



AGENDA
VALENCIA COUNTY JUVENILE JUSTICE ADVISORY BOARD
December 2024 MEETING - Minutes

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

Tuesday, December 10, 2024
12:00PM-1:30PM

- A. Introduction & Roll Call – Quorum Confirmation – **Quorum met.**
Online Board Members: Heather Benavidez and Estevan Gallegos
- In-Person Board members:** Victoria Flores, Deputy Chief Cassandra Kanyuck, Kaylee Jojola, Camille Griego, Jeremias Silva (proxy for Warden Randy Gutierrez)
- Youth Subcommittee Members:** Phillip Montano
- Online General Members:** Rose LeDoux, Val Gauthier, and Barbara Griego
- In-Person General Members:** Christine Arrellin, Holly and Noelle Chavez, Chief Deputy John Giron, Pauline Vallejos
- a. Community Member Introduction – If Applicable
- B. Acceptance of Agenda
Chairwoman Benavidez motions to accept the agenda for December 10, 2024 meeting.
Deputy Chief Kanyuck accepts the motion.
Estevan Gallegos seconds the motion. All I's...zero no's.
- C. Approval of Meeting Minutes – October 8, 2024, Regular JJAB Meeting
Chairwoman Benavidez motions to approve the meeting minutes.
Jeremias accepts the motion.
Deputy Chief Kanyuck seconds the motion. All I's...zero no's.
- D. Youth Sub-Committee (Update)

Christine: I do want to start off with, this quarter, we did have a lot of activities that the youth were participating in. The Road Runner festival, Phillip was there. So, I want him to go ahead and jump in and say what he has to say. Phillip, go through the events as you see fit, and then I'll cover everything else you did not attend.

a. Roadrunner Festival – Oct. 26th

Phillip: I was at the roadrunner festival and that went well. I'm not sure how much we recruited. I wasn't there the whole time because I was assisting another booth.

Christine: This was at the Valencia County Resource Center in Belen. It was a nice event, a huge event. We were only there on Saturday. Victoria had her festival with Teen Court. It was awesome to see the kids participate. My daughter won some prizes. She loves the festival. She always wants to go back and fish.

b. VCSO Fire Safety Day – Nov. 2nd

Christine: This was real fun. Our kids this year got to pull the fire truck in separate teams. Unfortunately, they did not win on the teams that they were on, but the first place went to the Albuquerque Fire and Rescue team and second place was actually the sheriff's office. So, congratulations to them.

c. Badlands Drive-In Fundraiser – Nov. 8th

Christine: We showed Elf the movie. The pre-tickets we sold were 40. Each of our youth was given five tickets to sell, which we sold out on and at the concession stand we made some money. We also sold some tickets at the gates. We made a little over \$1,300 so that we can give back to our Youth Subcommittee members at the end of the fiscal year for something big. We're still thinking about where to take them.

d. Veteran's Day Ceremony – Nov. 11th

Phillip: I was at the Veterans Day ceremony that went well. We said the pledge. We also helped set up a lot of the chairs.

Christine: As Philip had mentioned, they recited the pledge. A few of the Youth Subcommittee members, along with YDI members recited the pledge, and they did wonderfully. It was an awesome event to see the different age groups of veterans that are in our community. You have to have been there to have seen it. It was very moving.

e. H2 Community Thanksgiving Meal – Nov. 27th

Phillip: We all did our separate things, but we assisted in that as well, mostly with handing out food and desserts.

Christine: This was my second year, and I actually decided to stay the entire time, and it was awesome to see how many people were actually there eating and enjoying each other, talking and having a good time. There were a lot more people this year, and so there were zero leftovers, but the food was really good.

f. CHS Craft Fair – Dec. 7th

Christine: This was this last Saturday. We also did a fundraising event as we were able to sell hot chocolate, coffee and candy that was left over from the concession stand, and we made over \$75 that day. Victoria was there with us as well. She was selling raffle tickets for a raffle prize. The winner donated the toys to the daycare that they have at Century High School. Do I have any questions on the subcommittee update?

E. Continuum Coordinator Update

Christine: The first item is the review and vote on the bylaws. I'm going to go ahead and bring up the bylaws that we do have that was approved in 2022 and then, the changes that we have made so far.

a. Review and vote on By-laws

Jeremias: Good afternoon, everybody. As Christine mentioned, we did have an approved set of bylaws from 2022 and we've made just a few minor adjustments to those bylaws, as you can see on the right-hand side of the screen. Under item E, for the term of the board members, we had some items included there regarding Youth Subcommittee and the term for the actual board members which wasn't set, but it was for one-year terms. After having some discussions with legal counsel, they felt it necessary to go ahead and make sure that there was a maximum of five-year terms for each board member, that way there's always fresh faces, fresh ideas participating in our board. That's one change that was made. The second change that was made was regarding the Youth Subcommittee, before we had the Youth Subcommittee membership being able to participate to the age of 28 but you're not really a youth anymore at the age of 28 so we kind of adjusted that to reflect a college age approach. You know, we looked at it as a four-year type of deal. So, the Youth Subcommittee membership, will be forced to leave at the age of 22 that way, there's always room for the younger generation to participate. The other thing that we changed on the Youth Subcommittee was that we got a lot more funding from CYFD, which is really awesome, because it allows us to have a more robust Youth Subcommittee that participate, and we were only getting stipends for the amount of \$25. We looked at internally maintaining the \$25 stipend for meetings, like today, or any of the monthly youth subcommittee meetings. But if any youth members participated in any of the on-site events like the fire department and sheriff's office Fire Truck Pull or the Badlands fundraising events are eligible for \$40. We really wanted to show recognition to our youth who do participate, who are out there, actively engaging with community members, informing the community on the programs that we have here in Valencia County. We felt it appropriate to go ahead and increase that to \$40 per event attended so long, that there's funds available. Christine has done a great job with making sure that when the kids are at the events that they're actually participating. Working and doing what they need to be doing, and not horseplay or cruising around, not involved with the event going on. So, it's really awesome to know that even though we are increasing the amount, we're still putting ownership on them. We're still giving them the responsibility to act in a certain way and to participate accordingly. In addition, now that we're expanding our youth outreach and the participation of the youth, we found it necessary to develop a Youth Subcommittee Code of Conduct. This Code of Conduct was sent out to the board for your review. And it was really nice to see the need for it, because for so long, it was just participated and let's go. But now that we're doing so much more with the community, we wanted to make sure that when the youth show up, they show up in a manner which really shows respect for themselves. So, as you all are aware, we've purchased polo shirts, and we want them to dress accordingly for these events and be a good representation of the county and the Juvenile Justice Advisory Board. We wanted to make sure that there's no weapons, there's no walking home or cell phone use. They are there to participate and

