

Probation is a unique bridge between the community and justice with many different stories to share.

Meet Tiffany Stokes: Local Hero

2020 CDSS Human Trafficking Awareness Month Award Winner

Deputy Probation Officer IV Tiffany Stokes is an invaluable member of Fresno County's team who works with youth who have been identified as victims of human trafficking....Officer Stokes has built trust, offered compassion, while holding them accountable when necessary. It's these unique combinations of characteristics that make Officer Stokes deserving to be recognized for her efforts to make positive change with the youth that she works with.

*-- Vicki Passmore, Fresno County Probation
Juvenile Division Director*

Officer Stokes is relentless in seeking safe, appropriate placements for our trafficked youth who have been removed from parental homes.

*-- Presiding Judge Kimberly Nystrom-Geist,
Fresno County Juvenile Delinquency*

Her dedication to our youth distinguished Tiffany from so many others working with human trafficking victims. Tiffany's collaborative work with partners in our community ensure youth under her care are in safe environments reducing the likelihood of further victimization. I'm thankful for Tiffany's commitment to our youth!

*-- Kirk Haynes, Fresno County Chief
Probation Officer*



Tiffany Stokes has been a Probation Officer since 2012. Stokes said "In 2015, my Supervisor asked if I wanted to work with CDSS. Hearing the stories of these youth, I knew I could make a difference and be their consistency. These are young ladies and men who didn't want to be out there doing this, and I felt that maybe this was my role, to be there to support them... I have learned that with these kids, poverty or non-poverty, it doesn't matter this can happen anywhere, to all races and nationalities. No one is excluded from being a victim. The youth know I'm there to help them. I want them to feel empowered and know their worth... Probation is here to make lives better." Officer Stokes was recognized by the California Department of Social Services (CDSS) for her work with rehabilitating victims of human trafficking this past month.

Counties all over the state of California are implementing rehabilitation and evidence-based programs. This has resulted in almost 90% of youth being served in their communities instead of detention and a 73% reduction in felony arrest rates during the last decade.

