



AGENDA
VALENCIA COUNTY JUVENILE JUSTICE ADVISORY BOARD
DECEMBER 2022 MEETING

To be held in person at:
The Valencia County Administration Building
444 Luna Ave.
Los Lunas, NM 87031
Zoom Link for Virtual Attendance:
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82357283853>

Tuesday, December 13, 2022
12:00PM-1:30PM

- A. Introduction & Roll Call – Quorum Confirmation **more than 7 present for Quorum**
In person JJAB members: Jeremias Silva, Linda Montano,
Camille Griego
- Virtual attendance:**
JJAB Board Members:
Heather Benavidez (Chair), Randy Gutierrez, Victoria Flores, Patricia Gregor, Kelli Vigil,
Commissioner Jonathon Aragon,
- General Attendance:
- Josh Zuni (**Grants Dept**)
Richard Lindahl **LLCYFD (subcontractor)**,
Noelle Chavez, Holly Chavez (**H2 Academic**)
Yolanda Abeita (Isleta Pueblo)
- Youth:** Phillip Montano, Andrea Sasser, Isaiah Jimenez, Kyleigh Winters, Sarah Epley.
- B. Acceptance of Agenda
Heather ... motion to accept the Agenda
Patricia ... motion to accept the agenda, Victoria Flores 2nds the motion. All in favor, all I's...
zero no's Heather ... Agenda accepted
- C. Approval of Meeting Minutes – October 11 Board Meeting

Patricia ... motion to Approve Meeting Minutes / Linda Seconds the Motion... All I's ...zero no's.... Heather ... Unanimously accepted... Meeting Minutes of October 11

D. Introduction/Nomination of Potential Youth Subcommittee Members

Jeremias: Had discussion with Los Lunas High school "Lending the Paw" youth group. It went very well and the youth were very inviting, welcoming and interactive. Introduces Nominated youth sub-committee members. Sarah, Kiley, Isaiah and Andrea... gave brief introductions and addressed the questions sent out by Jeremias:

Andrea Sassar: (Senior LLHS) ...: wants to join the committee to gain insight to what goes on around the community and hopefully provide solutions for a better environment for the youth group. *(Jeremias: your wants and your needs / goals for wanting to be a part of this youth sub-committee are adequate and we really look forward to bringing you onboard and seeing how much of a difference we can make together)*

Isaiah Jimenez (Senior LLHS) ...: Interested in becoming part of the Board ... growing up in the South Valley knew many who got sent to "Juvi" really young ... so being a part of this group would help in influencing those around him to be able to stay out of "Juvi" as well as understand and help other youths in the community to stay on their feet and stay off of the streets and out of "Juvi". *(Jeremias: that is wonderful Isaiah, "I could not have put it better myself Sir" and thanked him for wanting to be a part of this Board and the pride he exudes while speaking and looking forward to making a difference together.)*

Kyleigh Winters (Senior LLHS) ...: Interest in the board stems from the things that are not spoken about but needs to be brought to light and be talked about and be brought up to the Board about the community as well as staying informed and involved with the community. Looking forward to be able to make suggestions and form solutions for the suggestions presented about problems the youth are facing. *(Jeremias: Awesome and looking forward to some of the solutions to be addressed as a team and creating a team environment.)*

Sara Epley (Senior LLHS) ...: wants to learn more about why the youth end up in "Juvi" and let it serve to figure out ways for the youth to stay out of what they are doing. She hopes to set goals to achieve keeping them off of the streets. *(Jeremias: Thank you for that Sara and we look forward to working with each and every one of you. You all seem very motivated and you "CARE"!! That is the one big constant that the youth presenting all to really seem to care.)*

Jeremias: really looking forward to building the youth sub-committee to add to long time member Phillip. Expressed thanks for the motivation and excitement they bring. Opens it up to the board for questions or comments.