engage with the community. We want to show coordination with these kids and allow them to be part of something that could help them for the rest of their lives. These things that we're doing, it's the kids that are really engaging with the public. They're introducing themselves and learning how to engage with people. It is having the youth openly express themselves without the need to have their face buried in the cell phone. We really highlight the kids participating and engaging with community members and then zero tolerance for, as I mentioned, any drugs, alcohol, weapons, and we also included a clause in there, on whether or not any of the youth breach any of the rules. We've worked with Victoria Flores and the YDI program to utilize Teen Court as a method of teaching, should they break any of the rules. It's not that one stop that you break a rule and you're gone. If you break a rule, we're going to ask you to participate in Teen Court, that way you can understand the importance of following the rules. If they are able to participate in the Teen Court and get through it, then we give them a second chance as we really structured this to have ownership. I mean, there's adult programs that don't have policies like this in place. We felt it really necessary to put ownership on the kiddos who participate, and just making sure that they understand it's a privilege to be a part of this subcommittee. With that said, there were no other changes made to the bylaws. It was essentially the term of office for the board members and some clarification for the Youth Subcommittee as it relates to their term and how much they are able to receive. In addition to the Youth Subcommittee Code of Conduct, they are subject to removal. I would like to go ahead and open it up for any comments or suggestions.

Chairwoman Benavidez: Does anybody have any comments or suggestions or possible revisions on item E? The term of the office for a board member shall be a maximum of five years.

Hearing none, we will move on.

If the Youth Subcommittee members are eligible to participate at the age of 10 and shall resign their membership once the age of 22 is reached, the Youth Subcommittee members are eligible to receive \$25 per meeting and \$40 per event attended so long that there are funds available in the grant agreement Youth Subcommittee members that breached the Youth Subcommittee Code of Conduct are subject to removal. Any comments, suggestions, revisions, or questions about item F? Okay, I'm not hearing any, and I'd like to say that just overall I agree with the changes, and I especially think that adding a Code of Conduct is very helpful. I think that the youth that involve themselves in these types of events, organizations and boards are very brief, because it's not something I would have done at that age. But I also think that it's helpful for them to have a guideline as to what's going to be accepted and what's not going to be accepted. But I think overall, we have the best youth, so it's a good thing. All right, so should we vote?

Jeremias: Yes, Chairwoman.

Chairwoman Benavidez motions to accept the changes of the bylaws.

Deputy Chief Kanyuck accepts the motion.

Estevan seconds the motion.

Chairwoman Benavidez: Okay, wonderful. And because this is a little more serious than what we normally do, can we have a roll call vote, please?

Christine: Heather Benavidez

Chairwoman Benavidez: Yes.

Christine: Estevan Gallegos.
Estevan Gallegos: Yes.
Christine: Jeremias Silva (Proxy for Warden Gutierrez).
Jeremias: Yes.
Christine: Victoria Flores
Victoria Flores: Yes.
Christine: Deputy Chief Cassandra Kanyuck.
Deputy Chief Kanyuck: Yes.
Christine: Kaylee Jojola.
Kaylee Jojola: Yes.
Christine: Camille Griego.
Camille Griego: Yes.
Chairwoman Benavidez: Wonderful. It has passed. Moving on to item b.

b. Board Composition vote

Christine: Thank you so much. I'm going to go ahead and do a roll call again. Please say yes or no if you would like to commit to another year on the Juvenile Justice Advisory Board.

Christine: Heather Benavidez

Chairwoman Benavidez: Unfortunately, no.

Christine: Estevan Gallegos.

Estevan Gallegos: Yes.

Christine: Jeremias Silva (Proxy for Warden Randy Gutierrez).

Jeremias: Yes.

Christine: Victoria Flores

Victoria Flores: Yes.

Christine: Deputy Chief Cassandra Kanyuck.

Deputy Chief Kanyuck: Yes.

Christine: Judge Allen Smith is not present, but I will reach out for him commitment. Kaylee Jojola.

Kaylee Jojola: Yes.

Christine: Camille Griego.

Camille Griego: Yes.

Christine: Jhonathan Aragon is also not in the meeting, but I will contact him to confirm his commitment.

Jeremias: Thank you so much, Christine, and thank you to everybody who has participated over the past year(s), sincerely appreciate it. The board is ever changing and Chairwoman, Benavidez, thank you so much for your participation over the last couple of years. Thank you for your continued support. We would like to extend the opportunity, should you ever want to revisit and be part of the board. You know how to reach us. With that said, with the resignation of Chairwoman Benavidez, I'd like to open it up for any nominations, either online or in the chambers, for potential replacement to be the chair of the Juvenile Justice Advisory Board. Okay, so there's some whispering going on, so I just wanted to let everybody know, I did have a conversation with Miss Victoria Flores, who works with YDI and has participated on this board for several years. She would like to be accepted as the Chairwoman, and I would like to formally make a nomination to make Miss Victoria Flores, the new chairwoman of the Juvenile Justice Advisory Board. Thank you so much, Victoria.

Heather motions to nominate Victoria Flores as new Chairwoman of the Juvenile Justice Advisory Board.

