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Jeffries Journal

Volume 11, Issue 4

April 2023

Kevin's Corner

Let me first apologize. This month's Corner is going to cover numerous items – so here it goes...

Is the BIG Pay Raise Proposal Coming Back? You may recall that a proposal was recently presented to the Board of Supervisors to significantly increase pay for the five countywide elected officials (not the Supervisors themselves). Under the original proposal that failed on Dec 6th, the salaries of three elected officials would have increased by nearly 32%, to \$256,814 each, and the salaries of two elected public safety officials would have increased by nearly 13%, to \$308,197. While my position against big pay raises for (any) elected officials hasn't changed, I'm hearing that this proposal or something similar will make its way back to the Board of Supervisors for re-consideration. Stay tuned.

Will Closing A State Prison Close a Local City? Most of us have passed through it, some of us have even stopped in it, but nearly 18,000 live there and they have good reason to be worried. We are talking about the City of Blythe at the far eastern edge of Riverside County along the Colorado River. Blythe has enjoyed the support from two big industries: **Agriculture**, and the employees, families and support services of the **Chuckawalla Valley and Ironwood State Prisons**. The farming/ag industry has been hit hard with water restrictions and water rights being bought up, and now the State has announced they will be closing the Chuckawalla State Prison by March 2026. Though the City is still fighting the closure, the State is already looking at redevelopment options for the prison site, but options are limited for such an isolated location. And replacing the nearly a thousand good state jobs and their spillover impact on the local economy (local stores and businesses that service the prison and their employees) will be an incredible challenge. Let's hope they find a solution. The last city that went belly up in this county was Cabazon (1955 to 1972).

New County Budget? Just a heads up for those of you who follow such things – the County Executive Office is developing the next County multi-billion-dollar budget for consideration by the Board of Supervisors (hearings scheduled for June). While your county government has enjoyed significant increases in revenues from property taxes, sales taxes, and big bucks from the one-time federal American Rescue Plan (COVID) dollars, it seems certain that things are cooling off a bit – maybe even a lot (home sales are significantly down). As I have done over the past ten years, I will keep an eye out for mission creep (Departments seeking to expand beyond their mission), making sure essential public safety services are properly funded to protect our communities (but not bloated), monitoring (**continued to page 2**)

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CAL-PERS pension debt (it's growing), preserving the safety net for the elderly and children who are at risk, making sure our services and infrastructure in unincorporated communities are not left behind the rest of the county, and the never ending task of pushing, prying, and demanding that our massive 23,000 employee bureaucracy be helpful, respectful, and efficient when serving the public.

Electrons, Cars, and Wildland Fires. A representative of the California Air Resources Board (CARB) recently provided a presentation about their 2022 Scoping Plan to achieve "carbon neutrality" across the State of California. A few of the many challenging efforts that the plan calls for is the need to beef up the entire power grid to support electric vehicles, requiring that only electric passenger vehicles be sold in California by 2035 (12 years) and heavy trucks by 2045 (22 years). That latter group will be a really big challenge for the fire service and other large emergency response vehicles. One of the many other efforts includes wildland vegetation (fuel) reduction efforts to help with controlling our wildland fires and the massive plumes of smoke they generate. Riverside County has dozens of communities that are intertwined with very high fire danger areas and/or local national forests. Many of these communities are already awaiting wildland fuel management projects, and most have state or federal grants lined to help get them done. So just as we are becoming hopeful that they will actually start the thinning efforts this year or next year (they can take several years to complete), the California State Legislature is now considering a proposal (AB 338) to change all these community projects and turn them into full blown "Public Works" projects (more studies & delays?) and require them to increase the wages of the private contractors and employees who perform the work and require they be paid at higher "prevailing wages" (or face misdemeanor charges). Now even if you are a strong supporter of better pay (who isn't?) you have to acknowledge that if you significantly increase the wages, you also significantly increase the costs. Unfortunately, AB 338 does nothing to help with the funding equation.

