

Employee Spotlight: Frank Briones



A Steadfast Force For Youth

Frank Briones says he has the *"best job in the entire county."* Starting as a Youth Specialist at Kent County Juvenile Detention, he has worked his way through several key roles, including Surveillance Officer, before moving into his current position as a Caseworker. Today, he collaborates with the community to build vital programming, creating opportunities for youth to engage in positive activities and meaningful experiences.

His passion and authentic personality are contagious, and his dedication has made a lasting impact on the youth and community he serves. With more than

two decades of service to Kent County, he has made it his mission to uplift and empower the youth, always with compassion and unwavering consistency. Frank's journey began in Orlando, Florida, and he later established roots in Holland, Michigan. Straight out of high school, he joined the United States Marine Corps, serving at Camp Pendleton and deploying three times. That discipline, courage, and grit laid the foundation for the impactful career that would follow.

When asked what makes his work rewarding, Frank emphasized the power of trust and consistency:

"Doing what you say you're going to do is everything to our young people. Building that trust and rapport - helping kids chip away at low self-esteem and build confidence - that's what keeps me going."

The work is not without challenges. Frank acknowledges that not every youth will succeed, and accepting that reality can be the hardest part. Still, he remains steadfast in his belief in the process and in the people around him.

Frank credits the leadership at the 17th Circuit Court Family Division, calling it *"top notch from top to bottom,"* and emphasizes them driving morale and success. He also speaks with deep admiration for his coworkers, saying:

"Youth Specialists are heroes. To go into that facility day in and day out takes a special breed."

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Outside of work, Frank is a proud father of four and enjoys music, movies, food, running, and all things Lord of the Rings and Game of Thrones. Whether he's out on a trail or watching a fantasy epic, he brings the same intentionality and passion to his personal life that he brings to his role: authentic, steady, and always present.

Frank, thank you for your service, your strength, and your heart. Your impact is felt every day, not only by the youth you serve, but also by everyone lucky enough to work alongside you.

