

## NEW MEXICO JUVENILE JUSTICE ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Thomas Branigan Memorial Library

200 E. Pichacho Ave., Las Cruces, NM 88001

Thursday, March 21, 2019 10:00AM

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### I. Call to Order – Doug Mitchell, Chair

The meeting of the Juvenile Justice Advisory Committee was called to order at 10:04 AM by Douglas Mitchell, Chair, at Thomas Branigan Memorial Library, 200 E. Pichacho Ave, Las Cruces, NM 88001

### II. Roll Call for Quorum – Cindy Varela, Grant Manager

Mr. Mitchell asked for a roll call for a Quorum, which was conducted by Cindy Varela, Grant Manager. A quorum was not established, and the meeting proceeded on an information basis, with the following members present:

#### Members Present

Douglas Mitchell – Chair  
Alan Kirk  
Alma Cortez  
Ron West  
Hon. Angie Schneider  
Chad Pfeiffer proxy for Roshanna Toya

#### Members Excused

Shelly Currier – Vice Chair  
Oscar Solis  
Annalies Cortez  
Oscar Gonzales  
Sasha Pellerin  
Helen Cheromiah  
Tina Harris  
Nathan Tarbox  
Craig Sparks

#### CYFD Staff in Attendance

Nick Costales – Deputy Director, JJS Field Services  
William Kearney – Grants Management Unit (GMU) Manager / JJ Specialist  
Cindy Varela – GMU Grant Manager  
Consuelo Garcia – GMU Grant Manager  
Louis Pacias – GMU Grant Manager  
Patti Vowell – JDAI Statewide Coordinator  
Amanda Gray – Operations Research Analyst  
Samantha Lucas- Detention Compliance Monitor  
Kim Robinson – Executive Secretary

#### Guest in Attendance

Greg Smith, City Councilor, City of Las Cruces  
Lucia Serrano, Chaves County Continuum Coordinator  
Jan Holleman, Lincoln County Continuum Coordinator  
Noelle Chavez, Valencia County Continuum Coordinator  
Amy Bassford, City of Las Cruces Grants Administrator  
Javier Amaro, Program Supervisor, Las Cruces Juvenile Citation Program  
Grace Telles, Community Educator, Las Cruces Juvenile Citation Program  
Ray Fajardo, Community Educator, Las Cruces Juvenile Citation Program  
Danielle Archuleta, City of Raton Continuum Coordinator  
Brian Kavanaugh, CEO, Families and Youth, Inc.  
Angelica Carreon, Administrator, Families and Youth, Inc.  
Julie Molina, JARC Supervisor, Families and Youth, Inc.  
Gerri Bachicha, Bernalillo County Continuum Coordinator  
Bianca Padilla, Grant County Continuum Coordinator  
Rose Gordon, Taos Continuum Coordinator  
Sonya Delgado, Las Cruces Parks & Recreation Director  
Shara Thorpe, JJAC/OSAP Coordinator, Truth or Consequences  
Jenea Ortiz, Torrance County Continuum Coordinator  
Desa Molina, Luna/Hildago County Continuum Coordinator  
Anabel Barraza, Chaves County Assistant Finance Director

### III. Welcome – Greg Smith, City Councilor, Las Cruces

Mr. Smith thanked and welcomed the committee and attendees to Las Cruces. He shared some national statistics from 1980 which began to show a rise in the arrest rate for youth between the ages of 10 thru 17. The numbers continue to rise and rounded off in 1996 when a steady decline began. These numbers were a reflection of the statistics in Las Cruces. Mr. Smith stated that he believed the decline was a reflection of the efforts put forth by the Committee. Mr. Smith expressed his gratitude to the Committee on behalf of Las Cruces and the other communities in New Mexico.

