

Homeless Children & Youth Task Force
September Meeting
Wednesday, September 18, 2018
8:15 – 10:00 AM

These notes were taken during the meeting based on what was verbally shared, and then supplemented with online resources. If information has been misrepresented in these notes, please contact Michelle @ mvignery@sfps.k12.nm.us so corrections can be made.

Attending

- Attiana Virella-Fuentes, Adelante, Coordinator
- Loretta Fernandez, Adelante, Assistant-Coordinator
- Eva Barella, Adelante, Juntos Coordinator
- Heather Vigil Clark, YouthWorks, Director of Operations
- Michelle Vignery, Adelante, Development Specialist
- Patrick Meaders, Youth Shelters and Family Services, Street Outreach Program
- Terria Orega, Youth Shelters and Family Services
- Katy Edwards, Santa Fe Mountain Center Healthy Transitions
- Christine Alexander, Santa Fe Mountain Center Healthy Transitions
- Gabi Baird, Santa Fe Mountain Center Healthy Transitions, Program Manger
- Jaycee Lewis, Solace, Education & Prevention Specialist
- Dana Greenlelatt, Opportunity Santa Fe, Americorps VISTA
- Belen Romero, Santa Fe Mountain Center Healthy Transitions
- Annie Riddle, Casa Familia, Case Manager
- Lawrence Sena, Casa Familia, Program Manager
- David Sherman, Big Brothers Big Sisters, CEO
- Anica Bema, Adelante, Adelante, Secondary Liaison
- Noemi Sanchez, Adelante, Case Manager Lead
- Sharon Guerrero, Adelnate, Volunteer Coordinator
- Chanelle Delgado, Santa Fe County CSD
- Tom Stark, Recovery Santa Fe, Working on set of legislative initiatives to prevent childhood trauma
- Ramona Flores- Lopez, One Door
- Amparo Guerrero , Solace, Immigrant Program, City of SF Immigrant Committee
- Naomi Diamond, Grandparents Raising Grandchildren, Program Coordinator
- Tom Adigain, Big Brothers and Big Sisters, Program Manager
- Consuelo Bolagh-Cowder, BlueCross Blue Shield of NM, Community Relations Specialist
- John Romero, Community Outreach Specialist, Care Van Driver
- Mariela Leyba, Department of Health
- Sonia Garcia Lopez, Department of Health
- Rose Sanchez, Adelante, Early Childhood Specialist
- Sophie Andar, Prevention Alliance

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UPDATES/CALL TO ACTION

• **Santa Fe Public Schools Adelante**

Adelante provides trilingual case management services and material aid to support students and families experiencing homelessness within the Santa Fe community.

- Yesterday was National Citizenship Day (9.17.18)
 - Adelante is partnering with Somos Un Pueblo Unido, local families, Santa Fe Mayor Alan Webber, and others to help guide a path to citizenship.
 - The new campaign is called Citizenship Now!, and it's aimed at supporting eligible immigrant residents to become U.S. citizens.
 - **CALL TO ACTION: Let those seeking citizenship know about this program, "Citizenship Now!" This is for individuals who already have green cards. Contact Zulema from Somos at (505) 310-7688 with specific questions.**
 - <https://www.somosunpueblounido.org/>
 - <https://equalvoiceaction.org/2018/09/somos-un-pueblo-unido-to-launch-new-campaign-aimed-at-boosting-citizenship/>
- SFPS Adelante Update
 - Opened doors for current academic year on August 3, 2018
 - ~ 900 students served (students experiencing homelessness as defined by McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act)
 - www.adelantesantafe.org
- SFPS Adelante Early Childhood Update
 - Continuing to help families fill out Early Head-Start Forms through PMS clinics (not just distribute forms, but assistance to complete the forms)
 - Challenge = Very few openings available for enrollment
 - United Way just opened a new center, but they have an established lottery system and already a long wait list
 - Continuing to enroll babies/toddlers in the Imagination Library through the United Way
 - <https://imaginationlibrary.com/>

