

Valencia County Report
ScOutreach Juvenile Diversion Program

Month: March 2015

- Current number of participants: 25
- New referrals: 22
- Recent graduates: 6
- Number of participant who exited the program: 11
- Total number of activity hours: 119.25
- Volunteer In-Kind hours: 102.52
- Parent Project hours: 40.5

ScOutreach - Valencia County March 2015 – Youth Activities

March 4 – Mothers Against Drunk Driving Presentation

For our Drugs, Alcohol, and Addiction class, we invited MADD to come and speak to our parents and youth. They gave a “Power of (You)th” and a “Power of Parents” presentation to our parents and youth. The Power of Youth workshop focused on reasons why underage drinking is a dangerous problem. Testimonials of real situations were shared, including detailed information on a few specific underage drinking-related car crashes where teens have been killed. Statistics were given on how many underage youth in New Mexico drink and how many deaths and crashes occur because of the underage drinking. The presenter for the youth did a wonderful job engaging them and encouraging discussion.

March 7 – TNT Boxing Tournament

For this community service event, ScOutreach youth assisted David Adame and TNT Boxing with the set-up and running of their tournament at Los Lunas Middle School. Our teens helped with keeping the gym clean by picking up trash throughout the event and keeping the trash cans maintained so that they did not overflow. One of our youth volunteered to be the DJ for the event and did such a wonderful job that TNT is requesting her as their DJ for their event in April! Volunteers with TNT had a chance to speak with our youth on a 1 to 1 basis and get to know them and encourage their goals.

March 18 – Anger and Stress Management

We had a guest come to do a gardening activity with the participants. Hank Bruce, a horticultural therapist from Rio Rancho, was kind enough to drive to Los Lunas and offer up some gardening supplies, plants, and his own personal time to come talk to our kids about how anger can often be relieved by working in the garden. He did a wonderful

job of relating gardening to our topic of anger and stress management. To start the activity, Hank asked everyone to write down their biggest problems or sources of stress on a piece of paper. They were then folded, torn up, and placed on top of some dirt in the bottom of the pots. Followed by more dirt, the idea was that our problems were being buried and let go of. Hank then brought out the plants that he had so graciously donated, and showed everyone how to plant them. They got to plant some trimmings from one of Hank's plants from home and they also got to choose from rubber lizards, fake flowers, and seashells to decorate their potted plant. Hank encouraged the participants to plant a variety of things in their pot. Hank pointed out that while the participants were gardening, there was a lot of laughter and smiling. He talked with us about how gardening has helped many others with a variety of issues, including those in rehab for addiction. Mr. Bruce and his wife interacted so nicely with the youth, making them laugh with jokes here and there while also discussing the importance of releasing our anger in a healthy way.

Thank you SO MUCH to Hank for driving all the way from Rio Rancho to Los Lunas for our kids!

Success Stories:

ScOutreach's referrals increased tremendously! We will have 22 new participants beginning April 15, 2015. Thank you Ruben Barreras and Estevan Gallegos and your amazing team in helping towards accomplishing our goal!