

FEBRUARY 2023  
NEWSLETTER



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## A Note from the Valley Dream Center Team:

Valley Dream Center thanks you for your time, effort, and resources in 2022. We reached over **7,500 neighbors** with food and resources and volunteered over **3,700 hours** in our community. We couldn't have done it without you!



### Young Leaders With A Voice

A group of 15 high-school students from Clovis Christian School worked earnestly to advocate for the under-resourced at the Fresno City Council Meeting on February 23, 2023. They called themselves Young Leaders With A Voice and aptly stuck to the name as Victoria (center), James (right), and Joelle (next to Victoria) represented the student body. They took the bold step to address Councilman President Tyler Maxwell and his council members with a crowd from the community present as well as the online viewers looking on. They presented their research and call-to-action on issues regarding allocating resources towards homelessness, mental health, and suicide. After their speeches, council members responded to them and as Young Leaders With A Voice were leaving, other organizations stopped them on their way out the door to invite them to join their efforts. , all the students were surprised by a spontaneous invitation by Mayor Jerry Dyer to come to his office. He addressed what he and his team are doing to combat the issues the students presented on. He also took time to encourage these young leaders to continue speaking up and speaking out for their concerns to other government entities.

WHAT'S HAPPENING @ VDC

## Love Notes

This group also participated in a class called Love Notes. The curriculum covered topics such as toxic compared healthy relationships, and goal-setting. They also obtained techniques to plan for their future, for themselves, and the people in their lives. Since it was a Christian school, we were blessed with the opportunity to incorporate Biblical foundations within the lesson curriculum. The results showed that the youth better understand themselves, others, and the Lord's desire for them.



## A MESSAGE FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR:

Thanks to your support, we've kept our doors open to our community. **However, we still need your help.** Our gymnasium is one of the most used buildings on our campus; it has supported several basketball teams, volleyball players, and events such as our annual Christmas On The Block event.

Unfortunately, our gym doesn't have air conditioning or heating, and the insulation needs to be updated. We need about **\$157,000** to make the gym an even better place for our community. **The goal is to update the gym as soon as possible before the summer months come so we can be a safe, cool, inviting, and engaging recreation center for our neighbors.** Please support us by donating financially or with resources so we can continue to serve our community. Visit our **Facebook @valleydreamcenter** and **Instagram @valleydreamcenter** for more or email us at [info@valleydreamcenter.org](mailto:info@valleydreamcenter.org) to connect with us!




## About Us:

### Office Location

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### More Information

 [www.valleydreamcenter.org](http://www.valleydreamcenter.org)



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