



## 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

December 11, 2024

12:05 pm

#### EXECUTIVE MEMBERS PRESENT:

Chelsey Meyer, MADD New Mexico	Carol Claus, Community Wellness Council (CWC)
Pamela Skinner, Community Wellness Council (CWC)	Victoria Flores, YDI, Teen Court
Esther Padilla, NMSP	Karyn Sullivan, Department of Health
Marisha Maez, Valencia County Mag. DWI Drug Court	Mike Milam, Valencia County Clerk

#### EXECUTIVE MEMBERS ABSENT:

Katrina Fuller, Ideal Option	Stephanie Wood, Valencia Shelter Service
Catalina Nunez, Valencia Shelter Services (Excused)	
Ryan Gray, Los Lunas Police Department	

#### GENERAL MEMBERSHIP:

Ginny Adame- VLL VC DWI	Araceli Garica- VSS
Michelle Gonzales- VLL VC DWI	Tanya Henderson- Grad Student
Tanya Trombley, NM State Police Advocate	Angela Ramirez- VLL VC DWI
Lori Kurtz- VLL VC DWI	Brandon Lujan- VC Sheriff's Department
Natalie Duran, District Attorney's Office	Stephan Hall, VC Sheriff's Department
C-Jay Smith- Isleta Police Department	Joann Cordova-Sanchez- VLL VC DWI
Maiko Castro. MADD	JoAnn Griego- Presbyterian Health Service
Ricky Dominguez- Bosque Farms PD	Majid Gayles, NM State Police
Autumn Tafoya- Isleta Police Department	

Vice-President Victoria Flores opened the meeting at 12:05pm, with a full quorum. Self-introductions.

Review of agenda. Motion to approve the agenda was moved by Chelsey Meyer, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Pamela Skinner. No discussion. All in Favor. Approved.

Review and approval of June 12, 2024, minutes. Motion to approve the minutes was moved by Karyn Sullivan, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Carol Claus. No discussion. All in Favor. Approved.

#### **New Business:**

##### **A. Presbyterian Community Health- Jo Ann Griego and Art Salazar**

- Harm Reduction is a public approach that engages people who use substances (lawful and unlawful) and equips them with life-saving tools and information to lower the transmission of infectious diseases and prevent overdose.
- The Harm Reduction Act passed in 1997 due to the increase of the Hepatitis C outbreak, which was caused by the sharing of needles.
- New Mexico was the first state in the Nation to pass the law stating that the access to Harm Reduction Services were required to be given out in the State of New Mexico.
- Fentanyl test strips are available for testing street drugs to see if they are laced.
- Studies have shown that by using different words/verbiage (i.e., Don't tell a client they are dirty, instead tell them they tested positive for a substance in their urine) will or could help the clients complete the program. Being able to address a substance issue in a positive light will also help a client.
- Be mindful of your body language when speaking with a client.





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- Introduce yourself and explain to them what you are doing. Give the power back to the client and allow them to talk about what they are ready to discuss.
- Allow the client to fully answer the questions being asked before engaging.

### B. FY26 LDWI-Ms. Ginny Adame

- Ms. Ginny advised that the FY26 LDWI Application is due near the end of February 2025.
- The LDWI Distribution funds for FY26 is estimated to be \$444,815.00, \$28,537.00 less than our projected FY25 Distribution amount of \$473,352.00. We can apply for additional funds through the Competitive Grant; however, there is no guarantee we will be awarded our full request. We were fortunate to receive all we requested this fiscal year, including \$40,000 for Valencia Shelter Services (VSS) and \$9,100 for Teen Court. Although we can request funds again for VSS and Teen Court, monies awarded through the Competitive Grant will first serve to keep the DWI Program whole and any additional funds can be considered for Enforcement, VSS, and Teen Court.
- Ms. Ginny stood for questions. There being none, she asked if there were any objections to submitting the FY26 LDWI application funding the same components funded in FY25 (Compliance, Treatment, Community Outreach, Program Administration). There were no objections.
- Ms. Ginny also shared that this year's legislative session is 60 days and bills have already been introduced to the Legislative Finance Committee (LFC) regarding changes to the current state statute that funds the LDWI Programs and Drug Courts. Depending on which bill successfully passes, if any, the funding for DWI Programs statewide may be in jeopardy. The Council's ongoing support during the Legislative session is appreciated.