Mr. Smith shared his first experience with the local Juvenile Justice Continuum which began after his election in 2011. In 2012 he stated that he began to participate in some of the Juvenile Citation Program groups where the youth engaged in conversations with the adult participants, both sharing their concerns and experiences in the community. He stated that he was elected as the Mayor Pro Tem and sat in as the Mayor's representative on the Juvenile Justice Continuum Board. This, he stated, was a very enlightening experience. Again he expressed his gratitude for the committee for being pro-active and looking for ways to help young people make better choices.

### IV. Host Continuum Presentation by Javier Amaro, Las Cruces Continuum Coordinator

Mr. Amaro presented an overview of the Las Cruces Juvenile Citation Program (JCP), operated by the City with Juvenile Continuum Grant Funds, and the Juvenile Assessment Reception Center (JARC) operated by Families and Youth, Inc. (FYI). Mr. Amaro thanked the Grants Management Unit for their efforts during the week, including a program audit and a continuum coordinator training session.

Mr. Amaro shared that JCP was designated a "Best Practice" model through OJJDP in 2009 and they will update the model program status with OJJDP (crimesolutions.gov). JCP has a focus on social skill groups, parenting support, and community service. Mr. Amaro stated that there is a special emphasis on having the family unit involved in the program because it is not just the youth they are dealing with, but the family as a whole. He explained there are three levels of the programming. Level One is for status offenders and is designed as a one-time class that also can be spread over several sessions. Levels Two and Three are for more serious citation offenses and are comprised of more session. In Levels Two and Three, there are sessions scheduled with the parents called Parent/Youth day, held on Saturday for five hours.

Mr. Amaro stated that over the 10 years of the program, they have averaged 500 youth per year. He noted that their Continuum works closely with the Dona Ana county government, the Public Defender's office, and the Third Judicial Family Court. Judge Beyer is the current Chair of the Continuum Board. Mr. Amaro concluded by presenting a series of photographs showcasing the various classes, activities and community service projects that are a part of their programming, including painting murals and other outdoor events.

### V. Approval of Agenda

The agenda could not be approved because the board did not have a Quorum.

### VI. Approval of December 6, 2018 Minutes

The agenda could not be approved because the board did not have a Quorum.

### VII. Updates – Written reports submitted by staff

#### a. **Federal Update** – Bill Kearney, Grants Management Unit Manager/Juvenile Justice Specialist

##### Juvenile Justice Reform Act of 2018 and JJAC Implications:

Mr. Kearney began by stating that HR 6964, the Juvenile Justice Reform Act of 2018 (JJRA), was signed into law on December 21, 2018; this is the first update to the Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Act since 2002. This law updates core protections, restructures the prevention components of the Act, expands OJJDP research and evaluation purposes and increases funding and accountability. HR 6964 defines the purpose of the Act as "to support a continuum of evidence based or promising programs that are trauma informed, reflect the science of adolescent development and are designed to meet the needs of at-risk youth and youth who come in contact with the justice system". The amendments related to state plans and core protections take effect October 1, 2019. Mr. Kearney stated that the JJRA does have an impact on the Statewide Advisory Group (SAG). It expands the age that youth can be appointed from 24 to 28, allows for a person's family member to be appointed for a system-involved youth who may not be available, and expands prevention and treatment Board representation to include child welfare, child and adolescent mental health education, substance abuse, special education, services for youth with disabilities recreation, and youth services.

Mr. Kearney noted that this Act also includes the addition of three new member categories; one being for licensed or certified by the applicable State, with expertise and competence in preventing and addressing mental health and substance abuse needs in delinquent youth and at-risk youth; a second victims or witnesses advocacy group representation, (including at least one individual with expertise in addressing the challenges of sexual abuse, exploitation and trauma); and third, a new member who will address the needs for representation for Indian Tribes where there is more than one tribe.

The JJRA now defines that State Plans must be posted on public websites (which New Mexico already does). The reports to the Governor are now required every other year instead of every year and the report is required to include evidence-based or promising practices. The plan must also take into account adolescent brain science. Mr. Kearney noted that the Plan needs to identify how the state will reduce the number of incarcerated youth, engage family members and stop the use of restraints on known pregnant youth.

