

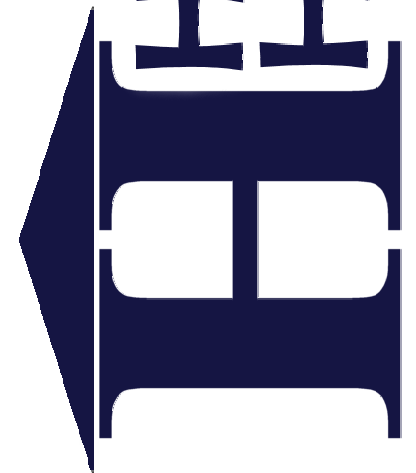
HALVORSON HOUSE

Volume 1, Issue 2

June 2009



Halvorson
House, Inc.



National Children's Mental Health Awareness Day (Awareness Day) was a day for SAMHSA and the initiatives and communities it supports to promote positive youth development, resilience, recovery, and the transformation of mental health services delivery for children and youth with serious mental health needs and their families. Awareness Day raises awareness of effective programs for children's mental health needs; demonstrates how children's mental health initiatives promote positive youth development, recovery, and resilience; and shows how children with mental health needs thrive in their communities.

The theme for this year's national event was Thriving in the Community, with a special emphasis on how high school youth who receive the services they need are more likely to have positive outcomes, such as better grades, and less likely to have negative outcomes, such as involvement with the juvenile and criminal justice systems.

WHAT IS "BUST IT"?

BUST IT ("IT" being stigma) is the youth demonstration designed to draw attention to the mental health needs of children and youth throughout the United States. The objective is to provide a "contact" experience that reinforces the fact that children's mental health is an issue that impacts all youth in one way or another, with the longer term goal of reducing the stigma that is often associated with having a mental health need.

Studies have shown that stigma is the greatest barrier to children and youth with mental health needs and their families seeking help. BUST IT actions across the country were designed to demonstrate solidarity among children and youth who have, or are at risk of having, a mental health need.

BUST IT took place on Awareness Day and included the following components:

Youth groups in all time zones across the country conducted their BUST IT activity simultaneously on Thursday, May 7, at 1 p.m. EDT/12 p.m. CDT/11 a.m. MDT/10 a.m. PDT.

BUST IT began with groups of youth standing in silence for 30 seconds. During this time the youth displayed signs that detailed myths about mental health challenges. For instance, a sign might have read, "It's just a phase," while another might have read, "He's just trying to get attention." Then the youth turned the signs around to display facts about children's mental health, featuring data that demonstrate how youth can, and do, thrive when they receive comprehensive mental health services. The final activity featured youth blowing bubbles, which symbolized stigma. Once the bubbles popped, the youth shouted, "BUST IT!"

~Staff Training Opportunities To Benefit RTC Clients~

We are excited to announce that selected Halvorson House staff will receive training to allow them to take youth on activities designed to promote self and community awareness. These wonderful events will benefit RTC clients by providing positive outdoor opportunities.

While on these outdoor events, instructors of the events facilitate groups on goal setting, environmental awareness, processing, oral tradition and encourage individual growth. The instructors are trained to incorporate the client's individual or family traditions and encourage positive application of tradition in daily activities. The outdoor trips focus on using adventure activities as a counseling tool to promote growth and development in small-group settings. Instructors will help develop a "journey" in experiencing cultural and spiritual awareness, substance abuse prevention, grief, values, stress management, family and community building, goal setting and basic counseling techniques. Cultural and traditional aspects are addressed by using oral history and story telling. All clients are encouraged as individuals to give representation of what "tradition" means to them.

Scheduled events include three white water rafting trips and several ropes course adventures during the summer break. All clients at the RTC and two staff members will attend these trips.

During rafting trips the group will go into the San Juan River starting at Westland Park and travel approximately 4-5 miles to Kirtland where a guide will meet them for departure from the river. Clients that attend the white water rafting event are encouraged to participate in group exercises visualizing the connection between the way the river and their lives run their own course.

Beginning in June the RTC will be traveling once per week to Shiprock, New Mexico, for ropes course adventures. All gear such as harnesses and ropes will be provided for the group. The clients will pack their own lunches, snacks and water bottles since they will not be back to the RTC until 5:00 pm. Additionally, twice this summer they will go to Toadadena, New Mexico, and instructors will take the group rappelling from cliffs approximately 30-40 feet high. Before each Ropes course begins they will have meditation or a few words of encouragement and an honor song to incorporate cultural awareness.



Please Give a WARM welcome to our New Staff Members!!!

Paul Smith-RTC Coordinator
Ronica Becenti- Youth Advocate
Steven Cambridge- Youth Advocate
Donna Penrod- Youth Advocate
Jan Wooten- Youth Advocate
Trudy Reed- Youth Advocate

On June 2, Halvorson House welcomed Paul Smith into his new position.... RTC Coordinator. Paul relocated from El Paso, Texas where he has gained his experience working with adolescents with mental health issues as well as youth with aggressive behavior.

