



AGENDA
VALENCIA COUNTY JUVENILE JUSTICE ADVISORY BOARD
August 2024 MEETING – Minutes

To be held in person at:
The Valencia County Administration Building
444 Luna Ave.
Los Lunas, NM 87031

Tuesday, August 13, 2024
12:00PM-1:30PM

- A. Introduction & Roll Call – Quorum Confirmation – **Quorum met.**
Zoom Board Members – Heather Benavidez, Deputy Chief Cassandra Kanyuck,
Warden Randy Gutierrez
- In-Person Board Members** – Estevan Gallegos, Victoria Flores, Camille Griego,
Kaylee Jojola
- YSC Members** – Abby Montoya Gallegos, Isabella Medina, Phillip Montano,
Rayven Ward
- General members** – Christine Arrellin (**Continuum Coordinator**), Rose LeDoux
(**Grants Coordinator**), Noelle and Holly Chavez (**H2 Academic Solutions**), Lizeth
Bustillos (**Men-THOR**), Val Gauthier (**Director of Federal Programs for Belen
Consolidated Schools & Supervisor for the Attendance for Success Program and
McKinney-Vento**), Richard Lindahl (**JJAC and CYFD Associate**), Julian RuyBalid
(**Family Resource Center Associate Director-YDI**)
- a. Community Member Introduction – If Applicable
- B. Acceptance of Agenda
Heather entertains a motion to accept the agenda.
Victoria motions to accept.
Estevan seconds the motion. All I's...zero no's.
- C. Approval of Meeting Minutes – June 11th, 2024, Regular JJAB Meeting
Heather entertains a motion to approve the minutes.
Deputy Chief Kanyuck motions to accept.

Estevan seconds the motion. All I's...zero no's.

D. Youth Sub-Committee (Update)

a. National Night Out – Aug. 6th – VCSO – UNM-VC

Christine: I will be doing that and let the record show Warden Randy is in the meeting now. So, National Night Out was on August 6th and the youth subcommittee were there present helping the Sheriff's Office pass out the food. It was a huge event – *pictures of the event shared in the meeting*. The news Bulletin snapped a shot of Sheriff Vigil and a deputy along with our youth getting prepared to make the hot dogs and hand out some snacks. I believe there were 20 vendors inside the Student Center. When our youth arrived, they were ready to help wherever needed. Once the hotdogs were ready, our youth created an assembly line, and the distribution of food flowed quickly for the attendance. It was hot. Definitely hot, but it was nice that we were under the shade, which was nice. The youth that were there were so engaged with the youth and families. It was such a great turnout.

b. Presentation of New YSC Members

o Abby Montoya Gallegos and Isabella Medina

Plays introduction video for Isabella Medina (technical difficulties occurred for Abby Montoya – board members received preview).

Abby is 14 years old and goes to Belen High School. She is in sports and hopes to make a difference. She wants to mature while being part of the Youth Subcommittee.

c. Approval to New YSC Members

Christine: So, for the approval we would need a vote of confidence for both.

Heather: I would entertain a motion to add Isabella Medina and Abby Montoya Gallegos to the youth subcommittee and I'll need a motion and a second please.

Warden Randy motions to accept.

Estevan seconds the motion. All I's...zero no's.

Heather: All right. There better not be anybody opposed. And it sounds like they are accepted unanimously and congratulations to both of them. We are very happy to have you aboard.

Christine: I cannot thank you enough as both of them have been super engaged. Once they are tasked with doing what is asked, they jump right on it and I don't know if you guys are aware, but Isabella Medina was an intern in the Grants Office over the summer. On Jeremias' behalf, he said that he wanted to give a shout out to her as she showed abilities and hit the ground running. Both young ladies are going to be beneficial to the youth subcommittee. Again, thank you so much. And now we can move on. To item E, Heather.

Heather: Yeah. Awesome. Congrats to the to the two ladies. We're happy to have you.

E. Discussion & Nomination of Co-Chair

Heather: On to item E discussion and nomination of a Co-chair. Do we have anybody on the advisory board who is interested in co-chairing this Advisory Board?

