661) 792-5524
Community meeting, 2nd Tuesday monthly, 3:00 pm at the Browning Road School Cafeteria, 410 E Perkins Ave.

Oildale Community Collaborative

Standard Family Advocate Services & Resources
1200 N. Chester Ave, Bakersfield, CA 93308 Lourdes Cortez (661) 392-2110 x118 or Glynda Martin (661) 392-2110 x106
Community meeting, 3rd Wednesday bi-monthly, 8:30 am

Richardson Special Needs Collaborative - KCNC Accredited

Richardson Center, 1515 Feliz Dr., Bakersfield, CA 93307
Bill Reifel (661) 336-5482
Community meeting, held quarterly, call for day & time

Rosedale Collaborative - KCNC Accredited

Liberty High School, 925 Jewetta Ave., Bakersfield, CA 93312
Mailing address: P.O. Box 511, Bakersfield, CA 93302
Clara Roy (661) 631-6859
Community meeting, 4th Tuesday monthly, 8:30 am (Conf. Rm. 1)

Shafter Healthy Start Collaborative - KCNC Accredited

Richland School District, 331 Shafter Ave., Shafter, CA 93263
FRC: Lerdo Hwy at South Valley Rd.
Jesus Cordova (661) 746-8690
Community meeting, 3rd Wednesday monthly, 9 am - 10 am at the Shafter Police Department, 201 Central Valley Highway

Southeast Neighborhood Partnership - KCNC Accredited

1509 E. 11th St., Bakersfield, CA 93307
Linda Estell (661) 322-3276
Collaborative meeting, last Thursday monthly, 10:30 am at the Martin Luther King Jr. Community Center

South Chester Collaborative - KCNC Accredited

South Chester Family Resource Center, (661) 631-5945
800 Ming Ave., Bakersfield, CA 93307
Debbie Wood (661) 631-5895
Community meeting, 3rd Thursday monthly, 1pm

Taft Collaborative - KCNC Accredited

Greater West Side Together We Can
915 North 10th St., #20, Taft, CA 93268
Sandy Koenig (661) 765-7281
Community meeting, 2nd Wednesday bi-monthly, 5 pm

Wasco Community Collaborative - KCNC Accredited

Patrick Flores (661) 720-5835 or Becky Balderas (661) 746-7592
Community meeting, 2nd Thursday monthly, 8:15 am at the Sunset Villa Complex (corner of Palm and Filburn)
1950 Palm Ave., Wasco, CA 93280

FIRST 5 KERN ANNOUNCES REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

After much anticipation of the recent election and the threat of funding cuts, the voters once again reaffirmed early childhood development as a priority. This action allows First 5 Kern — the Kern County Children and Families Commission — to continue to fund healthcare, dental, school readiness, childcare, special needs and other programs at roughly the same level as the current fiscal year and move forward with its Request for Proposal process for its new funding cycle that begins July 2010.

Beginning July 1, 2009, First 5 Kern will be seeking proposals from organizations interested in providing services to children ages prenatal to five and their families living in Kern County. These services will be funded for up to three years by the Commission using Proposition 10 funds and must be consistent with the Strategic Plan developed by the Commission.

Proposition 10 funds are intended to enhance existing services for children ages prenatal to five and their families, and may not supplant existing resources or create service duplication.

The Commission will fund individual programs using the following criteria:

- √ Applicants must submit a Letter of Intent by **July 10, 2009** indicating interest in the RFP
- √ Programs must target one or more of the three major focus areas described in the Strategic Plan:
 - Health and Wellness
 - Child Care and Early Education
 - Parent Education and Support Services
- √ All applicants must demonstrate effort in the fourth focus area:
 - Integration of Services
- √ Programs must serve children ages prenatal to five and their families
- √ Only programs serving Kern County residents and with an office located in Kern County will be considered

This will be a new funding process for all programs. Agencies under a current contract with the Commission will need to apply for new funding to continue their programs. Agencies not currently funded through First 5 Kern are invited to submit a proposal.

Dates to remember:

Wednesday, July 1

Request for Proposals Release

Tuesday, July 7, 9:00 a.m. or 1:30 p.m.