Jeremias (proxy for Warden Gutierrez) accepts the motion.
Camille seconds the motion.
Heather: Wonderful, can we do another roll call vote, please?
Christine: Heather Benavidez
Chairwoman Benavidez: Yes.
Christine: Estevan Gallegos.
Estevan Gallegos: Yes.
Christine: Jeremias Silva (Proxy for Warden Gutierrez).
Jeremias: Yes.
Christine: Victoria Flores
Victoria Flores: Yes.
Christine: Deputy Chief Cassandra Kanyuck.
Deputy Chief Kanyuck: Yes.
Christine: Kaylee Jojola.
Kaylee Jojola: Yes.
Christine: Camille Griego.
Camille Griego: Yes.
Christine: Perfect, I have received yeses across the board.
Jeremias: Thank you so much Victoria.
Christine: Congratulations!
Jeremias: Chairwoman Benavidez, if I may, so we've always had that issue of maintaining a vice chair. And we did have some conversations with Deputy Chief Kanyuck on this vacancy. Deputy Chief Kanyuck, is it something that you're still very much interested in serving as Vice Chair?
Deputy Chief Kanyuck: Yes.
Jeremias: Okay, very good. We're making strides at this meeting today; we've officially had a nomination for the vice-chair. Heather, would it be appropriate if you took us through that motion?
Heather: Certainly, may I have a motion to accept Deputy Chief Kanyuck as our vice chair for Juvenile Justice Advisory Board?
Jeremias (proxy for Warden Gutierrez) accepts the motion.
Camille seconded the motion.
Chairwoman Heather: Okay, can we do another roll call please?
Christine: Heather Benavidez
Chairwoman Benavidez: Yes.
Christine: Estevan Gallegos.
Estevan Gallegos: Yes.
Christine: Jeremias Silva (proxy for Warden Gutierrez).
Jeremias: Yes.
Christine: Victoria Flores
Victoria Flores: Yes.
Christine: Deputy Chief Cassandra Kanyuck.
Deputy Chief Kanyuck: Yes.
Christine: Kaylee Jojola.
Kaylee Jojola: Yes.
Christine: Camille Griego.
Camille Griego: Yes.
Christine: Perfect, I have received yeses across the board.
Heather: Fantastic, congratulations to you both, and thank you so much for volunteering to this wonderful board!

Jeremias: Chairwoman Benavidez, if I may, we're going to continue with this process. I'd like to take a moment to extend the offer to anybody in the chambers or online who would like to self-nominate for a position within the Juvenile Justice Advisory Board. We will take a moment.

Chairwoman Benavidez: Jeremias, if you don't mind what positions are available, I think that would be helpful.

Jeremias: Okay, yeah. We typically can have between 12 and 15 board members. We've never filled the maximum, which would be 15. So, right now we're sitting at, is that 11?

Christine: Yes.

Jeremias: So, being that we are discussing the composition of this board. Because at the first meeting in January, I do present to commission a full roster of this board. I typically like to make availability for any members that would like to be nominated or make a self-nomination, that way it could be formally voted on by this board. Anyone online or here in the commission chambers?

Pauline Vallejos: I would like to self-nominate.

Jeremias: Pauline Vallejos is with the Belen Schools and would like to be an active member of the Juvenile Justice Advisory Board.

Chairwoman Heather motions to accept Pauline Vallejos of Belen Schools as a member of the Juvenile Justice Advisory Board.

Vice-Chair/Deputy Chief Kanyuck accepts the motion.

Chairwoman Flores seconds the motion.

Heather: Can we please do another roll call vote?

Christine: Heather Benavidez

Heather Benavidez: Yes.

Christine: Estevan Gallegos.

Estevan Gallegos: Yes.

Christine: Jeremias Silva (proxy for Warden Gutierrez).

Jeremias: Yes.

Christine: Victoria Flores

Victoria Flores: Yes.

Christine: Deputy Chief Cassandra Kanyuck.

Deputy Chief Kanyuck: Yes.

Christine: Kaylee Jojola.

Kaylee Jojola: Yes.

Christine: Camille Griego.

Camille Griego: Yes.

Christine: I've received yeses across the board, thank you.

Heather: Congratulations, welcome aboard!

Jeremias: Thank you so much, Pauline. Again, just to recap, thank you everybody for the vote on the bylaws and the board composition. This will be presented to the Board of County Commissioners at the January 3rd meeting. That way we can have everything solidified by the Commission. And once that's said and done, we'll make sure that Christine gets out a formal notification via email to the board. Is there anybody online who is not already a member who wishes to participate in the Juvenile Justice Advisory Board? I am hearing none.

Heather: Yes, unfortunately, okay, well, hopefully people change their mind, and it's a wonderful board to be on, and I'm truly sorry to have to say goodbye to it. It's very hard to fit into my schedule now. So, Jeremias, just

for my own clarification, how many members will you have starting in January?

Jeremias: I will pass that to Christine.

Christine: We will have 11.

Heather: Okay, so we're in good shape. Then all right. If everybody's okay to move on, we can go to item C, which is the community outreach update.

Christine: Thank you so much. And before we do step into the next item, Heather, I do want to say I'm sad to hear that you will be stepping away from the board at this moment, but it has been a wonderful almost two years that you have been part of this board, and that I have been in this position, and as Jeremias said, anytime that you need something, I am here for you if you need it.

Heather: Thank you, that is so kind and right back at you, and it extends to everybody here. It's been a pleasure. I love Valencia County, it's still so close to my heart. So, thank you.

c. **Community Outreach – Update**

Christine: Okay, so up until last week, I didn't have anything for this but thank you to Deputy Chief Kanyuck for our conversation last week. She had mentioned that the Los Lunas Police Department is doing a Shop with a Cop with community youth. It's not an open to the public event. It's just a select few youths that school personnel thought would benefit from. So, she extended the invite to our Youth Subcommittee members that would like to participate, and I did receive confirmation from them yesterday. We have at least three attending and I'll give you those names via email.

