Following are the summary minutes from the Doña Ana County Juvenile Justice Continuum Board meeting held on Wednesday, April 13, 2022, at 12:00 p.m., City Hall Room 2007A, 700 N. Main St., Las Cruces, NM

MEMBERS PRESENT: Honorable Samantha Madrid, Chair (DAC Division I)
Sgt. Manny Melendez (LCPD)
Brian Kavanaugh (Families & Youth, Inc.)
Susanna Chaparro (DACB of Commissioners)
Amy Himelright (Proxy, LCPS)
Juan Salcido (Proxy, Drug Court 3rd Judicial District)
Cody McNiel (Proxy, CYFD-JJS)
Robert Nuñez, (City of Las Cruces)
Rory Rank (Retiree)
Tommi Fisher (Proxy, CYFD-PS)
Steve Nance (Doña Ana Community College)
Manuel Arellano (L.C.S.C.A.)
Diego Vallejo (FYI Plus – Student)

ABSENT: Lindsay McDonnel-Benatar (Public Defenders Depart)
Judy Baca (Mesilla Valley Hospital)
Mayor Ken Miyagishima (CLC-Mayor’s Office)
Bill Rothengass (Retiree)
Chief Vanessa Ordoñez (Anthony NM Police)
Alyssa Fierro (FYI Plus – Student)

STAFF PRESENT: Sofia Hughes (Case Manager/Youth Services)
Martha Moreno (Recording Secretary)

1. CALL TO ORDER
The meeting was called to order at 12:02 p.m. by Ms. Madrid and recognized the meeting as having a legal quorum.

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

3. WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS
Board members, staff and guest introduced themselves.

4. CONFLICT OF INTEREST
Mr. Kavanaugh abstains from voting on action for item 8.1 Budget Adjustment – (Action)
- Subcontract – Families & Youth Innovations Plus

5. APPROVAL OF AGENDA
Mr. Rank moved to approve agenda as presented, seconded by Ms. Fisher. Motion carried unanimously.

6. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

6.1. Doña Ana County Juvenile Justice Continuum Board Meeting Minutes for February 09, 2022

Mr. Rank moved to approve minutes for 02/09/22, as presented, seconded by Mr. McNiel. Motion carried unanimously.

7. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

No participation.

8. NEW BUSINESS

8.1. Budget Adjustment – (Action)

- Subcontract – Families & Youth Innovations Plus

Mr. Rory moved to approve budget adjustment, seconded by Ms. Himelright. Motion carried unanimously.

- Juvenile Citation Program

Mr. Nuñez said that the board will need to approve any adjustment. Requesting permission for board members to vote through via email for approval of any adjustments before our next board meeting, scheduled for June 8.

Mr. Rory moved to approve board members to vote through via email, seconded by Ms. Himelright. Motion carried unanimously.

8.2. JARC (Update) – Aralis Chacon

Mr. Kavanagh presented a video; tour of their new facility and services “La Vida Project”. We opened an additional office downtown it is an innovative youth resource hub; we do a lot of different programming. Video was produced, choreographic, directed, music, and scenes were selected by the youth, peer influencers, and team members.

Mr. Rank said that it is a secure facility. You must check in, and state why you are there, adds to the program. Safety is very important.

Mr. Nuñez said JCP staff are also offering our participants when they complete the program, additional opportunities/outlets available in the community. We want to help these young adults to make the right decisions/choices, in a positive safe atmosphere.

8.3. JCP (Update) – Robert L. Nuñez
Mrs. Hughes, Interim Juvenile Diversion Program Supervisor said that we are receiving more informal than formal citations referrals. We are seeing an increase in vaping, possession, assault, battery, etc. Younger youth are being referred into our program. We have new staff, providing our regular classes throughout the week and weekends in the county. Doing more community service, partnership with our other programs and community organizations. Have guest speakers and providing other resources for assistance. Working on getting more community service sites in the county.

Mr. Nuñez said that hopefully we can be fully staffed by the end of current fiscal year 2022. We recently advertised, interviewed applicants, and made a tentative offer for the Juvenile Diversion Program Supervisor (JDPS) position, they declined. We are resubmitting for the position.

Mr. Nuñez said we are working with our grants office and Human Resources to get our continuum coordinator position in place. Coordinator will engage with our partners and work closely with our continuum chair.

8.4. FY23 Contract (Update)

Mr. Nuñez said we are preparing 3rd year of a 4yr agreement with CYFD. Finalize by end of July 2022.

