

Employee of the Quarter SPOTLIGHT!

Director's Message

August 2020

Our recognition ceremonies have historically been staff and management gathering together to enjoy a continental breakfast, good company, and a chance to meet each other face to face in celebration of staff and their dedication to the Countywide Vision. While, for the moment, that experience is on pause, it is more important than ever to continue to encourage and recognize the outstanding job that staff are doing during these unusual times as essential workers. In August, your executive team was able to virtually meet these hard working individuals during a successful video conference call for this Employee of the Quarter ceremony. I was proud to hear how each of these employees have responded to the current situation in such extraordinary ways and have worked hard to embrace how our workplace has changed. We all understand that working from home can be an isolating experience, so I encourage you all to stay virtually connected, acknowledge each other's accomplishments, remember to smile and simply say "thank you". Our world needs kindness more than ever, and I am looking forward to when we all meet again. Congratulations to you all!

- GILBERT RAMOS

Audrey Meriscal, OA III



REGION 1

Audrey took a lead role in the move of TAD 02 to the new building. She stayed behind when COVID hit to help ensure the building move was successful. She was also part of the skeleton crew in the new building. Audrey always steps up when needed. She has been an acting SOA on numerous occasions and helped out in other offices when the need arises. She is a vital part of the team!

Jordan Cash, OA II



REGION 2

Jordan started with TAD in January 2019 as an OA II in the District 75 Ontario office. He has the ability to learn fast, his adaptability and positive attitude has made him very successful. He was part of the office essential team during the first few months of our transition to telecommuting. Jordan was always stepping up when supplies were needed to be picked up, or sneeze guards needed to be assembled. He always steps up to assist his peers, supervisors, managers and Region 2. Every day Jordan reports to work with a smile and positive outlook and ready to tackle the challenges of the day!

Lori Terry, SOA



REGION 3

Lori is responsive, dedicated and accurate in her work. Her Region, Team and Peers benefit from your experience and calm demeanor under pressure. She will say, "I am only doing my job" but those who know her...know better. She is our go-to for two district offices, and Lori provides excellent customer service to all that find their way to us!

Amy Mays, DM



REGION 5

Amy Mays oversees the Yucca Valley and Twenty-Nine Palms offices. She is an active, helpful, understanding and reasonable District Manager. She has excellent skills dealing with personnel issues, supportive of decisions, helps to provide clarity during difficult times. She is always ready to listen and help to find the best way to deal with a situation. During the beginning of the Pandemic, she remained poised while handling all situations that came her way. She is a team player and a great leader that often raises her hand to volunteer for additional assignments. She's an asset to the Region and Department!

Dawna Hunt, ESS



REGION 6

Dawna is not only a special employee, she is the embodiment of the positive attributes the department strives for each and every day. She works with some of our most vulnerable populations through her specialized Family Stabilization and Home Visiting caseloads. Her efforts during the last quarter with Preschool Services had a direct impact on our department surpassing our goals for the Home Visiting Program. Dawna is an asset to our team and department!

Mayte Saldana, EWSI



REGION 7

Ms. Mayte Saldana is a reliable, dedicated, hardworking supervisor. She is a natural leader and a team player who regularly receives unsolicited praise from staff and peers. She consistently provides an outstanding level of service, professionalism, and possesses strong program knowledge. Mayte has the ability to identify the needs of individuals and tailors the assistance provided accordingly. She is always willing to jump-in and assist customers without being asked. Mayte strives for excellence every day and truly deserves this award!