



AGENDA
VALENCIA COUNTY JUVENILE JUSTICE ADVISORY BOARD
October 2023 MEETING

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

Tuesday, October 10, 2023
12:00PM-1:30PM

- A. Introduction & Roll Call – Quorum Confirmation – **Quorum met.**
JJAB Members: Heather Benavidez (**CEO Arc of NM & Chair of Board**), Estevan Gallegos (**JPO Supervisor & Chair for Attendance for Success Subcommittee**), Deputy Chief Kanyuck (**LLPD**), Patricia Gregor (**Co-Chair of Board**), Victoria Flores (**YDI/Teen Court/TOP**), Kaylee Jojola (**Truancy Department Coordinator**) & Camille Griego (**LLS McKinney-Vento Parent Liaison**)
- Youth Subcommittee Members:** Phillip Montano, Rayven Ward, & Josiah Vallejos
- General Members:** Heather Smallwood (**Childrens Court Attorney, DA Office**), Concha Montano (**Program Evaluator**), Karyn Sullivan (**Health Promotion Specialists**), Christine Arrellin (**Continuum Coordinator**), Holly Chavez & Jenna Rael (**H2 Academic Solutions**), Joshua Zuni (**Valencia County Grant Coordinator**), Ruben Barreras (**LLS Attendance Coordinator/LLS SRO/JJAC state member**), & Cathy Monarrez (**LLS Attendance Secretary**)
- a. Community Member Introduction – If Applicable
- B. Acceptance of Agenda
Heather: Motion to Accept.
Camille...motions to accept.
Deputy Chief Kanyuck seconds the motion. All I's...zero no's.
- C. Approval of Meeting Minutes – August 15, 2023, JJAB Regular Meeting
Heather: Motion to Accept meeting minutes.
Deputy Chief Kanyuck...motions to accept.
Estevan seconds the motion. All I's...zero no's.

D. Youth Sub-Committee (Update)

Christine: Thank you, Heather, we do have a few members in attendance so, I will start with Josiah.

Josiah: Last event that we attended was the Fire Truck Pull. There were teams from Belen pulling a truck in a race. We handed out more flyers on the programs from H2 Academics. There were not as many people this time but was a good amount.

Christine: Thank for that update, it was a nice event this last weekend in Belen.

Phillip, can I get your update please?

Phillip: We also attended the resource fair at Belen High School, we helped set up the registration area, we had our own table which we shared about our youth group and program resources. We also helped some of the other vendors set up, Valencia County provided the food and drinks and some of us helped pass out the food.

Unsure about how many attendees there were but I had heard there were over 200 people. I think it was a good event, we also were given time to meet other vendors and exchange information.

Christine: Thank you, Phillip, it was a huge event. There was over 200 people in attendance and Valencia County did provide the food. At the end of the event there were raffle prizes, so, that was awesome for a lot of the participants. Rayven, do you have any updates?

Rayven: No, not really.

Christine: No worries. There is one event that I would like to talk about. We attended an event two days after our last meeting, back-to-school at the Resource Center. Backpacks and school supplies were passed out and the Resource Center clothing store was open for attendees. It was a good turnout. I would like to show you all the youth subcommittee flyers (*pulls up on screen for zoom members*), it was something that I wanted them to complete. The two that you see are from the popular vote of the members. In the chambers they are on the tables. Heather, that is all the updates for the subcommittee.

Heather: Thank you all for the work you are doing. I know it is not easy and you are to be commended as I would not have done this at your age. The flyers are fantastic and thank you for creating.

