

Community Service Restitution Unit

Triannual e-Newsletter

September - December 2019

Serving Our Youth Since 1980

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Chief Probation Officer
Lynne Wilkerson

Deputy CPO
Field & Court Services
Karl Johnson

CSR STAFF

Pete Gonzales
Supervisor

Sylvia Scott
Office Assistant

Joe Medellin
Lead Specialist

SPECIALISTS

Lillian Byas
Fred Guzman
Judy Larkin
Alfonso Moreno
Stacey Slauzis
Joe Villescay

APPRECIATION DINNER



Our community service partners do much to help department youth. For instance, they serve as work crew sites, community-based individual placement locations, provide expertise and resources to our service learning projects, and partake in presentations.

Equally important, our partners often go above and beyond what they need to do in order to facilitate the completion of community service hours by department youth. This includes rearranging hours of operation, accepting youth with health issues inclusive of pregnancy, reaching out to families and youth to let them know of new community service opportunities, and much more.

In view of this selflessness, the very least that we, as a governmental entity can do, is to thank our community partners for making a difference in the lives of our youth. To this end, on Tuesday, November 19th, we once again hosted the Annual Appreciation Dinner. At this function, our partners were presented with well-deserved certificates of appreciation.

We also provided special tokens of appreciation to our longtime partners, including those that have been by our side for at least 10-years:

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*Association for the Advancement of Mexican Americans ... Madonna Neighborhood Center ...
San Antonio Youth for Christ*

For 5-years of partnership:

Brooks Inner-City Sports ... Church Triumphant ... Morning Star Ranch Ministries

As customary, we announced the Top CSR Work Site for 2019. This year's award recipient was the Texas Transportation Museum. We also provided Last Chance Ministries with the Outstanding Faith-Based Award, and Goodwill Industries with the Outstanding Non-Profit Award.

Gratitude is extended to all CSR staff who helped make this dinner possible. With special recognition going to Joe Medellin and Joe Villescaz for cooking the fryers and sausages.

We are very fortunate to have had other department staff help in different but valuable ways: Rosalie Vogt (Restore Hope Unit), Dana Wilson (Court South), Melanie Caswell (Gang Unit), Garrett Caswell (Court North), and Pablo Villanueva (Gang Unit).

Additionally, we are very pleased that Judge Carlos Quezada (289th District Court), Lynne Wilkerson, Chief Probation Officer, and Deputy Chief Karl Johnson joined us to express their gratitude for our community partners' contributions.

Finally, appreciation goes to the following sponsors for their gracious in-kind and/or cash donations:

*Cadena
Ministries*



**MORE PICS ON
PAGE 6**



Pictured L to R: Chief Lynne Wilkerson, Judge Carlos Quezada, & Deputy Chief Karl Johnson



Greater Nehemiah Pentecostal Church Reps

TCSA CONFERENCE

The 24th Annual Texas Community Service Association Conference (held in Tyler, TX) was attended by our CSR Specialists: Lillian Byas and Alfred Guzman.

The conference included talks on numerous topics and had several breakout sessions in smaller rooms. Most of them were practical workshops focused on collaboration and sharing resources to bring back to conferees prospective counties.

The theme of the conference was centered around developing as an individual to serve the correctional population better. Topics included Stress, Nutrition, Building Vision and Change, and Building Emotional Intelligence. Other topics included: Gang Identification, Commercial Sexual Exploitation, Human Trafficking, and legislative updates.

Very proud that Lillian once again presented at the conference. As expected, she did a phenomenal job. This time she presented on innovative practices in service learning. The latter is a community service strategy that has been utilized in our department since 2011. More and more juvenile probation departments are providing service learning as a community service option to their youth.

For more information on TCSA, go to <http://www.texascommunityservice.com/homepage.html> ■



Congratulations

Congrats to Alfonso Moreno who transferred over to our unit effective November 2nd. Alfonso is filling a full-time CSR position. He is heavily experience with over ten years of employment within a juvenile corrections setting.