### Ongoing Updates

- **District Attorney's Office- Natalie Duran**
  - Natalie Duran and Chris Green are the only Assistant District Attorneys handling misdemeanors since Mr. Travis Trout's departure.
  - Ms. Duran and Mr. Green completed training with Sgt. Ryan Gray with Los Lunas PD, focusing on drunk driving.
  - Communication between the DA's office and law enforcement officers is improving. This will help with future prosecutions.
  - Currently the DA's office is seeing more trials related to DWIs.
- **Treatment- Joann Sanchez**
  - September 11-December 11, 2024
    - 33 Referrals, 3 Returns, and 2 were self-referrals.
    - Between Ms. Joann and Ms. Angela, they have a caseload of 59 clients.
    - Referred: 3 (LL-20, Belen-8, Farmington 1, 13<sup>th</sup> Judicial-1, Oregon 1, Self-Referral 2).
    - Successful Discharge: 11 (3 have chosen to stay in the program and have been with the program for over a year)
    - Unsuccessful Discharge 2
    - No treatment required 5
    - Referred to other agencies 6
  - Successes
    - The Annual Client Christmas party has been planned for 12/17/2024
    - Staff has trained in more Trauma and Grief issues.
    - All clients (15 at one time) referred have been scheduled.
  - Challenges
    - How to get the Tuesday night group built up.
    - Finding time to do required extra housekeeping chores.
    - After 43 years of exceptional service, Ms. Joann will retire, effective 02/13/2025. Congratulations





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Ms. Joann, you will be greatly missed.

- **Drug Court- Marisha Maez**
  - Drug Court currently has 11 participants.
  - Drug Court is working alongside the DWI Program with the RNR Pilot Project.
  - Drug Court is partnering with Valencia County Detention Center to start a V-Mat program. This program will focus on substance abuse and help provide a soft handoff to an outside treatment provider when an inmate is released. Hopefully, this program will be up and running in the next year.
  - Drug Court Client Christmas program will be December 20<sup>th</sup>, at the Wellness Center.
  - Drug Court recently graduated 3 from the program.
  - In January 2025, DWI Drug Court will be starting the Alumni Program.
  - Certification of the DWI Drug Court is underway, and all team members are completing online trainings as part of the certification.
- **Bosque Farms Police Department- Sergeant Ricky Dominguez**
  - DWIs have been low
  - Bosque Farms is waiting for the DWI grant to be signed. There are hopes the agreement will be signed by February 2025. Once received, saturation patrols will begin.
- **Isleta Police Department- Officer Autumn Tafoya**
  - There has been an increase of DWIs- 24 total since the last meeting, 14 have been aggravated.
  - 1<sup>st</sup> time offenders have been going through the Village of Los Lunas DWI Program.
  - Recently there was a DWI Fatality.
  - There will be a DWI checkpoint on New Year's Eve.
  - Since the last meeting they have had 2 checkpoints.
  - Isleta PD is waiting for their "Batmobile".
- **Sheriff's Department- Sergeant Brandon Lujan**
  - Last quarter there were 30 DWI arrests.
  - This quarter there are currently 42 DWI arrests.
  - They too are waiting on their grant so they can begin their saturation patrols.
- **State Police- Agent Majid Gayles**
  - During a DWI arrest if the Law Enforcement Officer can prove that the suspect received their alcohol from a gas station, bar, or restaurant, State Police is able to piggyback off that arrest and go after the business administratively for their liquor license.
  - Come January 2025 SIU will no longer work the marijuana field. Another criminal portion of State Police will be taking over.
  - Many tobacco establishments are selling to minors.
- **Valencia Shelter Services- Araceli Garcia**
  - There have been some changes in staffing rolls. The new Deputy Director is Ms. Catalina Nunez, the Interim Clinical Director is Brissa Soltero, and the Stability Programs Director is Myra Rosario. The position of Finance Director is still open.
  - As of October, the SANE unit has been up and running.
  - 3 - DV exams have been completed that only required photo documentation due to strangulation.
  - 2 - other exams required a sexual evidence kit (one pediatric and one adult).
  - Since July 1, 2024, VSS has served 1, 084 Clients.
  - Last Fiscal Year 148 forensic interviews were completed. Currently, they have completed 95.