Bidders Conference

Friday, July 10, 5:00 p.m.

Letter of Intent Due

Friday, July 31, 12 Noon

RFP Closes at 12 Noon

Week of October 12

Applicants to be notified of status

Wednesday, December 2

Commissioners to review proposals and approve funding

(Dates subject to change)

First 5 Kern invites applicants for its Independent Evaluation Committees

First 5 Kern is recruiting candidates to serve on one of three Independent Evaluation Committees to review proposals submitted in response to its Request for Proposals. The three committees will be in the focus areas of Health and Wellness, Parent Education and Support Services and Early Childcare and Education.

Candidates are to be generally familiar with the purpose of the Commission and with the funding allocation process as described in the Strategic Plan.

Committees will meet for a short training in August and convene during the month of September to review proposals and make recommendations to the Project Review Committee.

For an application and more information, please visit www.First5Kern.org or call the First 5 Kern office at (661) 328-8888.



CAL-LEARN & ADOLESCENT FAMILY LIFE GRADUATION

The Department of Human Services (DHS) and Clinica Sierra Vista hosted its 14th annual graduate ceremony for Cal-Learn and Adolescent Family Life Program and their families at Bakersfield College. The event celebrated nearly 200 teen parents who graduated from high school throughout Kern County.

Students and their families filled the Bakersfield College Indoor Theatre to capacity as students were presented with scholarship awards from DHS, AFLP, and a R.J. Harding Jr. Cal-Learn Scholarship totaling \$1,250.00.

The highlight of the ceremony came from Dr. Kim Horton and the "Journey to a Dream" Foundation. Dr. Kim Horton, Vice President and Chief Nursing Officer for Mercy Hospitals presented a full degree scholarship to Susana Aranda. Susana plans to attend Bakersfield College and then CSUB.

Cal-Learn is a statewide program designed to help pregnant and parenting teenagers on cash-aid

"Being a teen parent is hard but I knew that it was up to me to try my best and to do whatever I could to give my daughter the life she deserves. I am nineteen years old now and I can proudly say that I am a graduate!"

Cristina

overcome the barriers to receiving a high school diploma or GED. The program features intensive case management, child care, transportation,

"I never thought I would be standing here today...I had no intentions on graduating but my case manager never gave up on me. Every time he saw me, he would remind me how important a high school diploma was and I want to thank him".

Kristin

ancillary expenses needed to attend school and bonuses and sanctions to induce teen parents to attend school.

Throughout the year, the DHS Cal-Learn Unit programmed a series of fundraising activities to pay for the event.

THE IMMUNIZATION REGISTRY AND YOU

This summer, 5-year olds and their parents will be busy getting ready for Kindergarten. This rite of passage usually includes the purchase of backpacks, lunch boxes and new clothes. However, it also means making sure that the kindergartener is up-to-date on their shots.

The California Immunization Registry (CAIR) is a sure fire way in which parents and medical providers can make sure that all children stay current with their immunizations and that this vital information is not lost. CAIR is a secure computer system that stores children's immunizations (shot) records. It is an electronic "yellow card." This system is used by doctor's offices, public health departments, hospitals, and other selected programs serving children.

CAIR is safe and private. The information that goes into CAIR is your child's name, birth date, guardian's name, contact information and child's shot history. Only your child's doctor's can access your child's address and phone number.

By having your child's information on this registry, it can help protect their health. A doctor can use it to send out reminders to make sure your child is up-to-date on their visits and shots. It also allows you to obtain a copy of your child's immunization record quickly. If you leave your child's record at home the day of their doctor's visit, the doctor will have all the information available from the registry. If the card is lost, the doctor's office can quickly print out another copy for you. Participating in the registry is voluntary. However, it is an important tool available to you to ensure the health and well being of your child.

Anyone wanting additional information on the California Immunization Registry or immunizations in general can call the Department of Public Health at (661) 868-0306 or visit their web site at <http://www.co.kern.ca.us/health/>.

