



COUNTY OF YOLO

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National Volunteer Week

(Woodland, CA) – The Yolo County Board of Supervisors recently recognized, as part of National Volunteer Week activities April 27 through May 3, over ten volunteer programs at the Juvenile Detention Facility (JDF) that provide community outreach to minors in detention. The Yolo County Probation Department provides for the care and custody more than 1,500 youth annually that have been brought to the JDF. These youth benefit greatly from a solid group of volunteers who provide much needed guidance, comfort, and simple companionship.

Groups recognized by the Yolo County Board of Supervisors included the Holy Rosary Volunteers (Juvenile Hall Ministry) and Bakers, American River Narcotics Anonymous, Alcoholics Anonymous, the Yolo County Sexual Assault and Domestic Violence Center and eight local churches of various denominations.

The Yolo County Probation Department further honored these volunteers on April 30 at their 9th Annual Volunteer Appreciation Dinner. At this event the Holy Rosary Bakers were especially acknowledged and were given an apron with the logo, “Proud Baker for the JDF.” Yolo County Chief Probation Officer, Don Meyer, presented a special award to Jim Hutchinson, retired Chairperson of the Juvenile Justice & Delinquency Commission (JJDC). Superintendent Ray Simmons presented former Chief Probation Officer, Melton Losoya, with a Visionary Award of Appreciation.

The names of those who have long served as Juvenile Hall Ministry volunteers are inscribed on the Mary Giovannetti Distinguished Award plaque which is on display at the detention facility. The volunteers who had their names added this year to the plaque were: Kathryn “Pete” Hare, Irene Hannum, Peggy Gorman, Devere Garner, James and Helen Brown, Rose Stackpole, the late Carol Griffin, Marge Bakay, Mary Lackey, Lourdes Sadanaga, Libby Burmester, Pat Dinwiddie and Muriel Matta.

The event was attended by Supervisor Mariko Yamada; Dorothy Montgomery, JJDC Chairwoman; Charlotte Beal, JJDC Vice-Chairwoman and GED Literacy Program Coordinator; and Katie Villegas, Executive Director of the Yolo County Children’s Alliance. Also in attendance were West Sacramento City Council Member Oscar Villegas; Tracie Olson, Yolo County Chief Deputy Public Defender; Allison Zuvela, Assistant Chief Deputy Public Defender; and Susan Cassady, Program Administrator of the Yolo County Office of Education. Additionally Jenni Pareas, Agricultural Advisor for the Future Farmers of America (FFA) program, and four Pioneer High School FFA Chapter students acted as assistant hostesses at this event.

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Picture: Bakers are (left to right), Lois Espigares, Evelyn Lombardi, and Alma Shapnack.