Mr. Kearney highlighted adjustments to the four core requirements of the Juvenile Justice Prevention Act. The first requirement addresses the Deinstitutionalization of Status Offenders (juveniles that commit offenses that only a juvenile can commit (truancy, runaway, etc). A Valid Court Order must be written and may not be renewed. The court must identify the valid court order that has been violated and must specify the factual basis for determining that there is "reasonable cause to believe that the status offender has violated such order". The court must include "findings of fact to support a determination that there is no appropriate less restrictive alternative available to placing the status offender in such a facility, with due consideration to the best interest of the juvenile". The court must also specify the length of time, not to exceed 7 days, that the young person may remain in a secure detention or correctional facility, and must include a plan for their release from the facility.

With the second core requirement, Jail Removal, States must remove youth, including those certified as adults, from adult jails, unless the court finds it is in the interest of justice. Youth may not have sight or sound contact with adult inmates. Finally the courts must consider seven newly identified factors in determining what is "in the interest of justice", including age, physical/mental maturity of the youth, whether there is imminent harm, youths delinquency history; and juvenile detentions ability to meet the needs of youth and safety of other youth in its care. States will have three years to implement this requirement.

The third Core Protection, Sight and Sound Separation, now adds if a court determines it is in the "interest of justice" to permit a youth to be placed in jail or lockup, then a hearing must take place every 30-45 days to review placement, youth may not have sight/sound contact with adult inmates, and youth must not be held longer than 180 days unless the court, in writing, finds good cause.

The fourth core requirement identifies the shift from the former Disproportionate Minority Contact to Racial and Ethnic Disparities (RED). This is reflective of the direction the field has been moving and that it ties in with the Juvenile Detention Alternative Initiative (JDAI). RED requires data collection on ethnicity as defined by the U.S. Census Bureau and an actionable plan with measurable goals that are aimed at addressing points of disparity that are shown through the data.

Mr. Kearney stated identified changes to the data requirements for OJJDP. This includes the number of status offenses petitioned to the court to be held in detention and the findings used to place them there, as well as the average length of stay and a one month snapshot of the use of isolation and restraints.

Mr. Kearney talked about the changes to Title V of the Juvenile Justice Delinquency Prevention Act. Mr. Kearney stated that everything that he has been describing is technically called the Title II Formula Grants that came to the state with focus on Prevention, is now called Promise Grants. The Promise Grants creates local policy boards that can apply for and seek funding for prevention programs. There are more than 30 types of programming that are permitted under this designation. This funding requires a 50% match from localities. Tribal Youth Programs are still funded under Title V with an 11% carve out. It is important to note that these funds have been fully earmarked in recent years and continue to be so under proposals for FY19. Some of the current appropriations in Title V also include monies from other prevention programs such as Opioid Prevention.

Judge Kirk asked if these changes would affect the Strategic Plan that had been approved at the December meeting, and if these changes needed to be incorporated into that plan. Mr. Kearney said that this be reviewed since these are mandates and there may need to be changes made to the plan in order to comply.

Rose Gordon, Continuum Coordinator from Taos, asked if the mandate requiring an expert in considering the brain development in adolescents be included in the Strategic Plans and in future programming. Mr. Kearney answered in the affirmative stating that this is the direction the field is moving to and that he would send a

copy of the report to the Continuum Coordinators. He continued by saying the local Continuums could do the same presentation that he offered his help if they needed further assistance.

Fiscal Year 2018 and 2019 Title II Grant Update:

Mr. Kearney referred to previous meetings where there had been discussions and presentations about the status of acceptance of the FY18 Title II Formula Grant award. There were two new special conditions that had been added to the FY18 grant awards regarding cooperation with Federal law enforcement/ICE that drove the decision not to accept the FY18 Title II funding. OJJDP has been waiting for the final formal letter that the award will not be accepted. The decision is under review by the Governor's Office and the Office of the Cabinet Secretary as the decision needs to be coordinated with the Department of Public Safety, as they also receive Office of Justice Program funding. The Grants Management Unit has submitted an application for FY19 funds. Mr. Kearney noted that at present the State is in compliance and the application was submitted in good faith. He stated that if the two conditions are removed or interpreted differently, the State will be in place where it can immediately reconnect with the funding.