E. Continuum Coordinator Update

a. Community Outreach – Update & Discussion

o Infinity High School Presentation

Christine: Jeremias and I visited Infinity High School last month; we had 100 students and staff present which was pretty cool. For this presentation, we talked about the JJAB and youth subcommittee. At the end of the, we asked for 2 to 3 interested youth to be a part of the community and be aware of the resources that we have.

b. One Circle Foundation Training – Update

Christine: We completed our training on September 26th and September 27th. We had 17 participants, which is a huge turnout and I think it did really well. Valencia County did provide continental breakfast both days as well as lunch. Still craving Sopa's enchiladas. We had most of H2 Academic Staff attend so, they know they are certified, social workers and counselors from Belen Schools and Los Alamos, and a couple contractors from Torrence County. Everyone that I have talked to have all said that it was a nice experience. One Circle Foundation posted to their Facebook page, and I wanted to share with you all as it was pretty cool to read it online, "This community is incredible, and we are honored to have been invited in to

support their youth and teen programming. Together we're working towards ensuring pathways to resiliency for young folks through providing safe spaces to express themselves, develop healthy relationships, and explore and honor all aspects of their identities. Valencia County, New Mexico is working toward an accessible and available Circle for all youth." From this experience, I really enjoyed it because I have participated in an online training and there is just so much more energy in the room and activities that get your blood flowing. Online is so easy to hide behind a screen.

- c. Valencia County accepted MOU with Belen Consolidated Schools
Christine: BoCC accepted MOU for Belen Consolidated Schools last month, because of the implantation I have received my ID badge that allows me to be on campus to conduct fidelity checks.
- d. Los Lunas Schools presenting MOU to Board of Education
Christine: Valencia County MOU will be presented to BoCC next month after the acceptance of Los Lunas School BoE. We, Jeremias, Holly, Jenna, and I, had a meeting with Superintendent Dr. Kettler and cabinet for transparency of the programs.
- e. Notice that December JJAB meeting will be to vote on a Chair & Vice Chair and Review of the By-Laws
Christine: The December meeting is critical that we have a quorum for this action item. I stand for any questions that you all may have for items a through e. Hearing none, Heather back to you.
Heather: Thank you for that update, Christine.

F. H2 Academic Solutions (Update)

Jenna: A few updates, for Restorative Justice we are averaging about 3 circles currently. Noelle will be doing another panel training in November for anyone that is interested in serving on a Restorative Justice panel. All you need to do is email her. Boys Council, we will be having two groups per week and David Rael is coming back to teach one of them. Six staff participated in the One Circle Foundation Training, so we now have a good group that are trained. One youth has finished with the program and has decided to stay on as a mentor, which is exciting for us. The boys are learning to support each other through their academics through tutoring and holding each other accountable. For Girls Circle, we have two groups per week, one older and one younger. One youth in the older group has decided to stay on as a mentor and has helped with facilitation for the last 3 months. Botvin is averaging 3 Los Lunas sessions per week and 4 Belen sessions per week. Tome Elementary graduated this morning with a 100% success rate. RAC, we have a new Belen specialist, Tristen. She has been with our company in another position and has moved to working with the youth. She is phenomenal and has made headway in the Belen Schools. Right now, our caseload is 30 per site excluding the drop-in site which has 5-7 currently open. If anyone has any questions, please let me know.
Heather: Thank you so much, hearing none we will move on.

G. Juvenile Probation Office (Update)

Estevan: Juvenile Probation is moving along as best as we can, we are down one JPO for extended period of leave. The other JPO's are stepping in for case assignments. We still do not have a chief JPO for the district that includes Valencia County, Cibola, and Sandoval Counties. There are discussions of reorganization within CYFD that have already happened in the protective services department. Specialized in investigation, permanency planning, and intake; they are in their first or second week

of reorganizing. Current discussions occurring for juvenile justice services which is what juvenile probation falls into. Nothing is set, but the preliminary is that there will be a separate early intervention unit which handles non-delinquent cases for families in need of services (chronic absenteeism). As I get information, I will share it with the board.

H. Attendance for Success (Update)

Estevan: We had our Connections to Success event for the Belen Consolidated Schools on September 16, 2023, on a Saturday. We had over 200 students and families show up and vendors. I think it was a great event and thank you to the county for assisting in the planning as well as providing the pizza. So, much pizza was leftover that families were given a pizza to take home. Gotten good reports and feedback from Belen attendance coaches and told that Superintendent Mr. Sanchez was happy with the turnout as well, so, I would say it was a success. We are currently in discussions with something similar with the School of Dreams Academy. Superintendent Mr. Ogas has an event on November 10, 2023, for Veterans Day. He thought us bring in vendors and resources to share with the kids and families on that day since there was already an event was the best way. Time has not been solidified yet, but we are looking at late afternoon, early evening because Mr. Ogas mentioned they will also have a bonfire. For this event, they are expecting a substantial number of attendees. They have 600 students, so they are expecting 1600 to 2400. This will be one of our topics of discussion at our next meeting, which is on October 18th, next Wednesday. We are also discussing to bring back our incentive for attendance such as gift cards or goods that can be distributed to the school districts throughout the county including Pueblo of Isleta and SODA. Any questions?