Vice-Chair Deputy Chief Kanyuck: Okay, thank you.

d. **Coordinator Leadership Team Update**

Christine: There's not much going on with that right now. I did want to say that we had Narcan training, I believe in October, and then November was updates from CYFD of what's going on, the happenings, and the changes that are going on up there. We didn't have a meeting this month, due to the holiday season and we will reconvene in January. Before moving on, I did want to say that I will be at the Juvenile Justice Advisory Committee meeting next Tuesday. It's going to be hosted in Albuquerque, so I'll be up there. Yay. I get to travel to one that's close by.

e. **2nd Quarter Expenditures Update**

Christine: Okay, so I wanted to show you guys in a PowerPoint presentation the graphs and charts so that you could see with a better eye of what it is that is going on with the programming part of it. *Shares screen.* So, here is a breakdown of the coordinator position and the Youth Subcommittee position. We do have some funds, which we're getting close to running out of. The 15% program support as well as shown. And then we have the programming, RAC with the three sites – Belen, Drop-In and Los Lunas. We have the Restorative Justice Circle, Pre-Circle and Post-Circle. And then we have Botvin Life Skills in Belen and Los Lunas. The Day Reporting Center and the Girls Circle, Boys Council and Unity Circle. The numbers are fluctuating a little bit. Some are right on track and some of the programs are not on track. And I wanted to show you a bar graph and a pie chart so you can see what has been spent down and what is still available. The first thing is continuum coordinator. My funding is right on track to spend down the 58,800 by June 2025, the Youth Subcommittee, we're hoping to borrow some funds into this so that more youth will utilize the funding. But we're almost

using it all up, and I apologize, I believe the colors are swapped. Okay, so here we have RAC; the orange is what is still available, and we are right on track with the funding on that one.

Jeremias: Thanks, Christine. And for the board, I just wanted to make a note on the RAC, so this was one of the programs that we had to do a formal solicitation to have this awarded. We did lose about a month and a half, almost two on not being able to get RAC programming set up so that we could be spent down. Even though it looks like it's a little bit on the low end, we do find ourselves in a position where we should be able to gain traction. The other thing too that I'd like to make note to the board is we're currently working on the month of November, so there's technically two months that could kind of influence this this graph, because we still have the month of November and December that aren't technically captured in here. But just wanted to make that point for the board. Thank you, Christine.

Christine: Thank you, Jeremias, Restorative Justice. We're right on track with the spending on this. And by the end of the fiscal year, we usually spend all of it. And as Noelle has mentioned in the past, she loves it. She will do it out of pocket. No big deal. Botvin Life skills looks like it has low expenditures. However, at this time, it's not in the schools, but that will change in the next semester. The Day Reporting Center, this is a big one for us. We're definitely keeping an eye on it, as only a portion of the funding has been expended. In the coming months, we do anticipate a jump in referrals, and Noelle can definitely expand on that. And the last category is One Circle. Boys Council and Girls Circle are doing well and are on track to spending through to June 2025, however, Unity Circle is not doing so good at the moment, but that doesn't mean it won't by the end of the fiscal year, do I have any questions?

Jeremias: And thank you so much for that, Christine. And obviously, our next item that we're going to be talking about is an update from H2 Academic Solutions, so they can get a little bit more into the weeds on the status of each program and future plans, and to making sure that we're in a good position come June 30th, to giving as little money back to CYFD. We obviously were thankful, or I don't want to say thankful, but it was, it was tough to know that we weren't able to get the solicitation out for the RAC and the DRC until like mid to late July. So those two programs, we did get a late start, but we're most definitely going to work together closely with Christine and H2 Academic Solutions to get a nice spend down plan in place. With that, I do believe that concludes the agenda item as it relates to the continuum coordinator update. Heather, can you take us into item F?

F. H2 Academic Solutions (Update)

Heather: Sure, and thank you for that update. That was very informative. So, item F is the H2 Academic Solutions update, and you all can take it away. Thank you.

Noelle: Perfect. And I think the numbers and the graphs help to paint the picture. I'm going to start with the DRC, and I'm going to talk about this one a little bit more, because I think I have a lot of the right people on the call. The Day Reporting Center is something that the board has been looking forward to for a couple years, and the school has as well. However, it's being underutilized, and it has the ability to be functioning seven days a week. We started the last week of August, when we got the contracts ready, we've had four kids enrolled. One youth successfully went back to school. Another youth we did disenroll due to only attending about, 25 to 50% of the time that they had agreed to be there. So currently we only have two youth enrolled on Mondays. If you guys would like a presentation on the Day Reporting Center and

what it can do, please reach out. It is a half day school site and the other half of the day is mentoring programs, some of them actually done by YDI substance use prevention, and community engagement. Youth enrolled starting in the spring, will be helping with the community garden project, and so it's a really good place for youth that have been long term, suspended or expelled and need a place to be during the day for the safety of themselves and the community. We'll help troubleshoot transportation and a lot of those other things too. If transportation feels like it's a barrier, please reach out. I did do a presentation to the Los Lunas Schools Resource Officers, and we've been having some conversations. Unfortunately, most of the kids that they want to refer are elementary aged, and it really is geared towards like 12- to 17-year-olds, although we have had one 11-year-old enrolled this year. If you have a 10- or 11-year-old and you want to talk about it, we'll definitely have a conversation, just to make sure it's a good fit before saying yes. Are there any questions on the Day Reporting Center right now from anybody? Yes, Camille?

Camille: Have you been approached by the Los Lunas Schools Admin yet?

Noelle: No, we have not, and I would not mind if you put us in connection with the right person.

Camille: I will see what I can do because I think it would be valuable to have someone in administration kind of know about this.

Noelle: I agree, and I also put it out to our law enforcement. This is also a good option for daytime. Again, you pick up a kid, we'll have a RAC specialist meet with them and it is completely free. We've got lunch if they don't have lunch. It's not a big deal. We have computers. We have all the stuff. We're able to track progress. We can send weekly reports to teachers. In fact, one of the little dudes we had from Belen, had a conversation with a teacher, and they were able to track what he was doing to count that towards educational steps. We can do a lot. So definitely utilize us. Right now, we're only doing Monday through Friday, until we fill up our Monday through Friday, we won't really do the Saturday or Sunday, but we're hoping to have that Saturday/Sunday available, so reach out and I can do presentations. If that's something that you guys are interested in, we can do presentations probably as early as this week or even coming back from Christmas break.

Jeremias: Thanks for that, Noelle. I was just going to ask the question. So, you know, I think it's a great idea that you do presentations across the board, just to really promote this. But as it relates to law enforcement, they would actually be referring the kiddos to you, correct?

