

PROBATION NEWS

LA COUNTY PROBATION DEPUTIES SPREAD HOLIDAY CHEER

During the Holiday season, Los Angeles County Probation Department Deputies and staff members made their rounds throughout Los Angeles communities, spreading Holiday cheer and positively impacting the lives of their clients and LA County residents.

On December 14th, Chief Deputy Bettino, LA County Probation Officers, and neighboring law enforcement agencies participated in the National Latino Probation Officers Association's San Gabriel Valley chapter "Holiday Heroes event." They sponsored several children and took them on a Holiday shopping spree at Target. It was a fun-filled day for the children and a blessing to the parents, as most Probation Deputies were very generous and went above the suggested spending amount.



Chief Deputy Bettino and his shopping buddy



SDPO Roman and her shopping buddy



LA County Probation Deputies participate in the National Latino Probation Officers Associations San Gabriel Valley Chapter "Holiday Heroes" event.



LA County Probation Deputies Sponsor Youth on Target Shopping Spree



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"With the help of so many caring people, it is now possible for children to have a bright light during this already confusing, dark, and scary time in their lives," shared BHS Supervisor C. Guillermo. "This donation means they don't have to go without the magic of Christmas."



Transportation Officers Sanchez and Macias

On December 15th, under the coordination of DPO II Davenport, the Black Probation Officers Association concluded their Holiday toy drive. The South Bay Area Office served as "Toy Headquarters," and the Re-entry Opportunity Center, Probation Training Center, Transportation Headquarters, Rio Hondo, and Long Beach Area Offices were drop-off sites. All the donated toys were given to children residing with their parents in Behavior Health Services Residential Facilities.



AB-109 South Bay Area office Director Sanchez, DPO Davenport and BHS Supervisor Guillermo



DPOII Darwin Walker from the South Bay Area Office



Rio Hondo Area Office- Director Jeff Probasco and Staff



On December 17th, Los Angeles County Community Engagement Specialist Ms. Holts represented at LA County Parks After Dark Winter Wonderland at Amelia Mayberry Park in Whittier. Hundreds of adults and children visited the Department's booth. Ms. Holts passed out toys, beanies, and candy. Winter Wonderland is possible thanks to the generosity of the Los Angeles Department of Social Services, the Los Angeles County Department of Parks and Recreation, and the Los Angeles County Probation Department. Parks After Dark brings family, friends, neighbors, and communities together at their local park.



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AB-109 Deputies from the South LA Office adopted Estrella Elementary School. They visited every classroom and provided 490 students and 60 staff with sweet bread and toy-filled bags.

"It's about the kids and seeing the smiles on their faces. I want this to be something that we continue to do every year" shared SDPO Andrews. "Our office is on the same block as the school, so we reached out to them, and I'm ecstatic. I'm so proud of the staff, D.P.O. Logan, and Supervisor Mendez for putting this together."



AB 109 DPO gifts shoes to a student for the Holiday



Santa and South LA AB-109 DPOs pass out sweet treats to Estrella Elementary students



South LA Area Office AB-109 Deputies adopted Estrella Elementary School for the Holidays

The AB-109 DPOs also spread a little extra holiday cheer and provided seven students whose families fell on hard times with additional gifts, including toys, clothing, coats, shoes, and gift cards. The DPOs ended their visit with a pizza party for the entire school.

"Today is exciting, overwhelming, joyful, and wonderful. This event was made possible with donations from our staff and outside programs that believe in communities coming together," expressed DPO II Logan. "I believe that probation doing this for the school allows the community to see that we care about them, and we are here to walk alongside them and help them bring joy to families. I love that they can count on us."

This event was made possible by the generous donations of the South LA Area Office staff, Domino's Pizza, HR 360, and Northgate Market. It was a heartfelt occasion in South LA as the AB-109 Deputies gave back, served the community with compassion, and made the Holidays extra special for the students.

"It's about the kids and seeing the smiles on their faces. I want this to be something that we continue to do every year."
- SDPO Andrews



South LA AB-109 Deputies distributing goody bags to Estrella Elementary School classrooms



SDPO Andrews and Event Coordinator DPO II Logan



South LA AB109 DPOs go above and beyond gifting Estrella Elementary students clothing and toys for the Holidays



South LA AB-109 DPOs with Estrella Elementary School student thank you cards



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LA County Probation Deputies and Actor-Former California Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger



DPO II Raygoza has volunteered at Miracle on 1st Street for more than seven years



Actor Danny Trejo came to lend his support

On December 17th, several Los Angeles County Probation Department staff volunteered at the Hollenbeck Youth Center's annual production of "Miracle on 1st Street." Ten thousand toys were given away, and blocks of First Street in the city of Boyle Heights were closed so residents could enjoy the holiday spirit, fill their tummies with food, and enjoy entertainment, promotional items, and toys provided by local businesses. Celebrities Arnold Schwarzenegger and Danny Trejo also joined in on the fun and helped distribute toys to children.

