



PCJCC one of 450 organizations to believe Kids are at Hope



Did you know that when children can see their future, have a plan to get there and find the energy to pursue their goals they are much more likely to succeed? Kids at Hope founder Rick Miller is on a mission to make sure everyone knows this. It's only one of three "Universal Truths" he is trying to spread.

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Non-profit sees link between self-esteem and school

After Desiree Cook's dad died when she was 17, she went to a dark, dark place. She began using heroin and crack cocaine. She met unsavory characters, got shot at, lost her children and landed in prison.

It was while she was in prison that she found herself, Cook said. She decided she would do whatever it took to get her children back. She found hope and vowed to help others find it too.



Desiree Cook, far right, and just some of the many volunteers for I Am You 360 at the 14th Annual Pima County Adoption Day in the Park Celebration.

Cook, who is a hair stylist, created I Am You 360, a non-profit organization dedicated to boosting the self-confidence of foster children through personal hygiene education and products.

“A lot of kids in foster care are being bullied, not only because of their circumstances, but because of their appearance,” Cook said. “Children in care don’t do well in school and I think a lot of it goes to their lack of self-esteem and confidence.”

For the last year, Cook and a core group of 40 to 50 volunteers have been presenting workshops to foster parents to teach them about the unique needs of African-American and Hispanic children when it comes to their hair and skin. The organization collaborates with La Paloma Family Services, Casa de los Niños, GAP Ministries and Casey Family Services.

Cook and her volunteers have also donated more than 370 “empowerment bags” filled with hygiene products to children of all ethnicities through group homes, Arizona’s Children Association, Youth on Their Own and VisionQuest.

(Contd. Page 3)

“We want them to feel good and smell good so that we can even the odds,” Cook said. “Every youth also gets a handwritten note of empowerment letting them know that we care.”



“People can change and turn their lives around. There were literally so many times death knocked on my door and now I have to pay it forward,” Desiree Cook

Too many foster children drop out of school, find themselves unemployed, homeless or in prison, Cook said. Luckily, her own children escaped those dire circumstances and she wants to help those currently in the system do the same.

“If we can’t save our children, we’re going to have broken young adults and second and third generation foster care children,” Cook said.

Working with Higher Ground, Cook said children will soon be able to re-fill their empowerment bags every six to eight weeks at the old Wakefield Middle School, 101 W. 44th Street.

There are more than 3,800 children in foster care in Pima County so there is an ongoing need for donations, Cook said.

Right now, I Am You 360 is selling cellphone socks for \$5 during their “Sock It For Safety” campaign. The hope is people will place their cellphones in the sock and hang it behind seats so they won’t text and drive at the same time.

Cook wants parents struggling with their own crises to know there is hope. She once made the same mistakes they made, but she came full circle and now sees a bright future ahead of her – hence the name of her organization, I Am You 360.

“People can change and turn their lives around,” Cook said. “There were literally so many times death knocked on my door and now I have to pay it forward.”

For more information on I Am You 360, visit their website at www.iamyou360.org. You can also follow the organization on Facebook and Instagram.

Home monitoring keeps kids out of detention

It might surprise some, but on most days there are fewer than 50 children in Pima County's Juvenile Detention Center. For the past 10 years, officials have made a concerted effort to reduce the number of children behind bars.

Not only has juvenile crime been on a steady decline in recent years, but research has proven detaining kids is not a deterrent and is quite harmful. Kids who are detained are 13.5 times more likely to be re-arrested, 3.3 times more likely to begin carrying a weapon and twice as likely to become gang members.

In addition, placing kids in detention increases substance abuse issues, school problems, violence, adjustment problems in adulthood and antisocial attitudes.

Pima County has reduced detention numbers, in part, by using technology. More and more often judges are ordering probation officers to fit teens with ankle monitors that can be used to track the whereabouts of the teens.



If a teen is placed on house arrest, a surveillance officer could outfit him with an ankle monitor that uses radio frequencies to determine if he is home, if he leaves the house early or if he is late getting home.

Other teens can be given ankle monitors equipped with Global Positioning Satellite technology so that surveillance and probation officers know exactly where they are at any given time.