Linda: Commends all Youth and the work they do with Lending a Paw program, but taking the initiative to look at other programs as well as collaborating and engaging with Juvenile Justice Board Sub-committee. Expresses that the Board has passion and community collaboration that will give the insight to what is going on in the community. Thanks them for being present and interested in the programs.

Heather: Expresses how remarkable it is when young people get involved in their community and is glad that the opportunity is being offered to the youth as well as that them taking the opportunity. It speaks very highly (of the youth present) of the youth as individuals.

Jeremias: Looking forward to the youth input and their contribution and opportunity for clarification about what is really going on with that age group. Thanks the people involved for allowing him to speak to the Lending a Paw group. Reads comment from Noelle about a potential presentation from Lending a Paw at a future meeting and concurs with the idea. Comments about how impressed he is with the well organized and programs offered through the Lend a Paw program.

Nomination of Potential Youth Subcommittee Members cont.

Heather: Motion to accept Isaiah, Kyleigh, Andrea and Sara as our Youth Sub-committee members.

Commissioner Aragon: motion to nominate all and encourage them to continue public service in their futures as leaders in the communities and expresses his appreciation for their participation on the JJ Advisory Board.

Camille Griego: second the motion...

All I's ... zero against

Heather: passed unanimously.... **WELCOME ABOARD! We are so happy to have you. Congratulations!**

Jeremias: THANKS the board and the youth and expresses the importance of the Youth sub-committee now part of the Juvenile Justice Advisory Board.

Plans on getting into Belen Public Schools and the Pueblo of Isleta to get youth involved.

E. Youth Sub-Committee (Update)

Phillip: Collecting donation for the winter drive. So far collected 150 hats, 125 pairs of gloves, 40 Jackets and 35 Scarves along with various clothes, shoes and bags. The donations are being distributed as needed. Collections will continue through January 2023.

Also, collecting donations for Holiday Event at H2 on Dec. 21. There will be desserts, Santa and "free" shopping for youth to give to their siblings, parents or guardian from collected donations. (Donations also by UPS, Luna Craft Works, and Victoria)

Attended: Veterans day event and had information on the Sub-committee and donation drive.

Collaborating: with Youth Move on hygiene donations. Will be working with them on Dec. 20 to make hygiene bags.

Jeremias: planning on having an online chat with Youth Sub-committee to loop in the Youth and begin with combined efforts for current projects. The correspondence will be sent via email.

F. Discussion & Nomination of Co-Chair

Heather: asks for input.

Jeremias: wanted to express that the item is to remain on the agenda until filled and opens up to the board for potential Nominations.

Heather: tables for now

G. Continuum Coordinator Update

a. Board Update –

Jeremias announces Resignation of Beverly Romero and thanks her for her time on Committee.

Linda: Nominates Yolanda Abeyta as a new Board Member and is pleased with information and work done thus far with the JJBA has been greatly appreciated. She formerly makes a motion to nominate. Yolanda wishes to respond.

Yolanda: expresses concern about the timing of this nomination would need to decline today as the Pueblo of Isleta is changing Tribal Administration and would like to wait until the new Administration is in place before asking if the additional duties would be consusive to the Pueblo and would not interfere with her current duties. She would have to wait until mid-January to discuss with the new Administration.

Linda: says she understands there is a process and when the time comes the board may provide something in writing to present to the new administration when she is ready and to let the Board know through Jeremias so the Board is informed when the time is right for the re-nomination.

Yolanda: thanks the Board for the nomination and expresses that the New Administration would also be grateful to allow their input on the potential Board seat for Yolanda.

b. Discussion on Hiring of a Full Time Continuum Coordinator – Designee for Interview Panel

Jeremias: expresses the vital need for a full time Continuum Coordinator. His duties with the County along with the data input required by the board and CYFD have become too much to handle with regards to the time and efficiency necessary to do the additional duties proper justice. The county will Advertise for the position hopefully next week (Week of December 19). Then asks for the Board to nominate someone to sit on the interview panel. Jeremias said if there were no other volunteers, he was thinking of asking the Chair (Heather) to sit on the committee. Heather accepted as there were no other volunteers. Also, Commissioner Aragon asked that a commissioner also sit on interview panel and Jeremias agreed to reach out to find one at the next board meeting.