GIRL SCOUTS FOR FOSTER YOUTH

Girl Scout Troop 451 is entering in its fourth year. The troop, sponsored by the Department of Human Services, is comprised solely of foster children. The troop was started to allow foster children the opportunity to join the organization along with other girls in similar situations. The girls in the troop are currently reunifying with their parents, in the process of being adopted, or are in long term foster care. They are able to partake in all of the advantages of being in Girl Scouts that they may not otherwise have the

opportunity to enjoy. The troop is led by social workers from various programs within Child Protective Services. The troop recently sold enough Girl Scout cookies to earn a trip to Disneyland. Most of the girls had never been before and were excited to have earned the trip themselves. The troop is currently looking for new girls to join. If you know of a foster child that could benefit from team camaraderie, self-esteem building activities, and socializing with other girls, contact Nicole Couch at 661-868-8917.

NEED PARENT PROJECT OR LOVING SOLUTIONS CLASS KITS AND/OR MATERIALS?

Made possible by a partnership between the Kern County Department of Human Services, Kern County Network for Children and Kern County Superintendent of Schools Office, the following Parent Project and Loving Solutions class kits and materials are available **free** of charge to certified facilitators throughout Kern County:

- **Parent Project Facilitator Kit (English)** group role table top labels, overheads, overhead pens, videos, timer
- **Parent Project Facilitator Kit (Spanish)** group role table top labels, overheads, overhead pens, videos, timer
- **Parent Project Parent Workbooks - Changing Destructive Adolescent Behavior - English**
- **Parent Project Parent Workbooks - Changing Destructive Adolescent Behavior - Spanish**
- **Loving Solutions Facilitator Binder** (for Parents/Guardians with younger Children ages 5-10)
- **Loving Solutions Workbooks - English**
- **Loving Solutions Workbooks - Spanish**
- **Teen Component - Personal and Social Responsibility Kit** with copyright permission to reproduce student booklets

To request free materials for your next class, please submit a **Parent Project® Kern County Parent Project Facilitator Materials Request Form** two weeks in advance to Daryl Thiesen at the Kern County Superintendent of Schools Office. Daryl's Fax and email information is included on the form. To access the request form, please visit the following website: <http://www.kernparentproject.org/>. The link to the form is located on the bottom left of the page. For more information about materials and/or kit availability, please contact Daryl Thiesen at (661) 636-4329.

Always remember that the future comes one day at a time.
Dean Acheson

Farmer's

Come and Shop
at the

Market



All vendors are
Senior Program
certified and
accept Cash, Checks, and
WIC Farmers Market Coupons

EVERY Wednesday
starting **May 20, 2009**
3:00-6:00 p.m.

Public Health Department • 1800 Mt. Vernon Avenue



LEADERSHIP BAKERSFIELD MENTORS FORMER FOSTER YOUTH

Ten emancipated foster children are a little better prepared for the work place thanks to some mentoring they received from a group of local professionals.

The mentoring program was a team project completed through Leadership Bakersfield, a 10-month program of the Greater Bakersfield Chamber of Commerce designed to provide the knowledge and perspective tomorrow's leaders will need to guide the community through challenging and sometimes difficult times.

The seven members of the Leadership Bakersfield team decided for their project to give as they were receiving, by providing knowledge and perspective to relatively new members of the work force. The Leadership Bakersfield team was comprised of Jessica Allegranza of Valley Republic Bank, Nikki Cross of O'Dell Cross, Rob Duchow of Southern California Gas Company, Nick Gomez of San Joaquin Valley College, Jeanell Guenther of San Joaquin Community Hospital, Tom Pasek of Shaggy Dog Solutions, and Josh Schroeder of Chevron.

Drawing on their combined 130 years of professional experience, the seven mentors designed a 10-session curriculum to expose the program participants to a number of careers and industries, and help prepare them for job interviews and the work force.

From late January through early May, the seven professionals and 10 young adults – ages 18 to 21 – spent nearly 30 hours together. The sessions included tours of work places; talks about each of the mentors' careers and how they got to where they are today; discussions of the wide variety of careers available in each of the mentors' industries and the education, training or skills needed to achieve some of them; guest speakers who shared their expertise and experiences; assistance with resume preparation; and mock job interviews. The mentors stressed the importance of a firm handshake, good grooming, networking, communications, and having a marketable skill.