Noelle: Correct, yes, if we got a call from law enforcement and it was daytime, I would still likely send one of our RAC specialists to come pick up the youth and they could stay with you guys at the police station. But if you want us to pick them up, they'd bring them back to the Day Reporting Center. We'd have them participate, and the family could pick them up there. If the kid hasn't been in school for a while and they're causing some trouble in the community, vandalizing property, doing things they're not supposed to, we'll probably talk to the family about enrolling them in the Day Reporting Center. So that way, at least Monday through Friday, while parents are working, they know their kid is at a safe place. And I think that's one of the things I hear from parents all the time when they're like, well, my kid is long term expelled. What am I supposed to do? Well, there's at least a place that they can be where they're going to be monitored. We can't force them to stay, but if they do leave, we actually have to make a report to law enforcement and call the parents let them know that they left. We really haven't had that issue, because the kids all know you have to stay in the building. We try to make it fun and engaging. School is probably the part

where everyone struggles the most because they don't want to have to do it, but that is the first half the day.

Val: Noelle, is it up to the families to transport the child to the DRC for the most part?

Noelle: Val it is, but we will work with them. We have some gas cards available. If they need help scheduling the bus, we will help schedule the bus. The Rio Metro actually would transport kids without an adult, starting at age seven, which, to me, is amazing, but we can help them get the transportation set up.

Camille: The Rio Metro does drop off at your site?

Noelle: They will because we're not an official school site, because we're not a registered school, we don't have that issue of having kids dropped off or picked up there. Another family that we had for a little bit actually used medical transport. I'm not really sure how they figured that out. I haven't navigated that myself, but we did have a kid attending the Day Reporting Center from Socorro County that used medical transport from Socorro to Valencia to utilize the service.

Jeremias: I'm thinking how to ask it, but I guess it's more for like law enforcement. Do you all find yourselves dealing with kiddos that are picked up during the nighttime hours, or is that going to be more so during the daytime that you're dealing with the kiddos?

Deputy Chief Kanyuck: For purposes like the DRC, it would be daytime. The ones that we pick up at night would be more an Estevan problem, most likely.

Chief Deputy Giron agreed with Deputy Chief Kanyuck.

Jeremias: Thank you both.

Noelle: And I'll just add in there, that if it's still something that needs to be reported to probation during the day, definitely still do that. We'll just hold on to them in the process.

Camille: Who has been the referral sources for the kiddos?

Noelle: Some were from probation, some from Socorro, and one from the Belen School District.

Camille: The reason I ask, in my former life, as a CYFD worker, a lot of our kids that were in custody, I would say, had a lot of kids that were actually long term suspended, that were teens, and we could not find a resource.

Noelle: It is a perfect spot. I did present to the Resource Families Coordinator, and to all the resource families, but they may not have been the right group. If you have that connection, if it is Kim, I can reach out to Kim to see because we believe that's what the weekend is mostly going to be. Just as a heads up, we think it'll end up being a lot of respite foster.

Camille: If I find out the right Resource Services, yeah, and if it is Kim.

Noelle: I've got Kim's contact info, I can send it to her, but it's a really good service guys. We can take up to 10 kids at a time and they don't have to come every day. They just must commit to the days that they are coming. If they tell us that they're supposed to be there Monday through Thursday, we're going to hold them to Monday through Thursday, or, like our kids that attend Monday, then they are required to show up on Monday. And whoever we're required to report to is, we let know whether they attended or not. Any other questions on the Day Reporting Center?

Chief Deputy Giron: Who do the referrals go to?

Noelle: The referrals go to me.

Chief Deputy Giron: What is your email?

Noelle: I can read it off. It is noellecerw@gmail.com. Okay, I'll go ahead and go through our other programs. We do currently have two Girls Circle and two Boys Council sessions happening after school per week. We are working on options to

offer it during school. We typically do either Botvin or Girls Circle/Boys Council with the fifth and sixth graders at Central Elementary School. I have reached out to their counselor, Mr. Tapia, just to see what the possibility of doing it this Spring. We do not have any current Unity Circles. But that's not really surprising. Unity Circle is for LGBTQ youth and so that's kind of there as we need it. We've only used two sessions this year. We did attempt to do something at the library, but it wasn't really effective, because a lot of the kids didn't want to participate in a curriculum when they could be playing video games in the teen room instead, which I couldn't really blame them, curriculum over video games, it's a hard sell. So that is available as we need it. We'll likely have to borrow money over from that at some point, but we won't be doing it just yet. Botvin life skills, we have a couple sessions being offered each week in Belen. We are doing Tome Elementary School in person, and we have plans to do Teen Court youth in the Spring, and we are working with Belen, Los Lunas and SODA to see if they are interested in having Botvin in the schools. One of the incentives we are doing this year for classroom-based youth is we are buying about \$200 in raffle items, and so the kids that have attended school, 75% or better, get to participate in the raffle. We're trying to support the school initiative of attendance in addition to being able to offer the curriculum to the youth. Any questions on the smaller mentoring programs? Okay, I'll move on to Restorative Justice. Restorative Justice is doing amazingly well. Lucas is leading now, and I think he's doing a great job. We are offering Restorative Justice in multiple counties, since we are the closest provider. So, we do Valencia, Cibola, Sandoval, Bernalillo, Socorro, and there may be another one. Christine, did that sound about right? That probably was all of them. Christine: I believe it was all of them.

Noelle: Yeah. So, there's a possibility in Sierra County, occasionally, and Torrance County, I think was another possibility. But right now, we're in those counties, and I think Lucas has 17 active Restorative Justice files that are either in the referral stage or follow through stage. So that's going extremely well. Any questions on Restorative Justice? Okay, I'll move to RAC. So, RAC has been really interesting this year. We did have about a seven-week late start and so many referrals that it has been a real team effort to work our way through it. Currently, for RAC Los Lunas, we are hiring for the Los Lunas High School position. But in the meantime, we have Ana and Karen who are helping to cover 79 kids, and that is just Los Lunas High School. Karen is also covering Valencia and Century, and she'll have about 25 kids just there. For Belen, we have Sophia, she's fairly new. She is working in the schools, and she is providing services to 62 youth right now. And she's got a pretty heavy caseload, but she's doing a fantastic job. She also has Brandon assisting her with about another 20 Belen students, mostly the elementary and Brandon will be taking on the Infinity caseload. So, that's not included in that 62, that's just an addition. So, that way she wasn't up to 80. Our Drop-In person, Maria, covers School of Dreams Academy and is our Spanish speaking, our overflow, she is at 80 cases. We are also working to help alleviate some of her load and spread that out. We're funded for three positions, but we are having to bring on larger teams. Conversations I've had with Christine is because we had a seven-week late start and the caseloads we have, we are actually looking at hiring people over the weekend to assist in contacting and continue to make contact with all the youth, just because we do have the days available and the need for it. We started that transition about a week or two ago, by having Karen working on Saturdays as well as Brandon. They're focusing on elementary and out of school youth that need assistance. So that's kind of one of the ways that we're looking at serving the number of kids that we had Los Lunas High school. I mentioned at our last meeting that they sent a bulk referral, and they sent three different bulk referrals,

and in total we ended up with over 300 students referred. I was so impressed with our admin team, they came together, and they filtered through all those referrals, and they all worked the case for about six weeks until we were able to narrow it down to that 79 so huge shout out and thank you to my entire team for being there and being willing to do the work. Does anyone have questions on RAC?