Some of the teens are provided ankle monitors at their first court hearing and others receive it as a condition of probation at the time of their disposition hearing, said surveillance officer Adrian Marquez. A handful are placed on an ankle monitor for a brief period of time as an incentive to work harder to probation.

"I've seen judges use it as a proximal goal," said surveillance officer Steve Borozan. "They'll tell the youth 'If you give us two weeks of desired behavior, I'll remove it.'"

Marquez and Borozan work within the Detention Alternatives Unit. When a teen is fitted with a GPS ankle monitor, their probation officer will give them the teen's schedule and let Borozan and Marquez know if they are prohibited from any specific areas, such as a victim's or co-defendant's neighborhood.

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The schedule is put into a computer and if the teen violates the terms of his release or probation by not following his schedule or by going to prohibited areas, Marquez and Borozan will be alerted to that fact. They, in turn, will notify the teen's probation officer, who also has access to the computer system.

The ankle monitors are highly effective; few violate the conditions of probation by going off schedule or visiting excluded locations, Marquez said. They are also popular.

"The one thing I've noticed is they're happy to get them because they're not locked up," Marquez said. "They're happy they're home with their family."

Before GPS, the teens could only be outfitted with the radio-frequency ankle monitors, which require families to have home telephones and service with specific cable carriers, Borozan said. As a result, the teens would end up having to stay in detention for a couple of days while their families scrambled to set up phone service, which can tax a family's resources.

Not all families have a phone or are able to afford one; GPS doesn't place a financial burden on families, Pessingua said.

The GPS monitors allow teens to get hooked up and released the same day, Borozan said.

The officers hold an orientation session with the teen and his family so they know what's expected of the teen and how to care for the device, Borozan said.

The GPS ankle monitors must be charged two hours a day and can't be submerged in water. In addition, if the ankle monitor is cut off or lost it could result in felony criminal damage or theft charges.

The GPS monitors also give the probation officers the ability to send messages, Marquez said. Typically, they only remind the teens to charge the monitor's battery.

The monitors are only given to those teens unlikely to flee, said unit supervisor Sheila Pessingua. Probation officers don't want to set up for failure a teen known for running away.

Lately, between 25 and 30 teens have monitors. However, several more were recently purchased.

When one looks at the emotional and financial cost of detaining children, the monitors clearly make much more sense, Borozan said.

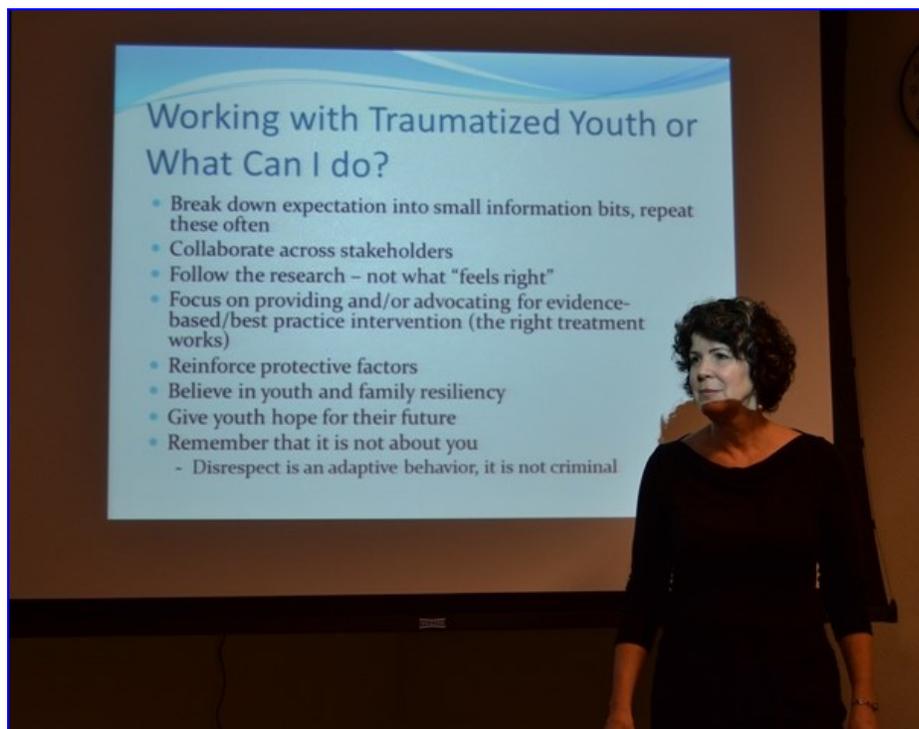
"It's a huge cost savings from keeping them in detention," Borozan said.