The participants also were provided with gift cards to go shopping for professional clothes which were worn and critiqued at later sessions; rewarded with gift cards

for outstanding participation in the sessions; fed during working lunches; and given pens, coffee mugs, portfolios, and at the last session, a laptop computer to help them in their job search and career development. A \$6,000 budget supported these activities, funded in large part by San Joaquin Valley College, Southern California Gas Company, San Joaquin Community Hospital and Chevron.

For the mentors, the words and reactions of the participants by the end of the program confirmed the project was appreciated and worthwhile.

"Everything has changed – my whole outlook and perspective on things. It made me think to a bigger and brighter picture of my future," said LaJoy Gentry, one of the participants. She added, "My expectations were met in this program. They went above and beyond. They totally amazed me. Awesome!"

The participants also suggested that the program continue, and recommended others take part.

"This program should keep going on. There's nobody that wouldn't say that they didn't get anything from this," said participant Max Melendez.

"I would recommend this because I thought I knew everything I need for preparing for interviews and resumes, but I learned more and learned how to dress professionally," added another participant, Korinna Marquez.



The guest speakers were also motivating. Morgan Clayton, owner of TelTec Security, talked about his background that opened many eyes in the room. Today Morgan is a successful businessman, but his roots were on the streets and coming up through struggle.

Marquez said Clayton's talk showed her "that no matter what happens, I have a choice on how my life will turn out."

The encouragement went both ways. Several of the guest speakers felt inspired as well.

Robert Blanton of O'Dell Cross did a mock job interview with each participant. "Taking part in this project was a huge blessing," he said. "They came in

LEADERSHIP BAKERSFIELD MENTORS FORMER FOSTER YOUTH (cont.)

looking for encouragement and inspiration, but what they probably did not realize is I am the one who came away being encouraged and inspired.”

“I found the students to be open, talkative and eager to learn how to package themselves in the work force for success,” said Janine Paquette, CEO of Your Employment Solutions, who has more than 30 years experience in human resources.

During the project, the mentors watched the young adults grow, and developed relationships with them. The young adults have phone numbers and email addresses for all of the mentors, and have been encouraged to stay in touch. Several speakers also invited the participants to continue using them as a resource.

“My doors remain open to all of those that went through your program,” said Mary Jo Pasek, a human resources consultant for the Kern Community College District.

Carrying out this project involved the exchange of more than 1,000 emails among the seven mentors, more than 500 man-hours of time, and the support

of several other businesses: Stockdale Property Management, Famous Dave's, Rabobank, Mike Wright CPA, O'Dell Cross, Shaggy Dog Solutions and Sequoia Sandwich Company.

On June 18, at the final Leadership Bakersfield class before their graduation, the mentors gave a presentation to their classmates on their project. A copy of the team's written submission will be given to each of the project participants along with a keepsake – a group photo taken at the ribbon cutting for Valley Republic Bank in April with Congressman Kevin McCarthy – signed by the Congressman.



GUILD HOUSE CELEBRATION

On September 1, 2009, Guild House, located at 1905 18th Street, will host its 100-Year Restoration Celebration. After refurbishing the house to its original elegance of 100 years ago, the house is complete with new flooring, wall coverings, window coverings, bathrooms and more. Guild volunteers invite you to join the celebration by stopping in to tour the house and to enjoy one of three exciting dining experiences.

The event will kick-off with a light breakfast buffet from 7am - 10am for \$10 per person, followed by a lunch buffet for \$10 from 11:30 am - 1:30 pm, and conclude with an evening reception from 5 pm - 7 pm, complete with hors d'oeuvres and wine, for \$20. Since reservations are recommended for the morning, midday, and evening session, it is suggested that you call 661-325-5478 to reserve your space for the celebration.

Robin Starr, Guild House President states: “Our beautiful, 100-year old Bakersfield Landmark and the more than 45-year commitment of Guild House volunteers, have enabled us to donate over \$1.6 million dollars to the Clinic, making a vital difference in the lives of children and families right here in Kern County.”