Camille: Do you have any updated referral criteria guidelines?

Noelle: I haven't. I have an updated form, slightly updated. It's not super updated.

There aren't really any criteria, because RAC is an interesting thing. It's case management, and it can be tailored. So, something as simple as food could trigger referral, attendance or grades, but it also could be fighting, needing help with counseling, suicide ideation, any of those things. If you're thinking there's something going on with a kid and that they need extra help, I would make that RAC referral.

Camille: Thank you.

Noelle: No problem at all.

Jeremias: I asked Christine just a little while ago to go ahead and send out referral forms to the entire board. That way, should you need them, you'll at least have a digital copy. And at any time, if you guys need printed copies, just let me know, and I can get you some copies. Noelle, I was just wanting to kind of take a moment. The detention center has been keeping me so busy. They're getting a lot of money from the Sentencing Commission, and they're expanding their educational efforts to some of the detainees, you know, trying to help them get GEDs while they're incarcerated. First off, I don't want in person interaction with the detainees, to any of the youth that are in the programs. But what we were thinking of is because he's getting iPads and he's getting increased wireless internet access, we were thinking maybe with some of the incarcerated individuals who are kind of getting ready to get out and have shown they're moving forward with rehabilitation more, so with the individuals in the RISE program that they might be able to do, like a five minute video, essentially talking to, for example, little Jeremias. What's something you could tell little Jeremias now to kind of go around those mistakes that you've made in an effort to be a better person? I don't know if that's something that you might be interested in, because if you are, we can definitely kind of maybe set up some questions that we could ask these individuals that they could kind of help with any of the programs that you have.

Noelle: I think that is fantastic. One of the conversations we've been having with juvenile probation is the need for a gun violence prevention program, which is different than like gun safety. It's like when people are already actively picking up a gun and shooting it, how do you get them to stop? We've been in conversations with the second judicial court. They have someone there that developed a gun prevention and what was interesting in that conversation, one of the panels they do is actually with those incarcerated, talking to the youth, saying, like, yeah, it was one bullet, and that one bullet cost me 35 years of my life and the impact that panel, in particular, when they were going through the panels that they do, I thought was very impactful. Because I think some of the kids that we're working with, especially some of those that seem to be taking the bigger actions, all comes down to respect. A need to prove themselves, a need for this. But I think if they're talking to people who have had to spend time locked up for that, they may be like, huh, that guy looks pretty tough and he looks like he's a pretty bad dude, but here he is saying that wasn't worth it, and it wasn't worth my time, and maybe something's better. I think it would be really interesting to see where it goes. I could see a benefit to people being able to share their life story and explain maybe why that decision wasn't the best.

Jeremias: Okay, yeah, we'll definitely reach back out. I know Warden is out for the time being, but let's keep that conversation going. And I did see your comment.

Chairwoman Benavidez, thank you so very much for that. And yeah, have a great rest of your day, and a great Christmas.

Heather: Thank you. You do the same. Sorry, I have to go, great to see everybody and take care.

Jeremias: So yeah, just continuing on, Noelle, we'll definitely get an email conversation going on, and then we'll see how we can make this a reality.

Estevan: Just a real quick by the way, just to speak on that I would encourage and maybe even just caution, the term Scared Straight program, I know it's something that was obviously discontinued through CYFD Juvenile Justice Services. I think it was long before I even became supervisor. If that is something, and maybe we just change the name and in terms of what the actual program is going to consist of, it's just something we probably want to make sure that that CYFD is in approval of as well.

Jeremias: Yes, we definitely thought about that Estevan, in no way would it be an emulation or even similar to Scared Straight. It was just kind of like the basis for the conversation that we were talking about at one of the board meetings with Randy. He was like, oh, you remember Scared Straight? Remember how much that was good? And then, you know, we kind of started talking like, well, yeah, but look at why it's gone? So it just kind of ignited that conversation and how we can do something, I don't want to say similar, but that has the impact to the kiddos that Noelle mentioned and just really having that level of conversation from somebody who is locked up or detained just kind of not scare them, but give them positive information on how they could make a impactful change on their lives. Thank you so very much for that, Estevan, I'm grateful that you shared that. Since former Chairwoman Benavidez had to get off, if it's okay with you, Chairwoman Victoria Flores and Vice Chair, Deputy Chief Kanyuck, if I can go ahead and continue with the meeting.

Both gave approval to proceed.

Jeremias: Very good. Noelle, was there any other updates?

Noelle: No, there is not.

Jeremias: Awesome. If there's any questions, comments, or suggestions, please reach out to Christine or myself. But one thing on that before we move on, we've been discussing on having the Youth Subcommittee referred to H2 Academic Solutions, that way the youth can actually participate in these programs in an effort to increase their knowledge of what it is that they're talking to the community about. Like they have first-hand experience of, what Boys Council is, what Girls Circle is, and what Botvin is. What are those components of it that way, as they're conveying it to the community members, they have that wee bit more of knowledge on what it is they're talking about. We do plan on starting small. We want to get through this current fiscal year, I think, with Boys Council and Girls Circle to see the level of participation from the kiddos. You know, there's obviously some monies that they're available to, I think Noelle you have?