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- **BlueCross BlueShield of New Mexico**
 - Blue Bear Program
 - Blue Bear's community outreach efforts include visits to community events, charitable events, health fairs, and immunization outreach events with the New Mexico Care Van® Program.
 - This is a mobile health unit that can be deployed to health fairs or special events. This is a FREE service. The van can even be deployed to rural communities in New Mexico.
 - **CALL TO ACTION: Currently Blue Bear partners with Walgreens, Loveless, etc., but would like to increase partnerships**
 - **The mobile unit can be arranged with 3 weeks' notice (Contact Consuelo to find out more (505.816.4147, conselo_bolagh_cowder@bcbsnm.com)**
 - <https://www.bcbsnm.com/company-info/community-involvement/blue-bear>
 - Another service provides a focus on oral hygiene
 - A health educator comes to the school
 - This health educator works with families and students
 - Sample oral hygiene kits are distributed
 - **CALL TO ACTION: Contact Consuelo to find out more (505.816.4147, conselo_bolagh_cowder@bcbsnm.com)**
 - Healthy Kids - Healthy Families Grant
 - The program gives close to 347K annually (doesn't impact premium)
 - <https://www.bcbsnm.com/company-info/community-involvement/healthy-kids-healthy-families>
 - 2019 Wish List Available
 - Imagination Playgrounds (partnering with KaBOOM!)
 - Playgrounds can be shared
 - **Call to Action: Contact in order to find out more/be put on waitlist**
 - <http://www.imaginationplayground.com/>
 - <http://www.aps.edu/education-foundation/news-from-the-foundation/aztecs-imagination-playground-encourages-creative-play>

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- **Health Care Service Corporation**

- Health Care Service Corporation, a Mutual Legal Reserve Company (HCSC), and an Independent Licensee of the Blue Cross and Blue Shield Association, is the largest **customer-owned** health insurer in the United States and fourth largest overall, operating through our Blue Cross and Blue Shield® Plans in Illinois, Montana, New Mexico, Oklahoma and Texas.
- HCSC provides health coverage through our Blue Cross and Blue Shield Plans and dental, life and disability insurance through Dearborn National.
 - **CALL TO ACTION: Looking for partners! Who can we partner with to bring this service to even more individuals in our New Mexico Community?**
 - <http://www.hcsc.com/who-we-are>

- **One Door Campus**

- One Door Campus is a structured, coordinated approach to addressing the issue of homelessness in Santa Fe. One Door proposes a campus with certain research proven supportive housing and services on site coupled with agreements with other service providers off site. One Door will be designed to meet the needs of about 4,900 individuals annually.
 - One Door Campus received a grant through the SF County Navigation Program
 - One Door surveyed three groups to identify gaps in the community
 - **CALL TO ACTION: Participants needed for a practitioners' FOCUS GROUP! Contact Romona Flores-Lopez (sanjuan359@msn.com).**

- **Santa Fe County Community Services Department**

- The Santa Fe County Community Services Department (CSD) includes the following divisions: Community Safety (DWI, Teen Court), Community Operations (Community Centers, County Fair, Satellite Offices), Health Services (Health Services Division, Accountable Health Community, Mobile Health Van, Health Policy and Planning Commission (HPPC)), and Senior Services (Senior Centers, Home Delivered Meals)
 - Santa Fe County is creating a Youth Division.
 - The county is working with various community organizations to help create the division.
 - Emphasis on behavioral health
 - **Call to Action: Partners needed for strategic planning process (Contact Chanelle Delgado @ cdelgado@santafecountynm.gov)**

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- **Opportunity Santa Fe Birth to Career**