Robin is grateful for the commitment and dedication of the volunteers and goes on to extend “a special thank you to the community, which has so generously given to restore this true Bakersfield Treasure.”

Please join the Guild House's 100-Year Restoration Celebration.



CHANGES TO WIC FOOD PACKAGES

Since 1974 WIC (Women, Infants, and Children) has been providing healthy, supplemental foods to pregnant and postpartum women, infants, and children up to age 5. Vouchers for foods high in vitamins A and C, calcium, iron, and protein have been given. These foods include milk, eggs, beans, lentils, dry peas, or peanut butter, cereals, and juice. In 1980 the food package was expanded to provide extra nutrition for breast feeding women.



Requests from WIC Program Directors, Participants, and the Medical community to revise the WIC Food Packages prompted USDA to contract with the Institute of Medicine (IOM) to independently review the foods provided by WIC. USDA asked the IOM to review the nutritional needs of the WIC population and recommend cost-neutral changes to the WIC food Packages. Changes in the WIC vouchers have been made and we will see these changes in October, 2009. The objectives of the changes are to:

- Reduce the prevalence of inadequate and excessive nutrient intakes of participants.
- Contribute to an overall dietary pattern consistent with the “Dietary Guidelines for Americans.
- Contribute to an overall diet that is consistent with established dietary recommendations for infants and children less than 2 years of age, and including encouragement and support for breast-feeding.

The major changes include:

- Revision of the infant food package
- Addition of fruits and vegetables
- Addition of soy based beverages and tofu as milk alternatives
- Addition of whole grains, such as cereals, breads, tortillas, and brown rice
- Reduction of some food allowances including milk, eggs and juice

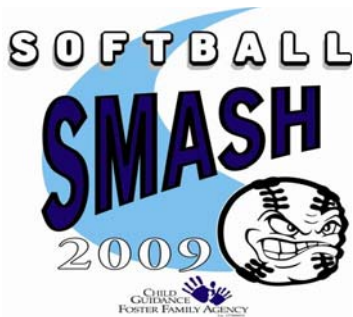
WIC is very excited about the changes. Participants have been receiving education about the upcoming changes since April, 2009. In April and May participants were introduced to Healthy Habits for Life. They were educated on the importance of choosing “anytime” foods. Fruits and vegetables were emphasized to be a major part of the everyday diet. June and July focuses on the importance of lower fat milk products. Participants will learn the benefits of lower fat milk. WIC encourages infants ages 0 - 12 months to be breast or formula fed; ages 1 - 2 years to use whole milk for better brain development. Lower fat milk is recommended for everyone ages 2 years and greater to reduce saturated fat in the diet. August and September will focus on the importance of whole grains. Participants will learn how to read labels and learn the higher nutritional value of whole grains. Finally in October and November the new vouchers will be introduced and participants will again attend classes on how to shop and use the new vouchers. Also throughout this time pregnant and postpartum women have been receiving education on the importance of breast feeding.

In summary the new WIC Food Packages will reinforce Healthy Habit Nutrition Messages:

- Eat more fruits and vegetables
- Lower saturated fats
- Increase whole grains and fiber
- Drink less sweetened beverages and juices
- Babies are meant to be breast fed



SOFTBALL SMASH 2009



The Child Guidance Foster Family Agency is hosting **SOFTBALL SMASH 2009**, a CO-ED Slow-Pitch Softball Tournament for ages 18 and up on Saturday, October 3rd. Cost per team is \$250.

Proceeds from the tournament will be used to increase awareness of the need for foster families in Kern County and to recruit qualified, loving foster parents. Softball players are invited to play recreational softball and enjoy a day at the park with family and friends. Tournament winners will receive a trophy and other prizes. Sponsorship and vendor opportunities are available.

We had a terrific turn-out last year and hope to make this year's tournament even bigger and better. If you are interested in sponsoring, playing, or volunteering for Softball Smash 2009, please contact the Child Guidance Clinic at 661-322-1021 or visit the Foundation page under Supporting Organizations on our website at www.hwmcgc.org.

