



# City of Las Cruces®

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## Doña Ana County Juvenile Justice Continuum Board Agenda

DOÑA ANA COUNTY JUVENILE JUSTICE CONTINUUM BOARD MEETING WILL BE HELD ON  
WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 03, 2021 AT 12:00 P.M.

The health, safety and well-being of our residents and businesses are a top priority of the Doña Ana County Juvenile Justice Continuum Board and Parks and Recreation Leadership. As such, and consistent with and in support of the direction from Gov. Michelle Lujan Grisham and New Mexico Department of Health public health order the Doña Ana County Juvenile Justice Continuum Board Meeting will be held via Zoom Webinar.

To view meeting, register in advance for this webinar:

**[https://zoom.us/webinar/register/WN\\_qLppqvRGREu1HrphPH3SJQ](https://zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_qLppqvRGREu1HrphPH3SJQ)**

After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the webinar. In an effort to seek public input, we ask that if you have comments/concerns/questions, please email **[gtelles@las-cruces.org](mailto:gtelles@las-cruces.org)** 24 hours before the meeting.

1. Call To Order
2. Pledge Of Allegiance
3. Welcome And Introductions
4. Conflict Of Interest  
At the opening of each meeting, the Chairperson shall ask if any member on the Board or City staff has any known conflict of interest with any item on the agenda.
5. Acceptance Of Agenda
6. Approval Of Minutes
- 6.1. Dona Ana County Juvenile Justice Continuum Board Meeting Minutes For December 09, 2020

Documents:

[DACJJC BOARD DRAFT MINUTES 12.09.20.PDF](#)

7. Public Participation
8. New Business
- 8.1. Nomination Of Community Board Member - Steve Nance (Action)
- 8.2. Request Letter Of Support - Rory Rank (Action)
9. Old Business
- 9.1. FYI - El Puente - Mateo Ortega (Update)
- 9.2. Needs Assessment Sub-Committee - Grace Telles (Update)

9.3. Juvenile Diversion Program Supervisor / DACJJCB Coordinator Hiring Process - Robert Nuñez (Update)

10. Adjournment

If you need an accommodation for a disability to enable you to fully participate in this event, please contact us 72 hours before the event at 541-2550.

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Date Posted: January 29, 2021

**DRAFT**

**DOÑA ANA COUNTY JUVENILE JUSTICE CONTINUUM BOARD  
December 9, 2020**

1 Following are the summary minutes from the Doña Ana County Juvenile Justice  
2 Continuum Board meeting held on Wednesday, December 9, 2020 at 12:00 p.m., via  
3 Zoom Webinar.

4  
5 **MEMBERS PRESENT:** Honorable Samantha Madrid, Chair (DAC Division I)  
6 Sgt. Vincent Shadd (Vice-Chair Proxy LCPD)  
7 Brian Kavanaugh (Families & Youth, Inc.)  
8 Shannon Reynolds (DAC Board of Commissioners)  
9 Dr. Roberto Lozano (Las Cruces Public Schools)  
10 Cynthia Ohrazda (CYFD – JJS)  
11 Robert Nuñez, (City of Las Cruces)  
12 Rory Rank (Retiree)  
13 Bill Rothengass (Retiree)  
14 Captain Ernesto Parra (DAC Sheriff)  
15 Marianne Hernandez (CYFD – PS)  
16 Elijah Myers (Student)

17  
18 **ABSENT:** Mark D’Antonio (District Attorney Office)  
19 Lt. Genny Olivas (DAC Detention Center)  
20 Lindsay McDonnell-Benatar (Public Defenders Depart)  
21 Jeanne Resendez (Mesilla Valley Hospital)  
22 Mayor Ken Miyagishima (CLC Mayor’s Office)  
23 Sylvia Herrera (Drug Court 3<sup>rd</sup> Judicial District Court)  
24 Mike Tapia (Criminal Justice Professor)  
25 Chief Vanessa Ordoñez (Anthony NM Police)

26  
27 **OTHERS PRESENT:** Matthew “Mateo” Ortega (Proxy FYI)  
28 Amy Weathers (Proxy CYFD-JJS)  
29 Julie Molina (JARC)  
30 Aralis Chacon (FYI)  
31 Steve Nance

32  
33 **STAFF PRESENT:** Grace Telles (Coordinator)  
34 Martha Moreno (Recording Secretary)  
35 Lisa Garza (CLC / Juvenile Citation Program)  
36 Sonya Delgado (CLC / Parks & Recreation Director)

37  
38 **1. CALL TO ORDER**

39 The meeting was called to order at 12:00. p.m. by Ms. Madrid and recognized the  
40 meeting as having a legal quorum.

