



Spring 2024 Newsletter

2024 Heroes in Prevention Awards

PVPSA honored its 2024 Heroes In Prevention Award winners at a ceremony on Thursday, May 16th. **The award recipients are those who have demonstrated a commitment to prevention in the Pajaro Valley, shown a passion for the empowerment of others, and worked to make their community a better place.** Awards were granted to Blanca Corrales, Cybele Lolley, Athena Reis, Andrea Carlos Willy, Lisa Luis, Michael Paynter, Omar Delgado, Jaime Molina, and Positive Discipline Community Resources. George Ow, Jr. was also honored with the Lifetime Achievement in Prevention Award. The ceremony featured keynote speaker Dr. Ivan Alcaraz, Director of Student Services for Pajaro Valley United School District, and a performance by Mariachi Ilusión. **Thank you to everyone who was able to join us in celebrating these amazing community members!**



PVPSA Receives 2024 Rather Award

PVPSA is honored to be named a 2024 Rather Award Recipient. The Rather Awards offer an inspiring opportunity to recognize those who are making a real difference in our community. Their goal is to honor individuals, businesses, and organizations dedicated to uplifting others and improving lives in the Pajaro Valley.

An award ceremony and soiree will take place on June 14, 2024, where PVPSA will receive their award alongside Positive Discipline Community Resources (PDCR) and the Director of Santa Cruz County's Health Services Agency, Mónica Morales.



CEO Attends U.S. State of the Union

In a notable announcement, PVPSA CEO Jasmine Nájera joined U.S. Representative Jimmy Panetta at President Joe Biden's Annual State of the Union Address.

In a press release, Rep. Panetta explained, **"Behavioral health leaders like Jasmine are not only instrumental to providing students in our community with care and support, but also figuring out and driving forward innovative solutions needed by today's youth."**

As a member of the Mental Health Caucus, Rep. Panetta leads the annual effort to provide federal support for mental health professionals in schools.



Quiero Ser! Jovenes en Acción!

March marked the successful launch of our program **Quiero Ser! Jovenes en Acción! Program**. This program focuses on connecting youth to different youth programs with over 100 individuals participating! We sincerely thank our partners who recognize the importance of youth and family engagement.

Furthermore, **we express our appreciation to the youth-serving organizations listed below for their invaluable contributions in providing families with essential resources:** Empower Watsonville, YMCA, CAB, WPD, Watsonville Police Cadets, Watsonville Police Activities League, Watsonville Parks & Recreation, Arte Del Corazon, United Way Santa Cruz, and Second Harvest Food Bank Santa Cruz County.



Support PVPSA Today!

Your donation to PVPSA will help ensure that we are able to continue to provide comprehensive health education, intervention and prevention services, and direct counseling to the students and families of our community.

With your help, we continue to grow and serve more children and families of the Pajaro Valley.

You can make a contribution today online at pvpsa.org. If you would like to donate via check, please make it payable to - PVPSA, 335 East Lake Avenue, Watsonville, CA 95076.

