

## Dimondale News



### Dimondale Adolescent Care Facility becomes a CARF Accredited Organization

This accreditation decision is awarded to organizations that, on balance, demonstrate that the persons served are benefiting from the services. An organization receiving a One-Year Accreditation has put itself through a rigorous peer review process and has demonstrated to a team of surveyors during an on-site visit that it is committed to conforming to CARF's accreditation conditions and standards. Furthermore, an organization accredited for one year shows progress toward conformance to CARF standards and is commended in its quest for quality programs and services.

CARF is an independent, nonprofit accrediting body whose mission is to promote the quality, value, and optimal outcomes of services through a consultative accreditation process that centers on enhancing the lives of the persons served. Founded in 1966 as the Commission on Accreditation of Rehabilitation Facilities, and now known as CARF, the accrediting body establishes consumer-focused standards to help organizations measure and improve the quality of their programs and services.

### Looking Forward in 2017

Dimondale Adolescent Care Facility is meeting the challenges presented by the Continuum of Care Reform (CCR) legislation in Sacramento that dramatically alters the way we deliver quality services to the youth and families we serve. Our Board of Directors, in collaboration with the management team, and with the support of our many external Stakeholders such as LA County Out-of-Home Care Division, and California Community Care Licensing, has embarked on a complete redesign of our program to meet the new standards for improving outcomes. Some key points of our Strategic Plan for 2017 follow:

- **GOAL #1 - Continue Operating as an RCL 12 Grouphome while Transitioning to a Short Term Residential Treatment Program**
  - Increase Communication and Participation for Board
  - Maintain current Board of Directors
  - Transition to STRTP
  - Implement Continuous Quality Improvement; Data Collection, Analysis and Review
- **GOAL #2 - Maintain current contracts with Los Angeles County and prepare for new STRTP contracts**
  - Hire and retain qualified personnel in sufficient numbers for STRTP Requirements
  - Ensure that professional staff is properly licensed
  - Ensure that we are a safe and contractually compliant agency
  - Ensure safe vehicles that meet regulation standards
- **GOAL #3 - Provide Excellent Service to all Stakeholders**
  - Use CQI techniques to improve Service to Stakeholders
  - Continue to provide 24-hour Trauma-Informed Residential Treatment Services to children and non-dependent minors 12-19 years old who have a history of abuse, neglect, CSEC, LGBTQT and/or Law Enforcement or Family Services impacted families.
  - Ensure safety of all stakeholders is a priority
  - Ensure safety of residents by maintaining drug and weapon free facility
  - All residents will feel comfortable even if they have individual differences
  - Residents will report a bond or relationship between themselves and at least one staff member.
  - Clients will remain in this placement for a minimum of six months.
  - The program will maintain high expectations for persons served
- **GOAL #4 - Increase probability of successful emancipation**

- Transition Age Residents will complete their school program with a diploma
- Transition Age Residents will either enroll in post-secondary education, enlist in an apprenticeship, ILP, or military program, or demonstrate Job Readiness when they have completed the facility program
- Residents taught how to resolve emotional conflicts that hinder success
- Residents will learn healthy eating patterns
- **GOAL #5 - Organization Will meet Legal Obligations for Confidentiality of Records of Persons Served**
  - Implement Electronic Health Records System
  - Agency will ensure confidentiality of identifiable records

## Enrichment Program

Now in its 5th year, our Enrichment Program continues to provide youth with the opportunity to achieve success through participation of various enrichment courses.

Guest Instructor, Ms. Floria Smith has volunteered to conduct our life skills class: addressing resident picked topics has created a stronger connection between the real world experience and academic learning. This technique enhances their critical thinking skills while better preparing them for the challenges they may encounter in school and their career. The goal is to teach the youth the skills they need and to support them through working on lifelong goals.



## The Links Legacy Luncheon



The residents had the opportunity to attend the Legacy Luncheon held by Palos Verdes Chapter, The Links Incorporated, an international organization that started in Philadelphia 70 years ago and in the South Bay in 1982. The event was held at the Marriott Hotel in Torrance, CA. The Chapter's first honoree was Dr. Andrea Hayes-Jordan, the first African-American woman to become a pediatric cancer surgeon. The second honoree was Timothy Watkins Sr., the fourth president and CEO of the Watts Labor Community Action Committee (WLCAC). The third honoree was Korin Huggins, head of television for Will Packer Productions.

She was a co-executive producer for the remake of "Roots," which aired in 2016. Listening to the smooth sounds of jazz music and eating delicious food, the residents received encouraging words and were able to see examples of hard work and dedication from Honoree's and other guest that were in attendance. An afternoon of class, fun, and jazz for the residents of Dimondale!

The residents attended the 1st Annual Compton Woodley Airport "Woodley's Wings & Wheels Open House and STEM Expo Event" March 11, 2017. The residents engaged with aircraft displays and civilian fly-bys. They also enjoyed the various foods served by local Vendors, in addition to entertainment and music. Guest speakers included the Experimental Aviation Association, Van Wagner Aerial Media, The Coast Guard, The Los Angeles Sheriff Department, The Los Angeles County Fire Department, and the branches of the US Military. It was entertainment for all ages!



### *Ms. Verrett's Corner*

Hello All!

During Administrative and staff meetings, pamphlets and flyers will occasionally be displayed on the white table in the right-hand corner of the training room; announcing upcoming events in the community, helpful tips on conservation, coupons and discounts to local restaurants and family fun centers. Please feel free to grab one!

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