The Annie E. Casey Foundation started the Juvenile Detention Alternatives Initiative in 1993. Last year, more than 800 officials from all over the U.S. met for an Inter-site Conference in Atlanta.

During the conference, it was learned that although each JDAI site joined the initiative at different times, in the aggregate, the sites reduced the daily detention population by 43 percent. Pima County reduced its average daily detention population by 77 percent between 2004 and 2013.

Traumatized children probably aren't willfully acting out

Are you dealing with a teenager who is surly and uncooperative? You may not want to assume he's unwilling to comply with the rules; he might be unable to, Beverly Tobiason told a room full of probation officers recently.



Clinical Director Beverly Tobiason talks to Pima County Superior and Juvenile Court employees about the impact of trauma on children.

Up to 93 percent of children who enter into the juvenile justice system have experienced trauma in their lives, putting them at a disadvantage on many different levels, Tobiason said.

Tobiason, the clinical director for Pima County Juvenile Court, recently presented a two-hour training session on "Trauma, Mental Health, And the Court Involved Child."

Children who have experienced child abuse, neglect, emotional abuse, sexual abuse and domestic violence may develop a wide array of problems as a result, Tobiason said. Many have trust issues, can't read other people's emotional states, exhibit the same symptoms as those with PTSD and have problems expressing themselves.

Many also have cognitive difficulties and problems controlling their behavior, Tobiason said. Specifically, children who have been traumatized have problems processing new information, maintaining focus and learning difficulties.

Most people's bodies will flood with cortisol when they feel threatened, but the cortisol drops to normal levels when the threat is over, Tobiason said.

The cortisol levels in people who have suffered chronic trauma never levels off. As a result, they will freeze, flee or fight when they feel threatened.

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For years, intuition led those in the juvenile justice system astray. They thought scaring kids straight, boot camps and immersion into the adult criminal justice system would work.

They didn't, Tobiason said. In fact, those programs resulted in higher recidivism rates.

As a result, Pima County is now pushing for assessment tools, programs and treatment plans that are evidence-based; they are scientifically proven to work.



Beverly Tobiason

They are committed to seeking out programs and treatment plans that take into consideration all of the research that has been done on brain science, trauma, psychology, substance abuse, sociology, juvenile justice, etc.

For example, research has shown humans' frontal cortex, the part of the brain that controls reasoning, isn't fully developed for 25 years. As a result, it's normal for teens to be impulsive, show poor judgment, make bad decisions and seek out thrills.

Studies have proven brain cells don't fire together when adolescents use marijuana so they are less apt to switch course when they are in the middle of an activity.

Lastly, Tobiason told the group, research has also shown that 70 percent of kids come into the juvenile justice system with some sort of mental disorder and approximately 50 percent have substance abuse issues.

Tobiason urged the group to be ever-mindful when it comes to dealing with the children. They need to always ask themselves if their behavior is solely criminal in nature or if it could be the result of trauma.

She also provided these tips:

- Make sure the child feels safe
- Monitor and reduce exposure to traumatic reminders
- Involve family
- Hold the child accountable in a calm and respectful manner
- Break down expectations into small information bits and repeat often so they can more easily process the information
- Give the children hope for their future
- Remember their behavior isn't about you, it's an adaptive behavior

Detention program focuses on positive behavior

Pima County's juvenile probation officers and judges have been working hard over the past several years to ensure only those kids who need to be detained are detained. They recognize locking children up has dire circumstances.

Between 2003 and 2013, the average daily detention population fell from 173 to 40.



Unfortunately, the 40 who spend their days in the detention center tend to be children who are the neediest and most challenging.

