



Texas Community Service Association

Sentenced to Serve

TCSA's Quarterly e-Newsletter

October-December 2017

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El Paso County JPD

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Jeff Lee

Liberty County CSCD

Joby McDaniel

Cass County CSCD

Greetings,

Well another year has gone by and we will soon be entering 2018; a new year to reflect on our past year, past experiences, and we welcome new faces, new challenges, and opportunities. The Texas Community Service Association would like to thank everyone who made our 22nd Annual Texas Community Service Association a success! Our conference was held in the beautiful tourist town of New Braunfels, TX. We could not have done this without the help of our Conference Chair Mandi Jakubowski, owner of Lonestar Safety. Ms. Jakubowski serves as our Fundraiser Chair on our TCSA board, and did a wonderful job chairing this conference. The community of New Braunfels provided great hospitality! As many of you know, it takes the support of your community to make a successful conference. For the first time in TCSA's history; the local Girl Scout Troup 1234 presented the colors. Our Keynote Speaker, Representative John Kuempel from District 44 provided TCSA with a warm welcome to New Braunfels.

A big thank you goes out to all of Vendors who made it out to the 22nd Annual Conference; Big Bros Garage, Lonestar Safety, Texas Ramps Project, and Shoreline, Inc. Thank you to Pegasus for your contribution to this conference. Thanks to all our JPD and CSCD departments for sending us some new members. We only grow as an organization, with the help of our existing members and new members. As you know, we live in an ever changing society. This influences our culture in so many ways. TCSA is a diverse group of individuals consisting of JPD, CSCD, Parole, Law Enforcement, Independent School Districts, and non-profitable organizations. Being able to connect with so many throughout our state is an opportunity to bring back new ideas on community service, special projects, and most importantly how we interact with one another. I'm thankful and blessed to have been a part of this group since 2012 and am looking forward to the planning of our 23rd Annual Conference to be hosted in the historical, legendary, and beautiful city of San Antonio, Texas. Our last conference in the city of San Antonio was back in 2012. We are excited that our Conference Chair Pete Gonzales, Bexar County JPD CSR Supervisor will be hosting this conference along with Rita Garcia, CSCD Assistant Chief as she will also be assisting as co-conference chair. Stay tune for more information to come!

Brenda Garcia

TCSA President

Welcome New Board Members



Jeff Lee ~ Liberty County Community Service Corrections Department



Mr. Lee is the Community Service Specialist for Liberty County CSCD and was re-elected to serve a three year term.

Senae Davidson ~ Victoria County Juvenile Services



Ms. Davidson is a Juvenile Probation Officer for Victoria County Juvenile Services and will serve a three year team and serve as TCSA's Secretary.

Joby McDaniel ~ Cass County Community Supervision Corrections Department



Mr. McDaniel serves as the Community Service Specialist for Cass County CSCD and will serve a two year term.

Congrats to our newest board members!

Advisory Committee

The TCSA Advisory Committee will serve a two year term and will assist TCSA Board member's with the planning and coordinating of future conferences. We are excited to have this group!



Lillian Byas, Bexar County JPD

Chris Shirley, Gregg County JPD

Santos Aguilar, Gillespie County CSCD

Congrats to our Advisory Committee!

The Texas Community Service Association (TCSA) is a recognized 501(c)(6) non-profit corporation in the State of Texas. It began operations in 1995 and was incorporated on March 18, 2008. It exists for the explicit purpose of promoting the effective development and administration of community service restitution programs.

Projects

2017 Grand Marshall's Award "Ghost Ship"

Sponsored and built by Challenge Academy



For the 7th year in a row, the El Paso County Juvenile Probation Department- Samuel F. Santana Challenge Academy Post-Adjudication Correctional Facility collaborated with Juvenile's along with their families, and Explorer Staff built this float in the traditional Thanksgiving Parade.

El Paso Continues

“CHANCE – JPD THERAPY DOG”

The El Paso County Juvenile Probation Department was established in 1950 with the opening of the first Juvenile Detention Facility in the State of Texas, to work with at-risk youth in the community. The Department has always been innovative and looking for ways to enhance the services provided, so the idea of a Therapy Dog for the Challenge Academy was not inconceivable. Therapy animals are known for improving social, emotional and mental functioning in youth. Detailed and developed interventions are often based on the premise that by focusing on the animal and its needs, the individual's attention is drawn away from their own problems.

A wide range of mental health conditions are now treated with pet therapy. Interaction with animals is considered beneficial for individuals with post-traumatic stress disorder, autism and other challenging psychiatric disorders. Research reflects the beneficial effects of animals on children suffering from mental illness and depression. Vulnerable children and adults have benefitted from animal therapy in numerous residential settings throughout the country; to include Massachusetts Department of Corrections, The Joseph Harp Center in Oklahoma, The Kit Carson Center in Colorado and the Assisted Living Home in Bryan College Station, Texas; to name a few.

Ms. Meryem H. Martinez of the City of El Paso Animal Services - their Animal Training & Enrichment Coordinator, met with the Juvenile Probation Department and explained the Maddie's fund grant program, "Train a Shelter Pet Hero". It all came together – the right program, at the right time and the right place.

Ms. Martinez was walking through the Animal Services lobby one day and noticed a man and his son with a beautiful, white Great Pyrenees dog. While petting the dog, she began to talk with the man and found out they were returning it since it had no training and had been too rough with his son. Immediately recognizing the gentle and calm disposition of this breed, Meryem knew it would be a great dog for the Juvenile Probation Department's Challenge Academy. She began fostering and training the dog in basic commands and informed JPD that she had found the perfect fit. After training the dog, she spent the next 7 weeks at the Department introducing, training, and educating the youth on how to care for a pet.

During those 7 weeks, the Challenge Academy Cadets submitted essays on naming the dog and 2 essays were chosen that included the name "Chance", a very appropriate name for a dog in a program designed around *second chances*.



2017 Conference Highlights!!!



Keynote Speaker ~ Representative John Kuempel, District 44



Girl Scout Troup 1234



Chaplain Nathaniel Wehling

TCSA gives back to the Community!

Comal County Animal Shelter



2018 TCSA Conference

2018 TCSA Conference information to come, don't forget to visit us on our Facebook page and be sure to check out our new website.

www.texascommunityservice.com

Happy Holiday's from TCSA!