Noelle: Yes, I can touch on that. I should have given that my update. So, for youth that are by choice, showing up to Boys Council, Girls Circle, Botvin or Unity Circle, they are able to receive a \$100 gift card for every 15 sessions completed. For example, they can do 15 sessions of Boys Council and get \$100 gift card and do 15 sessions of Botvin and get \$100 gift card. They have an opportunity to get \$200 in gift cards. I do think it's a fantastic idea. Christine called me about it a couple of weeks ago. It's actually what we do with Teen Court kids because the attorneys are the ones giving the sanctions to other youth, and by having them participate in the classes, they know what they are sanctioning the other kids to. And so, I think JJAB youth attending at least some of the classes is just a great opportunity.

Jeremias: And I do want to give credit to where credit's deserved. This was an idea from one of our youth members, Mr. Philip Montano, so he kind of came up with that idea, and then conveyed it to Christine. We had our youth meeting last night, and just kind of planted that seed with the youth, and they were all on board wanting to participate in it. A question for you. Noelle, yeah, we have our youth in it. Is this something that, let's just say, regular kiddos with Belen schools or Los Lunas Schools, if they wanted to do it, are they eligible as well?

Noelle: Absolutely. And right now, we get a lot of referrals from Belen schools, and we have a lot of Belen students attending, and they're eligible for that gift card as well. It's good information for kids, so it's not excluding anyone. They do have to be 10 to 17, because that's just the age range for our funding. But we have options. I prefer in-person attendance. I feel like in person get more out of it. But we do have options to zoom, for kids that have a lack of transportation. And I told Christine that if there were enough kids in Los Lunas that wanted to do it in person, we could find a location in Los Lunas and make it happen as well.

Jeremias: Awesome. To clarify, straight A students who have no problems can definitely participate in this?

Noelle: 100%

Jeremias: Any questions from the board, anybody online for Noelle? Okay, hearing none. We're going to go ahead and get on to Item G, Juvenile Probation Office Update. Mr. Estevan Gallegos.

G. Juvenile Probation Office (Update)

Estevan: No significant updates from juvenile probation. We are still down a position. I was hoping that we were going to be able to post it a couple of months ago, but it's kind of just falling through the cracks at this point. I'm not sure if we're going to be able to fill it, which is disappointing, but I will say referral numbers from law enforcement have stayed. They have become steady. The school year started off a little slow. I know the Los Lunas Schools SROs, we're going through some turnover, and I think they're fully staffed now. We're starting to see referrals pick up quite a bit from the schools. We've definitely seen an increase from Belen schools now that they have an SRO at the schools. Possession of cannabis in a restricted area continues to be our number one offense. Just seems like it continues to be an epidemic in the schools, with kids having vapes, THC, vapes and whatnot, but we're working through those. No other significant updates from juvenile probation. We're currently doing a training, we actually did one this morning, and we're going to finish off tomorrow. It's called PAX training. To be honest with you, I don't know what the acronym stands for, but it's essentially being trauma informed. It's kind of re-enhancing a lot of the work that we already do with our probation clients, with our preliminary inquiries and our teaming meetings. I know some of the folks on this call have been in some of our team meetings, so they're a little familiar with the process already and what the intention is behind those. But other than that, we're strolling along.

Jeremias: Thank you so much, Estevan. Are there any questions from anybody in the room or anybody online? Okay, hearing none. We'll go to proceed to item H.

H. Attendance for Success (Update)

Estevan: The Attendance for Success subcommittee is a lot more exciting than the probation update, if you will. We've been planning to have a conference in the Spring again for school personnel with an emphasis on 100% community schools. We've got a couple of schools in the county that are 100% community schools. La Promesa

Elementary down in Belen and the School of Dreams Academy just got awarded to become a 100% community school as well. We are looking to have an attendance event again in March. We have our next subcommittee meeting next Wednesday. It's a regularly scheduled meeting, so we're going to continue planning those. We've already got some buy in from some of those schools that have already talked about. We'll have some representatives from the Public Education Department. I'm pretty confident and have already discussed having resources available, a lot of community providers, whether that'll be in the form of speed dating, like we've done in the past, or some other type of format, remains to be determined. But that's pretty exciting. We're looking forward to having that conference again, like I said, it's in March. We haven't solidified the date which we will next Wednesday, we'll have that date in place, and we're tentatively looking at the UNM Valencia campus, again.

Jeremias: Thank you. Estevan, are there any questions or comments for Estevan? And I just wanted to say, if there is anybody interested in wanting to participate in the attendance for success meetings that are held, please feel free to reach out to myself, Christine, or Estevan. We would gladly be able to provide you with that link. It's a great group, and definitely look forward to the next subcommittee meeting. Estevan, thank you so much. Next on the agenda, Chairwoman Flores.

I. Teen Court (Update)

Chairwoman Flores: Our teen attorneys attended the Roadrunner Festival both days, the Veterans Day ceremony, the H2 Community Thanksgiving meal and the Craft show. Christine had said and was gracious; she shared her table with us on Saturday. Thank you, Christine. But the really cool thing that I have to share with you is that we lead in how many youth attorneys we have. We have 15 youth attorneys. Now that's the most anybody has in the state. It's pretty amazing. During my two-day conference in Moriarty, Thursday and Friday. Torrance County donated the curriculum to do mock interviews. It's called, "Case Action." The curriculum is worth \$1,000 and because we're really the only ones doing, like, the actual Teen Court, the way it was meant to be, everybody's doing the job. They're sanctioning, but nobody really does the courtroom anymore. It's kind of a thing of the past, but for some reason, Valencia YDI still does Teen Court the way it was meant to be. We got that donation to us, so they're hoping that YDI Valencia Teen Court puts together a mock trial from the curriculum that was given to us, and we will sponsor the next New Mexico Teen Court Association meeting in six months, and hopefully to have a mock trial for them. That's kind of cool. I'm kind of excited about it that we still lead the state with the Teen Court, and hopefully we could record a mock trial for them too or do it in person. So that's really it.

Jeremias: Awesome. Good news, as always, Victoria. Thank you so much. Are there any questions for Victoria from anybody in the chambers or online? And I just wanted to say again, thank you so much Victoria for allowing us to piggyback off of your Teen Court for Youth Subcommittee members, hopefully we don't ever have to use you, but it's nice to know that it's there if needed. Thank you so much. Okay, moving on down to item. J Los Lunas McKinney-Vento update, Miss Camille Griego.