41  
42 **2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

43  
44 **3. WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS**

45 Board members, staff and guest introduced themselves.

1  
2 **4. CONFLICT OF INTEREST**

3 No conflict of interest  
4

5 **5. APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

6 Mr. Rank moved to approve agenda as presented, seconded by Sgt. Shadd.  
7 Motion carried unanimously.  
8

9 **6. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

10  
11 6.1. Doña Ana County Juvenile Justice Continuum Board Meeting Minutes for  
12 October 15, 2020  
13

14 Sgt. Shadd moved to approve minutes for 10/15/20 as presented, seconded by  
15 Dr. Lozano. Motion carried unanimously.  
16

17 **7. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

18 No Comments  
19

20 **8. NEW BUSINESS**

21  
22 8.1. 1<sup>st</sup> Quarter Financial Report (Update)  
23

24 Mr. Nuñez provided an update to the continuum about our financials as of the  
25 completion of 1<sup>st</sup> quarter of FY21. Spending in all areas, Coordinator, JCP and  
26 JARC. Stated we would see how we can assist LCPS, GISD and HVPS with  
27 getting the student's at highest risk to attend class during this pandemic. Also,  
28 CYFD and NMPED were discussing how all departments can assist and utilize all  
29 resource to make sure New Mexico youth succeed.  
30

31 Mr. Myers asked if they LCPS were going to check on the other students who are  
32 failing / addressing the kids who were more affected by in person, school being  
33 closed.  
34

35 Mr. Nuñez said they have identified those students that have not been logged on  
36 at all this semester and are at highest risk and working towards in assisting all  
37 students. All our youth are struggling in one way or another with the new learning  
38 system that is in place. All students in all grades will benefit from the assistance  
39 that is available and knowing they can speak with someone.  
40

41 Judge Madrid asked Mr. Myers where he got the statistics from?  
42

43 Mr. Myers said he is on the student advisory council and they reached out to  
44 principals and staff members at each of the different school's levels. It is roughly  
45 50%.  
46

47 Ms. Hernandez asked to comment / add regarding Child Protective Services. We  
48 have a new pilot program that went live in October. When we receive a call at our  
49 statewide central intake with allegations educational neglect. They will attempt to  
50 reach out to the parent or guardian to offer support, assistance, and referral for  
51 services; if they do not get any response after three (3) attempts it will be

1 considered as educational neglect. We are getting a lot of calls on students not  
2 logging on, no communication with school or teachers after several attempts. Our  
3 staff are trained to ask those type of questions; has the school been reached,  
4 laptop provided, etc. We are trying to help through face time, phone calls. Not  
5 sure, if anyone was aware of this program or it has been announced to the  
6 community.

7  
8 Dr. Lozano said he would like to work directly with Mr. Nuñez the plan in  
9 supporting our students. I am getting the statistics about the failure rates; it was  
10 significantly high after the first nine (9) weeks. We are working with different  
11 entities specifically FYI, State Department; they have a contract with an outside  
12 agency from Oklahoma (Engaged) the purpose is to have that connection with  
13 kids, conducting front yard visits, etc.

14  
15 Judge Madrid said that this sounds like a crisis, should we bring this up at a  
16 different board meeting? What can we do to collaborate?

17  
18 Mr. Nuñez said that he would like to meet with Dr. Lozano, and Mr. Kavanaugh  
19 and discuss what is taking place in Doña Ana County and Las Cruces and provide  
20 CYFD in what is taking place in providing services. Possibly assist us financially  
21 with follow-ups, assessment, etc. for the youth.

22  
23 Ms. Weathers said she supervises a program through JPO we are getting some  
24 kiddos that are not connecting with school at all and are looking into reconnecting  
25 with school. Working on getting a point of contact with LCPS to assist the kids.

26  
27 Ms. Garza said that she is working with a youth and assisting with connecting  
28 them with LCPS. If we can have a point of contact so we can assist the youth that  
29 would be great.

30  
31 Mr. Lozano said he would provide the point of contact for LCPS.

32  
33 Judge Madrid asked if we need a point of contact for County Level outside of  
34 LCPS.

35  
36 Mr. Nuñez said he will reach out to Gadsden Independent Schools and Hatch  
37 Public Schools for a point of contact.

## 38 39 8.2. CYFD Reporting System (Update)

40 Ms. Telles said CYFD is implementing a new portal that will be used by all  
41 providers. Training on the new portal and its platform has begun. This including  
42 JCC, Mentoring, and JJAC. The portal will allow providers to upload program data.  
43 The intentions of the new portal are to help save time in tracking, billing, and  
44 reporting. The uploaded data into the new portal will generate monthly invoices  
45 which is currently being submitted through excel spreadsheets. The data entry  
46 into the new platform will begin this month for JCC and Mentorship programs.  
47 JJAC providers will begin using the portal come January 2021.