c. Discussion on Hiring a PT Community Outreach Coordinator

Jeremias: expresses that this was going to be done in order to better provide outreach to the community and youth sub-committee as well as assist with fidelity checks within the current programs. Expresses it would benefit the committee with both the field and administrative requirements to benefit and better serve the community and provide cohesiveness with the board. The Continuum coordinator would not be able to do both the administrative duties and the outreach duties effectively needed to provide compliance and reimbursement. Then asks for comments.

Camille: emphasized the need for a Community Outreach Coordinator and the benefit it would be to the community, community programs, and the Board.

(Heather: expressed need to leave at 1pm. Jeremias assured her there were no voting items and were just discussion items left of the agenda.)

d. Discussion on utilization of received funding to assist with Cibola County Juvenile Justice Cases – CYFD & H2 Academic

Jeremias: posed the question to CYFD if Valencia County could contribute to Cibola County. He also stated funding received thus far is just for Valencia County so proposed a suggestion by CYFD to make Cibola County Juvenile Justice persons an opportunity to become part of the board and thus, then receive their own funding, perhaps from H2 Academic.

Noelle: proposing to offer the programs such as Boys Council, Girls Circle and BOTM over zoom which are already small classes and could attend with Valencia County youth. RAC is currently unavailable but could provide days for in person Juvenile Justice support on the same days as the Adult (already scheduled) personnel travel to Cibola County already. Data input would increase with addition of Cibola County attendees.

Kelli: already have services for Adjudicated youth that are on formal probation in the Juvenile system through community corrections money (Futures for Foundation) and has Grants Family Counseling. Emphasized Noelle's comments that there are no Diversion Courses and the existing course does not have the capacity for more than 3-6 youth per month (with referral from law enforcement only).

e. Holiday Turkey and Ham Distributions

Jeremias: distributions were 250 Thanksgiving Turkeys, and 340 Holiday Hams

Camille: Thanks from Los Lunas schools for these distributions and provides a great resource for families in need of extra support. The response has been Awesome.

f. CYFD Staffing Change

Jeremias: Samantha Rendon has left her position Cindy Varela has resigned her position thus leaving that unit with one program Manager Consuelo. Wishing them well and looking forward to working with the new staff.

H. H2 Academic Solutions

a. Program Update

Noelle: Recession Assessment Center (RAC) program: the drop in site has approximately 30 youth. Los Lunas side has 38; Belen has approximately 50 and the Valencia hot site has approximately 25. Phenomenal job by Phillip on panels. Boys Council and Girls Circle 3-4 per session and want to graduate as many as possible during winter break. Botvin Life skills with Heather at approximately 7 sessions a week with heavy focus on LL schools but in January will start in Belen ... the entire middle school has shown interest in the program (500 kids). Because of the increase will focus on getting more staff trained and background checked for the program. **Angel Tree** is going strong, the function for the Angel Tree are December 21 from 11am to 2pm at 129 South 3rd Street in Belen. Angel Tree kids can pick up at that time and is also open to the community for pictures with Santa. Parents can also come and shop for free for their kids. Donated items have also been available for kids to get for parents and siblings. Volunteers will be available to assist with wrapping the gifts for them. Thanks to the community partners who have contributed.

Linda: asks board members and community groups for donations either food or gifts.

b. Discussion on Potential Budget Adjustments in 3rd quarter

Jeremias: for future reference, looking to collaborate on the funding for Cibola County needs and devise a plan to differentiate drawdowns for Valencia vs. Cibola County funds. Best case scenario would be for Cibola County to have persons on the board to be able to qualify and encumber funds for themselves. Also needs to discuss budget so if need be, call an emergency meeting for the board to address funding and if able to wait until February, then will address it at the next Board meeting as it is a requirement of the Board to review budget /changes before submitting for approval.

