



Montebello Unified School District Safe Schools/Healthy Students Grant Initiative

Upcoming Activities

October 6	California Wellness Conference
October 7	School Site Coordinators Meeting
October 8	Department of Probation Meeting
October 15 10:15 A.M.	Great California Shake-Out (earthquake drill)
October 16	Mental Health Providers Meeting
October 19	Too Good for Drugs Training
October 19	Element Working Group Meeting
October 29	ATOD Coordinator Meeting

Newsletter

October 2009

One More Way the Safe Schools/Healthy Students Grant Initiative is Enhancing District Services....

Good news for the District, its students, parents and teachers! A new Deputy Probation Officer who will work out of the Montebello School Police Department has been added as an additional resource thanks to the SS/HS Grant.

Meet Liliana Anda, one of the District's newest hires under the grant. Ms. Anda comes to the District through the L.A. County Department of Probation. Her excellent qualifications will aid the District in monitoring the behavior, attendance and school performance of youngsters on formal probation. "Lilly" Anda describes her work as one of prevention, intervention and suppression and her caseload of 75 students will entail involving students' families in the process to achieve success. With their cooperation and involvement, her goal is to ensure that each probation student has an opportunity to finish high school and move on to higher education and/or solid productivity in today's workplace.

With regard to monitoring probation students, Ms. Anda will look to a community of resources by networking with other school officials, counselors, teachers, mental health practitioners and District police officers. In this regard, she will work closely with Lt. John Ortega, coordinating evaluations, in-home drug testing if necessary, and riding with patrol officers to establish safe passage to and from school.

As part of establishing comprehensive case plans for each probationer, Ms. Anda will be seeing them every month in order to enforce compliance with the terms and conditions of their particular probation agreement. She must be in a position to take quick and corrective action in the event there are violations. She is a firm believer in being of service to a minor's entire family, often directing them to various resources and providers that are right on school campuses. Ms. Anda is happy to find that the District has outstanding services for students and parents, thereby alleviating the need to travel long distances to receive assistance.

Despite a heavy caseload, riding patrol with officers, meeting with families, Ms. Anda says she will attempt to be in multiple schools on certain days to furnish whatever resources are required. She encourages anyone with probation concerns or in need of certain services to contact the Montebello School Police Department; she and an officer will work to resolve those concerns.

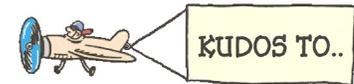
Lilly Anda comes by her passion for probation services naturally it seems. Even at the tender age of 15, she was volunteering in probation offices. She followed that with earning a B.A. in Criminal Justice from San Diego University. Her subsequent probation department duties included a stint in juvenile hall and working at a boys' camp, after which she was promoted to fieldwork. Ms. Anda has extensive experience working with juvenile gangs in a supervisory role. And now she is eagerly anticipating a Masters in Criminal Justice from Long Beach University next spring.

The District is extremely fortunate to have such a qualified and experienced Deputy Probation Officer come on board to help achieve the goals it has set for its probation minors. Please give a big welcome to Liliana Anda!!

For additional information

Contact Michael Cobarrubias, Grant Director
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www.spsg-software.com/montebello



Diana Raya, Head Start Program Specialist

For more than 30 years MUSD has been the recipient of Diana Raya's expertise and dedication. She came to the District fresh out of student teaching and began teaching 5th grade bilingual studies at Suva Intermediate School. She then became resource teacher and project director at Bandini Elementary. Currently Diana serves as Program Specialist for the district-wide Head Start Program.

Her education began at California State University in Long Beach with a B.A. in Liberal Studies and in 1982, Diana earned a Master of Arts in Education degree with an emphasis in Educational Administration. She is the quintessential career educator and the District lauds her many years of professional service.

Diana facilitates the Mental Health, Health/Nutrition, and Disabilities components of the Head Start Program in addition to supervising teachers and staffers. She is responsible for monitoring compliance with state and federal regulations at all Head Start locations, while developing program reports and grants.

But it's not all work and no play for this hardworking administrator. Diana is able to carve out quality time for her husband, Bobby, a Los Angeles city firefighter and paramedic. They have 3 daughters in college at the same time – a huge accomplishment for any parent. A golden retriever, aptly named Goldilocks, rounds out Diana's family. The family is avid Angels supporters as well as football fans. Photography and album making are just two of Diana's personal hobbies. She says that when she retires, she plans to work at "Disneyland – the happiest place on earth!" And you may find her wherever Carnival Cruises will take her. It appears this busy, dedicated, and fun-loving educator has found life's perfect balance.