8.5. Continuum Board Member (Updates)

Ms. Chaparro said that the county received 4 million dollars to hire 800 high school students for the summer and the maximum that each student can earn is $2,600, it’s going to be for 8 to 10 weeks. They will be placed with the county, city, NMSU, School Districts, businesses the courts. Sixteen- and Seventeen-year-old are eligible, junior, senior high school and graduates going into college. They will be considered county employees, no liability to the business owners. Our goal is to hire 800 students this year, we hired 567 last year. Great program for the youth to have mentors. They can apply through the county website. They will be providing orientation for students in Hatch, Chaparral, etc.

Mr. Nuñez said our City Manager’s Office/Learning and Development Section reached out to us, the Parks & Recreation Department will be placing 20 – 30 students for employment.

Sgt. Melendez said regarding the citation program we have seen an increase in vaping products at the schools. We have seen an increase in teen using vape pens, now that marijuana is legal it is a more accessible product. Working with schools, reaching out to parents, updating our power point presentation for teachers, parents, etc., to be aware of the different products, paraphernalia, etc. We have a Leadership Program for the youth coming up, it’s for two (2) weeks, starts June 6, registration is Friday, April 14, 2022, at 8:30 a.m., LCPD, 550 N. Sonoma Ranch Blvd., East Mesa Public Safety Campus. It will cover life lessons, CPR, educational choices, DWI, Alcohol abuse, etc.
Ms. Himelright said the school’s advisory council is holding special sessions on vaping, because it is so prolific. Which SRO is doing the presentations?

Sgt. Melendez said Officer Marvin Kelly is conducting those trainings.

Ms. Himelright asked what frequency fentanyl is, we haven’t seen it in the schools, but we hear that is making its way into vape.

Sgt. Melendez said that they have had fentanyl in middle school. Working with SID with the state of NM, targeting the vape and marijuana shops.

Ms. Himelright asked if you have any facts on the chemical strips that test the content of vape pens, should we be testing the content?

Sgt. Melendez said they purchased the test products for their officers.

Mr. Nance said that the Doña Ana Community College is focusing in reestablishing our programming in criminal justice law enforcement at our satellite campuses. The importance of that is our students from those areas have a hard time getting up here daily, to come to school. It’s important that we have our classes available in Sunland Park, Doña Ana, Gadsden, etc. We are going to have classes available at Chaparral High School, and Hatch for high school students. Will be reaching out to Gadsden High School. Las Cruces Public Schools has a criminal justice program, we will be working together, and providing material.

Mr. McNiel said we have five (5) JPO’s in the office available. Seeing clients in the office now. The following are the numbers of referrals:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Felony</th>
<th>Misdemeanor</th>
<th>Family (truancy, runaway, etc.)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>January</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>February</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>33</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>March</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>39</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Referrals have been steady, roughly 60 per month.

Ms. Fisher said we are in the process of hiring a county manager. Investigator numbers increased in March we had 300 intake reports. Most of those are drug abuse concerns with family and educational neglect, kiddos are not going to school.

Ms. Chaparro asked if those educational neglect based on being a safe home or evictions at this time, because the county has money for that?

Ms. Fisher said some are but have seen a lot of homelessness. Children are not wanting to go to school and parents are not making them go. It is more elementary.

Mr. McNiel said they get very few referrals from the schools for truancy. Who can I get in touch with the LCPS?
Ms. Himelright said I can get you in touch with Kathy Vigil, Student Attendance and Engagement Coordinator. We are working more with attendance intervention.

Ms. Madrid said on long the line what Ms. Chaparro was saying May 1 is the end of the eviction moratorium, so you are going to see a lot of parents being evicted. Getting the word out on the rental system program, they can apply at the Doña Ana Center, this will be helpful.

Ms. Chaparro said there is no check on immigration status, so that is not a danger to anyone requesting assistance. Anyone can apply, and there is assistance in bilingual. It pays for rental and utilities. This should be helpful in the southern part of the county.

Mr. Arellano said he has been teaching chess for 8 years and currently they have 160 students that are being taught beginners chess, 4 years old to high school. We have a tournament May 14, it is free, confirming the venue Dream Center or Real Life Church on El Paseo.

8.6. Continuum Partner (Updates)

No participation.

9. ADJOURNMENT

Ms. Fisher moved to adjourn, seconded by Mr. McNiel. Motion carried unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 1:02 p.m.