This year's event was a huge success. Residents couldn't have been more joyful. Probation staff showed up and made meaningful contributions toward the happiness of local families.



LA County Probation Deputies facilitating entry into Miracle on 1st Street Toy Giveaway



Lots of goodies were donated for the annual event



LA County Probation DPO distributing entrance bracelets to children for the Miracle on 1st Street Toy Giveaway

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On December 20th, the Los Angeles County Probation Department's Mental Health Housing Court (MHHC) program Deputies hosted a Holiday celebration at First to Serve Housing, where eight clients and their children enjoyed an afternoon of fellowship and fun. The Deputies gave the children clothing and several toys of their choice, and lunch was provided by Tamales Liliانا's. Staff also provided the expecting Mothers with everyday essentials. The children were excited, and the mothers expressed sincere gratitude for the DPOs kind gestures. In total, the MHHC program collected and purchased more than 200 toys and 75 pieces of clothing. As a result, they distributed toys to 89 children at six different housing locations.



DPO II Perez, SDPO Ramirez, Director Estell, DPO Jones, DPO Washington, DPO Smith-Johnson, DPO Tucker

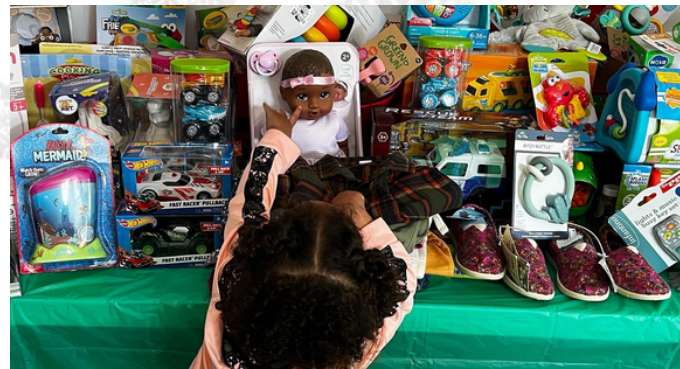


DPO IIs Correa and Ranson preparing to distribute toys



DPO II Perez, DPO Jones, DPO Washington, DPO Freeman, DPO Smith-Johnson, DPO Tucker, SDPO Ramirez, DPO Correa, DPO Shield, Director Estell

"This is a positive step to bridge the community gap and show them that we are not their enemies. We are here to help and assist them in being successful in life. It also sets an example for the kids that people care," shared DPO II Perez of the MHHC program. "It's the Holiday season, and if everyone does just a little bit, it's beautiful."



Toys and everyday essentials donated by the Mental Health Housing Court Program Deputies



Residents enjoying Holiday Lunch.

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East LA Area Office also hosted its Annual Holiday Toy Giveaway. Probation clients and community residents with children were invited to stop by and join in on the fun. At times, the toy line stretched for two blocks as recipients waited their turn to visit with Santa, enjoy a yummy snack, and select the toys of their choice. It was a great afternoon filled with the joy of the season. The California Highway Patrol also donated bags of toys for the giveaway.



Michael Aldanda (INVEST) SDPO Haibel, DPO II Perez (Santa), Dir Sec. Salas



Michael Aldanda (INVEST), SDPO Haibel, DPO II Whaley



A well served community



DPO II Mondragon, DPO II Perez, DPO II Davis



SDPO Arroyo, DPO II Peoples, Director Estell, DPO II Montavo, SDPO Pearson



Santa Monica Area Office Holiday Toy Drive

Over the last month, Santa Monica Area Office staff and community members generously donated toys and clothing for clients assigned to the Department's Gender Specific program. As a result, 23 families were provided children's clothing and toys as they visited the office. Santa Monica Area Office intentionally focused on women and children this Holiday season. All the recipients shared their gratitude, and the children left the office smiling from ear to ear.

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Los Angeles County Probation Department's Educational Pathway and Vocational Opportunities program (EPVO) collaborated with Soledad Enrichment Action, Inc and gave away two movie tickets to AMC theaters and a \$25 dollar gift card to Wingstop to 30 youth as gift incentive for the Holidays. The youth expressed their appreciation for the support received.



San Fernando Valley Regional Office's AB109 Deputies hosted a Holiday Toy Drive for clients that were in need with children, siblings, and grandchildren. The staff also celebrated the Holidays with tacos, a gift exchange and door prizes.



