



Village of Los Lunas, Valencia County DWI PROGRAM

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3445 Lambros Loop, Los Lunas, NM 87031 ~ (Office) 505-352-7723 ~ (Fax) 505-352-3590

**DWI PLANNING COUNCIL MEETING**  
**Via Microsoft Teams due to COVID-19**  
**December 14, 2022**  
**12:05 pm**

**EXECUTIVE MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Robert Mundy, CWC, St. Matthew’s Episcopal Church	Carol Claus, Community Wellness Council (CWC)
Ryan Gray, Los Lunas Police Dept.	Victoria Flores, YDI, Teen Court
Ragon Espinoza, Children Youth and Families	Catalina Nunez Valencia Shelter Services
Heather Benavidez, State Treasurer’s Office	Nathaniel Blanton, APPO
Esther Padilla, NMSP	

**EXECUTIVE MEMBERS ABSENT:**

Judge John Chavez, Belen Magistrate Court–Division II (Excused)	Vacant
Vacant	

**GENERAL MEMBERSHIP:**

Joe Harris, Det. BFPD	Mike Milam, Valencia County
Pamela Skinner, Community Wellness Council	David Adame, TNT/YSC
Jo Ann Griego, Presbyterian Community Health	Chelsey Meyer, MADD
Marisha Maez, Valencia County Magistrate Drug Court	Willford Crain, Veteran’s Services
Angela Ramirez, VLL VC DWI Program	Ginny Adame, VLL VC DWI Program
Cheryl Luna, VLL VC DWI Program	
SIU Agent Thomas Bizzell	

President Mundy opened the meeting at approximately 12:10pm, with a full quorum.

Self-introductions.

Review of agenda. Motion to approve the agenda was moved by Carol Claus; 2<sup>nd</sup> by Victoria Flores. No discussion. All in Favor. Approved.

Review and approval of September 14<sup>th</sup>. Motion to approve the agenda was moved by Heather Benavidez; 2<sup>nd</sup> by Esther Padilla. No discussion. All in Favor. Approved.

**New Business:**

○ **VLL/VC DWI Program Overview**

As requested by Judge Chavez during the September 14, 2022 DWI Planning Council meeting, Ms. Ginny Adame provided a report on the components that are operated by the DWI Program. Ms. Ginny noted that one of the challenges of the DWI program is that many folks don’t know it exists, which isn’t always a bad thing, but when it comes to funding and defending the program at a legislative level, then it is a problem. Currently, the Local DWI Programs (LDWI) are funded by state statute awarding the programs 45% of the alcohol excise tax.

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Highlights from each of the components were then provided.

### Screening:

Every offender convicted of a DWI is required to receive a screening which the VLL/VC DWI program provides to fill this need within our community.

- In FY22 129 total offenders were screened

### Enforcement:

Our Enforcement Component has a very active Underage Drinking Taskforce that includes all of our local law enforcement agencies: Belen PD, Bosque Farms PD, Isleta PD, Los Lunas PD, and Valencia County Sheriff's department. The Underage Taskforce also works closely with the New Mexico State Police and the Special Investigations Unit and a number of joint compliance checks and minor shoulder operations are run each year when funding is available. We are one of the few Counties where all local enforcement agencies work together on county-wide operations versus each department receiving funding to use on individual operations.

A total of 16 operations were funded through the VLL/VC Local DWI program in FY22 to include:

- (11) Underage Enforcement operations
- (2) Saturation Patrols,
- (2) Compliance Checks,
- Warrant Round Up with participation from: Belen P.D., Bosque Farms PD, Isleta Tribal, P.D., Los Lunas P.D, New Mexico State Police/Special Investigations Unit, and Valencia Sheriff's Department.
- Combined statistics resulted from the operations listed above (284 combined stats)

### Compliance Monitoring:

The DWI program provides Compliance Monitoring for: 1st-3rd DWI's, misdemeanor Domestic Violence cases involving alcohol/drugs and other misdemeanors that met our criteria and that the courts see fit to send. The biggest accomplishment by far was becoming one of only (5) Adult Misdemeanor Compliance Programs to receive state accreditation. In addition a few notable accomplishments are as follows:

- In the first 10 fiscal years of operations (FY12-FY22) the compliance program offered supervised probation services, there have been 2081 clients/cases referred to the Compliance Program.
- 157 clients monitored/tracked during FY22 by 3 compliance officers
- 80 cases were successfully closed (completed all probation requirements)
- 24 cases were closed unsuccessfully (did not complete probation requirements).

### Treatment:

Through grant funding, the DWI Treatment program is able to provide free treatment to our clients. As 49% of our clients make less than \$20,000.00 annually (FY 22 NOBLE), the VLL/VC provides free treatment/Auricular Detox services on site filling an important gap in service in our community. Our LADAC is Bi-lingual and has 36 years in the Addictions field and our LSAA has 21 years (57 years of combined experience). Our program works closely with the Judicial Community. An overwhelming majority of the clients who go through the VLL/VC DWI Program's Treatment program report their counseling experience to be positive and they regularly express great appreciation for the Counselors and the Compliance Officers.