The Best of the Best is...? Do you know someone who lives or works in the First District that is an outstanding community volunteer? Someone who gives a 110% to helping a local cause or need? It could be a food bank volunteer, a community clean-up team member, a volunteer firefighter or reserve police officer, a senior center volunteer, etc, etc. If you know such a person, please contact us or have someone from their organization contact our office ASAP! On Tuesday **April 18th at 9:30am**, the Riverside County Board of Supervisors will recognize a Volunteer of the Year from each of the Five Supervisorial Districts. If you need more details - please email us at: District1@Rivco.org or call 951-955-1010.

Full Court Press Update: This past February, I reported on the on-going saga of our understaffed local state courts (lack of judges), and the growing number of criminal cases being dismissed (approx. 1700—mostly misdemeanors) because we haven't been able to schedule trial dates quickly enough. Our local ratio of judicial officers per 100,000 residents is 3.4, compared to a statewide average of 11.4, which means Riverside County is at least 22 judges short to handle the workload. Local State Senator Richard Roth introduced SB 75 to have the State fund additional judges for our county and others. SB 75 had an important hearing in the Senate Judiciary Committee on March 28th and it was passed unanimously. With that decision, it now headed to the Appropriations Committee. I did recently have a chance to meet with the Presiding Superior Court Judge for Riverside County, and I have to say that I was impressed with Judge Clark's dedication to the job, fixing and/or adjusting schedules, and implementing new practices and procedures to mitigate the situation as much as possible until the State Legislature provides the necessary funding to make sure all citizens are afforded fair and equal access to the Judicial Branch.

(continued to page 3)

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Note: Judges do NOT work for the County, and are independently elected or appointed by the Governor, so it's a bit like herding cats.

Trash Talk - In the next month or two I will cover (previously approved) Senate Bill 1383 which has the potential to cause some notable increases to all of our monthly trash bills in order to meet new recycling mandates from Sacramento. Sneak Peak: The law also requires that your trash can contents be inspected!

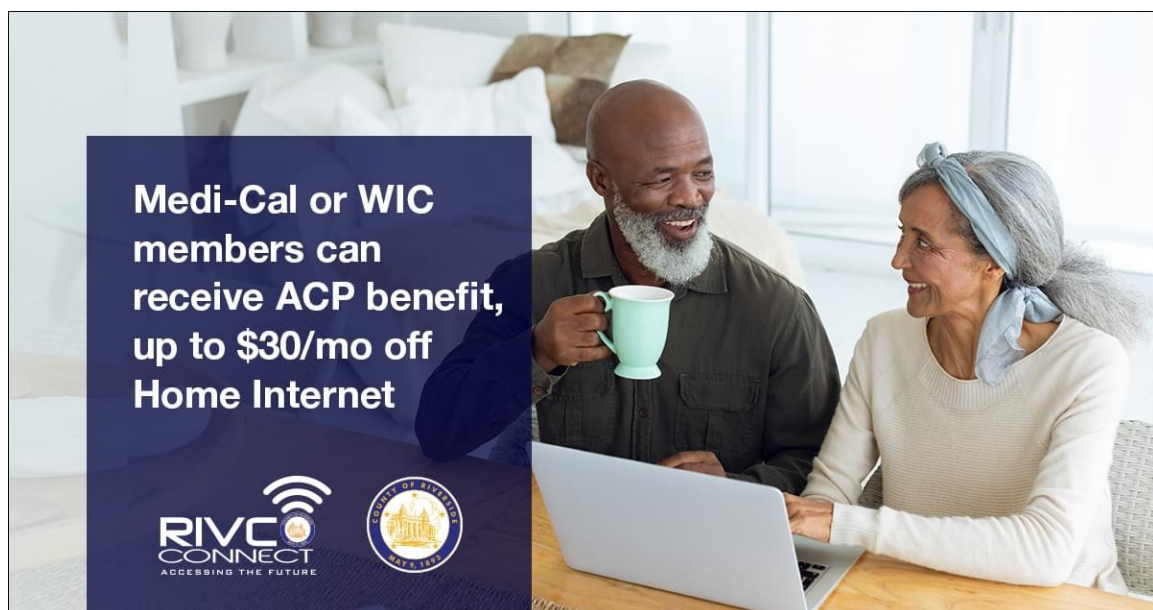
And finally - Ready For Some Local Family Fun? If you want to load up the family but NOT fight out of town traffic, try patronizing some of our local special entertainment venues. A few to consider are:

Perris Train Museum – I recently toured this amazing hidden gem in the City of Perris. It's a must see, with many family-friendly programs. 2201 S. "A" Street, Perris www.socalrailway.org
Lake Elsinore Storm Baseball Team will have its Season Opener on Thursday April 6th, 7pm. They are a Single-A affiliate of the San Diego Padres. <https://www.milb.com/lake-elsinore>
Perris Auto speedway located at the State Fairgrounds next to Lake Perris (off of Ramona Expressway) provides some great racing for you gearhead enthusiasts.
<http://perrisautospeedway.com/>

As always, suggestions or comments to improve county services in Riverside County are always welcome.

Respectfully,

Kevin Jeffries, First District Supervisor



Don't overpay for home Internet! Save money today with Affordable Connectivity Program (ACP)! Medi-Cal and WIC members automatically qualify for ACP's \$30 monthly discount. Visit: <http://rivcoconnect.org/applutoday> or call 866-922-1016 to learn more.



*Interested in serving your local community?
Perhaps you are more of a regional advocate?
If you live in or have a business in District #1, be sure to look at the list
of openings we have below for local commissions.
If you feel you have the time to dedicate to making the district a better place feel
free to apply online at www.supervisorjeffries.com, under Boards & Commissions*

CURRENT OPENINGS:

Good Hope Municipal Advisory Council (MAC) - Two (2) Members

Highgrove Municipal Advisory Council (MAC) - One (1) Alternate

Advisory Council of Aging - One (1) Opening

Solid Waste - One (1) Alternate Opening

Assessment Appeals - One (1) Opening Alternate

In Home Support Services (IHSS) - Recipient or Caregiver of IHSS Services —
One (1) opening

Behavioral Health Commission - Family Member - One (1) opening

Community Action Partnership - One (1) Alternate

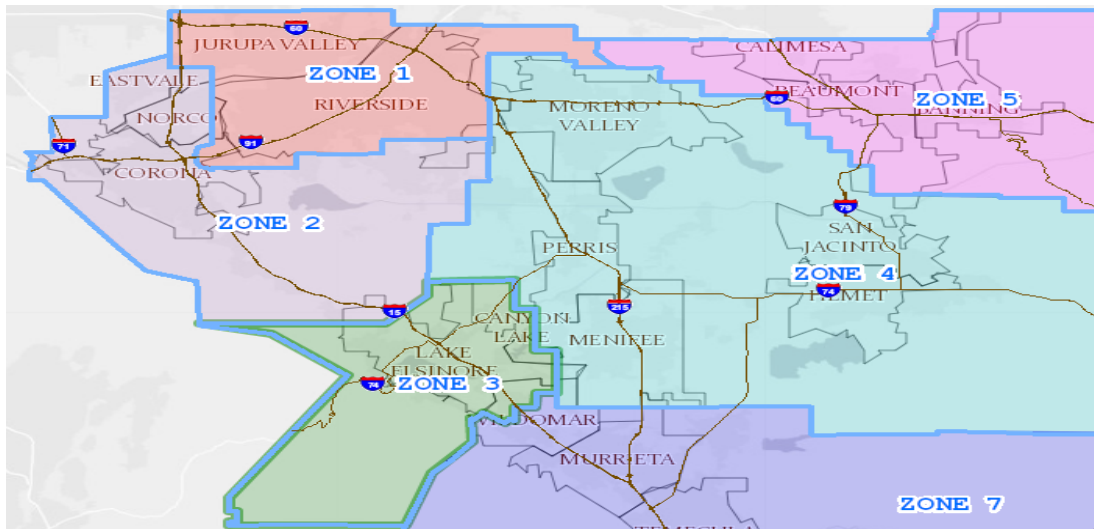
Assessment Appeals Board No. 3 - One (1) Member, One (1) Alternate