- Santa Fe Birth to Career Collaboration (SF B2C), a community collaborative initiative supported by the Santa Fe Community Foundation, is a collective impact effort among committed leaders and stakeholders to achieve birth to career success for all Santa Fe children, families, and communities by aligning our strategies, actions, and resources to improve outcomes.
- Survey recently administered focused on reconnecting youth
 - 450 individuals took the survey
 - YouthWorks participants administered the survey
 - The survey participation settings provided more open, honest answers
 - One Pagers created based on this survey
 - Mental Health and Substance Use
 - Connectedness (defined, and compared to disconnected)
 - Housing Instability
 - More comprehensive report should be available online soon...
 - This is a wealth of data and it will help us individualize our approaches.
 - Digital versions of the one-pages (distributed during the meeting) will be sent to Attiana for further distribution.
 - **CALL TO ACTION: Use this data! Contact Dana Greenlelattt for more info @ dgreenlelatt@santafeb2c.org**
 - <http://opportunitiesantafe.org/>

- **YouthWorks**

YouthWorks is a nonprofit, community-based organization that creates opportunities for “disconnected” youth to become engaged and valued members of our community.

- Observations were shared regarding the data generated from the surveys mentioned above, completed as collaboration between YouthWorks participants and Opportunity Santa Fe Birth to Career.
 - Most significant = Substance abuse by age and type
 - Cocaine more prevalent than expected
 - Within 3 days of a young person becoming homeless, their risk-factors increase substantially
 - Housing Instability
 - Risk behavior and characteristics are concerning
 - Hurt by someone, ages 14-18, stable housing = 28.1%, unstable housing = 61.8%
 - Physically forced to have sex, ages 14-18, unstable housing 38.2%, ages 19-26, unstable housing = 25.5%
 - <https://www.santafeyouthworks.org/>

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- **Big Brothers Big Sisters Mountain Region**

For more than 100 years, Big Brothers Big Sisters has operated under the belief that inherent in every child is the ability to succeed and thrive in life. As the nation's largest donor and volunteer supported mentoring network, Big Brothers Big Sisters makes meaningful, monitored matches between adult volunteers ("Bigs") and children ("Littles"), ages 6 through 18, in communities across the country.

- In the process of program evaluation
- Learning from the community and from other local organizations
 - Call to Action: Big Brothers and Big Sisters Mountain Region would love to meet with others to understand processes of their organizations.
 - Call to Action: More mentors (or "Bigs") are needed, specifically male mentors.
 - <http://www.bbbsmountainregion.org/>

- **Solace**

Serving those who have experienced sexual violence and other traumas. Spanish speaking staff are onsite for clinical, education and advocacy services.

- Just finished Education & Prevention program at Nina Otero
 - Prevention of Sexual Violence for all 7th and 8th grade classes in SF
 - Every Monday in the schools
 - 4-5 classes per grade per day
 - 7th sexual harassment
 - 8th sexual violence
- <https://www.findsolace.org/>

- **Mountain Center**

The Mountain Center (TMC) is a nationally recognized and accredited 501(C)3 educational and therapeutic organization that, since 1979, has been dedicated to promoting personal discovery and social change among youth, families and groups through the use of creative learning experiences in wilderness, community and cultural environments. TMC provides unique opportunities for people to transform their lives through remarkable experiences and adventures.

- Working to establish a Homeless Children & Youth Task Force in Rio Arriba
- [DreamTree](#) is doing a lot to help facilitate the task force (in conjunction with housing grant, focused on a youth development program)
 - Call to Action: Looking for strong voices within the Rio Arriba Community. It is a paid opportunity for youth ages 14-24 (compensation = \$25). For more information contact katy@santafemc.org.
 - DreamTree Project offers emergency teen shelter, a transitional home and resources for youth throughout northern New Mexico, including Colfax, Mora, Rio Arriba, Taos and Union counties.
 - <https://santafemc.org/>

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- **Casa Familia**

Casa Familia provides emergency shelter, meals, case management, showers, laundry, mail services, clothing, and supplies for women and families.