SAVE THE DATE FOR ARTFEST 2009

Art Lovers will once again join the Boys and Girls Club's of Kern County to celebrate the artistic accomplishments of children in the community at Artfest 2009. The Annual Artfest – art auction and wine tasting – presented by San Joaquin Community Hospital is set for 6 p.m. on Saturday, October 10, 2009 at the Moorea Banquet Center. Guests will enjoy a wonderful feast of gourmet food, fine wines, and a unique auction filled with beautiful art by the stars of the evening – the children artists from the Boys and Girls Club's "Kidz Art Program." The Kidz Art Program is sponsored by The Pelletier Foundation.

Artfest represents the positive development of youth in an area that gives them a sense of accomplishment, influence, and meaningful impact on their community. The young Club artists donate an individual piece of artwork for the auction. The proceeds from their hard work help fund programs and activities for the Club.

The Boys and Girls Club's of Kern County serve more than 5,000 school-age children annually throughout the county at 23 Club sites in Bakersfield, Frazier Park, Lamont and Delano. For more information regarding Artfest 2009 or about the Boys and Girls Club programs, please contact the Club main site at 661-325-3730.



KERN RIVER VALLEY FAMILY RESOURCE CENTER AWARDED TWO GRANTS FROM KERN COMMUNITY FOUNDATION

As a result of two Kern Community Foundation grants awarded to the Kern River Valley Family Resource Center, twenty middle school girls will benefit from an after school mentoring program and over 1100 school age children in the Kernville and South Fork School Districts will receive school site dental screenings and treatment.

A \$9,000 grant awarded in April from the Women's & Girls' Fund of the Kern Community Foundation will support the "Eyes Wide Open" program – a strategy to empower young women to make educated choices

in school and life by providing support in skill-building and personal contact with leaders in their own community. Program goals for 6th, 7th & 8th grade female students at Wallace Middle School include building self-esteem and confidence, learning career building skills, charting a course to college, and field trips to educational workshops and facilities. Program Director Jan Mazzone will engage professional women in the community to volunteer as mentors supporting girls and participating in group activities. Wallace Principal Stephanie Pope and After School Site Supervisor Paula Stoicu are enthusiastically

KERN RIVER VALLEY FAMILY RESOURCE CENTER (cont.)

looking at prospective students and incentive programs. The South Fork Women's Club and WINGs (Women's Idea Networking Group) have volunteered to provide mentoring. Priority enrollment for participation will be given to students from low-income or single parent families. The project will outreach replication to other communities.

A \$15,000 Community Wellness Fund grant, made possible by a partnership between the Kern Community Foundation and California Wellness Foundation, was awarded in May to support the Bright Smiles Dental Health Project. Headed by Kernville USD's District Nurse Randy Fieber, classroom dental health education materials will be presented at seven local schools and dental screenings provided to all elementary students during the 2009-2010 school year. Families will be assisted by FRC staff in gaining access to local or out of town dentists and clinics for treatments. Transportation will be provided to ensure children are treated immediately and completely.

Nurse Fieber identified almost 70% of our school children as having oral health problems. Sixty-one percent (61%) of respondents to a community needs survey identified children's dental health as a priority. Although classroom screenings will only reach elementary students, interactions with families will enable FRC staff to provide dental health information and appointment assistance to approximately 700 of their high school siblings and over 2000 parents.

The KRV Family Resource Center is supported by the Kernville Union School District providing supportive health, safety and education programs to the youth and families in our communities since 1999. The KUSD is a leader in providing innovative school and community programs, receiving numerous awards and recognitions from county, state and federal legislators and agencies. The KRV Collaborative partners who have assisted in creating and implementing these past programs will again provide their support to both newly funded projects.

HEAD START/EARLY HEAD START POLICY COUNCIL

Community Action Partnership of Kern's Head Start/Early Head Start Policy Council is seeking community representation for the one year term November 2009 - October 2010. Policy Council members participate in shared decision making concerning planning, budgeting, and personnel decisions. Our PC meets monthly and sets their meeting calendar at the November meeting. All PC members serve on one or more standing committees, and the committees also set their own calendars.