Riverside County Flood Control Commission Zone 1 - One opening (see below)
Flood Control District Map

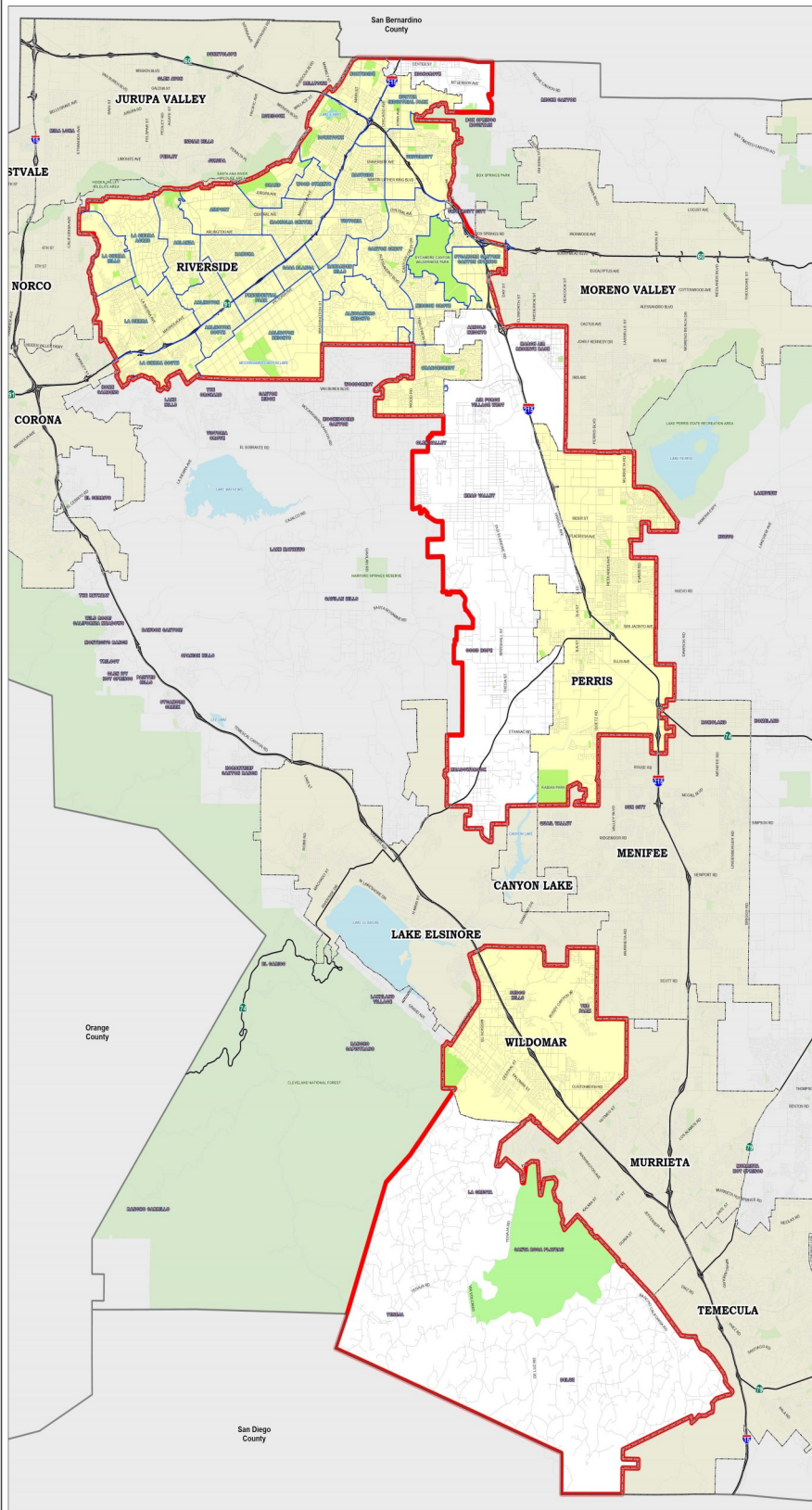
Open Position: Flood Control Commissioner

The First District has an opening on the Riverside County Flood Control Commission representing Zone 1.