South Central Area Office Deputies organizing their Holiday toy giveaways

On December 20th, South Central Area Office's clerical staff and Deputy Probation Officers in the Adult CORE, SIT, Ascot, Juvenile Sealing, Supervision, Investigation, CCTP, Gang unit, Visto Volunteers, 685 Union members, and college interns also came together and donated and distributed toys to clients and community members.



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On Dec. 20th, members of the Special Enforcement Operations (SEO) – Prop 63 Compliance Team, led by Supervising Deputy Probation Officer Wade, participated in their yearly Adopt-A-Family Program through the Department of Public and Social Services.

The team sponsored two families in the South Los Angeles area. After concluding their regular compliance check duties, the team re-assembled to deliver the gifts to the families. The gifts were purchased with money donated by the SEO team members. DPO II Marzillier organized the event.



Also on the 20th, Behavior Management Program hosted a Winter Wonderland at Central Juvenile Hall for the Probation Staff. The staff had a festive time enjoying delicious food, soft drinks, dessert, and entertainment. We were able to accommodate and serve the entire facility which included our own staff and the deployed staff who continue to support us. The staff were appreciative of the food and the good cheer!



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During the Holidays, Pomona Valley Area Office Deputy Probation Officers Esqueda and Youngquist collaborated with the Pomona School District, Los Angeles County Chicano Employee Association, and Locals 685 and 721 to secure donations of daily essentials, blankets, toys, and gift cards. And on December 2nd, the DPOs and hundreds of children and their families gathered at Pomona Village Academy, where they were treated to a holiday meal with all the trimmings, took pictures with Santa and were given jumbo bags loaded with goodies inside. The children were ecstatic, and the parents were grateful for our officers.

The Pomona Valley Area office's Clerical staff and Adult CORE Deputies also adopted a family for the Holidays. They hosted a 50/50 raffle to provide a cash gift for the family and delivered toys and household essentials to them for the Holidays. The Mother expressed her gratitude to the staff for allowing her baby, who is four years old, to have a fantastic Christmas.



Community members taking pictures with Santa



Gifts were donated for clients and community members



Pomona Valley Area Office Staff volunteered at Pomona Village Academy assisting at providing meals for families in need.



Continuing to exude the spirit of the Holiday season, the Los Angeles County Probation Department's Valencia Juvenile Area Office donated to "Family Promise." Family Promise is a community-based organization that provides shelters with meals and support services to pregnant women and families who are experiencing or facing homelessness. The office also partnered with the Antelope Valley Team of the Concerned Black Men of Los Angeles (CBMLA) and provided Holiday Meal Gift Cards to families in the area.



Director Probasco and Deputy Director Giron dropping of toys to the House of Ruth

The CORE Bureau Management team and Rio Hondo Area Office staff also donated toys to the Ruth House, a Domestic Violence Shelter providing services to women and their families, and the Foley House, a residential treatment facility for women with children.



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The week of Christmas, Barry J. Nidorf Juvenile Hall transformed into a Winter Wonderland for the youth and staff. Beautiful Winter decor adorned both the gym and visiting center. Holiday music filled the air, and the youth laughed, fellowshiped, indulged in sweet treats, and engaged with the staff at various activity stations. The most popular attractions were the faux snow machine, photos with Santa, card-making for families, the root beer float table, and the hot cocoa station.

"The youth were very thankful. They said they never had anything like this and were very appreciative," Behavior Management Program Supervisor McCrimmon shared. "There were no incidents. The kids and the staff enjoyed it. We are just trying to bring something different to the halls."

The BJNJH Behavior Management Program also showed their appreciation to staff by hosting an international cuisine Holiday luncheon. "This was important to do this for the staff and try to lift the facility's morale," said Supervisor McCrimmon. "We all work together, and we must come together. I love doing stuff like this, working with people, and I hope that it will be contagious." Santa and his elves also stopped by the luncheon to express gratitude to the Officers and staff.

It was an amazing week at BJNJH. The youth enjoyed fun Holiday activities, and the staff was celebrated for their commitment and dedicated service in 2022.