Many of the kids incarcerated in Pima County and the rest of the United States suffer from emotional, cognitive and learning disabilities. In fact, a University of Arizona study indicates 26 percent of the children in the Pima County Juvenile Detention Center are special education students.

So, the question has been what is the best way to help these children while, at the same time, maintain a safe and secure facility?

Pima County juvenile court officials decided to implement a strategy last year that has been used with great success in special education classrooms, schools and residential facilities over the years.

“Positive Behavior Intervention and Supports (PBIS) is a philosophy and mindset on how to work with kids that is strength-based,” said Rachael Long, an assistant detention division director.

In many facilities, children who misbehave are treated harshly and inconsistently. PBIS ensures kids know what is expected of them and encourages positive behavior. Rules and routines are consistent and there are procedures in place for on-going monitoring and evaluation and data-based decision making.

The rules and procedures created under PBIS work on a tier system, with extra interventions being put in place for those children who require additional help, Long said. (Contd. Page 9)

Right now, data is being collected so detention can more closely track when children lose privileges for making poor decisions and what types of poor decisions the youth are making. This helps guide interventions used by detention to assist the youth in being successful.

“For me, the benefits of PBIS are two-fold in that officers feel more equipped and have tools they can use with challenging kids and two, that our kids, when they are in our care, feel safe and cared for. They are also held accountable for their actions and they are pushed to excel,” Long said. “We hope they come to feel they have the potential for great things and they have the tools to do well once they are released.”

PBIS was chosen not only because it’s been proven to work, but because it fits in so well with a number of other programs already in place at the detention center, Long said.

Specifically, PBIS fits in well with the center’s Step Up program.

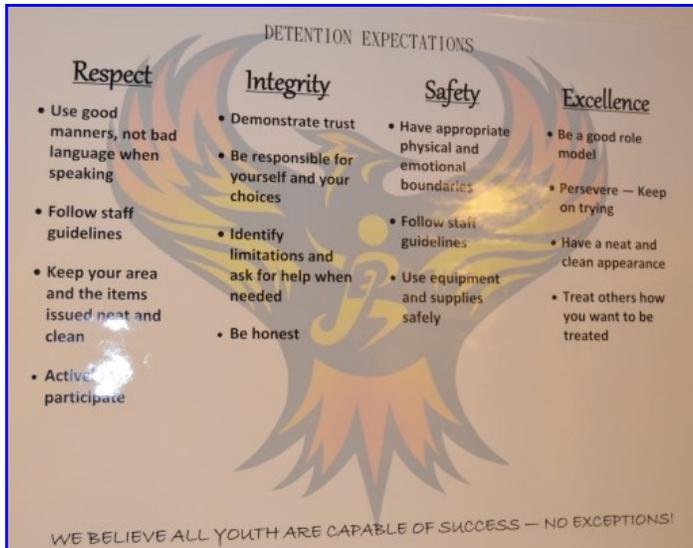
While children are detained, the youth engage in the Step Up program where youth work with a detention mentor to assist them in identifying thinking errors, how their offenses have caused harm (self, families, victims, community), and positive support systems, Long said. Step Up also helps youth to evaluate important relationships in their lives and factors that will help them be successful.

Working with their mentor, completing each levels packet, demonstrating appropriate behavior and receiving positive behavior grades are all factors in the youth advancing in the level system and ultimately gaining more privileges.

As part of the PBIS and Step Up program, detention officers give the kids “Phoenix funds” when they are “caught” being good. The kids can use their funds to buy extra phone calls home, the ability to sleep in on the weekends or stay up late. The funds, which look like Monopoly money, can be given to kids for holding open a door, actively participating in a program, helping others, doing chores or being consistently pleasant. (Contd. Page 10)



One child earned enough Phoenix funds his dog was able to come for a visit after his family was able to prove the dog was licensed and his shots were current, Long said. Another child was able to have a contact visit in the detention garden with his family, which allowed them to actually hug.



As part of PBIS, detention officers were asked to create a slogan and the children an image that would represent what the program is all about. The officers chose RISE or Respect, Integrity, Safety and Excellence. The children chose a Phoenix and there are now several Phoenix murals all over the detention center, which is fitting as detention aims to encourage all youth to rise about their history and current circumstances, Long said.