Commissioners serve as unpaid volunteers, attend a minimum of one annual meeting, to review the District's Annual Budget and Regional Drainage Plans. For more information visit the District's website at www.rcflood.org. To apply, please submit the online application available at www.supervisorjeffries.org



SUPERVISORIAL DISTRICT 1 County of Riverside



First District Profile



Kevin Jeffries was elected in November 2012 to Represent the residents of the 1st Supervisorial District on the Riverside County Board of Supervisors. This district covers the cities of Riverside, Perris, and Wildomar, and the unincorporated communities including Highgrove, University City, Mead Valley, Good Hope, Meadowbrook, March Joint Powers Authority, La Cresta, Tenaja, and DeLuz.



Supervisor Kevin Jeffries
District 1
(951) 955-1010

Representing the Cities of:
Riverside
Jurupa Valley (portion)
Perris
Wildomar



NOTE: Wildomar, La Cresta, Tenaja, and De Luz will move to the 3rd District in January of 2025.

Highgrove Update California Street Cleanup

A homeless camp and large piles of debris were cleaned up on California Street by Riverside County Code Enforcement on February 28th. The large piles of debris took up multiple parcels, mostly privately owned, which Riverside County Code Enforcement worked with Riverside County Sheriff to remove the homeless and the massive amounts of debris. Small parts of the area were owned by Riverside County Flood Control, and they cleaned up their portion as well. Supervisor Jeffries' Office knows that this area is a popular place to have illegal dumping and will continue to watch this site diligently, and will work closely with Code Enforcement to make sure this area does not get to the horrific conditions it was before.

Before



After



Mead Valley Neighborhood Cleanup

On Saturday, March 11, 2023 Mead Valley had a neighborhood cleanup. District 1 sends their appreciation to the many volunteers that came out to beautify our Mead Valley Neighborhood, including members of the 1st District Youth Advisory Commission.



Please see chart below for impressive details of our cleanup.



District 1's Woman of The Year—Cathy Welch



Cathy Welch, pictured to left of Supervisor Kevin Jeffries, is the 2023 District 1 Woman of the Year Award winner. This award is given to an outstanding woman in each supervisory district who has demonstrated an exceptional commitment to her community by working to improve the status of women and their families in Riverside County.

Cathy Welch moved to the Perris area in 1992. Not long after her arrival, she began to look for ways to give back to the community.

Cathy leads a small group of ladies at her church. She also volunteers time at a local recovery home for women. She is making herself available to help women who have gotten off the productive path of life. Through her mentorship, many of these ladies have found the importance of contributing to their community.

Cathy has recently begun to provide food to families in the Perris area.

Good Hope Shade Structure

The shade structure over the playground at the Good Hope Mosses Schaffer Community Center was installed in late March. There are two more shade structures projected to be completed at the Good Hope Mosses Schaffer Community Center later this year. This structure will help children and families during the coming hot summer months.



DOG VACCINE CLINIC

CLINICA DE VACUNAS

**FREE
GRATIS**

Tuesday, April 11, 2023

Martes, 11 De Abril De 2023

Highgrove Library
530 W. Center st, Riverside, CA 92507

DOG VACCINE CLINIC

CLÍNICA DE VACUNACIÓN
Perros

By appointment only
Se requiere cita

Dogs/Perros
DA2PPV, Bordetella, Rabies/Rabia, Microchip



Scan above QR code to register
for an appointment

Escanee codigo QR para hacer una cita



*Walk ups will be accepted up to capacity based on no shows
Se aceptarán visitas sin cita previa en función de las cancelaciones

WWW.RCDAS.ORG
(951) 358-7387

HOMEWORK HELP PROGRAM AT THE HIGHGROVE LIBRARY



Highgrove Library
530 Center St
Riverside CA 92507
951-682-1507

HOMEWORK HELP HOURS
TUES & THURS: 2PM - 6PM
WED: 1:30 PM - 6PM
FRI: 12 PM - 6PM
SAT: 10 AM - 3PM



Tutors courtesy of UCR College Corps



HIGHGROVE LIBRARY

Free Tax Preparation Services
Provided by
Community Action Partnership
Of

Riverside County
During the Month of March & April 2023

Free Tax Preparation for individuals or families that earned under \$75,000 in 2022.
Every Saturday during the month of March and ending
Saturday April 15, 2023 from 10:00am-3:00pm

