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TCSA is a
501(c)(6)
non-profit
corporation
dedicated to the
effective
development and
administration
of community
service restitution
programs.

Texas Community Service Association

Sentenced to Serve

TCSA's eNewsletter

Brenda Garcia
Victoria County Juvenile Probation
Newsletter Editor

January 7, 2014

Conference News

The 2013 Annual Conference was held in Ft. Worth (October 27-30, 2013) at the Radisson Ft. Worth-Fossil Creek Hotel. This was the association's 18th annual conference.

Leighton Isles, Tarrant County CSCD Director and Bennie Medlin, Tarrant County Juvenile Services Assistant Director welcomed TCSA to Ft. Worth. Their respective departments served as gracious conference hosts.

Speakers presented a variety of helpful topics. Associated Judge Ellen Smith (383rd District Court) delivered an insightful keynote address on the value and benefits of community service. Critical legislative updates were furnished by Todd Jermstad, Director of Bell/Lampasas Counties CSCD, and ADA Riley Shaw, Tarrant County Juvenile Section Chief. Nydia Thomas, Special Counsel for TJJD, held an informative workshop on liability issues pertaining to community service programs. Dr Joe Serio's luncheon speech on leadership and fear was very well received. He also performed an entertaining solo with his harmonica. And Jacinto Ramos, Tarrant County Juvenile Services CSR Supervisor, presented an interactive and challenging session on multiculturalism. Other presenters helped round out the conference and to them we are also very appreciative. Without their support this conference would not have been realized.

Appreciation plaques were presented in honor of Domingo Sanchez, Gillespie County Sheriff's Department, and Brenda Culpepper, Smith County CSCD, for their past service to TCSA. Lydia Villamil, Tarrant County Juvenile Services Probation Officer, was also recognized for her service as the 2013 Conference Chair.

Planning is proceeding for the 2014 conference to be held in El Paso. The conference is tentatively set for October 26-29. Israel Tena, Juvenile Probation Officer with El Paso JPD, is the conference chair. As we get more details, we will post them on our website www.texascommunityservice.com.

Outgoing Board Member

At the Ft. Worth conference, board member, **Jimmy Don Nicholson**, stepped down from the board of directors after serving a full-term, 2010 to 2013. Jimmy is the CSR Coordinator at Lamar County CSCD. While on the board, Jimmy could always be counted on to help in any way possible. His good nature and selfless manner also made him a joy to be around. He was a valued member of the board whose presence is sorely missed.



*“My goal has always been to help others in our field to humanize their efforts in restorative justice”-
Jimmy Don Nicholson*

2014 Board of Directors

President – Pete Gonzales, Bexar County Juvenile Probation
Vice-President – Cruz J. Vances, Harrison County CSCD
Treasurer – Edward Delgado, Caldwell County CSCD
Secretary – Lydia Villamil, Tarrant County Juvenile Probation
Historian – Lisa Whittington, Liberty-Chambers Counties CSCD
Technology Officer – Lonnie Rogers, 33rd & 424th Judicial District CSCD
Newsletter Editor – Brenda Garcia, Victoria County Juvenile Probation
Member – Cleo Pace, Smith County CSCD
Member – Matthew Haynie, Bandera County Juvenile Probation
Member – Israel Tena, El Paso County Juvenile Probation
Member – Sonia Parish, Comal County CSCD

Any information you would like for us to include in the next newsletter?

Please contact the newsletter editor, Brenda Garcia
(361) 575-0399 Ext.19 bgarcia@vctx.org

Texas Community Service Association

Incoming Board Members

Welcome the newest additions to the TCSA Board – Israel Tena and Matthew Haynie. The TCSA Board is very excited to have both of these new board members voted onto the board in Ft. Worth this past October.

Israel Tena

Israel was born and raised in El Paso, Texas and worked in the Airline Industry from 1988-1994. Later he worked at Harris County Adult Probation in Houston, Texas from 1994-1996. He then moved back to El Paso and began working for El Paso County Juvenile Probation Department, Challenge Boot Camp. Israel is the current Community Engagement Supervisor overseeing various functions to include the Community Improvement Program. Israel attended the University of Iowa. Israel is the 2014 Conference Chair.