Mr. Mitchell asked if not accepting the funds would have implications for funding to local sites. Mr. Kearney stated that at this time it would not because the local sites do not receive Federal funding. When asked by Mr. Mitchell how JJAC would be funded, Mr. Kearney responded that once the refusal to accept has been formalized, New Mexico will become a "non-participating state" and as such the State would receive \$20,000.00 per year to maintain JJAC. The remainder of the funding be put up for bid for a non-profit to operate statewide to work across the State to be in compliance with the Federal Juvenile Justice requirement.

**b. State Executive and Legislative Update – Nick Costales, Deputy Director JJS**

New Legislation and FY20 Budget:

Mr. Costales explained his role as Deputy Director of Field Services for CYFD/JJS, overseeing the Juvenile Probation Field Offices as well as the Reintegration Centers and Special Program Unit, which includes JJAC.

Mr. Costales commented that there was a lot of legislation this year and that he has never seen this many bills filed before. In his opinion there was great excitement with a new Governor and a budget surplus.

Mr. Costales stated that there were several good pieces of legislation that he wanted to share. House Bill 56 removed prostitution as a delinquent act. House Bill 149 addresses tribal notification. House Bill 236 is the Attendance for Success Act. Mr. Costales also stated that New Mexico truly leads the country in juvenile justice reform which is evident through the Continuums, with the work with the Supreme Court, and with practices within the probation. HB 540 (addressing JJAC, JCC and other juvenile justice areas, carried over from last session) did not pass. It would have raised the minimum age of detention from 11 to 12, established the age of delinquency at 10, and expanded the use of a Risk and Needs tool for not only Probation but also for Judges, Prosecutors, and long term secure facilities when discussing release of a youth. Mr. Costales stated that the current tool is not validated and really doesn't serve the purpose.

Mr. Costales then shifted his attention to the budget and referred to the discussion at the T or C meeting about the JJAC Fund Balance, and how we are going to be able to expand to other counties and expand programming with the current limitations. Mr. Costales explained that a lot of research was done to determine the origin of the language for the JJAC Fund Balance. It was discovered that the additional \$200,000.00 that can be moved from the Fund Balance into the regular JJAC Budget is part of the language that is actually in the budget request. With this in mind, language was submitted and though the Governor has not signed off on the bill yet, instead of the 200,000.00 they asked for 600,000.00 and it was passed in the Budget Bill. Mr. Costales did caution that not every request will be fully funded and that programs will still need to be evidence-based and will need to show they meet a need.

New Governor and New Cabinet Secretary:

Mr. Costales stated that the new Cabinet Secretary, Brian Blalock, loves to get out and learn new programs and with the Legislative Session over he will be doing some traveling. Mr. Costales noted that Secretary Blalock comes from California and brings with him different concepts and has a huge knowledge base on juvenile issues, including a passion for addressing youth homelessness. Secretary Blalock, he stated, has very creative ways to tap into the Federal 4E dollars for juvenile justice youth. Mr. Costales shared that the Cabinet Secretary will be invited to a future JJAC Board meeting.

Mr. Costales addressed the situation with Janet Musolf stepping down from the Special Programs Manager due to family issues. He stated that the position has been posted and now that the Legislative session is over,

he will be moving forward to fill the position. He commended the Special Program staff for continuing the work and moving forward.

Judge Kirk commended Mr. Costales for the work with the fund balance. He also expressed a desire to see continued improvement in the collaboration and training for the Continuums. Judge Kirk stated that the strategic planning training the grants Management Unit did with the Coordinators was great. Judge Kirk asked if it would be possible to consider including a JJAC member or a Coordinator on the interview panel for the Special Programs Manager position. Mr. Costales stated that Judge Kirk made a good point. He went on to say that he plans to set the expectation for collaborating, because this work cannot be successful unless CYFD, the Board and the Continuums are partners in this work which includes a lot of pieces including training.

