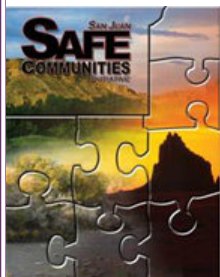


Safe Communities Connection

www.sjsci.org

www.umattr.com



**Bringing the pieces together
for a safer community**

San Juan Safe Communities, Inc. Newsletter

October 2008

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UMattR News



The 2008-2009 UmattR crew made their debut at Sutherland Farms on Sept. 21st. All of the participants were on hand to sign their new cards and pose for their upcoming "Kick Off" in the San Juan County Kids newspaper.

In addition to this debut, the kids hit a wider media market when they appeared in the Daily Times on Monday (10/6).

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Greetings!

Welcome aboard to a new opportunity to not only talk about activities that the San Juan Safe Communities, Inc. is involved in, but also the opportunity to report events that are taking place within your organization. We really need to do as much as possible to let the public know the resources we are mustering to help attack the serious problems within our communities. We know certain surveys conducted within the community show that crime, drugs, DWI, gangs, and domestic violence are some of the top countywide concerns.

Let us continue to work together in unity to do our part to help our citizens feel safe in our cities and counties.

Sincerely,

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

Director's Corner



Hello All;

Happy October! It is hard to believe another fall is upon us and it is almost time to break out the cold weather gear.

They are currently scheduled for the following events:

1. Fall Carnival at Country Club Elementary (10/11)
2. Farmington Library (10/16)
3. San Juan County Partnership "Tie one on for Safety - Sam's Club (10/18)
4. Bluffview Elementary Fall Festival (10/24)
5. Halloween Street Event in Farmington (10/31)

Should you or your organization wish to schedule a presentation from the UmattR program, please contact Opal Tidwell at Monarch Marketing - (505)320-5620.

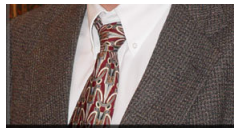


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Although it is fall right now, your Safe Communities staff is busy planning for our 2009 Spring conference to be held next April. We are looking at several dates and will let everyone know when one is selected.

When Safe Communities was first created, the original plan was to hold periodic conferences to keep our community informed as to the work being done and to solicit input as to whether we are heading in the right direction.

This year, we opted not to hold a formal conference as we were engaged in implementing a very aggressive and formative strategy. Now, we have accomplished or set in motion enough projects to establish the need for a community conference to help plan the next phase in our development. We have established a general outline to the direction the conference will take as shown below, however, we are asking your valuable input to fill in the details.

We would like to begin the conference with a statistics section describing the criminal and social picture of our county, with an explanation as to how the two relate. The programming would then move into a view of what's in place and what is being done, followed by an accounting of what we currently have planned. At this point, membership and community input would be solicited to determine what is left to be done and to establish some well-defined goals for the coming months and year. During this section we are hoping it will come clear why everyone in the community needs to become active in the Safe Communities organization and how they can plug into it.

We are in the process of assembling a Spring conference planning committee and if anyone would like to serve in this capacity, please let me know, through email, dandarnell@msn.com, or by calling me at 320-8530 or 599-1490. Take care and have a great October.

Prevention

ONDCP Random Student Drug Testing Summits

The White House Office of National Drug Control Policy (ONDCP) will be hosting a regional Random Student Drug Testing Summit in 2008. Random student drug testing is a valuable prevention strategy that can help deter children from initiating drug use. It can also help identify children who have just started using drugs as well as children who have a dependency so that they may be referred to treatment.

[READ MORE](#)

Community Calendar



- SJSCI Board Meeting - 10/23/08 8:30 am at the Civic Center
- 6th Annual Prevention, Accountability, and Healing Conference - 10/16 at the Farmington Civic Center. For registration - Call Family Crisis Center at (505)325-3549.
- SJSCI Prevention Meeting - 10/22 at 11:30 am. Location TBA
- Sexual Assault Services of NWNM - Volunteer Advocate Training - 10/25-26 & 11/1-2. Call Leah @ 325-2805 for more.
- Restoring & Celebrating Family Wellness Workshop: Traditional Values. Presented by Russell Gould -
Time: 5:30pm-
Registration 6:00pm-8:00pm
Workshop
Place: Shiprock Chapter, New Mexico
Contact:Kerlena Silverhatband 505-368-1081.
- Affordable Housing Alliance meeting - Octo10/29 at 3pm -pm - Room 127 of the Family Resource Center.

