

Young inmates donate portion of income

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By ***The Record***
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STOCKTON - N.A. Chaderjian Youth Correctional Facility inmates who participated in a work program have donated \$11,700 of their earnings to a county crime victim assistance fund.

The youths earned wages for the past six months at a private company that salvages computer parts. They contributed 20 percent of their paychecks Thursday.

Another portion goes to the state for reimbursement for room and board at the corrections facility, and the rest goes into savings accounts for the wards.

They will have access to the savings once they're released from custody.

"This program teaches youth many skills to be successful when they return to their families and communities. They learn responsibility and teamwork skills that enable them to work with others, as well as life skills, such as financial planning," Rachel Rios, chief deputy secretary for juvenile justice, said in a written statement. "Most important of all, supporting victim organizations teaches them compassion for the people who were affected by their crimes, and that sensitivity toward others is a key to living a constructive life in the community."

This is the second distribution from the youth facility's work program this year. The first was in February, when \$20,772 went to the Victims Compensation Board.

The jobs are part of the Prison Industry Authority's Joint Venture Program. The local segment is a partnership among private employers, the California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation and its Division of Juvenile Justice.

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