



VALLEY  
CENTER  
PAUMA  
UNIFIED  
SCHOOL  
DISTRICT

# PASS AmeriCorps Newsletter

## Valley Center-Pauma Unified School District

VOLUME 8, ISSUE 2

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Darcy Lomeli,  
SDCOE's HR  
Department

## PASS AmeriCorps is "Making a Difference!"

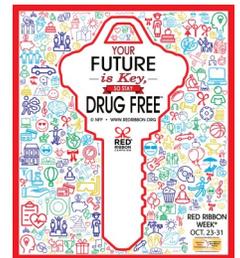
October's recognized National Day of Service is "Make a Difference Day," October 28, 2017, which fell at the end of Red Ribbon Week this year.

Make A Difference Day is one of the largest annual single-days of service nationwide. It evolved from an idea for a national day of service on February 29, 1992, a Leap Year, and is now celebrated on the fourth Saturday every October. Make A Difference Day shows that anyone, no matter of age or background, can make an impact on their community.

Beginning in 1985, the Red Ribbon Campaign has impacted millions of people around the world.

In response to the death of DEA Agent Enrique "Kiki" Camarena, parents and youth in communities across the country began wearing Red Ribbons as a symbol of their commitment to raise awareness of the destruction caused by drugs in America.

All of our PASS AmeriCorps school sites held projects and activities honoring either Make a Difference Day or Red Ribbon Week. Through awareness campaigns, pledges, kindness challenges, spirit weeks, and more, our PASS AmeriCorps Service Members and their students worked to make positive change in their schools and communities.



Their thought provoking and community building activities helped students think about the kind of world they want to see in the future, and what they can do to make it a reality.

## Collaborative Partner Spotlight - Darcy Lomeli

We want to thank Darcy Lomeli, Organizational Effectiveness Specialist with SDCOE's Human Resources Department, for leading our members through a Strengths Finders mini-training this month. We took the opportunity to get to know her a little better.



**Favorite aspect of your job?** Working with SDCOE employees to build capacity,

community, and develop our organizational culture, all in ser-

vice to our students!

**Most important quality for success?** A commitment to relationships, having a heart for your work, and persistence.

**Greatest achievement?** I'm really excited about the work that we've done over the past two years at SDCOE around recognizing, honoring, and developing individuals' strengths. Naming, claiming, and aiming our strengths gives us the opportunity to do what we do best!

**Three words to best describe you?** Enthusiastic, nurturing, diligent.

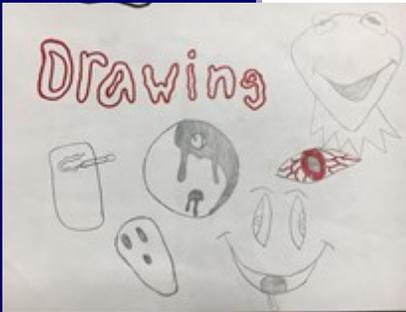
**Something unique about your 13 year old self?** I was obsessed

with Oldies music (and still love it). I loved Motown, Doo-wop, surf music. and classic cars. Our small town had a cruise-in/sock hop every year.... I took home the award for hula-hooping and strolling! (Told you I was obsessed!)

**Advice for our PASS AmeriCorps Members?** Share your interest, goals, and passions with others- confidently put it out in the world! Be bold to seek and create opportunities where you can pursue those goals and tap into your interests and strengths. I would encourage you to build relationships and learn from a mentor that you admire (their work style, career path, attitude, and values).

## Valley Center Middle School

*Erika Triebel,  
PASS AmeriCorps Member*



**A student's "Natural High": drawing**

Last month, students participated in an activity in honor of 9/11, recognizing their personal heroes. The activity created a flag that now hangs in the PASS room for all visitors to see. As for the month of October, PASS students have focused on evaluating their first quarter performance and setting goals and action plans to achieve

for quarter two. Many students did well in the first quarter, however it is always beneficial for students to set goals and strive to achieve those goals. Also, PASS has been working on a project for Red Ribbon Week throughout the month. There was an informational assembly about Red Ribbon Week and drug awareness for the entire school that went over really well. In PASS,

we decided to take a deeper look at what "Natural Highs" are, and some of the students identified their personal "Natural Highs". Once students understood the concept of a natural high, they then drew that natural high on a blank piece of paper. All of the students' natural highs will be strung together with a red ribbon and hung on campus.

