



Watsonville Police Department Receives Grant for Caminos Hacia el Éxito Program

The Board of State and Community Corrections approved a proposal to give the Watsonville Police Department a grant award of \$900,000 to implement the Caminos Hacia el Éxito Program. This program gives Watsonville youth between the ages of 10 to 17 years old who commit a first offense the opportunity to stay away from the juvenile legal system by redirecting them to evidence-based treatments.



These funds will help approximately 50 youth per year. The youth are provided with case management, Teen Peer Court, Neighborhood Accountability Board, therapy, counseling, mentoring, tutoring and pro-social activities. Our goal is to

intervene in the escalation of criminal behavior at an early age by making youth accountable for their actions and engaging them in positive activities. The program was successful between 2012 and 2014. During that period:

- 229 youth participated
- 96% completed the program
- 89% of the youth who completed the program did not re-offend within 6-12 months after completion
- The youth completed 6,795 hours of community services

We plan to continue the success of this program and want to take this opportunity to thank our partners: Pajaro Valley Prevention and Student Assistance; Santa Cruz County Office of Education; Neighborhood Services Division; Santa Cruz County Probation Department and the community for their support.

For more information, please call (831) 768-3300.

Reminder
City Facilities are now open for business on Fridays.

Keeping Up with Watsonville

Cesar E. Chavez Community Awards Ceremony will be held on March 24, 2016, 7:00 p.m. Civic Plaza Community Rooms. Deadline to nominate someone is February 19, 2016.

Call 768-3240 for more information.

Reminder to Prepare for the Storm

- Develop an emergency/evacuation plan
- Keep storm drains working by cleaning leaves off of storm drains with rake or shovel, and place in trash.
- Help identify and report clogged storm drains or major flooding in your area.

For more information call 768-3133.

STEAM at the Watsonville Public Library

A new collaboration between the Watsonville Public Library and the Environmental Science Workshop began on Wednesday, January 6th. Staff from both city departments are implementing a children's program focused on STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Art and Math). STEAM encourages creative, critical thinking and innovation, meeting a need to integrate these disciplines in U.S. education.

In the first session children, ages 8 to 12, designed and created motorized cars out of recycled materials and circuits. "It's great to learn science," said Ana, a 9 year old girl who plans to attend each week. Workshop staff explained basic concepts in circuitry and then asked questions and encouraged the teams of



children to discuss and think through design problems. This inquiry-based style of learning (posing questions rather than stating facts)

Your City Directory

Police (Records)	768-3370
Mayor Felipe Hernandez	768-3001
City Council	768-3008
City Manager	768-3010
Library (Main Branch)	768-3400
Parks & Community Services	768-3240
Permits	768-3050
Utility Bill Payments	768-3455
Water/Garbage	768-3133

prompted flashes of realization and inspiration.

The library is thrilled to have Environmental Science Workshop staff in the children's room every week. The program is funded by Friends of the Library through a generous donation from Robert & Elayne Stein.

STEAM happens every Wednesday in the main library at 3pm and is open to children ages 8-12.

For more information, call Susan Nilsson, Children's Librarian 768-3416.