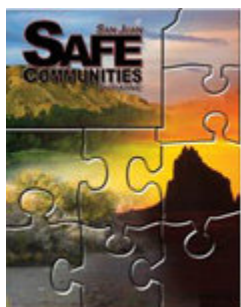


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www.sjsoci.org



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San Juan Safe Communities, Inc. Newsletter

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Director's Corner

Organizational Changes

I hope everyone enjoyed our first edition of the e-newsletter in July. The August newsletter should be just as full of information, and we hope you find it just as interesting. As always, if you have any questions about anything covered, please call our office at 599-1490.



Greetings!

San Juan Safe Communities is pleased to share with you our new e-newsletter. We feel that this newsletter can be helpful to you by keeping everyone current on local initiatives and projects. We would like our newsletter to include information from your organization. We are hopeful that you will want to use this newsletter to share info on upcoming events, recognize your success in the community, and promote the work of your organization. Our plan is to produce a new e-newsletter each month.

Sincerely,

Dr. Henderson, President
Board of Directors
San Juan Safe Communities
100 West Broadway
Farmington, NM 87401
www.sjsoci.org

This edition comes with a great deal of sadness as we are losing a member of the Safe Communities staff and my very good friend, Chuck Trujillo. As most of you know, Chuck retired from the Central Consolidated School District where he was a mid school principal for 15 years. He has been offered a position with the Farmington School District as vice principal at Tibbetts. Can anyone say "paddle." At least that was the vice principal's job when I was a kid growing up. We will all miss working with Chuck and I personally wish him the best. It is interesting that Chuck has agreed to stay on part time as a consultant, free of charge. This not only speaks volumes about his commitment to the Safe Communities mission, but tells you about the character of man himself.



It wasn't easy to find a replacement, and an exhaustive local search was conducted. I am pleased to announce that our search was fruitful. We were able to convince recently retired Farmington Police Lieutenant, Robert Miller that this is a great place to spend your retirement. Robert brings with him a wealth of knowledge about public safety issues, and, you know me, I am going to take full advantage of all he brings to the table. Robert also has close ties to the schools, being a former School Resource Officer, and that should be a great help as well.

Welcome aboard Robert. Wilann and I are delighted you agreed to join our staff. Safe Communities beckons.

Prevention Update

Addiction carries huge costs

Data from an Oklahoma task force report show that the direct and indirect costs associated with drug and alcohol addiction in Oklahoma outpace the entire cost of running the state government, the Oklahoman reported July 27.

[Read More](#)

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Early Drinking Initiation and Illicit Drug Use

July 11, 2008

The earlier a person begins drinking alcohol, the more likely they are to have ever used other drugs illicitly, according to an analysis of data from the National Longitudinal Alcohol Epidemiologic Survey (NLAES).

[Read More](#)

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Community Center Development

Our first Community Center, located at Sycamore Park in the south part of Farmington is due to open early in September of this year. The City of Farmington, Parks and Recreation will be responsible for the staff, building scheduling and maintenance, as well as the park complex once it is open. The City will also be overseeing the recreation, after school, senior and similar programming, while safe communities is busily scrambling to bring additional neighborhood-based projects into the center. When the doors open, we are hoping to have programs in place that area residents of



all ages can take advantage of and benefit from.

We have developed relationships with the Farmington Municipal Schools, San Juan College, the Farmington Police Department, the San Juan County Sheriff's Office, San Juan Regional Medical Center, the Red Cross, Big Brother's Big Sister's, the Boy's and Girl's Club to bring in their existing programs which they currently offer. I want to thank San Juan Regional Community Reinvestment Board for their generous financial support to Safe Communities, so we will be able to bring in many of these programs.

In addition to the programs being brought in by our partners, we are excited about the prospect of developing and implementing some needed, but non-existent projects such as high-risk mentoring for youth who have been in trouble or adults in need of role models.

Also planned for inclusion are practical community-based opportunities in areas such as income tax preparation, family budgeting, understanding credit and how to repair it, job interview techniques, citizenship classes, assistance with social security and DAV issues, to name just a few of the possibilities.

The Safe Communities Evaluation team will be carefully monitoring which programs appear to be working over the course of the next year. Those deemed to have been a success will be offered to other centers around the county as they come on line.

If you have questions, input, or would just like to know more, please give our office a call at 505-599-1490, or leave us an email at dandarnell@msn.com.

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Supression Update

Youth Risk & Resiliancy Survey: Compilation of state surveys into one summary report.

