

**EMPLOYEE RECOGNITION  
FOR JANUARY 2025**

**ANNIVERSARIES**

**Marcos Ayala, Canal Water Technician I, 20 Years**

**Raised in Indio, Marco enlisted in the U.S. Army upon graduating high school. After his service, he returned to the desert for work and held diverse roles, including serving as a meter reader for the City of Indio and a sorter and driver for UPS.**

**Marco joined CVWD's Domestic Construction team in 2005 and later transitioned to the Valve and Hydrant crew. An opportunity opened in the Canal division, where he has spent the last decade making a significant impact. In his current role, Marco maintains 56 animal drinkers – large pond structures that provide clean water for desert wildlife in Slab City and Salvation Mountain areas. "I love it out there," he said, sharing that he appreciates the autonomy his job provides.**

**Outside of work, Marco is a devoted family man. He, his wife Gracie, and kids often host family gatherings they affectionately call "Saturday Therapy" – a time to connect, reflect, and share a meal. In their free time, Marco and his family enjoy camping, hiking, and exploring the great outdoors with their new RV.**

**Chris Flores, Operations Supervisor, Stormwater, Canal, & Drainage, 20 Years (**not attending**)**