

DONA ANA COUNTY JUVENILE JUSTICE CONTINUUM BOARD

June 9, 2016

1 Following are the summary minutes from the Dona Ana County Juvenile Justice
2 Continuum Board meeting held on Thursday, June 9, 2016, at 12:00 p.m., in Conference
3 Room 2007A of City Hall, 700 N. Main, Las Cruces, New Mexico.

4
5 **MEMBERS PRESENT:** Honorable Marci Beyer (Chair, 3rd Judicial District)
6 Chief Jaime Montoya (LCPD)
7 Julie Molina for Brian Kavanaugh (Families & Youth, Inc.)
8 Deborah Varol (Public Defenders Office)
9 Greg Smith (Mayor Pro-Tem City of Las Cruces)
10 Robert Nunez (City of Las Cruces)
11 Lisa Garza (NMSU Student)
12 Jeanne Resendez (Mesilla Valley Hospital)
13 Rory Rank (Retiree)
14 Cynthia Ohrazda (CYFD)
15 Brent Barlow (DACSO)
16 Mike Tapia (NMSU)

17
18 **ABSENT:**
19 Davis Ruark (District Attorney Office)
20 Cecilia Rosales (CYFD)
21 Dr. David Garcia (DAC Board of Commissioners)
22 Lieutenant Joshua Flemming (DAC Detention Center)
23 George Guynn (CYFD Juvenile Justice Services)
24 Berenice Holguin (Lead SPED Social Worker, GISD)
25 David S. Borunda (3rd Judicial District Court)
26 Andrea Fletcher (LCPS)

27
28
29
30 **OTHERS PRESENT:** Hector Giron (Gadsden Principal)
31 Lindsay McDonell-Benatar (Public Defenders Office)
32 Tifanie Cowger (Local Youth)
33 Steve Nance (Guardian of Tifanie)

34
35
36 **STAFF PRESENT:** Javier Amaro (Juvenile Justice Continuum Coordinator)
37 Miguel Terrazas (CLC Juvenile Citation Program)
38 Grace Tellez (CLC Juvenile Citation Program)
39 Erin Bryant (Intern-CLC Juvenile Citation Program)
40 Eliana Santillan (CLC Juvenile Citation Program)
41 Cassandra Dresler (Recording Secretary)

42 43 44 **I. CALL TO ORDER – Board Chair**

45
46 Meeting was called to order by Ms. Beyer at approximately 12:00 p.m.

1 **II. ROLL CALL FOR QUORUM**

2
3 Roll call taken by Mr. Amaro. Quorum present.
4

5 **III. WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS**

6
7 Ms. Beyer welcomed everyone to the Juvenile Justice Continuum Board quarterly
8 meeting.
9

10 Ms. Beyer announced that Brent Barlow will be replacing Ken Roberts on the Board for
11 DACSO. Mr. Barlow stated that he was looking forward to starting new projects.
12

13 Mr. Beyer announced that Ms. Lindsay Ann Mcdonell-Benatar will replace Ms. Varol on
14 the Board for The public defender's office.
15

16 Mr. Steve Nance introduced himself as Tifanie's grandfather and Tifanie Cowger
17 introduced herself as a local student interested in helping the Board.
18

19 Ms. Liza Garza introduced Hector Giron as the principal from Gadsden.
20

21 **IV. PUBLIC COMMENT**

22
23 Mr. Rank further introduced Tifanie Cowger as a Mayfield student who is interested in
24 participating with the programs and the board as a member. Mr. Amaro stated that he
25 would need to confirm the age restrictions for board members to confirm if she would be
26 eligible.
27

28 Mr. Rank moved to tentatively nominate Ms. Tifanie Cowger into the DACJJC Board.
29

30 Ms. Byers confirmed it would be tentative until the age restrictions were confirmed.
31

32 Ms. Varol Seconded
33

34 All in favor. None opposed. Motion carried
35

36 **V. OLD BUSINESS**

37
38 **A. Approve minutes of 04/07/2016 DACJJC Board Meeting**
39

40 Ms. Beyer asked for a motion to amend the agenda to add the minutes from the
41 04/28/2016 to be approved as well.
42

43 Chief Montoya moved to amend the agenda.
44

45 Rory Rank Seconded.
46

47 All in favor. None opposed. Motion carried.
48

49 Ms. Beyer asked for a motion to approve 04/07/2016 Minutes
50

51 Mr. Smith moved to approve the minutes

1
2 Mr. Rank Seconded

3
4 All in favor. None opposed. Motion carried.