In October, an internal audit was conducted by people from throughout the other areas of the Pima County Juvenile Court. The audit was modified from those used in schools with PBIS to fit the needs of the detention facility.

The audit team was asked to provide grades on such things as the team's commitment to PBIS, effective procedures for dealing with discipline, data entry and analysis, expectation and rules, reward program, implementation plan and classroom systems.

The team made observations, looked over paperwork, studied data and training materials.

This is the second PBIS audit detention has experienced as they recently entered the 2nd phase of their PBIS implementation. The auditors gave the detention center a score of 91, which greatly pleased Long.

“A lot of credit goes to our officers, senior officers, and supervisors that have assisted with the rollout and every day implementation of PBIS. We wouldn't be here without all of their hard work,” Long said.

As far as she is aware, the Pima County Detention Center is only one of two short-term correctional facilities to implement the program in the nation, Long said. Already, many other juvenile justice agencies and detention centers have expressed an interest in learning about PBIS.

“Our detention facility believes all youth are capable of success -- NO EXCEPTIONS!” Long said.

PCJCC part of movement to change negative mindset

Rick Miller hasn't been home much this year. He's been too busy planting seeds, watering and cultivating. He isn't growing crops, trees or flowers, though. He's growing hope.

For the last 14 years, the Phoenix youth development expert has been trying to convince people to look at children in a different way. Instead of seeing disadvantaged children as being "at risk" why not look at all children as being "at hope?"



Kids at Hope founder Rick Miller (right) chats with several Pima County Juvenile Court staff members about how the court can move forward with the youth development strategy.

Back in 1993, Miller was an adjunct professor at Arizona State University when he and a group of colleagues embarked on a seven-year research project to determine why some children do well in life and others don't.

What they came up with were three Universal Truths.

Truth No. 1 is that children succeed when they are surrounded by adults who believe they can succeed and every child can succeed no exceptions. Truth No. 2 is that programs alone don't make the difference in a child's life, adult relations do. The last Universal Truth is children can succeed when they can articulate their future in more than one of the following destinations: Home & Family, Education & Career, Community & Service and Hobbies & Recreation.

We, as adults, have no control over a child's experiences, but we can control their hope.

"Hope is a science and it can be taught and learned," Miller said. (Contd. Page 12)

His definition of hope is the ability to visit your future, to return to the present and to prepare for the journey, Miller said.

Everyone should think of children as “Time Travelers” complete with backpacks and adults as “Treasure Hunters”, Miller said.



Yuma's Juvenile Justice Center Director Tim Hardy mimics Rick Miller as he illustrates the framework for the Kids at Hope youth development initiative.

If we want to help children succeed in the future, we need to find the treasures each child has within, foster those treasures and fill each child's backpack with the tools they need to achieve success.

Miller created a youth development strategy based on the Universal Truths, but in order for the strategy to work, every adult must believe 100 percent that all children are capable of success, without exception.

As you might imagine, it's not been easy trying to convince an entire nation to stop thinking

some children are doomed to failure because of abusive/neglectful parents, drugs, gangs and poverty. He has spent the last 14 years traveling all over the U.S. in the hopes of creating an entirely new culture.

And he's had success, thanks in large part to nine different universities who have studied his strategy and found it works.

In 18 states, there are 450 individual schools, school districts, Boys & Girls Clubs, recreation departments, probation departments, police departments, cities and counties who have adopted the Kids at Hope cultural framework.

This year, 2014, has been a banner year for Kids at Hope. The American Academy of Pediatrics named Kids at Hope as one of only four youth development initiatives in the U.S. that is effective.

In addition, Antwone Fisher -- film director, screenwriter, poet, lecturer, professor, and best-selling author -- joined the Kids at Hope board of directors.

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Fisher, whose story was told in a major film starring Denzel Washington, often shares his tale at Kids at Hope training sessions.

Earlier this year, Kids at Hope also received a \$250,000 grant from the Guardian Life Insurance Company to share the strategy to the greater New York City area. Miller will soon be sharing 7,000 New York City school resources officers about Kids at Hope.