Free Tax Preparation Services
Will be available at the Highgrove Library
530 W Center ST. Riverside, CA 92507

For More Information Please Call 951-682-1507



**NOW
OPEN**

LOCATION & HOURS

Date April 24, 2023

Location Norton Younglove CC

459 Center Street

Highgrove, CA 92506

Hours 10:00 AM to 2:00PM

MOBILE HEALTHCARE SERVICES

Riverside University Health System offers primary health care services inside our mobile clinic at various locations throughout Riverside County.

SERVICES INCLUDE:

- Exams, Diagnosis and Treatment of Acute and Chronic Illness
- Prescriptions Written as Needed (No Controlled Substances)
- Patient Education
- Immunization
- Preventative Health Screenings
- Women's Health Exams
- Laboratory Services
- Nutrition education

Serving your healthcare needs in one convenient location! Referrals are available as needed for specialists, mental health treatment and other public health services.

FEES

Our helpful staff will assist you in determining which programs are available to help pay for the services you need.

To schedule an appointment call:

833-434-2229

You can also schedule your appointment in-person.



www.ruhealth.org/medical-center/medical-services/mobile-health-clinic





EMPLOYER SERVICES AND RESOURCES
Giving You the Tools You Need for Success

Hiring Homeless Tax Credit

Tax Credit between **\$2,500** and **\$10,000** per qualified homeless individual hired

AB 150 Includes:

Groundbreaking California Homeless Hiring Tax Credit that would simultaneously confront the homelessness crisis facing California, address the job losses stemming from the COVID-19 pandemic that have disproportionately harmed low-income communities, and ease the significant financial strain that many small businesses are currently experiencing.

To Qualify:

- Pay wages subject to withholding under the Unemployment Insurance code
- Pay family-supporting wages at or above 120% of minimum wage
- Employ the individual for at least 500 hours in that taxable year



For more information on AB 150
Follow this QR Code:



Have you tried our app yet?



- Self check-out books
- Place holds
- Store your family's library cards
- Check your account
- Scan ISBNs to find new books
- And more!



MEAD VALLEY URBAN TREE CANOPY PROGRAM

TREES ENHANCE A COMMUNITY BY IMPROVING AIR QUALITY, SHADE, AND BEAUTIFICATION

- ✓ Mead Valley Residents, Schools & Businesses
- ✓ We're giving away 1,000 FREE shade trees
- ✓ Sign up today at www.rivcoed.org/meadvalleytrees
- ✓ For questions regarding the Mead Valley Urban Tree Canopy Program, contact us at amontes@treepeople.org



SIGN UP HERE



TreePeople



VETERAN-OWNED BUSINESS EXPANSION

Through this program, Veteran business owners will work on putting together their path toward controlled-risk growth as they evaluate and develop their metrics, benchmarks, teams, financials, and strategies to expand and drive their business to the next level of growth. At the completion of the program, eligible participants may apply for a County of Riverside grant of \$2,500.

REGISTER
TODAY!



Tuesdays, March 7 – April 11 | 3 – 5 p.m.



March 7 13 PM
Intelligent Planning



March 28 13 PM
Sales and Marketing



March 14 13 PM
Financial Management



April 4 13 PM
Optimizing Operations



March 21 13 PM
Understanding Customers



April 11 13 PM
Managing People

In Partnership with:



Funded in part through a Cooperative Agreement with the U.S. Small Business Administration. Funding is not an endorsement of any product, opinion, or service. All programs are extended to the public on a non-discriminatory basis. Funded in part through a Grant with the Governor's Office of Business and Economic Development. All opinions, conclusions, and/or recommendations expressed herein are those of the author(s) and do not necessarily reflect the views of the Governor's Office of Business and Economic Development.





All father figures welcomed.