Noelle: will send dates for availability to discuss.

I. Juvenile Probation Office & Attendance for Success (Update)

a. Attendance for Success Retreat – Tentative March 2023

Kelli: Attendance for Success met in November and is meeting on 12-14-2022 at 12pm to work on the conference for March 2023.

Juvenile Justice interviewing for one position at this time.

Jeremias: filled in with a comment of how many people actually attended the last conference, and that a larger venue may be in order to accommodate more people.

J. Teen Court (Update)

Victoria Flores: Teen Court is every month. Sat down with Desiree Sickler to discuss what can happen when she takes office in January. 12 youth have taken oath, two more that are joining and one working on their sanctions and wants to become a youth attorney. Has 2 referrals from JPO and 1 from SODA ... has classes and training on Thursdays from 5 to 8 and provide a meal. Many sanctions come from H2 Academic. Many youths from Belen were doing community service ... and have an Escape Room that will be running until December 29th or 30th. Get ahold of H2 Academic for the Escape Room. Also mentioned that she can take referrals from Schools and parents, staff for teen court and would be very happy to speak with those referrals.

Jeremias: letting Victoria know the PO had been submitted for Teen Court and also met with the DFA program manager and they did show concern about funding. They are funded by tickets and citations and are now showing lesser funds and suggested looking for other funding sources to ensure that programs like Teen Court and others do not die. Asks for input from the board about additional funding sources to offer them to the Board. With regard to additional funding sources, written proposals are an option.

Camille: spoke to a becoming aware through a local news broadcast about potential funding and large surplus sources from the State of New Mexico and suggested more research on that surplus.

K. McKinney Vento (Update)

Camille: In the beginning of December performed the 2nd quarterly count and 180 students that have been qualified for McKinney Vento and last year at this time only had approximately 85 so there is a significant increase in numbers over a years' time. There are still more potential families to qualify. Has partnered with agencies such as H2 Academic Angel Tree and Valencia County for programs such as food distribution. Had to reschedule UNM/CNM full campus tours due to state testing.

L. Other business

Jeremias: Hiring of Concha Montano to come on board to assist with the Strategic Plan by doing a needs assessment to hopefully be completed by the end of January 2023. The Assessment will be an agenda item for February and will be followed by the Strategic Plan in March or April 2023. Introduces Richard Lindahl.

Richard Lindahl: Working with all the JJ Boards across the State of NM and is retired from CYFD.

Goes on to Congratulates the Board on the Youth Sub-committee because there are no other Boards across the State that has this amount of Youth participation. Also mentions that he serves on the Santa Fe board and really struggles to get Youth participation on that Board.

Asks the question, if the Valencia County Board had more money from CYFD, would Valencia County be able to provide resources for Cibola County? Jeremias answers in the affirmative.

Also commends the attendance of the Board and its partners.

He is also going to be making recommendations to the State of NM Juvenile Justice Board committee and the CYFD Cabinet Secretary. Ends by again Congratulating Valencia County on the great programs and the positive action of the Board. He thanks the board for the invitation, and Jeremias states he will continue to invite him if he is interested. Mr. Lindahl says yes he is.

Jeremias voiced a reminder for the Youth on the Sub-committee to return their W-9 in order to receive their checks.

NOTE: Veronica Chavez, a member of the public presented concern to the Board a concern for the Youth issues and homelessness, and the Domestic Violence issues in the community. Also expressed concern with violence against herself and community members who get involved to help. She also offered statistics with regard to parent's involvement with the successes and failures of their children. She asked questions regarding the inception of the JJBA and Jeremias answered her concerns and questions to the best of his ability. Heather (Chair) spoke on behalf of the board by thanking her for her concerns and comments. Camille spoke on behalf of the schools and the programs offered through them. Victoria Flores offered and open door at YDI to Veronica to come and speak to her and discuss her concerns.

M. Adjournment

Motion to adjourn by Linda and Camille Second the motion.

Meeting adjourned at 1:29pm