This report is a summary of the Youth Risk and Resiliancy Survey that is given in many schools throughout the United States. New Mexico is included in the summaries.

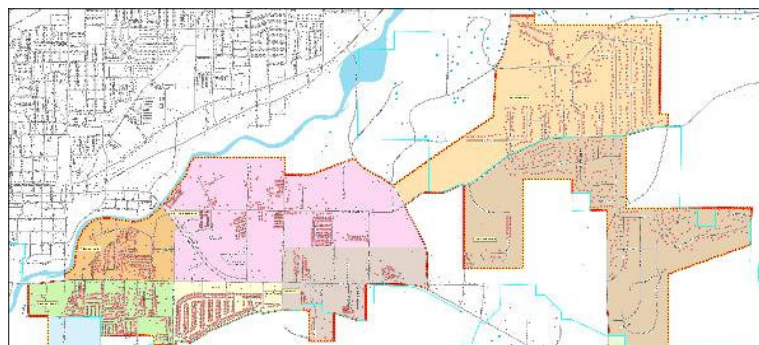


[Read More](#)

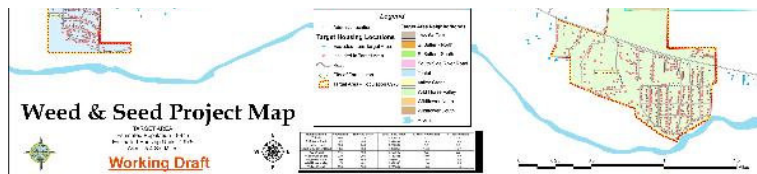
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Weed & Seed Grant Update

As most of you know, the Safe Communities has been tasked with completing the federal grant application process for the southernmost Farmington area neighborhoods to become a weed and seed site. This grant program is a two-pronged approach to



reducing violent crimes, criminal drug activity, and gang impact in defined neighborhoods. The boundaries of the area are set based on the amount of crime documented.



The "weeding" portion deals with law enforcement strategies aimed at removing violent offenders and drug activity from these neighborhoods. This group met on July 22nd and developed specific ideas on approaches to be used.

The "seeding" part is designed to introduce or expand social support services into the neighborhoods, and they met on July 23rd. Numerous strategies were developed during this meeting. The community group met on July 29th to discuss the part they will be asked to play in the overall strategy development.

All three groups will be meeting together twice during the month of August in preparation for submission on the first draft of the grant on August 17th, with the final product due on September 9th. We are in the process of creating a Steering Committee which will oversee the implementation of our weeding and seeding strategies for this area. If our application is successful, we will activate this steering group, and they will be asked to serve for a two year period.

I want to thank Erinn Bryan for all her hard work, and her ability to turn our ideas into strategies we can not only use for the grant application but in practical application as well. Thank you Erinn and everyone who has given of themselves to prepare our community for this opportunity.

As always, should you have any questions, please give us call.

Intervention Update

Meth Pilot Project

On July 17, 2008 another group of women completed the first 60 days of the San Juan County Meth Pilot Project. This is the ninth group to complete the program since its inception in November 2006. The women immediately began participating in intensive out-patient programming and follow up regularly with a case manager. A subsequent group entered the program to begin treatment on July 29, 2008. Group ten will graduate on September 25, 2008. The methamphetamine pilot project



provides 60 days of gender appropriate jail-based substance abuse treatment, preceded and followed by intensive case management. About a year of aftercare services follow the initial inpatient program. Treatment services are provided by Presbyterian Medical Services and Totah Behavioral Health Authority during the Intensive Outpatient and Aftercare phases. Recovery is a life-long commitment. The treatment strategy, sensitive to the engagement level and ability of the clients, includes individual and group therapy, life skills, substance abuse and health education, 12-Step programs, etc.

On July 24, 2008 the program received national attention at the National Association of Counties Methamphetamine Prevention Forum held in Albuquerque, NM. Officials from across the western region of the country convened to discuss strategies for reducing the use of methamphetamine. San Juan County was invited to present what is working in San Juan County. The panel consisted of Rob Mitchell, administrator of the San Juan County Alternative Sentencing Division, The Honorable John A. Dean, District Court/Drug Court Judge, Paul Ehrlich, Director of Total Behavioral Health and Kristine Carlson, PMS Behavioral Health Clinic Director. The group highlighted the unique collaboration within the community to address the challenges methamphetamine use within the community presents and the effectiveness of jail-based treatment followed by intensive outpatient treatment and case management as evidenced by the 14 year old 28 day DWI program.