Lastly, Miller was awarded a contract by the Arizona Supreme Court to share Kids at Hope with juvenile court staff in all 15 counties. On Dec. 10, Miller completed the last of four regional training sessions this year, bringing to 130 the number of probation officers, juvenile detention officers, detention center teachers and others who can now go out and teach the cultural framework to their colleagues.

Pima County Juvenile Court hosted the last regional training session, which was attended by folks from Santa Cruz, Cochise, Yuma and Pima counties.

They spent the second day of the two-day training coming up with ways to make sure Kids at Hope becomes a way of life within their organizations. Attendees spoke about such things as hiring practices, trainings, logos, banners, clubs, T-shirts and ways to honor Time Travelers and Treasure Hunters.

The folks from Yuma County Juvenile Justice Center shared how they convinced education, law enforcement and local government leaders to jump on board, along with officials from various nonprofits, faith-based groups and other organizations.

Miller, whose cultural title is “Chief Treasure Hunter” isn’t done, either. Next year promises to be as busy as this year.

“I believe with all my heart,” the rest of the United States will one day believe all kids are capable of success, no exceptions, Miller said.

For more information on Kids at Hope visit www.kidsathope.org. You can also follow them on Facebook at: <https://www.facebook.com/kidsathope>.

Chief Treasure Hunter Rick Miller believes....

“Kids at Hope is a belief system. It’s not budget driven, it’s driven by your heart.”

“If you ask kids questions about their future, questions lead to thoughts, thoughts lead to ideas, ideas lead to hope and hope leads to energy!”

“An inability to see the future leads to terminal thinking. Terminal thinking leads to hopelessness. Hopelessness leads to lethargy. Lethargy leads to failure.”

“Anything is possible if you feel loved and have a purpose.”

“If we think of kids as being at hope, we can change the trajectory of their lives.”

Volunteers guide kids in trouble to the right path

When people hear about youths getting into trouble with the law, many immediately think in terms of courtrooms and cells.

The fact is Pima County has many programs in place to keep kids out of courtrooms and out of the juvenile detention center.

Pima County has reduced its average daily detention population by 77 percent since 2004. Not only are fewer kids being arrested, but the county has many alternative programs in place to keep them from being detained. (See related story Page 4)

In addition, the Pima County Attorney's Office and the Pima County Juvenile Probation Office believe most kids should be given the opportunity to avoid having a juvenile record at all.



In this January 2011 picture, Community Justice Board members chat with a teen at a local elementary school. She had been caught shoplifting. (Photo Courtesy of the Arizona Daily Star)

In 2013, law enforcement agencies made

8,592 referrals to the Pima County Juvenile Court. In 71 percent of the cases, no formal charges were ever filed by the County Attorney's Office. Most of the time, the children went through a diversion program.

One such program is the Community Justice Boards program. It focuses on children taking responsibility for their actions rather than punishment.

"CJBs are one of several options for diversion (Teen Court is another) and is very appropriate for many first time misdemeanor offenders," said John Schow, director of juvenile court services. (Contd. Page 15)

When a referral is made to the court, a probation officer screens the case to see if they are appropriate for a Community Justice Board, Schow said. The probation officer will do a full interview and explain the board process to the family. If they are agreeable, the probation officer will refer the case to the board nearest their home.

The justice boards, which blanket the metro area, are made up of volunteers from all walks of life who want to hold children accused of minor crimes responsible for their actions, while helping them establish and accomplish goals that could turn their lives around.

The program has been so successful it's grown from three boards and a handful of volunteers to 17 boards all over the city and roughly 100 volunteers, said Brandy Finley, community justice unit supervisor. About 4,000 children have gone through the system since May 1998, she said.

When children are approved for the program, a meeting is held with the victims of the crime, the child, the child's parents and board members.

Children must admit they committed a crime and listen to the impact their actions had on the victims and on their parents.

Instead of focusing on punishing the children, board members ask the children who they harmed and how they can fix it. The board meets with the children and their families over the course of three months.

Restorative justice requires offenders to repair the harm they've done, but it also looks at what the offender needs in order to prevent them from committing future crimes.

Toward that end, the boards ask the children questions about their social and home lives, school, hobbies and health.

The idea is to come up with consequences based on the child's answers, but not to dwell overly much on the crime itself. They don't want the children to become defined by the crime, but to grow from it.