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- 123 offenders were referred to treatment
- 2397.5 total treatment hours provided

### Prevention Services:

The DWI Prevention program provides Technical Assistance and support by engaging in Community collaborations and partnerships that support a number of shared community wide initiatives/projects. Collaborative work to decrease Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACE), substance misuse, DWI, Underage Drinking, and violence while increasing resilience, access to mental/physical health care and treatment is the key focus of the DWI prevention program. Additionally, VLL/VC Prevention Program partners with the Community Wellness Council on the 100% Community Initiative which has (10) Taskforces. (5) Taskforces to address Surviving: Food, Housing, Transportation, Behavioral/Mental Health, and Medical/Dental and (5) Taskforces to for Thriving: Early Childhood, Parental Supports, Community Schools, Jobs Training, and Mentoring. Once all (10) Taskforces are fully sustained and operating within our community, the ultimate goal of positively impacting Adverse Childhood Experiences and ensuring 100% of our Community has access to the resources needed to survive and then to thrive and be realized!

Finally, Ms. Ginny ended her report by providing a few highlights from, New Mexico In Depth, Blind Drunk 7 part series by Ted Alcorn released on 7/24/2022. Mr. Alcorn did a lot of research into how Alcohol Harm impacts New Mexico. Ms. Ginny shared some information/quotes from that 7 part series because she felt the information contained within provides DWI programs and those working to impact alcohol related harm across the state with some very important insight. In part 1: An Emergency Hiding in Plain Sight, the opening statement is, "Drinking kills New Mexican's at a far higher rate than anywhere else in the nation, and the crisis is escalating." In fact, New Mexicans die of alcohol-related causes at nearly three times the national average and alcohol is involved in more deaths than fentanyl, heroin, and methamphetamines combined. Ms. Ginny's hope was that through the provision of the report on the DWI Program services provided locally along with the highlighting of just how big of an impact that alcohol has on New Mexicans, that each of the attendees will advocate to not only keep funding for Local DWI Programs at the very minimum, but that when there is the opportunity to please know there is additional need for increasing the funds available to LDWI programs to adjust to cost of living and increase for needs for our services.

Ms. Ginny stood for questions on her report and there were none.

### o VLL/VC DWI FY24 LDWI Application: by Ms. Ginny Adame:

FY2022 Annual Report shared with the Planning Council and a copy is available if requested. Ms. Ginny described the current trends of a relatively flat increase in the amount of funding that is available to the LDWI programs from fiscal year to fiscal year with just over \$1,000.00 change between FY22 and FY23. The Budget for FY24 had not be received yet, but the plan is to continue to fund the currently funded components based upon data assessments, capacity of the current program, and needs within the community for services. Priority is given to currently funded components and if additional funding is available, continuance of the enforcement component would take place. Ms. Ginny asked for additional input from the Executive Board and

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the General membership. Ongoing support for continuing to fund the components in place as described was supported and there were no additional questions for Ms. Ginny.

### ○ **Filling Vacant DWI Planning Council Board Positions**

President Mundy stated that there are two (2) seats on the DWI Planning Council up for election. President Mundy called for nominations for the two (2) open seats;

- Ms. Ginny Adame nominated Pam Skinner:
  - Pam Skinner – accepted nomination;
- Ms. Carol Claus nominated Chelsey Meyer;
  - Chelsey Meyer accepted nomination;
- Mr. Mike Milam self-nominated, but noted his busy schedule.
- President Munday pointed out now we have (3) nominees and (2) open positions. Ms. Ginny stated that she didn't think having an extra board member would be problematic as we had been struggling to have our seated board attend and that extra members would increase the chances for participation. The By-Laws will have to be reviewed and possibly amended if needed.
- President Munday called for any additional nominations and there were none.
- A motion to close nominations was made by Nathan Blanton; 2<sup>nd</sup> Ester Padilla. No further discussion. All approved. Motion passed.
- Ms. Heather Benavidez motioned to unanimously accept the (3) nominations by acclamation; 2<sup>nd</sup> by Nathan Blanton. All in favor. Approved.

### ○ **Presentation on TNT Youth Mentoring Center/Youth Success Core: by David Adame**

- Coach David Adame has been with TNT Boxing since 2007. He reported that over the number of years he has been working with the youth and part of the club that the program has helped numerous kids graduate high school. He reported that only 1 youth that has been actively involved in the program that he knows of didn't graduate since 2007. Many of the youth active in the program move on to college, military, start their own businesses, and/or start a family of their own. The goals for the youth participating in the TNT Boxing/Youth Mentoring Center, Youth Success Core are:
- Boxing is secondary to school and staying out of trouble, boxing is only the way to get youth involved in program.
- Program is aimed at giving youth life experiences. Some youth with the program caught their first fish, traveled out of state, flew on an airplane, saw the ocean ect. for the first time as a result of their participation in the program.
- Competitive Boxers have to show their report cards and have good grades.
- Program has grown and went from peer to peer tutoring to offering free tutoring services on sight.
- Program serves ages 7 years and up including adults.
- Program has never had to advertise, word of mouth and referrals keep program very full.
- Serves 25-35 kids a day
- Open 4 days a week: Monday-Thursday 5:30pm-7:30pm