J. Los Lunas McKinney Vento (Update)

Camille: Good afternoon, my update is we are serving approximately 202 students, which is at least 20 students more than we served last year. We recently were collaborating with Los Lunas High Schools Lending a Paw to kind of fill the gap that we were left with when the county could not support our holiday hams and turkeys.

We were able to coordinate with Lending a Paw and to give Thanksgiving food boxes. We were able to serve about 90 families through the Los Lunas Schools District. It wasn't just the high school; we were able to open it up to all the other school sites. Recently, we did a presentation with all the staff. It's interesting, there's a lot of individuals, even in the school system, that don't know about the services of McKinney Vento for students that are basically considered not having permanent housing or don't have a stable housing situation. We're also currently starting to look at the deadlines that are coming up for our older students for FAFSA, our juniors and seniors. We're starting to coordinate with the counselors from the high schools to help them fill out their financial aid forms. I think right now, those are our most current updates. I don't know if you have any questions.

Jeremias: Thank you, Camille. Any questions for Los Lunas McKinney Vento, anybody in the room or online? Okay, and Camille, you know, I know it's unfortunate that we weren't able to continue the holiday hams in the manner that we were used to, but I did want to touch base with you and Val coming up next. I do have a little bit of funding. I'm going to get an email out to you, Camille, to see maybe we can do a couple hams per school district. I'm able to partner with Smiths. They've been graciously allowing me to, you know, they have a policy of one ham per person. But after talking with them, they're like, oh, you know what, as long as it's going to a good cause, they're willing to work with me on that. I'll definitely reach back out to you, Camille, so we can't get something out to some of the schools. And, you know, it's going to be something that simple to where, I can load you up with the turkeys that we do have, and then maybe you can just pass those out to the schools on those that do want to participate.

Camille: We are thankful and grateful for you collaborating with us and helping us with those resources. For the last few years, it's been very valuable to our families, so I need to say that. So, thank you.

Jeremias: Of course, no problem. I just going to want to continue on at the agenda item, K Belen McKinney Vento, so that's going to be Val and Barbara.

K. Belen McKinney Vento (Update)

Barbara: Hi, good afternoon. This is Barbara for McKinney Vento. The number of students that we have right now is 260 and every day it goes up. I've been talking to a lot of nurses, counselors, principals, teachers, and informing them of McKinney Vento students and what to look for. We've been finding a lot more kids out there that are qualified for McKinney Vento. We have the student council at the high school do a giving tree and were able to come across 105 gifts for all of our students in our district that needed help or assistance for a present for Christmas. We've had coats for kids where we had a donation of coats come in that we're going to be handing out to students here soon. We just received a shipment yesterday, New Life Fellowship and First Baptist Church have donated, between both of them, 130 snack bags that they give to us every Friday to be delivered to the schools so that the kids have a backpack to put a snack in and take it home for the weekend. And so those are a few of the things that are going on in Belen. Any questions.

Jeremias: Thank you so much. Barbara. Any questions for Belen McKinney Vento in the room or online? Okay, the same to you, Barbara, as I mentioned with Camille, I'll go ahead and reach out to you and Val, just so we can get a count of how many hams you guys think you can pass out based on the budget that I have. I want to make sure to share equally with Belen Schools and Los Lunas Schools, so I'll make sure and get an email out by Thursday.

Val puts in chat: Thank you Jeremias. Our families appreciate any help during the holidays.

Barbara: Thank you so much, I appreciate that.

Jeremias: And then, Barbara, would you mind putting your email in the chat just so we can have it for the record?

Barbara: Sure. No problem.

Jeremias: Okay, moving on down the agenda to other business. Was there any other business that anybody in the room or online wanted to speak on, comments, suggestions, upcoming events? Thank you, Barbara.

L. Other business

Noelle: I just want to invite you guys to our Christmas event next week. I'm slow in getting the flyer out. We've just been short staffed and all the fun all the time. But Tuesday, it'll be 12pm to 6pm at UNMVC in the Student and Resource Center. It's the Shop for Your Parent event. There's a photo booth, card making, candy canes, Hershey kisses, all the fun stuff. It's open to youth of all ages. Then again Wednesday, from 12 to 6pm we will have Santa there on Wednesday for folks that want to do pictures, but same thing Shop for Your Parent, and card making and all the good stuff. We'll have cookies and things like that. It's family friendly. We get people of all ages that come to take photos and hang out. If you want to volunteer, I never say no to volunteers ever. Or if you want to wrap gifts next week, like, hit me up because I hate wrapping.

Christine: Thank you, Noelle. I might inform the Youth Subcommittee to see if they want to partake in that. Of course, if they can miss school because I know it's finals next week. So, my update is for our Youth Subcommittee, we are going to throw them a Christmas party. It's open to the board if you guys want to come join and hang out with our subcommittee members. We plan on doing a Secret Santa with the kids, as well as a White Elephant, and of course, we'll feed them. That's all that I have for that. Oh, right, I always forget the date and the location. So, it's going to be on December 28th, it's a Saturday from 11am to 1pm. It's a two-hour party, and it'll be here in the commission chambers. Any questions? Hearing none, we could go on to public comment. Thank you.

M. Public Comment

No public comment.

N. Adjournment

Jeremias: I just wanted to express thanks again to Victoria, Deputy Chief Kanyuck, and Miss Pauline Vallejos. Thank you so very much for your willingness on wanting to participate on this board. We need voices like you all on this board so you can keep us in the loop with what you're seeing with your respective fields as it gives us an idea of what kind of funding we need to continue to request for in the future. Again, thank you so very much. We will be in contact with the board here in the next month, once we have conversations with H2 on when we plan to do a budget adjustment. Just a reminder, those budget adjustments need to be presented to this board and voted on, so that we can then send it up to CYFD for approval and execution. In the event that we need a special meeting, it will be in the month of January, but we'll make sure and give as much lead time as we can so that we can have a quorum for those BAR's. Thank you so much everybody for your participation today.

Jeremias motions adjournment.

Vice-Chair/Deputy Chief Kanyuck accepts the motion.
Estevan Gallegos seconds the motion. All I's...zero no's.

Next Regular JJAB Meeting – February 11, 2025 @ 12pm