Christine: At this moment I have not heard anyone that has reached out to myself or Jeremias, but this position is something that has been vacant since before Patricia was on and it does help having a Co-chair in the event that Chairwoman Benavidez isn't able to attend the meetings, it is crucial that we have a Co-chair. So, does anybody

want to nominate themselves or nominate somebody else? At this time, it doesn't seem like we have anybody at this time. Heather, we are ready to move on to item F if you do not have anything to add.

Heather: Well, I'll just ask that the members please think about it. There's not a lot of work involved and not a huge time commitment. It would be very helpful to have somebody with the capability to step in in the event that I am not available, which will happen often, so, and I'm sorry to say that, but I'm a very busy person as we all are. But thank you all for considering.

F. Continuum Coordinator Update

a. Community Outreach – Update & Discussion

o H2 Academic Solutions Back-to-School – Aug. 14th

Christine: Thank you so much, Heather. Yes, H2 Academic Solutions Back-to-School event is tomorrow, our youth will be there, and they will be helping pass out food and then we'll also have a table, and we'll hand out pencils. It is at the Resource Center tomorrow, 4:00 PM to 7:00 PM.

b. The National Council Mental Health and First Aid Training

Christine: The National Council Mental Health and First Aid training, this is a new one. I had reached out to Noelle in early July, and I was trying to find any trainings that we need to take this next fiscal year seeing as last fiscal year, we took One Circle Foundation training, and she had mentioned this one. So, I looked into it and all staff will be youth certified and two, including myself, will be certified in 'Train the Trainer,' we're looking at October, not exactly sure on the date at the moment.

c. LLS MOU with Valencia County Presented to Board of Education

o Approved 7-23-2024

Christine: With this we'll take it to the board of County Commissioners on August 21st for a full execution. Before moving forward, are there any questions? Hearing none, moving forward.

d. FY25 CYFD Contract Update

o Subcontracts Status

Christine: I ask that H2 Academic Solutions step into the Grants Office and will let Rose know when to bring them back in. *H2 Academic Solutions, Holly and Noelle Chavez leave the IT Room.* We did receive an e-mail from CYFD on the subcontracts status as they were approved for the small programs. The small programs include Restorative Justice, Botvin Life Skills. Boys Council, Girls Circle, the new program, Unity Circle, and the Continuum Coordinator contract.

o Solicitation for RAC & Day Reporting Center

Christine: The solicitation for RAC and Day Reporting Center is currently listed for 20 days and the evaluation of the providers who have responded will be conducted on August 15th. An e-mail notification to the board members will be sent out upon selection of the provider as a special meeting will be on August 20th, an agenda will be sent out by August 17th.

After approval from the board, the selected provider will be presented to the Board of County Commissioners. The meeting will be 100% zoom, I will send out a zoom link with the agenda. And we definitely need a quorum for this. So, I would appreciate all of the board members to be on as the only

agenda item is the approval of program provider for RAC and DRC. Are there any questions? About what I just discussed.

Estevan: The meeting on the 20th, you said the only agenda item is the solicitation, what specifically would be discussed?

Christine: The selection of the provider program provider.

Estevan: Is that something that the board decides?

Christine: I am not exactly sure on that question, but I could definitely ask. Jeremias or CYFD.

Estevan: I will be out of town but if it is something that I need to abstain from.

Christine: Once I receive that information I will inform you.

Estevan: Thank you.

Christine: You are welcome. Are there any other questions?

Victoria: So, it is just for an approval then, right?

Christine: Yes.

Deputy Chief Kanyuck: So, it will be an approval for H2 Academic Solutions as the provider?

Christine: If they are the selected provider from the solicited RFP which we will know during the selection process.

Deputy Chief Kanyuck: I will not be available Monday or Tuesday.

Christine: Okay, I understand. Thank you all for your questions. Rose, can you please send back Holly and Noelle. As we wait for them to step back into the room, we will be ready for their update.

H2 Academic Solutions, Holly and Noelle Chavez enter the IT Room.

G. H2 Academic Solutions (Update)

Christine: Welcome back, Holly and Noelle. When you are ready, we are ready for your update.