Community Representatives may be drawn from our local community: businesses (public or private), civic and professional organizations, and others who are familiar with resources and services for low-income children and families. To be considered to serve as Community Representative for the November 2009-October 2010 term, please submit an application by October 1, 2009. All Community Representatives must be approved by the Policy Council before they can be seated.

For more information, please contact, Amberly Haney, Governance Coordinator (661) 336-5236 or ahaney@capk.org.

In the final analysis it is not what you do for your children but what you have taught them to do for themselves that will make them successful human beings.

Ann Landers

KERN COUNTY MUSEUM SUMMER EVENTS

Summer Day Camps - July 13 - August 7, 2009 / Call for times and prices as we expect to fill up fast!

This is no ordinary camp experience. Kids are actively engaged all day in exploring different themes so that multiple weeks in camp are not a bore. Create in the kitchen, learn science from super heroes, explore fun places and other times while never leaving Bakersfield. The Lori Brock Children's Discovery Center Day Camps are open to children 5 to 7 and 8 to 11 years of age. Call 661-852-5050 to sign up today as sessions fill up fast!

Book Blast - Saturday, July 11, 2009 / 10 am - 1 pm, free admission 10 pm - 12 pm

Families are invited to encourage summer reading through a free festival celebrating books and literacy co-sponsored by the Kern Reading Association. Just pick-up a reading log at the museum or download one at www.kcmuseum.org. Fill in the log and use it to get the entire family in free to Book Blast. Come meet Clifford the Big Red Dog, listen to stories, talk to authors and enjoy arts, crafts and plenty of fun. Children earn tickets for each story heard at the event. These are good for great prize drawings at noon. Refreshments available at reasonable prices.



Vintage Cycles on the Green - Saturday, August 8, 2009 / 8 am - 2 pm

This is the first annual show and shine for vintage motorcycles, scooters and bicycles at the museum hosted by Cen-Cal Speed Shop. Participants can compete for awards, and have fun with themed activities for kids, and a raffle. There will be vendors and dealers with food, t-shirts and pins, and vintage cycle goods for sale. Regular admission rates apply, Museum members admitted free.

Summer Fun Day: Wild Water Adventureland - Thursday, August 13, 2009 / 9 am - 1 pm

Learn about water, play in water, slide through water, and generally celebrate this life sustaining fluid we often take for granted. Don't forget to wear your bathing suit! Admission of \$3 per person includes 6 ride tickets for children 3-12 and a variety of free activities all with an adventure theme! Children under 3 can get in free. Extra ride tickets are 50 cents and lunch is available for \$3 per person.



Fun In The Sun Car Show - Sunday, September 20, 2009 / 10 am to 3 pm

The Vintage LTD Car Club of Bakersfield will hold their 28th annual car show on the museum grounds. Over 150 pre-1959 cars will be on hand to illustrate what nostalgia is all about. Regular museum admission rates apply. Members admitted free.

VERY SPECIAL MEMBERSHIP OFFER

A special introductory museum membership is now available. Only \$35 gets up to 6 people admitted to all these great events absolutely **FREE!** Museum members also gain free admission to hundreds of museums across the nation, 23 right here in California! For more information call Jean Steward at 661-852-5021 or log onto www.kcmuseum.org and check out the membership page for links to the included museums. What a fabulous way to gain access to all the museum's great exhibits at a reasonable price!



3801 Chester Avenue
Bakersfield, CA
661-852-5000
www.kcmuseum.org



Hours of Operation:

Kern County Network for Children/Dream Center

Monday - Friday
8:00 am - 5:00 pm

Coffee House

Monday - Friday
6:00 am - 6:00 pm

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**KERN COUNTY NETWORK FOR CHILDREN
MISSION STATEMENT**

**TO PROTECT AND ENRICH
THE LIVES OF CHILDREN
IN KERN COUNTY
THROUGH THE COMMITMENT OF ALL COMMUNITY
PARTNERS BY HELPING TO BUILD AND
SUSTAIN HEALTHY FAMILIES.**

"Local Communities Working In Collaboration"

.....

Phone Number: (661) 636-4488 ♦ Website: www.kcnc.org