



Henry Salinas took in the ICAN Talent Show.

ICAN wraps up summer of fun

ICAN: Positive Programs for Youth wrapped up a summer of fun activities with the close of the summer session on July 22. ICAN's summer programming is supported by the Arizona Community Foundation.

Youth at ICAN enjoyed daily activities including art, computer room, structured sports, STEM learning activities and a reading program through ICAN's library. Youth had the chance to once again attend the DPR School of Construction, where they learned about the construction industry and participated in hands-on building projects. ICAN's Movie Makers Club was in full-swing and produced a full-length music video to "Our House," which featured all of the great things ICAN offers. Youth that earned "stars of the week" honors had the chance to visit the Microsoft Store at Chandler Fashion Center and play with all of the latest technology. Youth even enjoyed a visit from Chandler Fire and got a good soaking from their truck.

ICAN teens were not left out of mix. The teens went swimming once a week at local Chandler pools where a couple of teens started taking swimming lessons to learn that valuable skill. The teens also participated in a "lock-in" at ICAN with teens from the Boys & Girls Club Compadre Branch—complete with movies and s'mores. The teens also

started up some new programs, including "Speak Up" public speaking, "Poetry of Rap" group and S.E.L.F.I.E.—started by an ICAN alumni, this group focuses on teen issues and how to make the best of every situation and grow as a person.

The summer wrapped up on Friday, July 22, with a talent show that enjoyed a special guest—ICAN founder, Henry Salinas.

ICAN is a free, family-centered youth service in the East Valley. It provides a full complement of programs proven effective in equipping youth to achieve personal and academic success by tackling substance abuse, gang involvement and juvenile delinquency. Specifically, 8 out of 10 young people in the areas they serve are living in extreme poverty. Four of those children will go to bed hungry at night and eight will be using drugs or alcohol to cope with the harsh realities they face. Joining gangs becomes a more viable choice than graduation in the community ICAN serves. ICAN exists to combat these issues and build a strong future for our community. ICAN is accredited by the National Council on Accreditation and was recently named "Outstanding After School Program" by the Arizona Center for After School Excellence. For more information about ICAN, call 480-821-4207 or visit icanaz.org.



Youth enjoy a DPR School of Construction visit.



ICAN teens went swimming this summer.

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