

DONA ANA COUNTY JUVENILE JUSTICE CONTINUUM BOARD
August 11, 2016

1 Following are the summary minutes from the Dona Ana County Juvenile Justice
2 Continuum Board meeting held on Thursday, August 11, 2016, at 12:00 p.m., in
3 Conference Room 2007C 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 Dr. David Garcia (DAC Commissioners)
8 Julie Molina for Brian Kavanaugh (Families & Youth, Inc.)
9 Lindsay McDonnel-Benatar (Public Defenders Office)
10 Greg Smith (Mayor Pro-Tem City of Las Cruces)
11 Eric Lopez for Andrea Fletcher (LCPS)
12 David S. Borunda (3rd Judicial District Court)
13 Robert Nunez (City of Las Cruces)
14 Lisa Garza (NMSU Student)
15 Jeanne Resendez (Mesilla Valley Hospital)
16 Rory Rank (Retiree)
17 Amy Weathers (CYFD)
18 Brent Barlow (DACSO)
19 WMM Rothengass
20 Mike Tapia (NMSU)
21 Tifanie Cowger (High School Student)

22
23 **ABSENT:** Davis Ruark (District Attorney Office)
24 George Guynn (CYFD Juvenile Justice Services)
25 Berenice Holguin (Lead SPED Social Worker, GISD)
26 Deborah Blalock (NMSU Student)
27 Denni Cheney (The Bridge of Southern New Mexico)
28 Lt. Joshua Flemming (DAC Detention Center)

29
30 **OTHERS PRESENT:** Christine Jenkins (JCP participant)
31 Mr. Jenkins (Christine's Father)
32 Catherine Yanez (La Semillia)
33 Jay Wisner (Retired-CYFD)

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

44
45 **I. CALL TO ORDER – Board Chair**
46

1 With late arrival of Ms. Beyer, meeting was called to order by Chief Montoya at
2 approximately 12:04 p.m.

3
4 **II. ROLL CALL FOR QUORUM**

5
6 Roll call taken by Mr. Amaro. Quorum present.

7
8 **III. WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS**

9
10 Chief Montoya welcomed everyone to the Juvenile Justice Continuum Board quarterly
11 meeting.

12
13 Chief Montoya asked for motion to approve the agenda for the board meeting.

14
15 Greg Smith moved to approve the agenda

16
17 Rory Rank seconded.

18
19 All in favor. None opposed. Motion carried.

20
21 Ms. Beyer arrived and asked for new attendees to introduce themselves.

22
23 Mr. Amaro introduced Christine Jenkins, who is a level 3 in the JCP program. She will
24 also give a brief overview on her experience with the program later in the meeting.

25
26 Mr. Amaro also introduced 2 student recreation aids, Isabelle Brito and Amerhyst
27 Aguirre. Chief Montoya asked about the succession of past JCP participants becoming
28 Student Recreation Aids. Mr. Amaro said it has not happened yet in the program,
29 however there is hope that it could happen in the next process to hire.

30
31 **IV. PUBLIC COMMENT**

32
33 No comments.

34
35 **V. OLD BUSINESS**

36
37 **A. Approve minutes of 06/09/2016 DACJJC Board Meeting**

38
39 Mr. Smith requested to edit the minutes to change the time that meeting was called to
40 order. Stated in minutes was 4pm, however meeting was started at 12pm.

41
42 Ms. Byer asked for a motion to approve the minutes with the amended time.

43
44 Greg Smith moved to approve the minutes.

45
46 Rory Rank Seconded.

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

49
50 **VI. NEW BUSINESS**

1 Ms. Beyer asked all members of the board who are available, to attend the ceremony at
2 the JCP courtyard garden on August 12, 2016. Mr. Amaro clarified that the event was to
3 start at 5:00 PM.

4
5 A. JCP Youth Overview of Program Experience- Christine Jenkins

6
7 Ms. Jenkins stated that she is scheduled to complete the program on September 7th. Mr.
8 Amaro thanked Ms. Jenkins and said that she volunteers her own time to work outside
9 of her requirements in the program.

10
11 Ms. Jenkins said that the program is a lot of fun, keeps her out of trouble and a way to
12 meet new people. She enjoys packing food for the shelters and helping the community
13 doing clean-ups.

14
15 Chief Montoya asked Ms. Jenkins how the program has helped her stay out of trouble.
16 Ms. Jenkins stated that because of the 3 strikes rule, one more strike against her would
17 go to probation and her permanent record. Chief Montoya asked Mr. Jenkins what his
18 experience has been and if he has seen any changes in his daughter. Mr. Jenkins stated
19 that his daughter is more focused and driven to stay on the right track since starting the
20 program: the program seems to have opened her eyes.

21
22 Ms. Beyer asked Ms. Jenkins if she feels differently now about her connection to the
23 community. Ms. Jenkins stated that she realizes just how much she can help her
24 community in a positive way.

25
26 Mr. Smith asked Ms. Jenkins what was the most effective or helpful part of the program.
27 Ms. Jenkins said that the people who work in the program are strong supporters who
28 help build you up. Mr. Smith asked Ms. Jenkins if it was the personal connections that
29 were the most effective. Ms. Jenkins replied yes. Mr. Smith asked if the other youth in
30 the program felt similar to her knowledge. Ms. Jenkins replied that she believes so, and
31 that everyone always has someone there to talk to.

32
33 Ms. Beyer thanked Ms. Jenkins for attending the meeting and sharing her experience.

34
35 B. Fiscal Report of FY-2016 Continuum Grant- Javier Amaro, CLC

36
37 Mr. Amaro referenced a handout that was given to the members of the board for their
38 review.