## Valley Center High School

*Matthew Pryor and  
Daisy Hernandez,  
PASS AmeriCorps Members*



**PASS AmeriCorps outreach at the drug prevention event for families on October 25th**

It's hard to believe, but the semester is almost halfway over. But with fun, comes business. As teachers are gearing up for the second progress report, students are trying to get help wherever they can. Like the teachers, I find myself more busy than usual as I try to ensure that students are turning in as much work as possible, retaking missed or low quizzes, and staying as motivated as possible. Students and I feed off of each others' energy, and a majority of them stick to the plans they

created with me in order to be more successful. Not only have the students been responding positively to the PASS program, the faculty have as well. I cannot thank them enough for their support, allowing me to sit in on classes or to pull students in order to catch up on their core classes. I cannot wait to see these kids achieve their goals. On more good news, Daisy Hernandez will be joining me as a PASS AmeriCorps Mentor for the remainder of the year. She

has previous experience working with students in the Vista Unified School District and will be a great addition to help implement the program!

**Day One of the VCHS Make Your Mark Kudos Project**



## Oak Glen High School

*Sarah Plancarte,  
PASS AmeriCorps Member*



**Ms. Sarah, Chloe, and Christian post-school board meeting**

It has been a very busy month at Oak Glen. This month, two Oak Glen PASS students, Chloe and Christian, attended the Valley Center-Pauma School Board meeting and invited members to attend an OGHS sponsored event called "Prescription for Disaster."

"Prescription for Disaster" took place on October 25th, just in time for Red Ribbon Week. The event was the screening of a film produced by the FBI and DEA that covered the epidemic of opioid addiction, especially among teens. The event was a success and even managed to gain local media coverage. Both Christian

and Chloe were interviewed by KUSI News and Fox 5 News to discuss teen substance abuse. In addition to Prescription for Disaster, OGHS and PASS also hosted a door decorating competition in spirit of Red Ribbon Week. While the competition was fierce amongst the classes and the door decorations were phenomenal, Mr. Fraser's class came out on top!



# California Volunteers

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## San Diego County Office of Education PASS AmeriCorps Program

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The PASS AmeriCorps Program serves students in grades 3 through 12 at 30 school sites across San Diego County, including campuses in San Diego, Oceanside, Vista, San Marcos, and Valley Center. Each PASS AmeriCorps member provides support for 30 students through individual and group mentoring, academic support, grades and attendance reviews, leadership development, guest speakers, service learning projects, and parent outreach. Through their service with PASS, our AmeriCorps members are able to create positive change in our schools and communities.

PASS

AmeriCorps

Program

Upcoming

Month's

Calendar

November



## November 2017

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1	2	3	4
5 <i>Daylight Savings Fall Back 1 Hour Jesus Gonzalez' Birthday</i>	6 <i>Mini-Training &amp; PASS All Staff NCREC Comm Labs 1-4 12:00pm-5:00pm</i>	7	8	9	10  <b>VETERANS DAY</b>	11 <i>Leah's Birthday</i>
12	13 <i>Corey's Birthday</i>	14	15	16	17 <b>Newsletters Due</b>	18  <b>Family Volunteer Day</b>
19	20 <b>All Districts Closed November 20<sup>th</sup>-24<sup>th</sup> For Fall Recess</b>	21 <b>Fall Recess</b>	22 <b>Fall Recess</b>	23  <b>Happy Thanksgiving Day</b>	24 <b>Fall Recess</b>	25
26	27 <i>Mikayla's Birthday <b>Service Logs Due</b></i>	28	29	30 <b>\$Stipend</b>		

Notes

November 5<sup>th</sup> – Daylight Savings- "Fall Back" One Hour

November 6<sup>th</sup> – PASS AmeriCorps All Staff Meeting and Mini-Training –NCREC Comm Labs 1-4: 12pm-5pm; Senior Members Only Committee Meetings – 11am-12pm

November 10<sup>th</sup> – Veterans' Day- All Districts and SDCOE Closed- Mandatory National Day of Service- Please observe during the month of November.

November 18<sup>th</sup> – National Family Volunteer Day- Optional National Day of Service.

November 20<sup>th</sup>-24<sup>th</sup> – All District are closed for fall recess. SDCOE Closed ONLY- November 23<sup>rd</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup>.



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