Christine: Is the Attendance for Success team planning on having a conference at UNM in the Spring?

Estevan: It has not been a topic for discussion yet. For those of you that are new, we had one last March. I do recall events with the Pueblo of Isleta and possibly Los Lunas Schools will occur in the Spring. After the SODA event, in December, prioritize another attendance conference and how different it would be or focus solely on school districts. It is still up in the air, and I am not opposed to it but looking at the other two school districts within the county, it will cut us pretty thin.

Christine: Perfect, thank you.

Estevan: Any other questions? Thank you all.

I. Teen Court (Update)

Victoria: Teen Court did attend the back-to-school event at the Rocket Teen Center, we also attended the Attendance for Success at Belen High School, which was amazing so thank you, Estevan. Right now, we have 14 youth being trained on Thursdays by Ms. Noelle Chavez on sanctions. This has been huge for our young people. We are working with H2 Academics on the Roadrunner Festival on a craft show, vendor, and car show. It is on October 28th and October 29th, everyone is invited, and it is a huge and amazing event. We have been invited to join H2 Academics to do a carnival for our young people. Please come out and support us! Lucas and I are hoping to attend the New Mexico Teen Court Association, the state meeting on November 2nd and November 3rd in Portales. We still have Judge Sichler's court available and Judge Chavez's down in Rio Communities. We met with Estevan and the JPO group on September 23rd for referrals. Teen court is so important to us as we want to keep our Thursday meetings and trainings. I thank all our supporters and I love this program. I encourage our young people to join.

Heather: Thank you so much, are there any questions? Hearing none, moving on to McKinney Vento Update.

J. McKinney Vento (Update)

Camille: Good afternoon, we are in the process of continuing and finishing the process of eligibility screens for the first reporting period. We were referred over 200 students at the beginning of the school year and have confirmed approximately 140 students that have met the eligibility criteria for the program. We are excited because this year we had expanded grants, and my vision is to go beyond the students that meet the requirements. Which is youth who do not have permanent housing for the school year. Schools consistently request clothing and food vouchers. We were able to expand our grant for food vouchers through the county, so, we have \$100 food vouchers for 14 families. We partnered with La Vida for donations of school supplies. LLS expanded with leftover covid money and supplied students with classroom supplies but did not provide water bottles or backpacks. We are working on a panel with United Way to help provide services within Valencia County. I will be doing a presentation on Rapid Housing assistance. We continuously coordinate with Belen Schools and Albuquerque Schools for families and students moving between school districts to ensure students are enrolled in a timely fashion. If there are any questions, please let me know.

K. Other business

Heather: Is there any other business that we need to discuss?

Christine: Yes, there are a few things. Valencia County will be collecting hams and turkeys and is tentatively going to distribute them on November 17th. This will be an event in which our youth participate in, it is a Friday. Secondly, we are in the process of purchasing youth subcommittee items to pass out during events. The following budgets are magnet buttons for \$630, t-shirts and polo shirts for \$500. We think at events it is crucial that our youth wear the same attire and become recognizable within the community. Silicone wristbands are budgeted at \$372 and scientific calculators for \$200, for a total of \$1,702.00. Lastly, we are still awaiting CYFD subcontracts. Those are all my updates. I stand for any questions. Hearing none, Heather back to you.

Heather: Thank you so much for that update. I think it is really important to properly brand the work you all are doing, so, T-shirts/polo shirts are fantastic. I am in favor of all the expenditures.

L. Adjournment

Heather motions to adjourn.

Deputy Chief Kanyuck accepts the motion.

Victoria seconded the motion. All I's...zero no's.

Next Regular JJAB Meeting: December 12, 2023 @ 12pm