Mr. Mitchell asked about whether or not there was any information about the retention and selection of JJAC board members. Mr. Mitchell asked if the members that wanted to remain on the board had gone to the website and submitted an application. Mr. Mitchell expressed the need for some urgency in getting some new Board members in order to avoid further incidents with no quorum where the board cannot act. Mr. Costales stated that he had received a request from the Governor's office regarding the make-up of the various Boards, how they were formed, the duration of their terms etc. and that they had reached out to the JJAC Board members to inform them that this was a standard request when a new Governor takes office.

Rose Gordon, Continuum Coordinator from Taos, asked about the Bill addressing tribal notification. Mr. Costales stated that initially it was just a formal letter that was sent out but he is more interested in communication between the JPO and the tribes to ensure the youth is receiving services. Now, he continued, as soon as a referral is received by the JPO office and they meet with the family and start asking questions to determine if the youth is a Native American and what tribe they are affiliated with, the JPO would immediately contact the tribe to set up a meeting. This, he stated, will require rewriting the policies about how this is going to work. Ms. Gordon asked if that process would violate HIPPA rules. Mr. Costales stated that it would not and that it was one of the things they had to work through because some families don't want the tribes notified because some have been punitive. Mr. Costales continued that they are trying to work with the Tribal Consortium to understand that the JPO offices is really just trying to work together to accomplish the best outcome for the youth. This will take some educating on both sides he stated. As to the HIPPA laws, Mr. Costales explained that one of the exceptions under the Confidentiality Statue is the tribes. It is CYFD's hope that the liaison named to receive the information is someone that can really be of help.

#### **c. Grants Management Unit Update**

##### *FY19 Financial Status Report, Cindy Varela & Consuelo Garcia, Grants Managers:*

Ms. Varela called the Board's attention to the report in the packet. Ms. Varela reported that they should be at about 50-60% at this point and staff is working with the new Continuums and new Coordinators. She concluded they are working with Continuums to get them where they need to be and the Continuums are working to draw down their funds and revert as little as possible.

Mr. Mitchell asked if the services are not being delivered or if they are just not being billed. Ms. Varela answered services are mostly being delivered but not being billed. Mr. Mitchell asked why they have not received the invoices. Ms. Garcia explained that there are some training issues, that there are some new Coordinators that are struggling to report the data to the fiscal agents, and there are some fiscal agents that are not sure of the process. Staff are working with them to get them comfortable in paying their subcontractors. Mr. Mitchell commended the staff members for their efforts.

##### *FY20 Continuum Agreements, Cindy Varela & Consuelo Garcia, Grants Managers:*

Ms. Garcia reported that the award amounts have been approved by the Cabinet Secretary, so she and Ms. Varela are working on finalizing the scopes of work so it can be sent to the Office of General Council. She stated that once this is approved they will be working on contract request to submit to the Contract Development Unit late March or early April. The hope is that the fiscal agents will see contracts by April.

##### *FY21 Multi-Year Application Process, Cindy Varela & Consuelo Garcia, Grants Managers:*

Ms. Varela reported that they are going into Inter-Government Agreements for a three-year period as opposed to the current annual process. Ms. Varela explained that this has been discussed with senior management, with Legal Counsel, as well as the Contract Unit and everyone is in agreement that this is the best way to move forward. She noted that the question that always comes up is "What about amendments?" If we have programs that are exceeding expectations and they have the numbers and their programming is where they need to be, we have fund balance that can be moved. It will still be possible to do amendments

and increase program dollars based on performance. Mr. Kearney added that as a Continuum is doing a three-year Strategic Plan and see services that need to be provided, there needs to be the funding so they will know it can be in line with the Strategic Plan. Another element is that it allows the fiscal agent to do multi-year agreements with their awardees, including those that do sub-contracts for their Continuum Coordinators which will provide continuity and eliminates the stop and start involvement in areas like this.