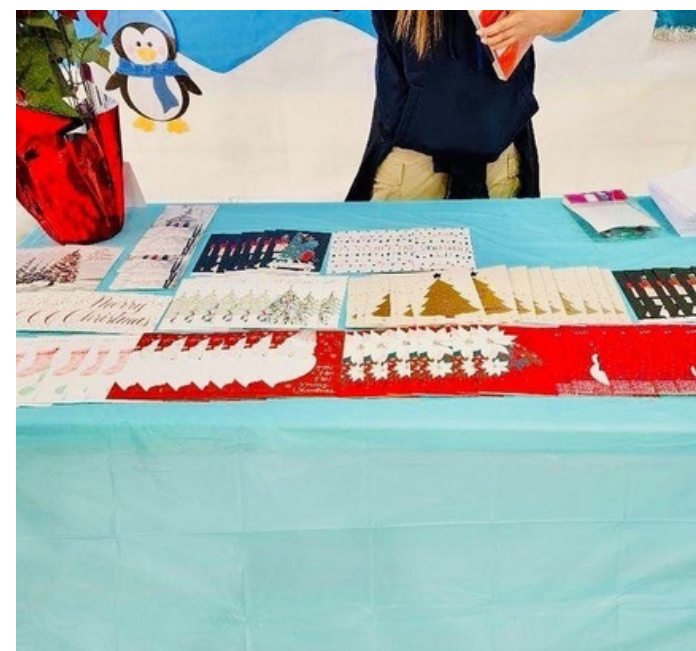
BJNJH Staff enjoying the Winter Wonderland Holiday Luncheon



BJNJH Staff enjoy a international cuisine luncheon with a Winter Wonderland theme



Faux Snow welcomes the youth into the Winter Wonderland



Youth card -making station



BJNJH Detention Services Officers preparing the youth Rootbeer float station at Winter Wonderland

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Just like BJNH, other Supervisors also took a moment to celebrate and honor the hard-working staff members of the LA County Probation Department. On December 14th, Dorothy Kirby Center and Camp Scott Supervisors hosted their annual Holiday staff luncheon. DPO II Johnson (program coordinator) and her team did a fantastic job decorating and providing a harmonious holiday atmosphere. The day consisted of holiday music and comfort food. The luncheon allowed Probation staff, Clerical staff, the Department of Mental Health, LA County Office of Education, and Juvenile Court Health Services to join in fellowship. The Antelope Valley and Valencia Juvenile Area Offices also kicked off the holiday season by celebrating with the DPOs, Clerical staff, and Managers. Centinela Area Office hosted an Ugly Holiday Sweater Luncheon, and the Office's AB-109 and CORE units hosted a Hot Cocoa bar for the team.



Dorothy Kirby Center staff celebrating the holidays: DPO II Johnson, DPO Williams, DPO Uy, DPO II Newson, DPO II Smith



DMH clinician Dr. Falcon, DPO Magallanes, DPO Hernandez, DPO Allen



DMH clinician Cunningham, DMH clinician Aguilar



DPO Salazar, DPO Hidalgo, DPO II Newson and DPO UY serving lunch



SDPO Doyle, SDPO Carrington, SDPO Myers



Antelope Valley and Valencia Juvenile Area Offices holiday luncheon



Centinela Area Office



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Finally, Central Juvenile Hall held a Holiday Decorating Contest. The winning decorators will receive a celebratory party in early 2023. Expert judges SDSA Thompson, SDPO Chacon-Rios, Secretary II Reyes, and Senior Secretaries Herrera, and Lombera conferred and decided on five Units as the winners. In the Specialized Unit category, congratulations go to Units A & B, and in the General Population category, Unit D, Unit P, and Unit Q were recognized. Congratulations to all the units for showing their holiday spirit!



Expert judges search for the winning holiday decorations



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Antelope Valley and Valencia Juvenile Area Offices



SDPO McCrimmon leading everyone in a dance break during BJJNH Winter Wonderland



Santa's helper Transportation Deputy Macias



Dorothy Kirby Center DPO Collins, DPO Torres



DPO Jones preparing lunch for residents of the MHHC



DPO II Newsome at Miracle on 1st St.

Thank you to all the Offices that acknowledged your staff's hard work and dedication. It made the holiday special. Moreover, thank you to everyone that coordinated and contributed to the success of all the Holiday toy, clothing, food drives, and community events. Through your commitment to giving back, you strengthened the relationship between Probation Deputies and their clients; Probation and other county agencies; Probation and the Office of Diversion and Re-entry providers; and Probation and the community.

The Deputies and staff members dedicated their time and professionally represented our department with their ambassadorship and kindred spirits of service. Los Angeles County is very fortunate to have such compassionate staff vested in the people and the welfare of the local communities they serve.

Happy Holidays and Happy New Year to each of you!



Parks After Dark



Gift cards donated by Pomona Valley Area Office Staff



Probation SEO-Prop 63 bring on the toys



Director Probasco assembling toys for the Ruth House



South LA AB-109 DPOs preparing to distribute toys



Gender-Specific DPO II Montavo gifting clothes for the Holiday.



San Fernando Valley Regional Office





Merry Christmas

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