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- A total of 300-400 kids go through the program per year spending at least 2-3 months.
- Ongoing struggles include sustainable funding. Families aren't turned away if they can't pay and those that can aren't able to fund full operations of the gym. There is a need for \$5-\$8 thousand a year for new equipment alone which doesn't account for operations or the cost of taxes on the building that has the rent in-kind by Mr. Mark Olmstead.
- Primary source of funding comes from Fireworks fundraiser.
- Next Ms. Ginny showed the TNT Facebook page to highlight the work being done.
- David stood for questions and received a great compliment from Sgt. Gray from LLPD whom highlighted a new Public Service positions through LLPD that would soon be opened with the hopes of recruiting those over 18 interested in law enforcement to help them get into the law enforcement field while helping them avoid the downfalls that many young adults encounter. Sgt. Gray stated his department would be looking for referrals for the positions from TNT as Sgt. Gray sees the structure and discipline the TNT boxers have and trusts Coach Adame for appropriate candidates.

### On-Going Updates:

**District Attorney's Office** – No one present.

**Treatment** – by Ms. Cheryl Luna on behalf of the Treatment Program:

- Total number of referred clients this quarter: (37 with (23) from Los Lunas and (10) from Belen, (1) from the State of Arizona, and (3) Self Referrals.
- Currently, there are (57) Active clients with (20) retained for Aftercare.
- (20) Successful Completions.
- (3) Unsuccessful Discharges.
- (6) clients were referred to other Agencies.
- client didn't require treatment.
- Group Treatment: on Tuesday and Wednesday, 5:30-7pm
- DWI Treatment Program will host the client Christmas Party 12/28 during the Wednesday group.
- Individual Treatment: more appointments are being inducted into in-person sessions with
- some still having their sessions by phone.

### Successes:

1. Clients are staying in the program for Aftercare when they complete successfully.
2. Developed new goals for the Treatment Program
3. Resources list has been organized
4. In person Assessments , individual, and group sessions
5. Less unsuccessful discharges

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### Challenges:

1. Client and Staff Health issues/medical care.
2. The no show/no call clients.

**Drug Court** – No one present due to extended length of meeting.

### Local/State Law Enforcement Update:

- Agent Bizzell gave kudos to Ms. Ginny and the Underage Drinking Taskforce stating that SIU's best partnership is with the Valencia County team which is very organized and cooperative during joint operations/trainings.
- Agent Bizzell also reported they SIU held 27 inspections and provided merchant education and awareness. A few establishments sited for selling to minors/not checking IDs. There were 8 administrative citations, 2 Active Complaints. There are big fines for administrative citations which are a great deterrent for underage or sales to intoxicated patrons.
- New Establishment, Sharp Shooters is being proactive inviting SIU for training for their servers. Training must be completed by certified servers every (3) years.
- Sgt. Gray with Los Lunas PD stated that checkpoints will be conducted along with saturation patrols. Sgt. also reported on the new Service Aide positions he has been working on and reported on during the TNT presentation portion of the meeting.
- Det. Harris from Bosque Farms PD reported a delay in grant funding used for their check points/sat pats, but that he expected the funds to come in and that check points would be taking place in the New Year.

### YDI/Teen Court/Youth Coalition Update – by Ms. Victoria Flores:

- Teen Court is being held monthly;
- 12 Teen Attorneys took their oath with 2 more joining on January 26<sup>th</sup>.
- Referrals from JPO are being received;
- Found out Teen Court can get referrals directly from the schools, community, and parents which will increase numbers in the New Year.
- A Teen Attorney Tea Party was held to keep them engaged and for the holiday season.

### Prevention/Enforcement – by Ms. Ginny:

- There was one Underage Taskforce Operation that took place in October with one more scheduled at the end of December. There were 12 citations from the October operation.
- Ms. Ginny stood for any questions relative to the Prevention and Enforcement information provided earlier during the meeting. There were no questions.

### Compliance – by Ms. Cherly Luna:

- As mentioned previously, our Misdemeanor Compliance Monitoring Program has been received Accreditation. The Program will receive its certificate during the Legislative session in January 2023;
- Compliance welcomes our newest Compliance Officer, Ms. Michelle Gonzalas to begin at the end of December.
- Current caseload, as we near the end of the second quarter sits at 172 active clients with 209 total clients. 37 clients in warrant status.

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### Open Discussion/Topics for Next Meeting:

- Chelsey Meyer from MADD reported on their Safety Campaign which includes uber rides for the holidays starting on December 15<sup>th</sup> through the New Year. Ms. Chelsey also is working to promote the upcoming events and will provide literature.
- Next meeting to be held on Wednesday, December 14, 2022, IN PERSON hopefully!

Motion moved by Carol Claus to adjourn meeting; 2<sup>nd</sup> Nathan Blanton; All Approved; Meeting adjourned at 1:33pm.

**MINUTES ARE IN DRAFT FORM AND ARE NOT OFFICIAL UNTIL THEY ARE APPROVED BY THE DWI PLANNING COUNCIL.**

Reviewed and Approved by DWI Planning Council:

Dated: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

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