Judge Kirk asked where the starting point will be for the three year funding and if the three years would be applied for as one gross application or if Continuums will be awarded for one year that will continue for two additional years. Mr. Kearney explained that it would begin FY21 and will be part of the next application process. Mr. Pacias interjected that it would be a three year contract with the ability to amend every year. Ms. Garcia added that it will have projected funds based on availability, but the awarded amount will be for three years. Mr. Mitchell asked if there would be a need to review grant applications every year. Mr. Kearney replied that reviews would be done every three years. Mr. Mitchell stated that he would like to encourage discussion about carving out a portion of those dollars to be set aside for expansion to be able to facilitate other counties that are struggling to get their Continuums up and running.

Ms. Gordon commented that the multi-year plan does look very convenient, but as a Coordinator it presents some complications and she hopes there will be conversation with some of the Coordinators about what kind of barriers there might be. She asked if the ability for yearly amendments would be for financial or actual program changes or new curriculums. Ms. Varela and Ms. Garcia stated that it would be for both so there would be more flexibility with programming. When asked by Ms. Gordon when the FY21 applications would be provided to the Continuums they responded that it would be in the fall of 2019.

Judge Kirk stated that Mr. Mitchell brought up a good point about expansion noting that at the beginning of this work there was 2.6 million dollars for 12 Continuum and now there are 22 with the same amount of funding. The Funding Balance of 600,000 does not really answer the question on how to fund the remaining 11 counties in the State. He then asked about Continuums associated with towns or cities as opposed to a whole County. Mr. Kearney responded by clarifying that the city or town is just the fiscal agent for the Continuum, the Continuum serves the entire county.

Juvenile Community Corrections Update, Louis Pacias, Grants Manager:

Mr. Pacias indicated that JCC has 17 contractors/vendors and they will be in every county this coming fiscal year except for Guadalupe County. Mr. Pacias reported that JCC accepted 328 adjudicated youth and has served 679 youth to date, on track to serve 1,000 youth this year. He stated that their reach is expanding as they are getting more referrals and there have been 186 successful discharges (68-70%), an improvement toward the target of 75%. Mr. Pacias noted that in terms of expenditures, they were a little lower than previous years, however not all invoices had been submitted at the time of this report. He explained that there have been some invoicing issues as some of the smaller sites but if the trend continues based on performance they should draw down about 85% in the last quarter.

Judge Kirk noted that at the T or C meeting, there was a fund balance in the JCC program of \$3.3 million and asked about the plan to spend those funds. Mr. Costales responded that they would need to insert similar language for JCC and that he and Mr. Pacias have been in talking about different ways to support some of the providers around the state. Judge Kirk stated that with referrals going down and adjudicated referrals going down it is a very limited population of youth, yet there are still a lot of youth in need of services. Mr. Costales stated that they are looking for expansion of services rather than new providers.

Collaboration with Coordinators, Bill Kearney, Grants Management Unit Manager

Mr. Kearney noted that in December the Coordinators had identified a number of training topics that they were interested in and that Special Programs would assist with training. He shared that there was a session the previous day on Strategic Planning. Mr. Kearney thanked the coordinators for the opportunity to work with them. He also reiterated that continuing conversation around funding and ongoing communication with the Coordinators will serve to help everyone as the work progresses to meet the need of the youth we serve.

Mr. Kearney shared information regarding the \$22.00/hour maximum state reimbursement rate for the Continuum Coordinators to fiscal agencies. Mr. Kearney stated that a labor market analysis was being done to gather information. He said they are also gathering information from fiscal agents, to get their input. He stated that they were also looking at additional information that will help examine the maximum reimbursement rate, and facilitate a recommendation to leadership if there is an indication for a different rate. The intent, he explained, is to have the job responsibilities of a Coordinator better represented so fiscal agents and Continuums can see the full breadth and depth of what Coordinators do as they identify the

number of hours needed for their work. Mr. Kearney stated the grant allows for reimbursement up to a set amount and up to full time, anything different from that is set locally.

