



Victim Offender Reconciliation Program of the Central Valley, Inc.

4882 E. Townsend Ave., Fresno, CA 93727
Phone: (559) 455-9803; Fax: (559) 252-4800
Email: vorp@fresno.edu | http://vorp.org

VOLUME 23, ISSUE 4 JUNE 2005

GOOD NEWS

Cases are flowing in and new mediators are being trained. That's good news! Last year we received the fewest cases since VORP began in Fresno in 1982. Through mid June this year we have already received 20% more cases than we had all last year. We are on track to match or better our historical average of 350 cases for the year. This does mean a change for our mediators who had been lulled into inactivity over the past two years. Our June 10-11 training included a refresher for some mediators who were ready to take a case but felt rusty after an extended inactive period. It is good to have fifteen new mediators! The September 9-10 training will also serve both new mediators and experienced mediators who would like a refresher. One of our returning mediators said he was glad he had gone through the training again before resuming taking cases. You notice very different things in the training after you have done some cases. Theory is great, but being able to apply it to your experience is even better. If you are a former mediator you will be hearing from us. We are calling the over 1,000 people we have trained to update their files and invite them to re-engage with us. If you know we will have trouble finding you, how about calling to update your information? Our training schedule is always available on the Web site, or by calling the office. Come and work with us to bring healing to Fresno.

Duane Ruth-Heffelbower

 * **Volunteer Mediator Training** *
 * **September 9 & 10 October 14 & 15** *
 * **November 11 & 12** *
 * Friday 6:30 pm - 9:30 pm *
 * Saturday 8:30 am - 3:30 pm *
 * **Call our office to reserve a spot: 455-9803.** *
 * **A free refresher training will be held Saturday* *
 * *September 10 (8:30 am-3:30 pm) for anyone* *
 * *who has been trained in the past and would* *
 * *consider taking cases again.* *
 * *Please consider becoming a volunteer media-* *
 * *tor. We have A LOT OF CASES and we need* *
 * *people to mediate them!* *

WHAT'S GOING ON THIS SUMMER?

Johnny Phouthachack & Deanna Deuling

There is a lot going on in the months to come for VORP. Summer is a busy time of projects and activities for the youth working with VORP. We have projects to keep kids busy and help them make money during the long summer hours. Programs such as Car Washes, yard work and other fundraisers for the kids are done every weekend. This has been a huge success. Last summer, VORP had 15-20 kids participating every week. "It helps kids learn how to make money and it makes them feel good about themselves." (Johnny Phouthachack). VORP is also working with Youth Employment of Clovis to provide jobs for youth that are in the Clovis School District.

How You Can Help:

-Car Wash!!!

*July 13th from 8 am-noon

*Arco Gas Station at Maple and Belmont

*Tickets are \$4 ahead of time (You can get your tickets at the office) or \$6 the day of...Please come out and support our Youth!

-Yard Work!!!

*If you need something done around the house or have any suggestions for ways these kids can earn money to pay restitution and get experience working, give us a call! We would love all suggestions!

The kids in our program are working hard and making a difference... Here is a story of a life in our program....

A 16-year-old boy came into our office to speak with Johnny. He said that he needed to make some money because his family was struggling because his grandmother has diabetes. He wanted to work to be able to help his family out. This boy wanted to help support his family whatever way he could. He is participating in the projects and he is making a difference. These projects are an opportunity for kids to do something positive with their time. And the kids are making an effort. The support from the VORP staff and mediators along with the community makes a difference in the lives of kids. They see hope and it proves to them that they can do something helpful for others.

LOST MEDIATORS

Are you one of these people? Do you know any of them? We've been calling former mediators, but don't have phone #'s for these people: Nancy Barber, Nancy Barnes, Peter Cabbiness, Sera Calderson, Bennie Calip, Cynthia Callaghan, Cynthia Calvert, Steven Camacho, Nancy Cameron, Janet Capella, James Carlson, Judy Charbonneau, Dale Cobb, Robert Cobb, Allan Cohan, Greg Cohorst, Beverly Collin and Helen Cooley

Please call us at 455-9803 if you can help!

VORP Board Members

Michael Blue, Chair
Dave Purvis, Secretary/Treasurer
Eleanor Richards
Arthur Wint
Jose Chaparro
Faith Young

VORP Staff

Duane Ruth-Heffelbower	Administrator
Johnny Phouthachack	Agreement Manager
Megan Thompson	Mediation Manager
Barry Guenther	Finance Manager
Deanna Deuling	Intern
Shawn Lamm	Intern
Latricia Leach	Intern
Stephanie Rodriguez	Intern

WELCOME VORP would love to welcome our new interns for the summer. We are blessed to have three interns this summer: Shawn Lamm, Deanna Deuling, and Latricia (Trish) Leach. All three interns are from the Criminology program at Fresno State. Shawn will complete his degree in Criminology in August. Shawn is a very animated and has assumed the role of comedian in the office. He enjoys long walks on the beach and puppies... :) This summer Shawn will be assisting Johnny Phouthachack with cases that have already been mediated and continue with the follow up of the agreements. Deanna Deuling just graduated as well from Fresno State. Deanna loves people and talking to anyone about anything. Unfortunately, she is moving to San Diego soon to pursue her career as a victim advocate. Deanna is becoming Megan's sidekick so to speak and helping with the daily routines of the office as well as mediating. Trish is a senior at Fresno State and will be with VORP through the fall. Trish is a sweetheart that will be a great asset to VORP and is showing to be a great mediator. Trish will be assisting in the office as well as mediating cases. It is shaping up to be a great summer and we are lucky to have these three great students working with us this summer.

CALLING ALL MEDIATORS: WE *STILL* HAVE CASES COMING OUT OUR EARS, BUT NOT ENOUGH MEDIATORS TO TAKE THEM. PLEASE STOP BY THE OFFICE TO PICK UP A CASE OR SIGN UP FOR THE REFRESHER TRAINING SEPTEMBER 9&10

4882 E. Townsend Ave
Fresno, CA 93727
(559) 455-9803
<http://vorp.org>

Victim Offender Reconciliation Program
of the Central Valley, Inc.



Non-Profit Org
U.S. Postage
PAID
Clovis, CA 93612
Permit # 376