RIVERSIDE COUNTY

DADS ASSISTING DADS

TOOLS FOR BEING A GREAT DAD!



Our Goals:

- Increase the services offered to fathers.
- Reduce the stigma that fathers face in their role in parenting.
- Promote the value of fathers in a child's life.
- Encourage fathers to be involved as much as possible.
- Increasing paternal engagement and improving parenting skills.
- Engaging mothers to support father-child contact.
- Create a father-focused network of resources to assist families in need.

Our Mission:

Collaborate with community-based organizations to support the public, creating a fatherhood network of resources.

Our vision is to have a community of where all fathers are engaged in the life of their children with the support of their community, thereby creating the strongest families in Southern California.

FATHERS OF RIVERSIDE COUNTY

DADS ASSISTING DADS COALITION

WANT MORE INFO?

SCAN ME



YOUTH / SENIORS DISABLED / VETERANS

RIDE FOR 25¢



Beginning August 1 through June 30, 2023, RTA is offering 25-cent bus rides to youth, seniors, disabled and veterans on all bus routes, including CommuterLink! While on board, enjoy free Wi-Fi, USB charging ports, comfortable seating, friendly drivers, and, as always, our commitment to safety wherever you're headed.

Just show your valid ID to receive the discounted fare.



Youth Age 18 and Under



Seniors Age 60 or Above



Disabled Customers and Medicare Card Holders



Veterans



Cash, coin and Token Transit app payment accepted. Visit [RiversideTransit.com](https://www.RiversideTransit.com) or call us at (951) 565-5002 for more information or to plan your trip.

County of Riverside

MAKE A DIFFERENCE!

PROMOTE RESPONSIBLE GOVERNMENT

Serve on the 2023-2024

Riverside County Civil Grand Jury

- Ensure that county, city and local government agencies operate responsibly, legally, and ethically.
- Improve local government with your recommendations.
- Respond to citizen complaints about local government.
- Assure that our local tax dollars are spent wisely.
- Evaluate conditions at our county's jails and prisons.

Information: www.riverside.courts.ca.gov or 951-777-3644

Application deadline: April 28, 2023





Qualifications:

1 yr. Resident of Riverside County • U. S. Citizen • 18 or older

Knowledge of English • Sound judgment and character

Daily stipend plus mileage and parking

The role of a Grand Jury differs substantially from that of a trial jury. It is a fulltime assignment. Duties of the Civil Grand Jury include: To act as the public's watchdog by investigating and reporting upon the affairs of local government; weigh allegations of misconduct against public officials and determine whether to present formal accusations; review and act upon letters or complaints from citizens of Riverside County. Jury members take the oath of office on TBD, meet four days per week in downtown Riverside, and serve for one year. Grand Jury proceedings are closed to the public.

County of Riverside community Action PARTNERSHIP

County of Riverside

HHPWS

Do you need help with your utility bills? CAP can help!



The Covid-19 pandemic has created hardships for people across Riverside County. Community Action Partnership is here to assist those in need during these trying times.

UTILITY ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS

REQUIRED DOCUMENTS FOR ELIGIBILITY

- Current utility bills (electric, gas, propane)
- Proof of household income (last 4 weeks)
- Photo ID and social security card
- Birth certificate, US passport, or proof of legal residency

CONTACT AND APPLY TO COMMUNITY ACTION PARTNERSHIP PROGRAMS

P.O. Box 5760
Riverside, CA 92517

energy@capriverside.org
www.capriverside.org

951-955-4900

JOIN OUR TEAM



We are looking for professionals who are willing to support and improve the health, safety, well-being and independence of our county's families

OPEN DPSS POSITIONS

- Eligibility Technician I/II
- Social Services Practitioner III
- and many more!!



BENEFITS INCLUDE

- Medical, Vision, Dental
- Competitive Work Schedules
- 12 Paid Holidays Per Year
- Vacation and Sick Time Accruals
- 457b Deferred Compensation Plan
- CalPERS Pension
- Education Support Program



APPLY TODAY!

Scan the QR code to see more employment opportunities.