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- A new grant was given to VSS that will allow for the hiring of two new therapists.
- The FPI Program (52-week program) currently has 23 males and six (6) females. There is a waitlist for males and one (1) female recently graduated.
- **Teen Court- Victoria Flores**
  - 15 teen attorneys currently on staff.
  - Teen Court recently completed a two-day training in Moriarity.
  - Torrance County donated a curriculum called, 'Case Action to Mock Trials'.
  - Valencia County is one of the last teen courts that still do court and does not go straight to sanctions.
  - Recently attended the Roadrunner Festival and ran a carnival
  - Teen Court attended the H2 Academic Thanksgiving Dinner on November 27<sup>th</sup>.
- **Prevention and Enforcement- Ms. Ginny Adame**
  - **Enforcement**
    - After many years of having this item as a goal of the DWI Program, on October 31, 2024, we hosted a meeting entitled, 'DWI in Valencia County: What Works and Where Opportunities Exist for Improvements.' There was participation from the District Attorney's Office, Belen P.D., Bosque Farms P.D., Isleta Tribal P.D., Los Lunas P.D., and the VLL VC DWI Program. As a brief recap, each department was provided 10 minutes to answer three questions which were:
      - 1. What has been working well with DWI arrests through prosecution?
      - 2. What has been challenging for your department in regard to DWI arrests through prosecution?
      - 3. What policy does your department have in place regarding DWI hearings and attendance—are you paid to attend hearings if they happen when you are off shift? What types of absences (from court) would be considered excused according to your department's policy?
    - Since the last DWI PC meeting on September 11th, the following operations have taken place: 9/13/24 during Los Lunas Homecoming with (1) Warrant Arrest, (5) Speeding, (4) No/Expired Registrations, (1) No/Expired Insurance, and (7) Other citations.
    - This quarter so far there has been 1 Warrant round-up on 10/11/24 which produced 1 arrest.
    - On 10/19/24 in support of Octoberfest the following statistics resulted: (4) No/Expired Registration, (5) Speeding, (1) No Insurance, (1) Driving without a Driver's license, (2) No Seatbelt, and (1) Other citation.
    - On 11/22/24 there was a county-wide Compliance Check operation with SIU, BPD, BFPD, IPD, LLPD, and VCSO. One (1) sale to a minor during this compliance operation.
  - **Prevention**
    - Prevention continues to collaborate with the Community Wellness Council (CWC). As mentioned during the last meeting, our community was one of six (6) identified to participate in a project for the NM Legislature that looks at how community services support families across New Mexico. The goal is to form a blueprint that supports our communities and prevents families from requiring child protective services intervention.
    - There will be a focus group of 10-12 participants who have received housing, transportation, behavioral healthcare, medical/dental, childcare, or food support services to gather information on their experience using these services in Valencia County.
- **Compliance- Ms. Lori Kurtz**
  - There are 188 clients (18 pending intakes and 36 are under warrant).
  - We continue to participate in the RNR Pilot Project. In January 2025 there will be some changes.
    - Clients sentenced by Judge Tafoya will be included in the RNR.
    - Clients sentenced by Judge Chavez and Judge Sichler will not participate in RNR and will be our control group.





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- This will enable us to see if there is a decrease in recidivism using the RNR model.
- Compliance staff are reviewing policies and procedures for our upcoming State Re-Accreditation.
- Compliance staff attended the quarterly Compliance ADHOC meeting in Sandoval County.
  - Our Program and the DWI Programs in Dona Ana and Santa Fe counties, funded training for the Compliance Officers. The training, 'Probation Officer as Prosecutor', was beneficial to all, but especially those officers who do not have the assistance of the District Attorney's office when prosecuting probation violations.

### Open Discussion

- Ms. Chelsey Meyers with MADD shared the following:
  - The Honoring Heroes Gala will be held on December 11, 2024. The New Mexico State Police and Isleta PD's Officer Autumn Tafoya will be honored and recognized. Ms. Ginny Adame was a past recipient.
  - Underage Prevention was awarded a grant for Valencia, Torrance, Sandoval, and Bernalillo counties. MADD would like to collaborate with programs in our community to provide an event for the youth that focuses on the consequences of underage drinking and driving. Ms. Victoria Flores with YDI is very interested. The grant money must be used by June or July 2025.

There was no motion to adjourn the meeting. The meeting was adjourned at 1:44pm.

**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: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

CHARLES GRIEGO  
MAYOR

GINO ROMERO  
COUNCILOR

JAMES T. RUNYON  
COUNCILOR

CRUZ MUÑOZ  
COUNCILOR

CHRISTOPHER S. ORTIZ  
COUNCILOR

GREGORY D. MARTIN  
VILLAGE ADMINISTRATOR