Matthew Haynie



Matthew obtained a Bachelor's Degree in Criminal Justice from Howard Payne University. Matthew was employed as a Detention Officer in Brown County for four years. Currently, Matthew is a Juvenile Probation Officer in Bandera County. He has been with Bandera County JPD for five years.

Helpful Links

These links are to helpful resources and organizations, including criminal and juvenile justice entities. Some of these organizations provide information, services, training, grants, and/or technical assistance to criminal and juvenile justice professionals and policymakers. Others are peripheral to criminal and juvenile justice organizations, but remain excellent resources.

Global Youth Service Day <http://www.gysd.org/>
National Criminal Justice Reference Services <http://www.ncjrs.gov/>
National Service-Learning Clearinghouse <http://www.servicelearning.org/>
Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention <http://www.ojjdp.gov/>
Texans Care for Children <http://texanscareforchildren.org/>
Texas Appleseed Criminal Justice Coalition <http://www.texasappleseed.net/>
Texas Department of Criminal Justice <http://www.tdcj.state.tx.us/>
Texas Juvenile Justice Department <http://www.tjjd.texas.gov/>
Texas School Safety Center <http://txssc.txstate.edu/>

TCSA Membership

While TCSA's membership is primarily comprised of community service professionals employed by a Juvenile Probation Department or Community Supervision and Corrections Department (CSCD), it is also open to any individual involved in community service programming. This includes, but is not limited to, individuals employed by parole services, advocacy groups, and educational entities.

Member JPD Departments include Bandera, Bell, Bexar, Caldwell, El Paso, Gaines, Gregg, Harrison, Marion, Midland, San Patricio, Shelby, Smith, Tarrant, and Victoria.

Member CSCDs are Caldwell, Cameron, Cass, Cherokee, Colin, Comal, Concho Valley, Gillespie, Harrison, Hidalgo, Hutchinson, Kerr, Lamar, Liberty, McLennan, Milam, Palo Pinto, Smith, Tarrant, and Wise.

Other members represent Burnet ISF, Coryell Sheriff's Office, Dallas Volunteer Center and Tarrant Volunteer Center

**Join the Texas Community Service
Association**

Annual Fee is \$25

**Contact Pete Gonzales, TCSA President, @
210.335.1840 or pgonzales@bexar.org**

Texas Community Service Association

Saluting Our Veterans

On November 13, 2013, the El Paso Juvenile Probation Department held its 1st Annual Veterans Recognition Celebration. Honored were Marines, Navy, Army, Air Force, National Guard and Coast Guard veterans and active duty personnel.

Present were community leaders, Directors, Judges, Commissioners and of course, all JPD staff to include our partners, Youth Service Center and our Delta Academy (school staff under El Paso Independent School District)

Fifty-five service men and women were honored at this special event...

Events at the celebration included:

- Challenge Academy Color Guard presenting colors
- Live performance by Challenge Academy youth signing the National Anthem
- Live Entertainment by Mr. Mike Hamilton- world professional performer
- Gifts and Prices to service men and women



Cadets Present Colors at Veterans Day Celebration

Christmas Cheer

On December 21, 2013, Bexar County Juvenile Probation's CSR staff and youth treated families at the local YWCA to a Christmas celebration.

Families were treated to a few hours of fun that included cookie decorating, refreshments, photos with Santa and, of course, gifts.

It warmed the heart to see smiles on so many kids' faces. It was also rewarding to have CSR youth engaged in a meaningful community service-learning project.

Leading up to the event, CSR youth created Christmas decorations, constructed toy drive collection boxes and wrapped gifts. During the event, they set up, cleaned, and generally helped where needed.



Family Enjoys Pic with Santa

2013 Conference Pics



2014 CONFERENCE

The Texas Community Service Association Conference will be held in El Paso, Texas. It is tentatively set for October 26-29.

Look us up on the Web for more information.

www.texascommunityservice.com