For all Riverside County job openings, visit: RC-HR.com



Scan To Apply

For more information please visit us at: <https://www.governmentjobs.com/careers/riverside/dpssjobs>

Incumbent Worker Training (IWT) is an employer-sponsored program that provides grant funding to assist eligible businesses offset the cost of training for their existing (incumbent) workers. Its intent is to create a stronger workforce for workers and employers with the opportunity to build and maintain a quality workforce and avert layoffs.



INCUMBENT WORKER ELIGIBILITY

- Be employed
- At least 18 years of age
- U.S. Citizen or a non-citizen whose status permits employment in U.S.
- Males must be registered for Selective Service
- Meet Fair Labor Standards Act
- Established employment with employer for 6 months or more

EMPLOYER ELIGIBILITY

- Have a need to upgrade skills of their employees to remain competitive in their industry or the economy
- Can meet the shared cost requirement
- Private sector, non-profit, and local government entities
- Employer must be in operation for at least 12 months
- Current on all state and federal tax obligations

HOW OUR PROGRAM WORKS:



- Meet your local Workforce Development representative
- If you're an employer, we'll help you identify current employees who need retraining and upskilling, and provide training
- If you're an employee, we'll help you identify interests, strengths, and skills you can build upon

Contact the Riverside County Employer Services Team at 833-303-4333 or employerservices@rivco.org or by visiting www.rivcoworkforce.org

This WIOA Title I financially assisted program or activity is an equal opportunity employer/program. Equal Opportunity Notice. Auxiliary aids and services are available upon request to individuals with disabilities. Please call 951.955.3100, 951.955.3744 TTY, CA Relay 711, or ADACoordinator@rivco.org 5 to 7 days in advance.



What is OJT? On-the-Job Training (OJT) is a FREE program that allows a business to hire and train a new employee while actually performing the job.



WHAT IS REQUIRED?

- Business located in Riverside County
- 32 hrs/week minimum
- Trainee must be covered by Worker's Compensation
- Job may not be temporary or seasonal
- Wage must be prevailing rate within the company
- Wage may not be commission or piecework based
- Position must be in a high-demand industry/occupation

HOW IT WORKS

- The OJT program matches qualified job seekers with businesses who are in need of full-time skilled workers. OJT will reimburse a business **50%** of the employee salary up to 480 hours of training.

CONTACT US ABOUT ON-THE-JOB TRAINING TODAY!

RIVERSIDE
1325 Spruce Street
Suite 110
Riverside, CA 92507
951-955-3100

HEMET
749 North State Street
Hemet, CA 92543
951-791-3500

INDIO
44-199 Monroe Street
Suite B
Indio, CA 92201
760-863-2500

MORENO VALLEY
12625 Frederick Street
Suite K-3
Moreno Valley, CA 92553
(951) 413-3920

BLYTHE
1 College Drive
PE Building
Blythe, CA 92225
(760) 640-3144



www.RivCoWorkforce.org

This WIOA Title I financially assisted program or activity is an equal opportunity employer/program. Equal Opportunity Notice. Auxiliary aids and services are available upon request to individuals with disabilities. Please call 951.955.3100, 951.955.3744 TTY, CA Relay 711, or ADACoordinator@rivco.org 5 to 7 days in advance.



RIVERSIDE COUNTY'S EXPANDED SUBSIDIZED EMPLOYMENT PROGRAM



FAST TRACK RECRUITMENT AND HIRING



HOW IT WORKS:

- We provide custom recruiting and candidate matching services
- Eligible candidates go through an extensive employment readiness and pre-screening process
- You interview pre-screened candidates and make the hiring decision!



WAGE SUBSIDY:

100% of employee's gross hourly wage reimbursed for up to 6 months*

EMPLOYER REQUIREMENTS:

1. Online County vendor registration enrollment
2. Complete the employer agreement
3. Submit wage subsidy requests

FOR MORE INFORMATION

CALL : (760) 863-2521

EMAIL : arlperez@rivco.org

*Limited time only, employee start date must be prior to 6/30/2022. Employee hire dates on/after 7/1/2022 reimbursed at standard 50% wage subsidy.