

1 **DOÑA ANA COUNTY JUVENILE JUSTICE CONTINUUM BOARD**
2 **June 26, 2024**
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4 The following are summary minutes from the Doña Ana County Juvenile Justice
5 Continuum Board meeting held on Wednesday, June 26, 2024, at 12:00 p.m., City Hall
6 Room 2007A, 700 S. Main Street, Las Cruces, New Mexico.
7

8 **MEMBERS PRESENT:** Sgt. Jessie Gonzalez proxy Jeremy Story (LCPD)
9 Dr. Robert Lozano (LCPS)
10 Cassie McClure proxy (CLC/ Mayor's Office)
11 Carmen Lucero (Drug Court 3rd Judicial District)
12 Richard Johnson (CYFD)
13 Robert Nunez, (City of Las Cruces)
14 Chief Vanessa Ordoñez (Anthony NM Police)
15 Tommi Fisher proxy Marianne Hernandez (CYFD-PS)
16

17 **MEMBERS ABSENT:** Brian Kavanaugh (FYI)
18 Lindsay McDonnell-Benatar (Public Defenders Dept)
19 Tessa Abeyta (DAC Sheriff Office)
20 Manuel Arellano (LCSCA)
21 Rev. George Miller (El Calvario Church)
22

23 **OTHERS PRESENT:** Pat Acosta
24 Aralis Chacon
25 Kalya Martinez
26

27 **STAFF PRESENT:** Sofia Hughes (Case Manager/Youth Services)
28 Hazel Nevarez (Recording Secretary)
29

30 **1. CALL TO ORDER**

31 The meeting was called to order and recognized the meeting as having a legal
32 quorum.
33

34 **2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

35 All stood for the Pledge of Allegiance.
36

37 **3. WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS**

38 Board members, staff, and guests introduced themselves.
39

40 **4. CONFLICT OF INTEREST**

41 None.
42

43 **5. ACCEPTANCE OF AGENDA**

44 A motion and a second to approve the agenda as presented.
45

46 **6. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES - April 17, 2023**

1 A motion and a second to approve the agenda as presented.
2

3 **7. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

4 There was no public participation, but some announcements.
5

6 Mariann Hernandez-Jimenez recently accepted position as the East Southwest
7 Deputy Director over investigations. She is supervising more than just Doña Ana.
8 This my impact her ability to attend meetings.
9

10 Manuel Arrellano visited schools in El Paso that have adopted the program. They
11 do not charge for their program, nor tournaments. They have five other clubs have
12 adopted their program and doing tournaments for the unrated and underprivileged.
13 Enrollment varies 100-150 students during the summer.
14

15 **8. NEW BUSINESS**

16 **8.1 FY25 Budget**

17 Pat Acosta stated the application was accepted and they are funded. There are
18 no details on total amounts yet. Did get the bar approved that was presented last
19 week. Awaiting a letter of award from the state. Question about the grant amount,
20 which they will probably find out next week. The curriculums have changed. Seed
21 money had been awarded to start a TIDD program, for which this will be the first
22 one in New Mexico. It will be best practice, and researched by universities to
23 become evidence based. This will just for youth that get battery against a
24 household member citation. Last year there were 10, this year there are already
25 25.
26
27

28 **8.2 Subcontract - Request for Proposals**

29 Pat Acosta met with the subcontractors yesterday, Aralice and Thomas, who has
30 been helpful in the grant process. They could be going with an RFP or sole
31 contract.
32

33 A service extension through the continuum, the programs do assessment and
34 intakes and guide the youth and families through the services that JARC and FYI
35 offer. Intakes and assessments are included up to six months to a year working
36 with the family. If a formal referral they work with juvenile probation office and chief
37 staff in the same manner. A major change, they used to level one, one-month
38 follow-up, level two six-months, and then level three, up to a year, now follow-ups
39 will be done for everybody in the program for six-months and only the TIP for eight-
40 months. Assessment tells direction to move.
41

42 Referrals are currently from the school resource officers and from juvenile
43 probation office. Class two citations, get offenses of truancy to battery. Anything
44 higher goes past. JARC works on truancy, mental health more and see what the
45 need is and then go from there. FYI does receive some citations, but once
46 processed through the JP office, they will discharge them and hand them over to

1 the JCP program or start probation and then go into the JCC program. Also have
2 other programming in the schools (middle and high school). Currently running pilot
3 programs at Valley View, Loma Heights, and Sierra, and have a success coach in
4 the schools teaching SCL classes. And finally the referral, and if they qualify for
5 JARC services, they will send them to Thomas. There are different tiers for that
6 program. Tier one is all classes for the whole school. Tier two is more of the
7 referrals, citations, mental health referrals and provide soft case management.
8 Tier three is more of heavy referrals where they can no longer provide the case
9 management. So referring them to outpatient services, CCSS, RAP, or out JPO
10 children who are already in probation.

