

PATHWAYS TO HOPE

Ventura County Family Justice Center and Foundation



Camp HOPE America - Ventura County

Earlier this year, the Ventura County Family Justice Center Foundation Board pledged to raise funds to support the growth of the Camp HOPE America - Ventura County program that was first offered by the District Attorney's Office in 2015.

With the generous support of many sponsors, individual donors and volunteers, more than \$57,000 was raised to send the largest group of Ventura County campers, counselors, and adult staff to Camp Wasewagan at Lake Big Bear in August. The group of included 14 campers aged 7 – 11, 13 campers aged 12 – 17, 13 camp counselors, and 12 adult staff members. With this increased financial support, 10 additional campers were able to participate.

Public health guidelines for safety, care, and options were followed. Health screenings and COVID-19 testing were conducted before departure by a terrific team of medical and emergency services professionals.

On behalf of the campers and their loved ones, we thank all of the supporters of Camp HOPE - Ventura County for the wonderful opportunities and challenging experiences. The following sponsors merit special recognition:

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OXNARD SATELLITE UPDATE

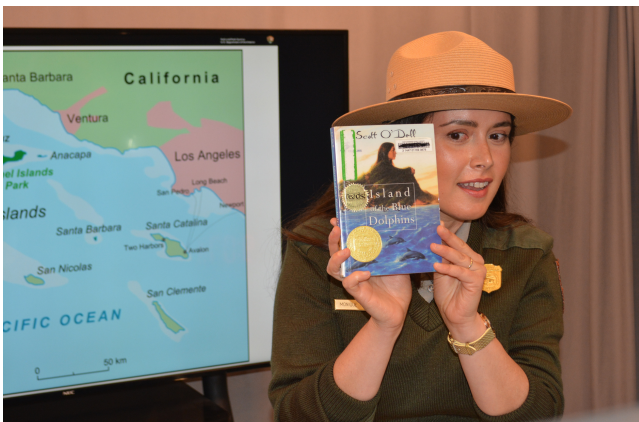
FACILITY DOGS

- Relating Revolution
- Ventura County District Attorney's Office
- Ventura County Deputy Sheriffs' Association
- VCMC Trauma Department / Anacapa Surgical Associates
- Ventura County Surgical Associates
- Landon Pediatric Foundation
- LiUNA Local 220 and Local 585
- Rotary Club of Ventura - East
- Gold Coast Health Plan
- Ventura County Credit Union
- Ferguson, Case, Orr, Paterson, LLP
- Westlake Women's Club
- Myers, Widders, Gibson, Jones & Feingold, LLP
- Pinkard Youth Institute
- Aava Dental
- Ventura Downtown Lions Club

Pathways to Promise

The central goal of our youth programs is to mitigate the impacts of trauma in our campers and reduce the risk of lives of perpetuated violence, victimization, incarceration, substance abuse, and other dysfunctions. In June, we were able to implement year-round Pathways to Promise programming and mentorship.

The children and teens have the opportunity to participate in monthly activities with counselors and adult staff mentors in activities designed to help them focus on achieving goals for their lives while exposing them to knowledge and experiences associated with nature, college prep, and STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Art, and Math). Online events have included a career talk with Dr. Thomas Duncan, Trauma Medical Director for the Ventura County Medical Center, creating a vision board with Michele Foster, an art teacher with the Bell Arts Factory, STEAM projects with KidSTREAM, and virtual tours for the Channel Islands National Park and Joshua Tree National Park with Education Specialist Monique Navarro.



The Ventura County program was developed by a college intern, Jupneet Singh, and Karen Simpson, the FJC Youth Programs Manager, supported by fellowships from the Priscilla King Gray Public Service Center at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT), the MIT Office of Minority Education – Black Alumni of MIT Community Advancement Fund, and The Baker Foundation at MIT.

A Community Thrives Competition

The VCFJC Foundation successfully competed in a fundraising campaign sponsored by the USA TODAY NETWORK



A Community Thrives initiative, which is part of the Gannett Foundation. Generous donor support resulted in a successful competition and the award of an \$8,400 local operating grant.

Oxnard FJC Satellite Project

California Assemblymember Jacqui Irwin sponsored a \$1 million funding proposal to support a satellite in Oxnard in the California 2021-22 Budget. Locating an appropriate site and discussing staffing to provide farmworker, indigenous, and monolingual Spanish-speaking communities with one-on-one legal, social, counseling, and victim advocacy services is underway with community stakeholders, survivors, FJC partners, and local officials is underway.

GivingTuesday is a global generosity movement, unleashing the power of people and organizations to transform their communities and the world.

Giving Tuesday - November 30th

Even in times of economic uncertainty, we each have a deep reserve of generosity, which we can deploy in myriad ways to make a difference--your time, your kindness, your skills, your voice are all things you can give in addition to charitable donations.

Toy Drive

The holiday season is fast approaching. We are looking for new, unwrapped toys to give out to children served at the Family Justice Center. We are working with the Spark of Love program and will also be accepting donations through Amazon. For more information on how you can help please contact us at info@VCFJCFoundation.onmicrosoft.com.



Above: Donations from last year's toy drive.

1 in 4 women and 1 in 7 men will experience domestic violence in their lifetime and we can all be part of the solution.

Keen on Canines

We are so happy that Trakr has joined us full-time at the Ventura County Family Justice Center to support and comfort victims and survivors, ease stress, and provide his especially cuddly empathy to our environment.



ABOUT US

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