39
40 The JCP Level I, II and III had a total of 1103 clients for FY16. This includes all youth
41 who completed any level of program and who were still on tracking status. Mr. Amaro
42 also briefly went over the percentages of re-offenses of clients after participating in the
43 program. 4% reoffended from JCP Level I; 3% reoffended from JCP Level II; 0%
44 reoffended in Level III.

45
46 Mr. Amaro stated that they were originally not required to send in the tracking to CYFD,
47 but will now be required to do so for this FY.

48
49 Mr. Amaro referenced one of the pages in the handout that was passed out that referred
50 to the types of offenses the youth are involved in.

1 Chief Montoya asked what the category 'Other' pertained to. Mr. Amaro stated that 'other'
2 usually refers to a status offense and used a traffic offense as an example.

3
4 Mr. Smith asked if there was an information to compare these numbers to State or
5 Federal jurisdictions. Mr. Amaro stated that because CYFD wasn't originally keeping
6 track of these numbers but now is, there should be a database of information that is
7 gathered to compare these numbers at a later date.

8
9 WMM Rothengass noted that the offenses related to marijuana use were broken into
10 several categories and asked Mr. Amaro if he has seen an increase in heroin use in
11 youth. Mr. Amaro referred the question to Ms. Beyer.

12
13 Ms. Beyer stated that there seems to be an increase with spice, marijuana and also
14 heroin. Chief Montoya also stated that in his experience, youth seem to be doing more
15 synthetics. Mr. Rork mentioned a news article stating that ecstasy and
16 methamphetamines are the most common drugs used by youth.

17
18 Dr. Garcia asked if there was an education element in the program that could be
19 customized towards each youth's offense. Mr. Amaro stated that they usually review the
20 youths' backgrounds before a new class begins, and adapt their curriculum to fit the
21 entire class.

22
23 Mr. Amaro referenced the Strategic Planning Draft from 2015-2016 that was included in
24 his handout packet. He stated that the information he provided in the previous pages can
25 be used to create an updated Strategic Planning Draft for 2016-2017 when that
26 committee is prepared.

27
28 C. Update of NM Juvenile Justice Advisory Committee meeting- Javier Amaro,
29 CLC
30

31 Mr. Amaro stated that we were 2nd for lowest number of reverted funds, and that CLC's
32 match to the program was \$145,730.00 equaling 143%. This is far over the required
33 amount of 40%. The Legislative committee looks positively on a higher match as it shows
34 the backing of the City Government.

35
36 JJAC looking the \$400,000 which is the amount that was left in the allocated reverted
37 funds. They are re-evaluating continuums from September-October and deciding which
38 ones will be given additional funding for programming. We requested some of these
39 funds for Juvenile Citation Program-Truancy (JCP-T). We should know the outcome of
40 their decision in October. As a back-up plan, Mr. Amaro stated that they are working with
41 the City of Las Cruces Administrators and Finance to come up with a plan to handle the
42 extra budget.

43
44 Mr. Amaro stated that one concern for JJAC is Title 2 funding. There is a risk of not
45 getting funding from federal, so the state is looking into having their own Title 2
46 legislation. Mr. Amaro has been asked to sit on the Board to get this legislation moving
47 and clarified that these changes would affect next fiscal's budget, and FY17 has already
48 been approved.

49
50 Mr. Wisner asked why funding was being cut at the Federal level. Mr. Amaro stated that
51 it was due to a lack of priority from the Department of Justice.

1
2 Ms. Beyer asked the board if we needed to discuss Ms. Cowger's participation as a
3 Board member.

4 Mr. Amaro stated that she has been approved as a member, and that no motion is
5 needed as we voted her in as a member last meeting. We would also like her to be able
6 to attend the State meeting, which funding is available for.

7
8 **VII. Presentation- Informational: Catherine Yanez- La Semillia**

9
10 Ms. Garza introduced Ms. Yanez from La Semillia. JCP hopes to use La Semillia as a
11 central location for community service done by Levels II and III.

12
13 Ms. Yanez introduced her and gave a brief overview of the programs provided at La
14 Semillia. Edible Education, Community Farm Program, Raices Program,
15 Apprenticeships, Food Center Planning Program and Farm Fresh Programming. Ms.
16 Yanez stated that she believed the Community Farm Programming was a good fit for the
17 youth at JCP to get involved in. They introduce culturally relevant food to the youth, bring
18 in speakers and social justice topics, and involve families with cooking workshops and
19 educational pieces. She also mentioned that if they decide to become apprentices, they
20 would be involved with the sale of the food they grow through local farmer's markets.
21 These foods and others sold at the farmer's markets are available to people on SNAP.
22 The program is called Double Food Bucks.

23
24 Mr. Wisner asked what the application process is for those interested in that program.

25 Ms. Yanez said there is no application. Mr. Amaro added that there is a separate food
26 tent at the market that can help answer questions for those who have SNAP and want to
27 participate in the Double Food Bucks program.

28
29 **VI. NEXT REGULAR MEETING: October 6, 2016**

30
31 Meeting is scheduled for Thursday, October 6, 2016 from 12:00 p.m. to 1:00 p.m., in
32 Conference Room 2007C of City Hall, 700 N. Main, Las Cruces, New Mexico

33
34 A. An executive committee meeting may be called at the discretion of the chair.

35
36 **VII. ADJOURN**

37
38 Ms. Beyer asked for a motion to adjourn.

39
40 Dr. Garcia moved to adjourn.

41
42 WMM Rothengass seconded.

43
44 Meeting adjourned at approximately 1:03 p.m.

45
46
47 

Chairperson



Date