Teen Substance Use Down in 'Drug Free Communities'

A new report from the Office of National Drug Control Policy (ONDCP) says that alcohol, tobacco and other drug use rates were lower than national averages in cities and towns with coalitions funded by the Drug Free Communities (DFC) program. *(SJSCI just wrote and will be administering a DFC grant for Shiprock.)*

[READ MORE](#)

INTERVENTION

Meth Pilot Project News

On September 25, 2008 the San Juan County Methamphetamine Pilot Project held a graduation ceremony for its tenth group of women to complete the first 60 days of the program. Subsequently, those women began participating in Intensive Out-Patient services provided through PMS and have regular contact with an MPP case manager. On October 7, the eleventh cohort of women will begin the jail-based treatment program. 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 & group therapy, life skills, substance abuse & health education, 12-Step programs, etc.

DWI News

A DWI Symposium, sponsored by the New Mexico DWI Coordinators Affiliate and hosted by San Juan County Alternative Sentencing Division, was held September 17-19, 2008. Community leaders, law enforcement officers, treatment providers, prevention professionals and compliance monitors from across the state gathered in Farmington to discuss the issue of DWI. In keeping with the theme, Putting the Pieces Together, professionals discussed best practices and latest trends in the

field, received updates on legislation and DWI laws and received professional development and training specific to their field. A recognition banquet commemorating those who were proactive in establishing the DWI Treatment and Detention Facility nearly 15 years ago was held on Thursday evening of the Symposium. Local leaders were presented with awards for their dedication and commitment in combating the DWI issue in San Juan County. Among those receiving awards were San Juan County Commissioner Ervin Chavez, San Juan County Commission Chairman Tony Atkinson, District Judge John Dean, former District Judge Paul Onuska, New Mexico State Representative Tom Taylor and Farmington Municipal Court Judge Bill Liese.

Building on 'Intervention,' A&E Launches 'The Recovery Project'

The A&E Network, home of the critically acclaimed but controversial program Intervention, has announced a new initiative to raise awareness about addiction and recovery that will kick off with a rally on the Brooklyn Bridge on Sept. 27.

[READ MORE](#)

Suppression

Suppression Task Force Update

The Suppression Task Force is continuing its efforts to reduce crime and gang activity in San Juan County.

Specific to gangs; the Task Force is supporting Law Enforcement's plans to initiate a county-wide gang suppression unit. Law enforcement throughout the county recognizes the benefit of ongoing collaboration by collocating gang officers and deputies. This model will allow agencies to work across jurisdictional lines in support on one another's suppression activities. It will also enhance information sharing that is vital to effective gang suppression. This unit should be operational in the near future.

Establishing the "Weed and Seed" project continues to be a priority of the Suppression Task Force. Members have worked closely for several months with the Prevention and Interdiction Tasks Forces, as well as community members residing in the project area. The ultimate goal is to implement law enforcement crime suppression activities in order to sustain reduced crime rates within Weed and Seed

neighborhoods, and to work alongside Prevention and Treatment to revitalize these same neighborhoods. The Grant has been submitted.

Local Collaborative

The purpose of the Local Collaborative is to develop strong local voices to guide behavioral health planning and services, a key consideration in the planning and design of New Mexico's Interagency Behavioral Health Purchasing Collaborative initiative.

The 17 Collaborative agencies are interested in ensuring that this broad new interagency effort is reflected in well-developed local-level collaborative efforts throughout the state. To ensure this occurs, the Collaborative is interested in supporting the development of and recognizing a single local collaborative for each of New Mexico's 13 judicial districts, plus a limited number as makes sense for the state's sovereign tribes and pueblos. Such local collaboratives are to be identified or formed locally and recognized by the state Collaborative to help create and sustain the partnerships among customers, family members, advocates, local agencies, and community groups. They will identify needs, help develop a range of resources and ensure the responsiveness and relevance of behavioral health services and supports to improve the quality of life of those affected by behavioral health concerns. As New Mexico continues its effort to build a statewide system for behavioral health (mental health and substance abuse) from the multiple and often fragmented system to one, local collaboratives will prove instrumental.

The Collaborative has recognized all 15 local collaboratives (for 13 judicial districts, plus two Native American specific) and will soon be expanding to 5 Native American LC's, across the state, whose purpose is to develop strong local voices to guide behavioral health planning and services. Local collaboratives are a grass roots approach to making the necessary improvements in behavioral health services across New Mexico. Because all communities in New Mexico have different needs,

the local collaboratives will help identify those community needs, help develop a range of resources and ensure the responsiveness and relevance of behavioral health services and supports to improve the quality of life of those affected by behavioral health concerns. The local collaboratives include representatives of existing local councils and groups so that local communities have the opportunity to consolidate local efforts or assure that local input on behavioral health issues is not duplicative of other local planning and input efforts.

