

One on One Contacts

On average, I have individual contact with seventeen youth each week. Females comprise 15% of the contacts. These contacts are either face to face or over the phone and are with youth inside a probation facility, in one of the local jails, in prison, or living in the community. Young men and women with a spiritual need filled out a religious request slip 163 times in 2018. I met with another 203 youth who requested contact verbally or who I chose to meet with because I knew they needed it. Bibles were requested by 131 incarcerated youth.

From those groups, I had 32 youth agree to meet weekly for counseling and discipleship and had 252 contacts with them. The average length of time I met with most of them was four months.

Last year I made 263 contacts with 35 released youth. Some of them are married and have children and have stayed in touch. Last March I was picking up Moises for lunch and he saw a copy of my trauma workbook and said, "That looks like something that would help me." We ended up meeting weekly for a few months using the workbook to help him deal with his past.

Another young man took a vacation to visit the city he grew up in where he had experienced a lot of abuse. The visit triggered the pain from his childhood and resulted in a spiritual battle with doubt and fear. Since he lives far away, many hours were spent on the phone listening to his concerns and reminding him of the truth of scripture.

Teaching Series

I planned on heading into the book of Romans after I finished the book of Daniel but didn't feel ready. Instead I taught the answers to important questions and still didn't feel ready, so next I began a series on popular bible passages (at least they were popular to me).

The Book of Daniel	9 lessons
Important Questions	17 lessons
Popular Passages	10 lessons

MY MINISTRY CONTACTS	
Church Services:	1572
Bible Studies:	529
Chaplain Requests:	366
Counseling:	252
Discipleship:	96
Aftercare:	318
Outreach Activities:	266



All together I held 154 church services and 46 bible studies. At the YGC Bible Studies, we spent most of the year in Proverbs. Every time I taught, I also prepared a keynote (PowerPoint) presentation to go along with it.

This past year will be remembered as the year my condo upgrades were finished, my trauma workbook was printed, my living trust was completed, and for the impact our ministry had on a desperate young man in Juvenile Hall. Today that young man (Josh) is released, working, living on his own, and attending church! In 2018, I had two reflection days, spoke at three churches and one Sunday School class, attended one conference, and wrote down 55 items of praise. Thank you for your part in keeping me full time on the mission field!

Chaplain Rick Johnson

Support Address:

PYCM #003
P.O. Box 8875
Redlands, California 92375

714-721-6688
chaplainrj@sbcglobal.net
www.rick.pacificyouth.org



2018 ANNUAL REPORT

Photo of the Year



My most popular post on Facebook last year (103 likes) contained a collage of photos from the prayer event "First Love OC" in June at the Santa Ana Stadium. I was one of many people asked to pray for Orange County and focus was on the incarcerated youth and adults in our local facilities. That day was the biggest audience I have spoken to in years.

Quote of the Year

True love does not come by finding the perfect person but by learning to see an imperfect person perfectly.

Jason Jordan

Juvenile Justice Reform

Anti-social behavior increases dramatically during the teen years but diminishes with age. A seventeen-year-old is most at-risk of committing a crime according to research done by psychologist Terrie Moffitt. But studies have also shown that two thirds of the same highly delinquent youth are doing fine at age thirty. Dr. Moffitt's research revealed that extended time within a correctional facility is not what turns them around.