## 48 49 **9. OLD BUSINESS**

### 50 51 9.1. Needs Assessment Sub-Committee (Update)

1 Ms. Telles stated the meeting took place on November 19 which included Chief  
2 Ohrazda, Commissioner Reynolds, Mr. Rory Rank, Elijah, Mr. Nuñez and me. It  
3 was a discussion, we talked about Juvenile Delinquency; Detention, and other  
4 issues / concerns within the community. Next meeting date is set for January 12,  
5 2021 at 5:30 p.m. hope all can attend. We also talked about the Needs  
6 Assessment questioner that was sent out to all board members, further input from  
7 all of you would be much appreciated. Invite and agenda will be sent out to all  
8 board members.

9  
10 9.2. JPO (Update)

11  
12 Ms. Weathers provided statistics for FY20 and FY21 in three (3) categories:

|              |                 |                     | Status Offenses                            |
|--------------|-----------------|---------------------|--|
| <u>Month</u> | <u>Felonies</u> | <u>Misdemeanors</u> | <u>Truancy/Runaways/Incorrigible Child</u> |
| FY20 July    | 13              | 98                  | 17   |
| August       | 14              | 85                  | 16   |
| Sept         | 24              | 166                 | 19   |
| Oct          | 22              | 164                 | 16   |
| FY21 July    | 7               | 28                  | 9  |
| Aug          | 22              | 33                  | 11   |
| Sept         | 5               | 31                  | 10   |

13  
14  
15  
16  
17  
18  
19  
20  
21  
22 Mr. Rothengass asked what is the cause of increases?

23  
24  
25 Ms. Weathers said not sure what is the cause. When school is in session, we get  
26 more referrals. No referrals currently from LCPS since school is not in session.

27  
28 Cynthia said that possibly will get an increase in felony cases for the month of  
29 October and November. There has been a lot of serious offenses in our county  
30 involving multiple children. Our office is working with law enforcement to provide  
31 us reports on an ongoing basis, instead of getting in one big batch of referrals.

32  
33 Mr. Myers asked as status offender (incorrigible child) what does that include.

34  
35 Ms. Weathers said it is a child who is not following the rules, being disrespectful,  
36 and their activities has not reached a juvenile delinquent offense. Kiddo out of  
37 control to a certain degree. We can assist in getting the family some assistance.

38  
39 9.3. JARC (Update)

40  
41 Mr. Ortega said we are in the latter part of rebrand and revamp of commonly  
42 known as JARC. In January we are going to be moving towards launching the  
43 new name "El Puente Youth Resource Hub". Looking forward to increasing our  
44 engagement with the community and seeing some positive results from this  
45 intention strategy. Would like to introduce Aralis Chacon, El Puente Coordinator  
46 and Case Manager. She has worked with homeless youth and their families for  
47 many years. She has been with the agency for a year and is a value team  
48 member. Thank you, Julie Molina, for your leadership, services, and coordination  
49 of JARC.  
50

1 Mr. Ortega said we are working and have met with LCPS and will be following up  
2 to further discuss how we can expand, engagement needs, and truancy issues  
3 with our youth.

4  
5 Mr. Ortega said we are also launching three (3) new referral links that can be  
6 pulled up by phone, laptop, tablets, etc. One for School, Law Enforcement, and  
7 anybody else. It will automatically be sent to us.

8  
9 Mr. Ortega said we are currently redefining after hours and weekend calls on how  
10 they are being managed. We will be sending out flyers, pamphlets, user card, etc.,  
11 it will be disseminated to school officers and LCPS staff.

12  
13 Mr. Ortega said we are excited under the umbrella "La Vida Project": El Puente  
14 Youth Resource Hub; Juvenile Drug Court; JCC; and Outdoor Legacy Project. A  
15 lot of our kiddos in those three (3) services are going to be able to enjoy some  
16 amazing resources and support that we can provide through the Outdoor  
17 Etiquette Fund and other sources of funding. The scope of that project is to  
18 provide low income, youth of color and their families with skill resources and  
19 support to develop a responsible healing meaningful culture relationship with  
20 outdoors. It is called Holiday outdoor adventure packs that will include gas card,  
21 Walmart card, ice skating, snow play passes, etc.

22  
23 Mr. Ortega said through La Vida Project we are engaging with public defenders,  
24 district attorneys, and judges to provide an update on how actively using a new  
25 trauma inform and attachment inform evidence base and philosophy and  
26 approach throughout our Juvenile Justice Programming finding creative ways to  
27 decrease approach and increase therapeutic approach and reduce stigma.

28  
29 **9.4. JCP (Update)**

30 Ms. Telles said all classes are still virtual. Staff are working remotely. Numbers  
31 low, still consistent, allowing classes still taking place. Runaway referrals still on  
32 the rise. Programming continues.

33  
34 **10. ADJOURNMENT**

35  
36 Judge Madrid moved to adjourn. Motion carried unanimously. Meeting adjourned  
37 at 1:02 p.m.

38  
39  
40  
41  
42 \_\_\_\_\_  
Recording Secretary

\_\_\_\_\_ Date