The specific functions of the local collaboratives include:

- ◆ Lead local area needs assessments and input processes for behavioral health-related planning, including interaction with the state Behavioral Health Planning Council (BHPC) and its subcommittees;
- ◆ Identify service needs and gaps, including recommendations of priorities for the geographic area or population represented;
- ◆ Help with capacity building and resource development planning for locally identified target groups in need of services, with a particular focus on informal or natural supports;
- ◆ Coordinate across multiple service systems to assure individuals with behavioral health needs are well-served, systems do not duplicate each other, and limited resources are maximized and well-utilized;
- ◆ Review and provide input to the state Collaborative and ValueOptions about funding and programs for the geographic area or population represented, especially community reinvestment funds;
- ◆ Review and react to data and information provided by the Collaborative and ValueOptions about service needs, utilizations and outcomes in the geographic area or population represented;
- ◆ Provide input regarding quality, coordination, and implementation of services and need for training and technical assistance; and
- ◆ Assist and make recommendations to the state Collaborative and ValueOptions regarding ways to address problems identified by the local

collaborative, the state Collaborative or ValueOptions.

Local collaboratives continue to work on legislative priorities on a yearly basis. Each of them has identified the top two local priorities for their area that the Collaborative is providing to the Legislature to help guide legislative decisions. These local priorities are also being combined with statewide priorities and reviewed by a Legislative Review Team to help the Executive and Legislators understand the top priorities for behavioral health funding across New Mexico.

About our Local Collaborative, LC 11...

Local collaborative 11 includes the judicial district of San Juan and McKinley county. LC 11 is committed to ensuring that all residents in our communities have access to a comprehensive array of behavioral health services that promote recovery and resiliency and are affordable, cost effective, culturally competent, strength and evidence based.

LC 11 also advocates for and with consumers and family members so their voice is heard with regard to identified needs and gaps in services in our communities. The Local Collaborative meets on a monthly basis, on the third Thursday of each month from 9 to noon at the Family Resource Center and membership is open to anyone who has a vested interest in behavioral health services. For more information please contact Tami Spellbring at 505-360-0280.

NM Attorney General Proposals

- Expand County Option For Taxing Alcohol
Amend Section 7-24-8 though 7-24-16 so that all counties have the option to increase alcohol taxes for enhanced spending on alcohol and drug abuse treatment and prevention.
- Tax "Alcopops" At Higher Rate
Re-classify "alcopops" so they are taxed at the correct tax rate for distilled spirits.
- Ban Caffeinated Alcohol

Prohibit sale of malt beverages that add stimulants such as caffeine.

- Prohibit Alcohol Consumption By Minors
Amend the Delinquency Act and the Liquor Control Act to prohibit consumption of alcohol by anyone under the age of twenty-one.
- Regulate Alcohol Advertising To Youth
2007 Legislative Task Force recommended restricting alcohol advertising targeted towards youth.
- Prohibit DWI Mixture Of Drugs And Alcohol
The statute currently specifies the illegality of DWI under influence of drugs OR alcohol, but not drugs AND alcohol. Proposal would clarify this expressly.
- Anaya Fix
Amend the Habitual Offender Sentencing Act to include a prior DWI felony conviction under the DWI statute as a "useable" prior for enhancement purposes. Would treat all repeat DWI felony offenders the same as all other repeat felons.

Interesting Facts

According to CYFD, in San Juan County for the month of September 2008, there were 203 children in protective custody cases and 111 of those can be tied back to a meth related event.

Interesting Articles

In previous issues, SJSCI has tried to include articles of interest to our subscribers. This month, we will make an attempt to include them in this one section for ease of access.



SAMHSA Awards \$22.9 Million for Residential Substance Abuse Treatment for Pregnant and Postpartum Women

The Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) today announced the award of 16 grants totaling \$22.9 million over three years to expand the availability of comprehensive residential treatment services for pregnant and postpartum women, their children and family members.

[READ MORE](#)

New National Poll Reveals Public Attitudes on Substance Abuse, Treatment and the Prospects of Recovery

Finds some significant differences in perceptions among various population groups. Nearly half of American adults report knowing someone in recovery from the use or abuse of alcohol or drugs, according to survey results announced today by the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services administration (SAMHSA). A large majority of Americans believe that people in recovery from substance addictions can live productive lives and contribute to their community, the report also said.

[READ MORE](#)

ONDCP Offering New Materials for Communities and Families

The National Youth Anti-Drug Media Campaign (a program of the Office of National Drug Control Policy) is offering new materials for communities and families, including posters, postcards, and customizable letters.

[READ MORE](#)

Workplace Drug Use Awareness Presentations

SJSCI has recently developed a presentation geared toward helping managers deal with drug use in the workplace. The presentation generally lasts one hour. If you are interested in having our staff bring this presentation to your workplace, call us at (505)599-1490 or e-mail us at dandarnell@msn.com.

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