

Community NOW

EMPOWERMENT THROUGH KNOWLEDGE

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Tea Talk

Are you ready for happiness in a cup of tea? Because it's tea time! This April 23rd Community Now is hosting our first annual Get Plugged In Tea Fundraiser. Join us at Bear Valley Elementary School at tea 'o clock (11 am- 1pm) to celebrate and raise funds for our students' end of the year party and for our annual city-wide Anti-Bully March. We will be highlighting the amazing activities that the Student Leadership Teams are engaging in weekly at their school sites. We have invited the students to volunteer at the event and we are happy to say that they will be there.

We hope you enjoy your tea with a pinch of sugar and a whole lot of excitement! There will be \$1 raffles, door prizes, performances by our teams, and other fun activities. On top of all these activities, we will be holding a "Fancy Hat" contest. Come on by with your craziest, silliest, fanciest hat and you will be entered in the running for a prize! But wait, SEATING IS LIMITED! Purchase your tea ticket today, either online at <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/the-get-plugged-in-tea-fundraiser-tickets-23279123485> or by calling our offices. We are so enthusiastic to see you there to support our amazing young students.

Did You Know?

Did you know that 90% of 4th through 8th graders report being victims of bullying? A percentage that large is almost unbelievable, but unfortunately, it is the harsh truth. As a result, victims of bullying exhibit a range of responses and behaviors including: low self-esteem, difficulty controlling anger, difficulty in trusting others, lack of assertiveness, misplaced aggression, and isolation. We know this and that is WHY we do what we do. Community Now works with children in local elementary schools through a Student Leadership Program. Our goal? To instill mental wellness, self-love, self-acceptance, empowerment, leadership, and teamwork within these thriving young children.

By now, you keep hearing about our Student Leadership Teams and how amazing they are; how driven and determined they are; how influential to their peers they have become and are continuing to become; how much we admire their strive for bettering themselves and their community. We can't stop talking about them! They are so important to us because in the short amount of time we have been with them, they have truly developed within themselves and towards others.

Before we went on break, our youth overcame adversity and labels. They engaged in activities that made them realize how truly wonderful and unique each and every one of them is. The labels people give them do not define who they are. The adversity that stands in their way does not limit their capability to grow and overcome hardships. These lessons are all about strengthening mental wellness; because how can you support others, teach others, or love others until you can accept yourself? We presented our SLTs with a number of "famous failures"- extremely successful, universally known individuals who faced failure before success.

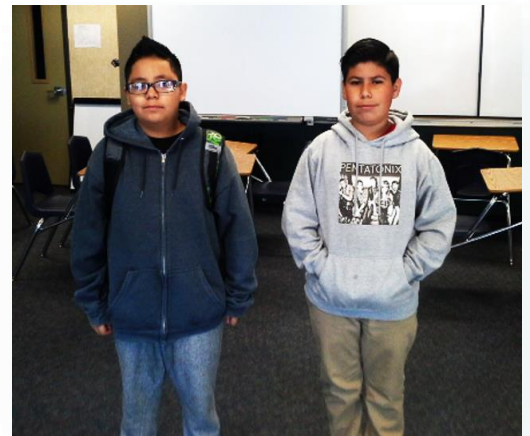
Did you know Michael Jordan, one the most decorated players in the NBA, was cut from his high school basketball team for "lack of skill?"

Did you know Walt Disney, creator of Disney characters, of Disneyland, was fired from a newspaper for "lacking imagination" and having "no original ideas?"

Failures do not define us! What we do as a result of those failures, how we choose to respond to those failures, is what makes us leaders. Our students have learned the importance of this concept and are maturing right before our eyes. For this, we celebrate their greatness!

In April's issue:

- ❖ First Annual Tea Fundraiser
- ❖ Student Leadership Teams
- ❖ Peace March
- ❖ National Youth Violence Prevention
- ❖ Anti-Bullying March outreach



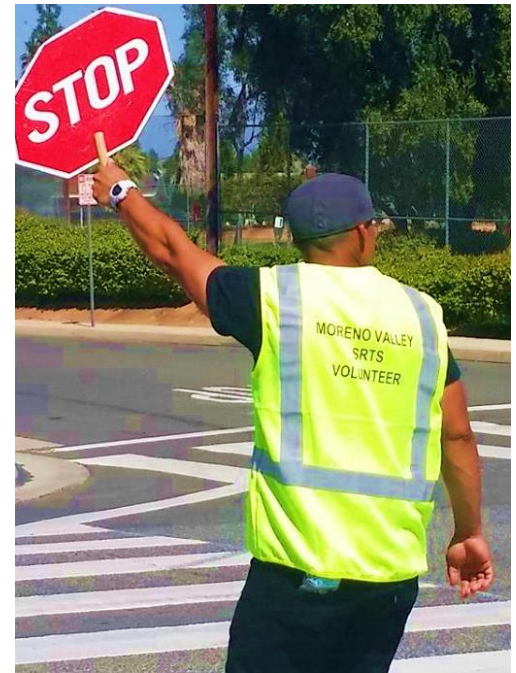


What Are We Up To?

If you've been wondering what we've been up to, here it is! Last month, we were lucky enough to attend a Peace March hosted by Victory Outreach in Moreno Valley. We had such a memorable time marching and rallying for peace and love within our city. Thank you to Victory Outreach for a great, successful event! At the event, Community Now was able to teach community members how to instill street safety. It was such a great time seeing our own community members engaging, hands on! Nothing says "WE LOVE OUR CITY" like keeping it safe!

On May 28th, we've planned to take our SLTs to Moreno Valley's Community Clean up. We're excited to rake, shovel, and clean alongside our friends and families, in the city we love! Suit up in some comfortable clothes and come and join us in making a difference.

We've saved the best for last! That's right. Our Anti-Bullying March and Rally is coming up. Our team has been working endlessly on organizing this March/Rally for the city of Moreno Valley. We are ready to speak out and stand up against bullying! Aside from the march, we have and are continuing to organize exciting activities, set up booths for the information fair, gather raffle prizes, and more! You will not want to miss out. Mark your calendars, Moreno Valley. June 4th at 9am-1pm. Meet us at VFW on 22616 Alessandro St. to show our support for anti-bullying, and to show those bullies that we are STRONGER than they think!



Connect with Us!

Contact our office: (951) 333-9965
or click the icons and connect with us online!



"All the adversity I've had in my life, all my troubles and obstacles, have strengthened me... You may not realize it when it happens, but a kick in the teeth may be the best thing in the world for you."

~ Walt Disney