Noelle: Our MOU'S are mostly through, the only MOU's left pending is for One Circle programs for the Los Lunas School district, outside of that all MOU's have signed. We do have RAC specialists back in the schools. We do have the opportunity to offer One Circle programs in the schools this year. In addition to having a request for it to be after school, it is available on-site as well, so we will look at those options. For Restorative Justice, we are still representing a 5-county area. Mr. Lucas Dimas took over the Restorative Justice program and he is doing a really good job, and we're moving right along in terms of caseloads. Everything dropped a little bit slower in July, but RAC specialists are back up to 30 to 35 cases with more referrals promised from the schools based on the means that we have had. We dropped our One Circle programs from three times a week to twice a week. But we think there will be an increase from conversations with the school and then wanting the on-site/after school, we will see a pickup there. But outside of that, I mean everything is running smoothly. We are bringing in some funding for food and we have other grants coming in to do like mini maker spaces and things like that for youth that are involved in our programs have access to. Are there any questions?

Christine: Thank you for that update, Noelle. Heather, if there are no questions online, we are moving to item H.

H. Juvenile Probation Office (Update)

Estevan: Well, I do not have any specific updates for juvenile probation now that school has started, we anticipate referrals starting to climb up. That is usually our busy season because we get the vast majority of our referrals from School Resource

Officers. I did do a virtual training with the Belen SRO's last week. There were about four or five of them on and I just explained the juvenile process, what it looks like for detention, criteria and what happens once the case comes to our office. We anticipate even more referrals from Belen this coming year. They have had SRO's I think the last couple of years now, but I think they have added another one. For the **Attendance for Success Subcommittee**, we have been planning a few events. In fact, one of them is this afternoon, the School of Dreams Academy is having an open house for elementary-age kids and their families, from 4:30pm to 6:30pm. We didn't have as much of a role in the planning of this particular event because this is a school sponsored open house. It's SODA's open house so we really just connected them to resources because they wanted some vendors to attend. So, we did that. We've been planning the Belen Consolidated School District event, which is going to take place on September 14th. It's a Saturday at Belen High School. I think it's called Soaring to Success. I came up with the title and I can't remember the name. Same concept as we had last year. There's going to be some presentations – Superintendent Sanchez is going to speak. We're going to have representatives from the Public Education Department as well. I think there are going to be some booths for administrators. Again, we're getting vendors. We're looking forward to having the county donate some food. Again, we are going to have a good event. It is September 14th from 10:00 AM to 2:00 PM, I think is what we're looking at. It's going to take place primarily in the cafeteria and I'm sure there'll be some vendors outside as well. Hopefully the weather is not too hot by then, but that's kind of been the focus of our last few meetings and that will continue until those events are going. Any questions? Heather: Sounds like a great event.

Estevan: We're looking forward to it. We participated in the Los Lunas High Schools event last year; a couple of students had put on a resource fair that took place in their cafeteria. That was a lot of fun. We've been in conversations with the Pueblo of Isleta as well. We've also discussed potential conference in the Spring with a focus on 100% Community Schools now that the School of Dreams Academy has been awarded with that grant and one of the elementary schools in Belen – La Promesa. So, we're thinking probably in March.

Heather: That's great. Any further comments or questions? OK, I think we can move on to item I Teen court update.

I. Teen Court (Update)

Victoria: So, we had 12 youth take oath to remain in Teen Court at the end of June. We celebrated by going to the China Buffet and the movie theater thanks to Gary. We will continue this as normal. We always apply for a grant that is due September 12th with Julie, with the juvenile. We got a small grant from DWI for \$9200 with Ginny Adame with the DWI so we can continue as normal. So right now, we are accepting referrals. John Walker from Los Lunas High School, who does the criminal classes has reached out to us and wants to join us. That is something we're looking forward to. We attended the National Night Out with the village of Los Lunas at the Sports Complex. We also did the Isleta Pueblo's National Night Out. We've attended Los Lunas Middle school open house and SODA's High School open house, and we will be attending SODA's elementary open house. We are accepting referrals if anybody has any referrals that they want to send to us. Right now, 100% comes from juvenile probation. We continue as normal and we're waiting for funding. YDI continues because the program is strong. I'm still on the Teen Court Association for New Mexico board. We are one of the few people left doing it in person where we actually have court and young people are sanctioned by their peers. There are

probably only three counties that do it in person. A lot of it now is they get referred; they're sanctioned by staff. And they go and they actually don't do the court. Valencia County's strong point is that we do still train attorneys for prosecution and defense, be lawyer, judge, leads and jurors. That is my update. Thank you.