WELCOME ABOARD !!!

STAFF BIRTHDAYS

APRIL, MAY & JUNE

Shawna Deswood-04/29

James Fundark-06/19

Linda Garrison-04/26

Carla Goddard-06/28

Ruby Lara-05/28

Kerry Ryall-05/09

Anthony Smith-04/07

Al Toney-06/21

Miscellaneous Stuff.....

Halvorson House Contact List

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 Kerry Ryall- Therapist kryall@halvorsonhouse.org
 Anthony Smith- Therapist asmith@halvorsonhouse.org
 Ellen Patscheck- Administrative Assistant epatscheck@halvorsonhouse.org

Residential Treatment Center

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 James Fundark- Therapist jfundark@halvorsonhouse.org
 Candy Maslen- Case Facilitator cmaslen@halvorsonhouse.org
 Shawna Deswood- Administrative Assistant sdeswood@halvorsonhouse.org

Teen Court

114 N. Behrend, Farmington, NM 87401 (505)326-2736 (505)325-2127 fax

TEEN COURT 2009

Please be aware that the Teen Court schedule continues through the end of the year even though the current school year is coming to an end in May. Listed below are the remaining Teen Court Dates for 2009.

April 27	July 27	October 26
May 11	August 10	November 9
June 8	August 24	November 23
June 22	September 14	December 14
July 13	September 28	

Halvorson House, Inc.

is a United Way Agency!



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 ★ The Board of Directors meets ★
 ★ the third Tuesday of the ★
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 ★ If you are interested in apply- ★
 ★ ing for a vacant seat please ★
 ★ contact the Administrative ★
 ★ Office for further information. ★
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Statistics from SAMHSA.GOV Newsroom...

APRIL - ALCOHOL AWARENESS MONTH

In 2007, more than one fifth (23.3 percent) of persons aged 12 or older participated in binge drinking at least once in the 30 days prior to taking SAMHSA's National Survey on Drug Use and Health (NSDUH). This translates to about 57.8 million people. The rate in 2007 is similar to the rate in 2006 (23.0 percent).

When many people think of alcohol abusers they picture teenagers sneaking drinks before high school football games or at unsupervised parties. However, alcohol abuse is prevalent within many demographic groups in the United States.

People who abuse alcohol can be:

- ◆ College students who binge drink at local bars
- ◆ Pregnant women who drink and put their babies at risk for fetal alcohol syndrome
- ◆ Professionals who drink after a long day of work
- ◆ Senior citizens who drink out of loneliness

Other Local Agencies of Interest:

ChildHaven. Inc.
807 W. Apache Street
Farmington, NM 87401
505-325-5358
Childhavennm.org

Desert View Family Counseling Center
2700 Farmington Avenue
Building F/Suite 1
Farmington, NM 87401
505-326-7878
Admin@desertviewsas.org

Family Resource Center
3539 E. 30th Street
505-566-3825

Family Crisis Center, Inc.
208 E. Apache
Farmington, NM 87401
505-325-3549
CRISIS HOTLINE: 505-564-9192

San Juan Safe Communities Initiative
100 W. Broadway
Farmington, NM 87401
505-599-1490/1491

SAN JUAN COUNTY TEEN COURT

Teen courts are authorized by law in many states in America. Their purpose is to provide an alternative disposition for juveniles who have committed a delinquent act, have committed a minor offense, or have been charged with a misdemeanor, and are otherwise eligible for diversion. Depending on their training, community support, and agreements with traditional court systems, most teen or youth courts are recognized as valid, legal venues for the process of hearing cases, sentencing and sentence fulfillment.

Teen courts provide an alternative court system through which juvenile offenders can be heard and judged by their peers. Youth volunteers may be eligible for school or community service credits through their schools and community. Adult volunteers serve as trainers, advisors and coordinators of the teen court.

The San Juan County Teen Court Program is held approximately twice per month on the 2nd and 4th Monday of each month. Most clients are referred to us by a Juvenile Probation Officer and avoid further prosecution if they successfully complete the program. All court sessions are held at 5:00 pm at the San Juan County Juvenile Service Center located at 851 Andrea Drive, Farmington, NM 87401.

Bloomfield High School students have an opportunity to earn class credit by participating in Teen Court for the semester. Volunteers are also welcome.

If you or someone you know is interested in volunteering please contact Melissa Meechan, Program Director, Halvorson House at (505)326-2736.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!

KELLY LANE

JC ELECTRIC

OIL & GAS EQUIPMENT CORP.

CARROLL & JAN WOOTEN

SAN JUAN TITLE

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