- The remodel is complete.
 - It features six private family dormitories, sixteen beds for single women, a large kitchen, dining room, outdoor patio and common areas. The facility can house over 30 people, and is a dramatic improvement from the one room for families and six beds for single women previously available.
- Guests at Casa Familia participate in life-skill training programs, case management, and group exercises to strengthen camaraderie
 - Intake
 - Monday - Friday 8:00 AM - 9:00 PM
 - Community Closet (free clothes)
 - Monday -Friday 9:00 AM - 3:00 PM
 - Diaper Depot
 - Diapers generally available during the last two weeks of the month (free).
 - Food
 - While not widely advertised, food is available for those in need.
 - ~88 food boxes per month
 - Service Restrictions
 - Children DO need to have birth certificates/formal custody agreement
 - Sex offenders or those fleeing imminent domestic violence situations are not admitted
 - ZERO TOLERANCE (breathalyzer/drug testing)
 - **CALL TO ACTION: Volunteers are currently being sought. Mentorship is needed for both youth and adults.**
 - <https://www.lascumbres-nm.org/grandparents-home>

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- **Las Cumbres - Grandparents Raising Grandchildren**

Las Cumbres Community Services is proud to sponsor the Grandparents Raising Grandchildren (GRG) Program founded in Española, NM. The program was established in January 2012. The mission of the Grandparents Raising Grandchildren Program is to support grandparents and grandchildren with many services ranging from accessing information and resources about support services, to learning about living and coping methods to ensure they remain both physically and mentally healthy throughout this journey.

- Operations strong in Rio Arriba County
 - 35 participating families
 - Working on gaining more access to government officials, because these participants feel they're underserved and under represented
 - Patricia Dominguez (a Heinrich representative) will be presenting at meeting next week and hearing from this group of constituents.
 - Big concerns = Financial
 - Grandparents raising grandbabies are looking for jobs
 - Grandparents raising grandbabies are dipping into retirement.
 - **Call to Action: Looking for Interns (1-2) in the Santa Fe, Española, Taos areas.**
 - <https://www.lascumbres-nm.org/grandparents-home>

- **Santa Fe Recovery Center**

Santa Fe Recovery Center provides drug and alcohol treatment to men and women 18 and over, who are seeking a high quality, effective recovery program.

- Moved intake office to 5312 Jaguar Drive (off Cerrillos)
 - Intake Monday - Thursday (Friday will be added soon)
 - Or emergency can result in intake to detox program
- Dr.'s and Physician Assistants conduct medical clearance (NO FEES!)
 - After this clearance, an individual can go to multiple programs
 - Residential
 - Have expanded residential treatment to 39 beds
 - Male/Female different sides
 - Children accepted
 - Detox
 - Etc.
- In October, will add more clients until 44 limit reached
- Augmenting outpatient program to include transportation
- Looking forward to Medicaid 2.0
- Housing for 18 and older, and can be for families
 - <http://www.sfrecovery.org/>

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- **Santa Fe Prevention Alliance**

Based in the Office of Student Wellness at Santa Fe Public Schools, the Prevention Alliance has a core prevention team, 45 community partnerships, and four committees: Steering, Education, Policy, and Santa Fe Opiate Safe (SOS).

Focused on substance use, the Prevention Alliance provides education, facilitates collaboration, builds opioid overdose prevention and response capacity, promotes responsible alcohol service, advocates for prevention policies, and supports the Student Wellness Action Team (SWAT).

Now a decade old, the Alliance is pursuing a strategic visioning process to inform their path forward. The Alliance looks forward to sharing their revised vision, mission, and strategic prevention framework with the community soon.

- Call to action: Sign-up to receive updates, <http://www.santafe-preventionalliance.org>
- Monthly SOS Meetings - Opioid dependency and prevention
- Healthcare Advocacy Network - Opioid dependent and incarcerated
- Call to action: Send event details to the Prevention Alliance and community announcements can be made the organization's list serv

FUTURE MEETINGS

The task force will continue to...

- Examine our greatest impact as a task force
- Define the work we can do together, collectively
- Identify ways to better share data/family needs across organizations
- Discuss leveraging resources
- Update a single reference guide of (bilingual) community resources

A LOCATION & DATE IS NEEDED FOR THE NEXT MEETING.

WHO WOULD LIKE TO HOST?

(Contact Attiana Virella-Fuentes, avirella-fuentes@sfps.k12.nm.us)