Home Run Derby Star Overcame Addiction July 16, 2008

Josh Hamilton, who wowed baseball fans by smacking 28 balls over the Yankee Stadium fence during this week's All-Star Home Run Derby, is in recovery after an extended battle with alcohol and other drug addiction, including crack-cocaine use, ABC News reported July 15.

[Read More](#)



Juvenile Corner

Juvenile Justice Services

CYFD's Juvenile Justice Services division (JJS) serves troubled youth and their families through transition services, community corrections and probation and parole services, reintegration facilities and secure facilities. Each year the Department serves about 15,000 youth through probation and parole (field) services, about 235 in secure facilities, and about 28 in reintegration facilities. On an average day the Department has about 4,500 clients under its supervision.



[Read More](#)

Giving Back

Juvenile probation has participated in a number of community service projects this month. Around 10 kids helped clean stalls during the National Rodeo and kids on probation have been assisting at Connie Mack picking up garbage between innings. We also had a group of kids

participate in Just Move It in Shiprock promoting health. In all instances there were juvenile probation officers assisting with the kids.

Street Gangs

Juvenile Probation has developed a specialized team to deal with gang members and kids at risk of getting involved with gangs. This team is called the Gang Education Tracking Unit or GET U. This team will work in the community addressing the gang issue, by providing education, prevention and intervention programs. Within juvenile probation we will work closely with our clients on probation to help them make positive choices and provide them opportunities outside of the gang life. This will be accomplished through intense supervision as well as programming. GET U will also work collaboratively with local law enforcement in identifying gang members, providing community awareness, and keeping the community safe. The goal of GET U is to divert our youth away from the gang life style and decrease gang related behavior.

Grant Information

Funding Connection

This section links to the San Juan Safe Communities Web site to give you current information on grants that are available to a variety of organizations. Go to www.sjsoci.org and click on Grant Connections.

[Grant Information](#)

Housing



Affordable Housing Alliance Information

You are invited to a presentation of the first Housing Needs Assessment for San Juan County . This assessment has been produced to compliment the San Juan County Partnership's Needs Assessment Survey, and it will be incorporated into the 2009 City of Farmington Consolidated Plan .

If your organization has the need for data on the housing market, population, income, wages, building permits, or affordability, I encourage you to come and attend.

Where: Farmington Civic Center - Executive Conference Room

Date : August 27st, 2008

When: 3:00 pm

Here are some Data Bytes from the report:

- 42% of all renters pay more than 30% of their monthly income on rent.
- 18.1% of all San Juan County residents live in poverty.
- 33.3% of all people without a high school diploma are in poverty.
- 11.2% of all people with some college education are in poverty.
- Mobile homes make up 32.5% of all dwellings in San Juan County .
- A household headed by a person 65 years or older can not afford to purchased the median priced mobile home.
- A household making the median family income can only afford to purchase a mobile home.
- From 2000 to 2007, the MFI has increased 32.7% while the median rental cost has gone up 76%.

Rosalyn Fry, Housing Director
ECHO, Inc.
505-325-7466 office
505-330-3248 cell

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OPEN HOUSE

San Juan Catholic Charities, located at 119 E. Broadway, will be hosting an Open House for the new Drexel House. Drexel House, named after Sister Katharine Drexel, is the first full-family transitional living facility in San Juan County. In the past, transitional families would have to be separated into differing facilities in order to accommodate them. Drexel House will allow the families to remain intact during this time.

Community Calendar

And Upcoming Events

8/10/08 - SJSCI Board Meeting @ Downtown Center 8:30am **CANCELLED**

8/15/08 - Drexel House Open House @ San Juan Catholic Charities 1:00 - 5:00 pm

8/15-16/08 - 12 Steps to a Greater Life Recovery Conf. @ Pinon Hills Comm.Church

8/27/08 - Affordable Housing Alliance Meeting @ Civic Center 3:00pm

UmattR Trading Card Program is seeking sponsors for the 2008-2009 school year. Please contact Opal Tidwell @ Monarch Marketing for more information. 505-564-3299

Workplace Drug Use Awareness Presentation

Recently Safe Communities has been called upon to develop a presentation geared toward helping managers deal with drug use in their workplace. The request was specific to

methamphetamine, but other substance abuse is also covered. We have given this presentation to our members, Pesco, and to the American Society of Safety Engineers (A.S.S.E.). The typical presentation is approximately an hour, with time for questions. It seems perfect for most safety meetings.

If you are interested in having our staff present to your managers, please give us a call at 505-599-1490, or email us at dandarnell@msn.com

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