Apology letters are often assigned along with community restitution, Finley said. The volunteers also often require the kids to explore possible career possibilities, clubs and hobbies. If it's appropriate for their age, they might be asked to tour a college campus, research college entrance requirements or write about their discoveries.

"The boards are so beneficial," Finley said. "It gives the youth an opportunity to make positive life choices and to achieve their full potential and be responsible members of the community. Most of these kids will not re-offend. They learn from their mistakes."

For more information on the program and how to become a volunteer, visit: <http://www.pcao.pima.gov/communityjustice.aspx>

Odds & Ends

Milestones

Steve Borozan, probation 15 years

Richard Berkeley, detention, 15 years

Sal Calabrese, probation, 20 years

William Grijalva, detention, 25 years

This month the Bravo committee



awarded a URoc award to **Lynn Parente** from Probation for her outstanding job

organizing a Provider Fair. Numerous agencies came to share information about their services to staff.

By the way...

The Pima County Juvenile Court now has 290 followers on Twitter and 153 Facebook "Likes." Please check us out:



Twitter: Pima County
Juvenile@PCJuvenileCourt



Facebook: [https://
www.facebook.com/](https://www.facebook.com/PimaCountyJuvenileCourt)

[PimaCountyJuvenileCourt](https://www.facebook.com/PimaCountyJuvenileCourt)

They need you...

Right now in Pima County, there are roughly 60 children who are dealing with both the foster care and criminal justice system. They've been abused and neglected and they've been placed on probation because they've made some mistakes.

They need a positive role model, someone who will hang out with them and help them find the right path.

If you would like to give back to the community and change someone's life, please consider joining a mentor program recently created by Pima County Juvenile Court and Pima Prevention Partnership's Sin Puertas program.

"It's about sharing your time, not giving your time," said mentor coordinator Brennan Kartchner said. "It's about enjoying what you do and taking someone with you, whether it's hiking, shopping, sports, music, hobbies or movies. These kids haven't had someone to spend time with before."

If you are interested in mentoring a child, call Kartchner at 624-5806.

Upcoming Events

Thursday, Dec. 25 — Christmas

Friday, Dec. 26 — Kwanzaa begins

Thursday, Jan. 1 — New Year's Day

Sunday, Jan. 11 — Human Trafficking Awareness Day

Monday, Jan. 19, Martin Luther King Jr. Day



Don't Forget to Take Care of Yourself!

Exercise

Meditate

Journal

Social activities

Eat healthy

Be mindful

Massage

Hobbies

Just a reminder...

If you are the parent or guardian of a young person being detained in our facility, we have an on-going parent support group that meets Thursday evenings. For additional information, call Paula Burns at 724-2259.



**Only 1 out of 9 foster children
in Arizona has a CASA Volunteer.**

Please call 724-2060 to find out more about becoming a Court Appointed Special Advocate. Or visit <http://pimacountycasa.org/>

Detention Employees of the Month

Minnie M., Shayla C. and Cindy N. were recently recognized for their positive attitudes, professionalism and motivation. Cindy “displays exceptional customer service skills in Master Control. Cindy has spent time orientating parents who are signing in for visitation on the Parent Support Group being offered on Thursday nights. Cindy assists parents who have questions or concerns regarding their child in detention in a professional, sincere manner. Both Minnie and Shayla are said to view assignments as opportunities to learn and grow. The following was said of Minnie: “As a trainer on A-shift, she is thorough and encouraging in attempts to bring out the best in all team members. .. Minnie shows great work ethic and role modeling as a leader and a problem solver for staff and youth. Minnie is a strong and reliable team member and a positive asset to Detention as a whole.” The following was said of Shayla: “As new responsibilities are assigned, Shayla takes them on with a positive attitude. She asks questions in order to have a clear understanding of the job at hand, is very thorough and pays attention to detail. Despite taking on new responsibilities, she is also excellent at keeping on schedule for all the other responsibilities she already does.”

Did You Know?