11
12 Need to be careful because all are receiving the same funding, so if JARC need to
13 close them and then refer to others. They may receive an informal referral in lieu
14 of a citation if the first offense. JARC is being funded as a subcontractor on the
15 grant. Looking at piloting a program at Gadsden in Chaparral as they are having
16 a lot of issues. Suggestion of need representation from Gadsden schools here at
17 this board like Las Cruces is. They have met with people at Gadsden and have
18 Maria Hernandez who is the CEO and she will be attending this board.

19
20 Law enforcement how they will be able to use JARC from the officers perspective
21 compared to what it was? In the past they were unable to locate the parents or
22 contact someone and so could take them to JARC to facilitate others. They are
23 not open 24 hours anymore, but are extending their hours. They can serve in that
24 capacity within their hours. It has been expressed to have someone 24/7. They
25 can do an RFP or continue CYFD to work with FYI and continue the contract.

26 27 **9. ACTION ITEMS**

28 29 **9.1 Structure of Board**

30 In April, the new bylaws were approved. Discussed how to restructure the board.
31 At one time there were 22-23 members of the board. The requirement for the grant
32 is that there are seven core members from within a unit of local government,
33 children's court, district attorney, public defenders office, local law enforcement
34 agency, public school district, and juvenile probation office. These are the ones
35 that need to be in compliance with the funding through the State of New Mexico.
36 Possibly 11 voting members which will allow improve on reaching a quorum: a
37 youth, ages 16-24, as a voting member, community service provider, religious
38 organization, youth opportunities for employment and internships. All others would
39 be nonvoting members, advisory capacity for valuable information for the board.

40
41 Provide options to the current board to move forward. Judge Gelecki is interested
42 in being the chair, but awaiting hearing back from him.

43
44 The action item is to have a special meeting and provide guidance the structure of
45 the board with possibly two to three proposals on how to move forward and then
46 present to the board in August regular meeting.

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2 Tommi Fisher motioned and Cassie McClure seconded to add action item in
3 August meeting.
4

5 **9.2 Extend Subcontract to Begin FY25**

6 This item should be received from FYI by next week. Hoping this came through
7 today but there has been some delay with CYFD and communications. This is to
8 continue services for July, August, to request an extension of services with FYI to
9 begin the new fiscal year. This would continue service until Las Cruces City
10 Council passes their ordinance pertaining to this.

11
12 Motioned and seconded to continue services.
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14 **10. UPDATES**

15 FYI update - opened up their success centers starting at La Vida project on 118 S.
16 Main Street. Medicaid services, behavioral health services, food boxes, clothing.
17 If they enroll they can qualify for financial assistance. Kind of a triage center, walk-
18 in, talk to someone and let them know their needs, and create a needs plan.
19 Program manager is Kimberly Avina. Introduced Thomas Subia, program
20 supervisor for JARC. Are hiring a success coach/case manager for the JARC
21 program. (*inaudible*) goal more of a preventative program, in three different pilot
22 program in Loma Heights, Valley View, and Sierra. These schools were chosen
23 due to higher truancy.
24

25 **10.1 FY24 Budget Adjustment Request**

26 Receive this week the approval for the adjustments. That will continue to be
27 worked on. And then this will be presented to the City July 15th.
28

29 **10.2 Update on Continuum Coordinator**

30 Applicants were recently received from human resource department, are
31 screened, and now looking to finalize and set up interviews in the near future.
32

33 **10.3 Continuum JARC Services**

34 See above.
35

36 **10.4 Continuum YDD Services**

37 Continuing to work with the Village of Hatch. Did not get any referrals. Usually in
38 the summer there are no referrals. Ms. Kayleigh the chair for the Hatch Continuum.
39 Meetings are being held at the schools.
40

41 There are meetings going on with Chaparral with interest.
42

43 They met with the superintendent at his meet and greet and the principal at Mesilla
44 Middle School, as there is an uptick in informal referrals from them. Also met with
45 Rio Grande Prep with their resource officer. Also meeting with risk management
46 team through the district to talk with long-term suspension

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Also met with Title 1 coordinator and two attendants to discuss issues of truancy, attendance matters. Not only speaking the language of the parents, but educating of rights.

11. ADJOURNMENT

Moved to adjourn, seconded. Meeting adjourned at approximately 12:50 p.m.

Recording Secretary Date

DRAFT