Mr. Kearney next addressed the progress with the data base management system. He stated that as it is being built they will be looking to the Coordinator Leadership Team to identify who might be a good representative from local Continuums to help in that process by providing valuable input. He expressed that as it is being developed the goal is to meet the local, sub-awardee data base management system needs as well as the system in support of CYFD's management of the Juvenile Continuum Grant Funds. Mr. Kearney also shared the update on the Special Programs website, stating that they are adjusting how the information is presented so people can see their local Continuum listed and be able to connect with them to access local resources.

**d. Detention and Compliance Monitoring Update – Samantha Lucas and Steve Shaw**

Ms. Lucas reported that she has completed six of eight juvenile detention center (JDC) inspections since starting in the position in October 2018, three of which have been full certifications, with some provisional at this time. She stated that the daily population from October to February is in decline with 91 reported incidents. Ms. Lucas also stated that the new standards have been adopted as of January 1, 2019. They include such things as no chemical restraint allowed at all, a reduction from 72 hours confinements to 22 hours, and other changes that will benefit our youth.

Ms. Lucas apologized on behalf of Steve Shaw as he had a family emergency and could not attend the meeting. Ms. Lucas explained that she and Mr. Shaw have met on several occasions to discuss what his job duties entail as his contract will end at the end of June and will be taking over his responsibilities as Compliance Monitor for all of DSO, jail removal and sight and sound separation. Ms. Lucas stated that Mr. Shaw has completed 19 inspections and that they are planning to do more partnering on the inspections in the northwest and southwest part of the state.

Mr. Mitchell commented that according to the numbers in the report Ms. Lucas submitted, there has been huge progress in reducing the number of youth in detention. Ms. Lucas reported that the number of JDC sites is also down from 14 sites to eight. The remaining sites are Bernalillo, Santa Fe, Luna, Curry, Chaves, Lea, Dona Ana and San Juan.

**e. Continuum Coordinator Update – Javier Amaro and Gerri Bachicha**

Mr. Amaro stated that there was representation from 11 Counties at the Coordinators meeting the previous day. Mr. Amaro noted that since referrals are decreasing significantly there is a now focus on looking for another target area for referrals. The schools have been an area that continues to come up as an area to explore. Another item discussed at the meeting was that some Continuums have funding from both JJAC and JCC. Ms. Garcia responded that these are two completely different funding streams and that none of the Continuums receive funds from JCC. Mr. Kearney noted that there are two target populations, adjudicated and non-adjudicated youth. Ms. Bachicha stated that it seems that some of the JCC providers are using Continuum programs and that is where the confusion is coming from.

Ms. Bachicha stated that it has been a real pleasure to work with the Special Programs Unit and thanked Mr. Kearney for the flow chart he sent regarding his thoughts on how the training the Coordinators requested should progress. Ms. Bachicha presented recommendations the Coordinators had to retain rural Coordinators. First was to develop fiscal agent training, especially as contractors cannot be directly involved in processes from which they can directly benefit, like development of the Continuum application process. Another suggestion was a dual training where both fiscal agents and coordinators could be in the training at the same time so that both are hearing the same thing at the same time. Another would be training on Evidence-Based Programs, for example Boys' Council or Girls Circle training in rural areas. And that there be funding in the budget for travel to the training, especially under a three-year contract. She also asked if the Special Program Unit would help the Coordinators develop an onboard manual and specific training for new Coordinators. Ms. Bachicha reported that the Coordinators struggle in the areas of billing and finance as well. Ms. Bachichas' final request was for data support. Mr. Mitchell stated that it should be an easy fix to provide access to the quarterly or annual reports so that the Coordinators can monitor the impact of their programs.