Heather: Fantastic update. Lots is going on there. Thank you. Any questions or comments?

Lizeth: Just a comment for me. I just wanted to say that I highly appreciate being the point of contact for some of these teens that need to do some community service or anything like that, and I appreciate you sending them to me, giving me the opportunity to work with them because that when they come to me, they're not just providing the community service, but they're also receiving our services on mentoring them and helping them to take a different path throughout, so I'm welcoming any of your referrals and please keep doing that and I appreciate it.

Victoria: Thank you.

Heather: Ok, any final comments? All right. I think we are safe to move on to item J McKinney Vento update.

J. McKinney Vento (Update)

Camille: We've officially started back with the McKinney Vento program for the 24-25 school year. At the end of the school year, we were contacted by KRQE Cares. They did a "Kids for Shoe" event at Ann Parish Elementary. They also reached out to us in the summer. They started advertising and expanded their "Food for Kids" through the Los Lunas McKinney Vento program. Unfortunately, this summer I was not really work oriented because I had other things going on. So, during my contract I didn't participate in enough of the promotion, but we've recently got a good contact with KRQE Cares to help us with shoes and some food for our families. At the end of last year, we also worked with some agencies for some other community grants. We do have backpacks and school supplies that are available for our non-McKinney Vento students, but they have to be in the Los Lunas school system. If you need backpacks and school supplies, please go ahead and contact me. I can get the contact number out there. Right now, we are looking at about 173 students that need to qualify. Out of those, I only have like 10 that actually qualified. But that's pretty high for the beginning of the school year. I'm getting ready to work on making some packs for the families to get them started for the school year, for school supplies and things like that. The schools did invest the last of the AARP funds into school supplies for the classrooms, but not like backpacks, lunch bags or water bottles. That's the most of my update. I don't know if there's any questions.

Heather: Thank you for that update. Lots of great stuff is happening. Are there any questions? Or comments. OK. Hearing none, we will move on to item K other business, is there other business to discuss?

K. Other business

Christine: There is no other business that we need to discuss, but I just want to say that there is a lot of good things going on in Valencia County at this time and I'm excited for this next fiscal year as many more opportunities will come this way with the new programs of the day reporting center and the Unity Circle. I'm really excited to see which youth we can reach out to and provide a positive impact too. I know it's not on the agenda and I apologize for that, but is there anybody that would like to provide a public comment?

Richard: Yes, once again I'm working with CYFD and the state Juvenile Justice Advisory Committee to work with the juvenile continuums around the state. Thank

you everybody, including Christine, for inviting me again and I'm very impressed with your youth and your active youth participation, your youth subcommittee, the two new members. You know you're doing a great job and unfortunately some of the other juvenile continuums, despite CYFD urging them to have youth membership, they don't. So, you're doing a great job with your youth membership and the. The Valencia County Sheriff's Office Night Out. Good updates from all your attendees like JPO and Teen Court, and you ran a very good meeting, and I think it's very informative, so thank you.

Christine: Thank you, Richard. I appreciate the positive comments and I'm very excited with the youth subcommittee growing at the rate it is because this last fiscal year it was nothing but boys and Rayven, the only girl on our youth subcommittee. I'm excited that there's more girls getting involved and wanting to be part of it and to share with the community. And hopefully we will have more youth subcommittee members coming this next fiscal year. Is there any other public comment? Hearing none, we can move on to item L.

L. Adjournment

Heather: Ok, it looks like we are at the adjournment part of the meeting, and I don't think we need to entertain a motion for this. I'm going to go ahead and just adjourn the meeting, but please do note that the next regular Juvenile Justice Advisory Board meeting is scheduled for October 8th at 12:00 PM and I am kindly asking that somebody please volunteer to serve as co-chair we need you. Thank you so much.

Christine: Thank you all for joining and thank you for your time. An e-mail for the special meeting will be sent out by this Saturday. Please note that we need a quorum for this meeting. Have a good day. Thank you all.

Next Regular JJAB Meeting – October 8th @ 12pm