Trauma occurs when someone is in a situation or experiences an event that feels life threatening, and he or she feels powerless to do anything about it. Many of the children and families who come to our court have survived trauma like child abuse, neglect, emotional abuse, sexual abuse or domestic violence. In order to be a trauma-responsive court, we must assume every person we interact with at the court may have a trauma history, and we must do our best to treat them with compassion and not re-traumatize them. We teach staff about the causes and effects of trauma and give them specific tips for communicating and working with people who have experienced trauma. We are aware and concerned about the well-being of our staff due to the nature of our work. We ensure that our facilities are safe and feel safe to everyone, and are comfortable and welcoming. We strive to use policies, programs and interventions that are appropriate for people with trauma histories. Lastly, we remain vigilant, always assessing our trauma-responsiveness, and following emerging research on trauma-responsive practices and trauma-focused treatments.

Voices

Since the PCJCC is here to help strengthen kids and families, it seems only appropriate the kids in our Detention Center have a platform from which to speak. We'll be asking them questions periodically and printing some of their unedited answers here.

My New Year's Resolution

To get out of detention. I also want to spend my Christmas with my mom. I also want to stay out of detention. I also want to stay away from cops as much as I can - Chase

My New Year's Resolution is to not break any laws all year - Angel

My New Year's Resolution is to stop coming to juvenile detention center and to get along with my family and to quit smoking. - Gilbert

My New Year's Resolution is to stay sober and to have a positive attitude through everything - K.C.

I'm going to get off probation and move from this state and go to New York. And being respectful to my parents and graduate from 8th grade - A.

My New Year's Resolution is to continue being sober and spend more time with my family than I have in the past. - D.D.

My New Year Resolution is to go back to school and graduate and to get thru my probation successfully and not get in any more trouble. - Alex

My New Year's Resolution is going to be to stay out of trouble. To avoid being influenced by negative people. To love my kid unconditionally - Flavio

To be sober and change my old way. Being a good person to the community and help my family out at home. To help out on the cars and try to go pro in my BMX career. - B.O.

I will work on my anger. I will do this by doing anger coping skills and helping others with their anger. I will do anything possible to help myself with anger. I will also work on my pestering others. - Christian

My New Year's Resolution is to stay clean and sober. The way I've been living with smoking everyday, doing whatever I've wanted my whole life has put me in a place like this, and this is a place I don't want to be. I want to be a better person for my family and most of all my younger and if possible older sibling. - Austin

Month in Photos



Judge Jane Butler congratulates our most recent GED graduate as Interim Deputy Court Administrator Ron Overholt (left) and Juvenile Court Services Director John Schow look on.

On Tuesday, Dec. 16, we said goodbye to Paul Mullens, who spent nearly 20 years as a volunteer bailiff here at Pima County Juvenile Court. Accompanying Paul to the party was his wife of 61 years, Dorothy. The former Marine was well-known for always being readily available, his love of family and his ability to maintain a proper decorum in the courtroom.



Judge Jane Butler presents our latest Youth Recovery Court graduate with his diploma. Judge Butler and the YRC team commended the young man on his perseverance, noting he overcame a lot of adversity to stay clean and sober and graduate from the program.

CASA Support Council's Holiday Party



Thanks to the *CASA* Support Council and other community partners, 30 foster children with Court Appointed Special Advocates had a blast playing at Golf N' Stuff on Dec. 7. They also received a special visit from a certain jolly old elf.



Detention Holiday Decorating Contest



Our detention center staff tries to make the holidays a bit more bearable every year for those kids who are unable to be home. Not only do the kids get a special luncheon and input on their holiday meal, but they are encouraged to participate in an annual decoration contest. Every October, the kids in each of our five living units pick a theme and detention officers spend several weeks helping them fulfill their vision during their free time. Certificates are awarded to every unit in a variety of categories, including best tree, best wreath, etc. To see more pictures, check out our Facebook page.



Universal Truth No. 1 –
Children succeed when they are surrounded by adults who believe they can succeed, NO EXCEPTIONS.

Universal Truth No. 2 –
Children succeed when they have meaningful and sustainable relationships with caring adults.

Universal Truth No. 3 –
Children succeed when they can articulate their future in more than one destination. (Home & Family, Community & Service, Hobbies & Recreation, Education & Career)

PCJCC Communications Bulletin

Published periodically

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