5
6 Ms. Beyer asked for a motion to approve 04/28/2016 Minutes

7
8 Mr. Smith asked for a correction to remove Mr. Rank's name as it is listed twice

9
10 Ms. Beyer asked for a motion to tentatively approve 04/28/2016 minutes to await
11 correction

12
13 Mr. Smith moved to approve minutes

14
15 Chief Montoya seconded

16
17 All in favor. None opposed. Motion Carried.

18
19 Ms. Beyer said she was approached by Mr. Bill Rothengass that he wants to be more
20 involved with the programs, and not just attend meetings. She also stated that that was
21 a focus of the previous meeting and we should look into creative ways to more education
22 and outreach to the public.

23
24
25 **VI. NEW BUSINESS**

26
27
28 **A. Update on County Funding Proposal- Javier Amaro CLC**

29
30 Ms. Beyer stated that the commissioners came up with part of the proposed budget out
31 of their own- after the election, 2 of those commissioners were lost.

32
33 Mr. Amaro referenced a handout that was passed out to the board to look at for
34 reference. The funding breakdown: will move 110 youth to Anthony from Las Cruces
35 programming which will have an additional cost for travel of \$1,848.00. They will also
36 add 3 new classes for level 2 for a cost of \$38,250.00 as the amount of participants for
37 the program will increase once the service is provided for the southern part of the County.

38
39 Mr. Amaro mentioned that these amounts are based on a formula from CYFD to keep
40 consistency. Level 3 will add 1 program to Anthony for a cost of \$5850.00 that will
41 accommodate 6 youth.

42
43 The total requested from Dona Ana County is \$45,948.00. The City's grant specialist,
44 Ms. Amy Bassford and Mr. Robert Nunez were able to attend the Commissioners
45 meeting.

46
47 **B. Continuum Funding Report FY2016- Javier Amaro CLC**

48
49 Mr. Amaro stated he will be emailing between meetings to give everyone an update on
50 the current budget. Right now, we are at \$12,982.00 remaining. Approximately \$11,000

1 has been invoiced for CYFD and will leave \$700.00-\$1000.00. That budget will be used,
2 with none being reverted at end of fiscal.

3
4 Mr. Rank asked about the approximate \$400,000 that may be given to Continuums from
5 reverted funds.

6
7 Mr. Amaro stated they will wait until FY2017 and then make their decision to allocate the
8 extra funds to continuums.

9
10 Mr. Rank wanted to look into the possibility of asking for the funds to assist with the travel
11 costs of moving some of the programs to Anthony.

12 13 C. Trauma-Informed Care for Girls Project- Rory Rank and Mike Tapia

14
15 Mr. Rank gave an update to the work that he and Mr. Tapia have been doing with the
16 Trauma-Informed Care of Girls Project.

17
18 Mr. Rank moved to have a sub-committee that would have a focus on the female
19 population.

20
21 Mike Tapia seconded.

22
23 All in favor. None opposed. Motion Carried.

24
25 Ms. Beyer thanked all who have helped with this project and stated she would like the
26 board to keep the momentum moving. The board spoke of creating new sub-committees
27 at our last meeting- would like the members to think of which committees would be a
28 good focus for the group for next meeting.

29 30 **VII. Presentation- Informational:** Youth service projects for the Southern 31 Communities of Dona Ana County- Lisa Garza NMSU Student

32
33 Ms. Garza stated it would be beneficial to have a place for community service when the
34 programs are moved south. La Semilla is a farm in Anthony that could be a great partner
35 for the Continuum. Their programs are based on Youth aged from Elementary to High
36 School, focus on increasing access to affordable healthy food, and providing educational
37 opportunities for children, youth and families. She plans to visit the farm this next week
38 to meet further with the group.

39
40 Ms. Beyer asked if a representative from the program will attend our next scheduled
41 meeting and if after we visit the site, if they will become a partner.

42
43 Ms. Garza stated they would be in attendance at the next meeting, and we hope to
44 partner with them.