Prior to transferring to us, he served as a Detention Officer in our Detention Center since November of 2018. Previously he worked as a Detention Officer in Atascosa County Juvenile Detention (March 2016 to July 2017). And he had a prior stint with our Detention Center also as a Detention Officer (November 2007 to March 2016).

On the personal side, Alfonso is very active with the ACTS Ministry. In addition, he plays drums for EVE Band Ministry. He formerly played for various Tejano bands, inclusive of City Boyz. And he is the proud dad of two United States Marines.

We are very excited to have Alfonso join our team. ■



Congrats & Farewell

On November 2nd, Pablo Villanueva, CSR Specialist, became the latest CSR employee to move up to a probation officer position. He was selected as a Senior Probation Officer with the Gang ISP Unit.

Pablo joined CSR in 2016 as a part-time employee assigned to weekend work crews. While at CSR, Pablo was extremely reliable, hard working, and had a keen ability to supervise youth. He kept youth on task and maintained a safe work environment for them.

We will miss our friend at CSR, but we are very happy with his well-deserved promotion. ■



SAILS Recognition



Very proud of our CSR staff. On November 8th, CSR was recognized as the Volunteer Organization of the Year by our good friends from San Antonio Independent Living Services (SAILS). For more info on SAILS, please go to www.sailstx.org. ■

This calendar year a second Repurposing Wood Project was held from September 4th to October 23rd—a total of eight sessions. Youth were taught the importance of repurposing lumber through the making of birdhouses. Solely leftover or previously used lumber was used. Newly made birdhouses were placed by the youth at the Presa Community Center.

At the end of this service learning project, youth wrote down their reflections. One youth wrote the following:

“I actually liked this class.... It was way better than to pick up trash. It helped me learn how to use different tools and also learn how to build a bird house. It was a great idea to create this class and also help out the communities”

Very thankful to CSR Specialist Joe Villescraz for serving as project lead, and to Joe Medellin, Lead Specialist, for his assistance. ■

Service Learning



Youth use tape measures, straight edges, drills and more to construct and erect birdhouses.

NEWS ALERT: On November 16th, KSAT ran a story on our Ramp Build Activity entitled “San Antonio Teens Assist Texas Ramp Project.” To see it, click: <https://www.ksat.com/news/local/2019/11/17/san-antonio-teens-assist-texas-ramp-project/>





Appreciation Dinner Pics

Free Admission & Free Parking to Fiesta Grounds Food ... Rides ... Music ... Dancing ... & much more

SAVE THE DATE

Fiesta de las Niñas OPEN CAR SHOW

@ Port San Antonio
A Family Friendly Alcohol-Free Event

2nd Annual

Saturday, April 18, 2020

Festival (10 am to 6 pm)

Car Show (10 am to 3 pm) / Rain or Shine

Vehicle Registration from 7:30 am to 10:00 am

Enter car show at the intersection of 919 Billy Mitchell Blvd. and Chitty Dr. / For safety concerns, NO In or Out between 10 am & 3 pm

\$10 Pre-Registration

\$25 at the Gate

*first 30 Paid Registrants
get free goody bags*

*Pre-Registration Deadline:
April 13, 2020*



**Bring Ice Chests &
Canopies (must secure) ...
Live DJ .. Raffle .. Door Prizes**

**Trophies for 30 Different Classes: Top 3 for
5 largest classes & Top 2 for 25 classes.
Plus, Best in Show .. Kids Choice .. Peoples
Choice .. Largest Club Participation & More**

For more information, contact Pete Gonzales @ (210) 396-8205 or pgonzales@bexar.org

Can also Pre-Register & Pay On-Line @ www.partnersforyouthsa.org

**ALL Car Show Proceeds to Benefit "Bexar County Partners for Youth" — a 501 (c) (3) Non-Profit of
Bexar County Juvenile Probation**