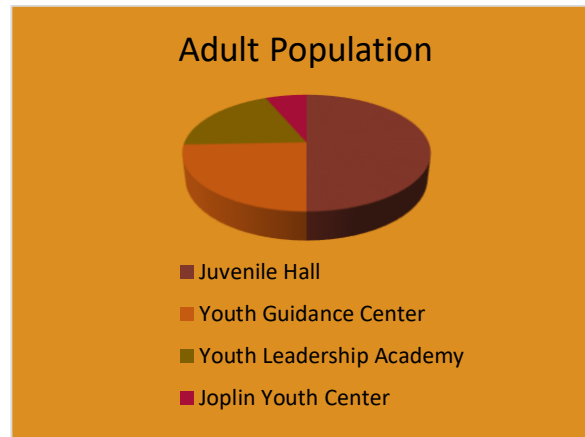
This type of research is driving juvenile justice reform and has kept many young offenders out of Juvenile Hall. These law breakers still have to deal with the consequences, but their parents take them to court instead of a deputy juvenile correctional officer. Adolescents with an under-developed pre-frontal cortex, who crave approval from their peers, get worse when housed in a non-nurturing environment filled with other anti-social youth.

The Juvenile Court was established in 1899 and given the responsibility to act in the place of the parents. But later the laws changed and juveniles with serious charges were tried as adults. Trying juveniles as adults took them out of the system created to help and made it easier for them to begin thinking like adult criminals.

When Proposition 57 passed in 2016, it allowed Juvenile Court judges to keep juvenile offenders in county juvenile facilities until age 21. Some counties have raised that age to 23. Rather than sending an 18-year-old to jail or prison, the young person is able to complete his or her sentence in a facility with staff that:

- Promote weekly family contact
- Conduct evidenced based programming
- Maintain a positive living environment
- Offer prosocial activities that reduce recidivism

So why don't rebellious youth improve their behavior when forced to adapt to a strict environment with rules and accountability? Because they want to be parented. They know they have missed out on a positive home life and desire the approval and attention that kids need.



The chart displays the size of the adult population in all four Orange County juvenile facilities. On average there are 78 adults filling the beds and make up 35% of the population. Without these youth, I would not be a full-time chaplain.

The Protestant Population

Incarcerated youth in Orange County filled out 426 religious preference forms in 2018 indicating their desire to attend our services. From what I see, a large majority of the youth who do sign up as Protestant choose to attend a church service.

Around 15% of the youth are choosing "none" as their religious preference during intake and are never asked if they want to attend church. We are in the process of working with administration to create a plan so these youth can be given the opportunity to change their religious preference at a later date.

Trauma Workbook

This past summer I was meeting with Mark at the Coffee Bean. He had helped me print the workbook and he was delivering some more copies. A lady recognized the workbook cover when I was in line and came up to our table a few minutes later to say how important the material was. She was from Saddleback Church and said she had already seen the workbook, but I don't know how.

Half of the trauma workbooks I had printed have been distributed. Chaplains or chaplaincy staff in four counties have some and two other ministries purchased copies to use. Many of the youth I counsel go through it with me and enjoy the material. Edgar recently told me, "I like meeting with you because what we talk about is real."

Outreach Activities

This past year I sponsored seven special activities at the probation camp facilities (*Easter Outreaches, Game Night, Bible Jeopardy, Entering Adulthood Retreat, Christmas Outreaches*). The support we felt from the staff at each of the Christmas Outreaches this year was encouraging. A few days before Bible Jeopardy and the Christmas Outreach, the population at Joplin was low but somehow the beds were full on the night of the activity.

There was a struggle to find a few more volunteers to assist me at a couple of the activities but each time I sent out a plea for help and people responded. There were also field trips to the CMCA Conference in February and to the Harvest Crusade in August.

Volunteer Involvement

The outreach activities would not be possible without help from other believers and last year there were 71 individuals who came in to assist. Since I can get the same people cleared up to three times a year, several served more than once. I like to have someone join me at least once a month at my two Sunday morning services. Last year I reached that goal by having 12 special guests speak or lead worship at Juvenile Hall and the Youth Guidance Center.

In September, I started sending out weekly email updates on Sunday nights to all of the PCM volunteers. A lot can happen in one week when you are serving at four correctional facilities so I share news, changes, attendance totals, discipleship assignments, birthdays, etc. I also felt it was important for the volunteers to know what I taught at church so they wouldn't teach the same thing at bible study or so they could review one of the key points.