45
46 Mr. Amaro said it would be great to have a centralized location for community service
47 and mentioned that Ms. Garza has been an extraordinary volunteer for the programs and
48 recently was presented with an award from the City's internal volunteer Network group.
49

1 Mr. Smith stated that it would dovetail with City's plans in regards to food deserts,
2 community gardens, etc. He was grateful for Ms. Garza's great work to get a partnership
3 going.

4 Mr. Amaro introduced Grace Telles to the group and asked her to give an update to the
5 question 'what happens after the JCP program?'

6
7 Ms. Telles mentioned the Youth Collaboration Committee and the start of Friday Fun
8 Day. They had their first Friday Fun Day and had 2 girls, which is a good start. They talk
9 about: What to do in Las Cruces, help them with school work, etc.

10
11 Ms. Beyer asked why this type of program isn't currently part of the continuum.

12
13 Ms. Telles said they hope to soon be part of the bigger picture with the Continuum. Mr.
14 Amaro explained that currently with the funding we receive, it is not included in activities
15 to utilize funds for, but that it could eventually be part of the weed and seed program.

16
17 Ms. Beyer asked if we can expand future requests for funding to include more projects
18 like those that Ms. Telles shared.

19
20 Mr. Amaro stated it is possible to do that in the future and we can use the data and
21 numbers from the current projects to include in those fund requests.

22
23 Ms. Beyer suggested to Ms. Telles to utilize the Board members. Members could come
24 talk to the girls about job ideas or their specialties. She would also like to invite the girls
25 to the Board meetings.

26 27 **VIII. Changes in JARC Funding**

28
29 Chief Montoya asked for an update to the hour changes and funding within JARC.

30
31 Ms. Beyer explained to those on the Board unfamiliar with JARC, that it is one of the
32 programs that we support.

33
34 Ms. Molina stated that they had noticed a decline in children coming in to the center after
35 hours. They are unable to place children under 13 years old, and cannot take custody of
36 any child until a placement has been determined and planned. For children to be placed
37 at La Clinica, they must also meet the criteria of being a runaway or homeless.
38 Since January, they have had 2 after hour intakes, and only 1 the previous year. They
39 determined that lowering the hours that the facility is staffed, and keeping those staff as
40 on-call status would not lower the accessibility to the program. She stated that the
41 change in hours became effective May 15th.

42
43 Chief Montoya asked about the current City's budget for FY17

44
45 Mr. Amaro stated that each year there has been a cut to the JARC and Continuums. He
46 notified CYFD of the change, and the concern with those involved is about funding. The
47 contract agreement states that the JARC will be 24 hr. service.

48
49 Ms. Molina explained that the officers who bring the children to the facility, will need to
50 call the on-call number that will be outside of the building. They will need to stay at the

1 building and wait for the on-call staff to arrive, and will then go through the same process
2 as before. She expects a 10-15-minute increase in time required for the officers.

3
4 Mr. Amaro has submitted the agreement on the JARC, and will have another meeting
5 with Mr. Kavanaugh to go over items of concern.

6
7 Mr. Rank asked if the JARC was under FYI.

8
9 Ms. Molina responded that it was under FYI, and stated that before the change they did
10 not have issues because the shelters were under different management. But now La
11 Clinica has their own stipulations with who they can take in. She mentioned that there is
12 a lack of use, referencing the two intakes this year, and one from the previous.

13
14 Mr. Rank asked Chief Montoya if there had been any concerns or issues with his officers
15 since the change.

16
17 Chief Montoya stated that he had informed his officers by email of the changes, but has
18 not heard from them regarding it.

19
20 Mr. Rank suggested that a meeting with La Clinica to talk about issues and possible
21 resolutions could be a benefit to all.

22
23 **VI. NEXT REGULAR MEETING: August 11, 2016**

24
25 Meeting is scheduled for Thursday, August 11, 2016 from 12:00 p.m. to 1:00 p.m., in
26 Conference Room 2007A of City Hall, 700 N. Main, Las Cruces, New Mexico

27
28 A. An executive committee meeting may be called at the discretion of the chair.

29
30 **VII. ADJOURN**

31
32 Ms. Beyer asked for a motion to adjourn.

33
34 Mayor Pro-Tem Smith moved to adjourn.

35
36 Mr. Rank seconded.

37
38 Meeting adjourned at approximately 1:02 p.m.

39
40
41 



Chairperson

Date