



**AGENDA**  
**VALENCIA COUNTY JUVENILE JUSTICE ADVISORY BOARD**  
**July 2023 MEETING**

To be held in person at:  
The Valencia County Administration Building  
444 Luna Ave.  
Los Lunas, NM 87031

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**July 20, 2023**  
**12:00PM-12:50PM**

- A. Introduction & Roll Call – Quorum Confirmation – **Quorum met**  
JJAB Members: Heather Benavidez, Estevan Gallegos, Randy Gutierrez, Camille Griego, Kaylee Jojola  
General Members: Christine Arrellin (**Continuum Coordinator**), Jeremias Silva (**Grants Director**), Josh Zuni (**Grants Coordinator**), Rose LeDoux (**Grants Coordinator**), Josiah Vallejos (**Interested youth member**)
- a. Community Member Introduction – If Applicable
- B. Acceptance of Agenda  
Heather motions to approve.  
Estevan...motion of approval.  
Kaylee seconds the motion. All I's...zero no's. Motion approved.
- C. Approval of Meeting Minutes – June 13<sup>th</sup>, 2023 Regular Board Meeting  
Heather motions to approve.  
Estevan motions to approve.  
Camille seconds the motion. All I's...zero no's. Motion approved.
- D. Discussion & Nomination of Co-Chair
- a. Patricia Griego – Self-Nomination  
Jeremias: Starts by saying that Patricia self-nominated after the June meeting. Continues to say that she is vocal and questions everything which is exactly what the board needs. The county supports the nomination and passes to Heather for comments.  
Heather: Applauds Jeremias for the nice introduction of Patricia. Glad for the self-nomination as many factors come into play (i.e., time-constraints or inability to

complete tasks). Full disclosure, Patricia Gregor is the mother of Heather Benavidez; does not want relation to be a conflict of interest. Patricia is a great leader as there have been many volunteer opportunities on different boards. Her work is remarkable and holds a leadership role at First Choice Community Healthcare. Totally in support of Patricia as co-chair and look forward to working with her.

Jeremias: Thank you for the transparency. There will not be a conflict of interest as we have a disclosure form that she will fill out. Speaks out to other board members as this has been an on-going agenda item. CYFD program managers will be thrilled to see that the co-chair is filled. Christine and I are conducting outreach at the district attorney's office to get someone onboard from their office, but we understand that they have busy schedules. Please invite anyone interested in the board as a general member so that they can become potential members if interested. Comments on the self-nomination of Patricia?

Estevan: Pretty exciting to have a co-chair as there is a sense of relief as it has been an on-going agenda item. Patricia has been on the board a few years and speaks her mind. Does not see a conflict of interest in the relationship between Heather and Patricia. Estevan fully supports the nomination because it is half the battle for someone to believe within themselves that they have the dedication and desire.

Jeremias: Kaylee, I know you are new but as Estevan mentioned, this has been an on-going agenda item. For the Isleta Pueblo...asks if you know anybody interested even as a general member to see and understand what this board is focused on.

Kaylee: We have mentioned it to other community members but unfortunately, we have not found anyone interested. We are still trying to advertise for the youth subcommittee as well.

Heather: Entertains the motion to accept Patricia as co-chair.

Estevan: Move to accept Patricia Gregor as co-chair of the Juvenile Justice Advisory Board.

Kaylee...seconds the motion. All I's...zero no's.

Heather: The vote is unanimous; Patricia Gregor is now our co-chair.

*(Congratulations from the present board members)*

Jeremias: We will make sure to get a nice email sent out to Patricia and reflected in the minutes.

#### E. Youth Subcommittee Update –

##### a. Discussion/Nomination of new youth

###### o Josiah Vallejos

Jeremias: Christine and I will talk about it. The focal point is to develop the youth subcommittee and get more youth involved so they become aware of the programs offered through the CYFD grant. We really want the youth to advocate the resources that we have available at community events. This Saturday is an event with the Valencia Shelter Services Femme Fatales MC Ride after-party. We will have a booth with candy, pictures, and program information. This is an opportunity for the youth to engage with the community gaining new skills. June 30<sup>th</sup> the youth subcommittee conducted a meeting to get an introduction from Josiah. He has been an active member in YDI. Kyleigh, who worked at H2 Academic Solutions, has been an interested member of the programs offered and the community. Phillip has been apart of the board since he was little and is now a senior. It is important that our youth subcommittee members stay in contact with us even after graduation. Josiah, thank you for your interest in becoming a board member and we look

forward to working with you. Christine, can you please fill us in on what happened at the youth subcommittee meeting?

