

Riverside County
Youth Commission

2009-2010 Term

Fourth District Annual Report

<p style="text-align: center;">RIVERSIDE COUNTY FOURTH DISTRICT YOUTH ADVISORY COUNCIL ANNUAL REPORT 2009-2010</p>

The Fourth District Youth Advisory Council (YAC) identifies youth related concerns and issues that specifically address the fourth district. YAC is comprised of a representative student body from: La Quinta, Palo Verde, Desert Christian, Xavier Prep, and Palm Desert High Schools.

Listed are accomplishments by the Fourth District Youth Advisory Council of 2009-2010. Thank you for your continued support and dedication of youth in our county.

- **12th Annual Youth Retreat-July 2009**

This year's Youth Commission Annual Retreat was held in Desert Hot Springs with John Vandenberg as key note speaker. John focused on building leadership, communication and team building skills. Council members also participated in a jeopardy game which quizzed them on the Brown Act, the Youth Laws Booklet and the rules and regulations of the Youth Commission. Youth Advisory Council members also had a chance to discuss ideas for the upcoming Youth Summit.

- **Fourth District Inaugural Meeting-September 2009**

At the first meeting for the Fourth District Youth Advisory Council, members picked three goals that they would like to work on for the year, their goals were: Help the Homeless, help in the fight against substance abuse, and to provide more activities bridging the gap between the young and elderly. Elections for the 09-10 officers took place at this meeting as well, the results were:

Coachella Valley: Brandi Lucrecio- Commissioner, Jonny Rohrbaugh- Co-Commissioner, Cassandra Santimaria- Secretary, Raine Armstrong- Parliamentarian, and Briana Jakell- Youth Summit Representative.

Blythe: Dylan Walsh- Commissioner, Marysol Perez- Peralta- Co-Commissioner, Brittany Navarro- Secretary, Adam Kehl- Parliamentarian, Monica Bullock- Youth Summit Representative

- **YAC Member Recruitment-September 2009**

YAC members hosted Fourth District Youth Advisory Council recruitment boots at their schools throughout the month of September to encourage high school students to participate in the council. Through this recruitment the Fourth District Youth Advisory Council added 13 more members to its roster for the 2009-2010 term.

- **Adopt a Senior-September 2009**

YAC members went to the Blythe Senior Care Center to spend the afternoon with a Senior Citizen. YAC members played games, help write letters, and made arts and crafts with their senior friend.

- **Relay for Life at La Quinta High School-October 2009**

YAC members volunteered at Relay for Life held at La Quinta High School which is an annual fundraising event hosted by the American Cancer Society. YAC members helped out with registration, handing out T-shirts, and passed out cancer prevention literature.

- **“Trick or Treating” for Canned Goods-October 2009**

YAC members visited the Palo Verde Library to read to elementary age children. YAC members decided to have a fantasy theme for their story time and only read fantasy stories. YAC members separated into three groups and each group read two stories to the kids that attended this event.

- **Give thanks. Walk! St. Jude Children’s Hospital Fundraiser-November 2009**

YAC members volunteered and raised funds to help support the St. Jude Children’s Hospital. YAC members asked friends, family, and community members to donate and were able to successfully raise \$80 for this event. Blythe YA members participated by collecting recyclables and donated the money to St. Jude’s. During the event YAC members were route guides for the walking participants at the event, assisted with refreshments, passed out St. Jude’s literature, and greeted the participants as they crossed the finish line.

- **For the Children Toy Drive & Holiday Party-November/December 2009**

The Fourth District Youth Advisory Council collected over 130 toys, wrapped them and gave them to children living in foster care at their annual holiday party. In addition to providing gifts YAC members provided a cookie decorating and an arts and crafts table.

- **Game Night at Hadley Senior Center-January 2010**

YAC members hosted a game night at the Hadley Senior Living Center in La Quinta. YAC members provided pizza and drinks and played BINGO and Wii with the residents.

- **Riverside County Fair and National Date Festival Battle of the Bands-February 2010**

YAC members organized and selected 5 bands to compete for \$1,000 at the inaugural Date Festival Battle of the bands. YAC members keep the event running smoothly, assisted the judges, emcee, bands, and helped present the awards.

- **Riverside County Fair and National Date Festival High School Competition-February 2010**

YAC members organized the inaugural Date Festival High School Competition. Five High Schools located in the 4th and 5th districts competed to be the “best” high school in the desert area. YAC members selected the games, were referees, and awarded the winning school with trophies.

- **Easter Basket Supplies Drive-March 2010**

During the month of March Youth Advisory Council members hosted an Easter Basket drive to give to children at the Coachella Valley Rescue Mission. YAC members collected candies, baskets, plastic Easter eggs, and so much more. All of the Easter baskets were assembled and passed out to children at the Coachella Valley Rescue Mission on Easter Sunday.

- **Mecca’s Day of the Child-April 2010**

On Wednesday, April 28th YAC members volunteered at the Mecca Day of the Child event. At this event many local organizations and County departments provided information and services for families and children. At this event YAC members recruited new members, assisted with clean up, passed out information of the Riverside County Fourth District.

- **Recruitment**

Recruitment for the Fourth District Youth Advisory Council is ongoing through the end of the term and summer. Council members provided contact information of students they recommended for next year’s council. Youth Advisory Council members were asked to bring potential applicants to projects and meetings during the end of the term. Our council is promoted through the media, letters to school officials, and word of mouth

General Recommendations:

- Continue inviting Supervisor Benoit to meetings
- Continue to host innovative community service projects
- Establish better methods of communication with members
- Recruit members from all high school in the fourth district
- More presentations from community organizations
- Continue council’s positive attitude
- Hold more events with the other Youth Advisory Council Districts