Rose Gordon from Taos stated that her role as a Coordinator does not include program development and questioned if the issue was more program implementation. Ms. Gordon stated that perhaps there was a problem in the language/terminology that is being used and that in the future care be taken for a better understanding of the functions being discussed. Ms. Bachicha stated that this was another reason to have

additional meetings, especially with Special Program Unit to iron out these different interpretations of language and roles.

Shara Thorpe from T or C asked about who could apply for the grants and asked if the request must be through a city government. Ms. Varela stated that yes, it must be a government entity such as a County or a City as a fiscal agent.

Jenae Ortiz noted that perhaps the bigger issue was how to delineate what the Board's duties are, what the County or City duties are, and then what the Coordinator should actually be doing. She stated that in reality the Coordinators are doing more than they are supposed to in order to be successful.

### **VIII. Board Sub-Committee Reports**

#### **a. Youth Subcommittee – Annelies Cortez, Chair**

Ms. Cortez reported that the Youth Charter and the Youth Sub-Committee application is in the Board members packet for review and had been presented at the December meeting. It was planned to have it approved at this meeting but because of the lack of a quorum at this meeting they will need to wait for the next meeting.

Ms. Cortez did inform the Board that there are five youth on the Sub-Committee now and they will be meeting in Albuquerque in April. She added that two of the youth are from Albuquerque and the others are from surrounding areas.

#### **b. DMC/JDAI Subcommittee – Ron West, Chair, with Steve Brooks, RRED Coordinator and Patti Vowell, JDAI Coordinator**

Mr. West reported that the Sub-Committee met in January and the focus was to break into smaller groups for the purpose of putting together the Convening in May. Mr. West noted that the Convening has been a huge project and thanked all the partners: Bernalillo County/Ms. Bachicha, CYFD, Mr. Costales, and Amanda Jiron/Isleta Pueblo. He stated that he hoped to see everyone at the Convening and then turned the floor over to Ms. Vowell to address registration. Ms. Vowell expressed her excitement about the Convening saying that it is not just a Conference but an opportunity to bring together all the Continuums, the JJAC Board and all of the site partners together. Ms. Vowell reported that more than half of the invitees have registered. Ms. Vowell continued that there is a great representation in the registered attendees, across judges, commissioners, county managers, district attorneys, law enforcement as well as the JJAC Board Members. Mr. Costales added that some national partners are sending people to the Convening.

Mr. Mitchell asked Ms. Vowell if she had anything specific to JDAI to report. She responded that they have been working on a number of things related to RRED/JDAI and notification has been a big part of that work. Ms. Vowell stated that they had spent a lot of time with the Pueblo of Isleta as well as with Mr. Costales to make that happen. She also stated that the leadership is also doing a lot of work and that the Convening will be a big part of expanding to all of their other sites.

#### **c. Executive Subcommittee – Doug Mitchell, Chair**

Mr. Mitchell stated that there was nothing to report at this time as everyone was waiting to see what the Governor's decisions regarding the Board will be. Mr. Mitchell noted that the next Board meeting was scheduled for May 23<sup>rd</sup> in Santa Fe. He later asked the attending members if there were objections to pushing the meeting back to June. Ms. Vowell noted that the Convening is scheduled for May. Mr. Costales stated that he thought that June would be good as it would allow for new people applying for the Board time to go through the process and that the gubernatorial appointee process has typically been slow in the past. Mr. Mitchell followed up with the fact that it might be problematic for the Coordinators to attend both meetings back to back in May.

With the consensus of the Board member in attendance the meeting moved to June and the 20<sup>th</sup> as the third Thursday of the month was agreed upon. The next meeting was scheduled for June 20, 2019 in Santa Fe.

### **IX. Public Comment**

Mr. Mitchell asked if there were any Public Comments and there were none offered.

### **X. Adjournment: Adjourned by consensus @1:20 PM as there was no quorum for a formal vote.**

Mr. Mitchell thanked the Las Cruces/Dona Ana County Continuum for hosting and praised Mr. Amaro and his team for doing a great job.



Minutes Approved by the JJAC Committee on June 20, 2019:



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Douglas Mitchell, Chair