Christine: There were a lot of positive comments from the youth specifically from Rayven as she is involved in teen court. Phillip mentioned that he is reliable. From their comments a positive vibe was received, and they are excited to have him onboard. Speaking with other adults who know him have all said that he speaks his mind.

Jeremias: Josiah, can you please give us a little introduction of yourself and why you want to be a part of the board.

Josiah: I have been in teen court for about a year, and I am going into my second year. We get a lot of cases from kids, and we do sanctions rather than punishments. I own my own baking business. I want to be more involved in the community and help rather than being on the sidelines.

Jeremias: Awesome, thank you Josiah. Everyone online, please listen to him as he wants to be a part of this. I have hoped for this for a long time; interested youth who are interested in helping the community.

Heather: Wonderful to hear Josiah that you are interested in becoming a member. Thank you for stepping up as I am aware of the difficulties at that age. I entertain the motion to accept Josiah Vallejos as the newest member of the youth subcommittee.

Camille...motions to accept.

Estevan seconds the motion. All I's...zero no's.

Heather: Welcomes Josiah to the JJAB youth subcommittee.

*(Congratulations from the present board members)*

Jeremias: Josiah, Christine will be in contact with you to get you set up with the financial system and loop you in on the upcoming events.

#### F. Other business – As time allow

##### a. FY23 Closeout Overview

Christine: I hope you all had a chance to review the documents. We are looking at the needs assessment, I wanted to highlight on the LGBTQ+ statistics. The information is different from the other charts, but the information shows that it is no different from the other youth. They experience the same outcomes (i.e., carrying a weapon or getting in trouble at school, there also have mental health issues). I think it is awesome that Concha included it in this document. Moving on to the final report, I wanted to point out the successes and the challenges of each program. Boys Council and Girls Circle were both JPO and school-based referrals. Both programs graduated. The challenge for both programs was the limited space available at the School of Dreams Academy. Botvin Lifeskills was implemented in the school as well. RAC was implemented in all school districts in Valencia County. That program is pretty cool because they help kids with grades, attendance, decreases behavior complaints at school, and specialists are there if in need of someone to talk to. RAC also helps the youth get a driver's license or get them a job. The challenge they face are transportation and phone services; since the pandemic, it progressed to the use of technology as the specialist communicate with youth through text message or phone calls. If there is no transportation, the youth are unable to get services. Do you have any thoughts on the programs?

Jeremias: I wanted to continue with that, Christine, thank you for the summary of the documents. This is again for the FY23 closeout documentation. Concha did a wonderful job, the data she pulled from the NM Community Survey and YRRS Survey is invaluable as there is an alcohol problem among the youth. Illegal drug use

has decreased. LGBTQ+ community, Concha highlighted they are being bullied and fighting through the progression of school. H2 Academic Solutions programs are offered to everyone. These programs are offered to get the youth back on track. More than appropriate now that Christine provides a summary to the group that shows what our focus should be, apply for additional services, or need to identify different program providers. We are in year 4 of CYFD agreement; application will be available in the Spring. One thing I wanted to highlight about our program reversion is that in the last couple years, H2 Academic Solutions has utilized most of the funds. H2 Academic Solutions has again reverted a little over \$2000. I stand for questions at this time. No questions, I also wanted to remind the board of the Valencia Shelter Services this Saturday from 11 am to 4 pm. August 1<sup>st</sup> we will be at Ann Parish Elementary for the National Night Out. Christine sent out One Circle Foundation training in September, please get in contact with her if you are interested.

**G. Adjournment**

Heather: Entertain a motion of adjournment.

Estevan motions to accept.

Camille seconds the motion.

Heather: Meeting adjourned.

Next regular board meeting is on August 8, 2023 at 12 pm.