

Youth Initiative Program

May 2008

Network Provider's Newsletter

Issue 5

YIP Forum Reminder

The Youth Initiative Program (YIP) will hold its next networking forum at 10:00 a.m. on Thursday, May 15, 2008 in the assembly room of the El Paso Housing Authority, located at 5300 East Paisano.

The featured speaker, Aracely Salcedo of Alternatives Behavioral Health Services, will talk about counseling and other services for youth and family. Please make plans to attend. Contact YIP office: (915) 564-7256.



Housing Authority City of El Paso



Gus and Goldie from the Parks and Recreation Aquatic program visited community partners at the YIP forum in March to promote summer swim fun and safety.



Diana Nuñez provided information to about the Mayor's Top 100 Teen program to YIP forum attendees in March. To nominate a student call (915) 541-4015 or e-mail nunezdx@elpasotexas.gov.



Scenic Sundays 2008 Open For You!

The City of El Paso Parks and Recreation is pleased to bring Scenic Sundays every Sunday through August, 2008, 6 a.m. to 12:00 noon at Scenic Drive, Rim Road to Alabama Street. During Scenic Sundays cars will be blocked off on that route to allow you to enjoy about three miles of road! Remember to wear sunscreen, drink lots of water, head on out and ride a bike, walk your dog or take a hike! Information: City of El Paso Parks and Recreation Department at (915) 541-4331.



Officer Slade Davis, Northeast Regional Command, April 25, 2008

The Northeast Regional Command Center was one of a number of partners recognized by the Juvenile Probation Department (JPD) for support and dedication to their local Community Service Program (CSP). The event was held April 25, 2008 at the Vista Hills Country Club. The Youth Initiative Program was also honored to receive recognition.

CSP provides community services such as clean-up projects, events, and service projects to non-profit agencies and organizations. Contact: Joel Olivas, Program Coordinator, (915) 849-2500 or joolias@epcounty.com.

Mock Crash - Shows Effects of Drinking and Driving



Scene of "Shattered Dreams" Mock Crash held at Bel-Air High School on April 1, 2008. The project takes students through the entire process of events beginning with the site of a crash and includes mock emergency response and the aftermath - arrests, trials, and counseling. Parents of the student actors participate to show the devastating emotional issues that affect the whole family, school and community.

"Shattered Dreams" is made possible through the partnership efforts of the school and many agencies. Contact: Mary Ellen Hernandez (915) 775-2555.



Bringing Awareness For Children's Mental Health

The El Paso Border Children's Mental Health Collaborative presents "Still I Rise" in recognition of National Children's Mental Health Awareness Day. The free event to be held on Thursday, May 8, 2008, from 6-8 p.m. at Ascarate Park, will feature food, games, booths, music, social dances from the Ysleta Del Sure Pueblo and much more. Contact: Maria Kranz, Border Children's Mental Health Collaborative, (915) 351-1288 ext. 235 or mkrantz@epcounty.com.



Learn Skills to Lead Support Group for Girls

This two-day workshop, May 14 -15, sponsored by the Boys And Girls Club will be held at 4625 Delta, 8 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. For registration information call (877) 422-9955 ext. 25. \$350 registration. El Paso Boys & Girls Club contact: Bill Coon, (915) 532-7410; cell (915) 487-1729.

Through a partnership with the Wildlife and Fisheries Department, the Texas 4-H Conference Center will offer two Adventure Trek programs this summer: June 1-7, youth ages 14-18 and June 8-14, youth ages 9-14. The week-long trek includes several days of kayaking and outdoor pursuits. Register on 4-H Connect. The 4-H Conference Center will offer their first 4-H Shooting Sports Camp for youth ages 9-14 on June 11-14, 2008. Campers can participate in disciplines such as archery, shotgun, muzzle loading, air rifle and air pistol. Registration for the 4 day 3 night camp is \$175 for youth and \$121 for adult chaperones. Contact Jimmy Rodgers, j-rodgers@tamu.edu, (915) 851-2515.

Entrepreneurship for Persons With Disabilities

Education Service Center- Region 19 is sponsoring the El Paso Border Entrepreneur Conference May 16-17, 2008 to showcase skills and opportunities for students and adults with disabilities in self-employment and business creation. The day-long free conference (lunch included) will focus on service providers/professionals on Friday and on family members/people with disabilities on Saturday. Register at www.esc19.net; on Click and Learn System, Event #7596 or call (915)780-5347. Location: Headstart Multi-Purpose Center, 11670 Chito Samaniego. For information contact: Rick Razo (915) 780-5091.



Teens Support "Kick Butts Day"

Adults and teens alike participated in "Kick Butts Day" on April 5th, an annual event designed to bring awareness of the dangers of tobacco and to support anti-smoking in the community. Contact: Rebecca Zima, Tobacco Prevention, Department of State Health Services, (915) 834-7775 or Thomason's Teen Advisory Board pictured above. Contact: Marcello Perez, mperez@thomasoncares.org



Texas KIDS COUNT!

No one knows the issues facing children on the border better than the people who live and work on the border everyday. Come share your experiences on the well-being of children in El Paso. Your feedback will be incorporated into a special Border KIDS COUNT report to be released this fall. All participants will receive a free copy of the report.

The event will be held on Thursday, May 1, 2008, from noon (lunch included) – 4:30 p.m. at the Centro de Salud Familiar La Fe, Inc. Child and Adolescent Wellness Center, 721 South Ochoa Street, 2nd Floor, El Paso, TX. For questions, please contact: Frances Deviney, Texas KIDS COUNT Director at Deviney@cphp.org or (915) 320-0222 or locally, America Jones, Chief Nursing Officer, Centro de Salud Familiar Americajones@lafe-ep.org, (915) 534-7979.



Tobacco Awareness Skatebash

The second annual Skatebash for Tobacco Awareness was held March 29, 2008 at the Centro Vida Christian Center's Livewire youth complex. The all-age competition brought out 35 contestants. If you are interested in skateboarding or promoting the fun activity contact Paul Zimmerman, atpaul.zimmerman@dfps.state.tx



For motivational speaker on various youth topics and break dance presentation, contact Patrick Perez of Lead, Encourage and Dance at www.patrickperez.org (915)577-9057.

AVANCE Annual Breakfast

On Thursday, May 1, 2008, from 8 a.m. – 9 a.m. at the El Paso Community College Administrative Services Building, 9050 Viscount, AVANCE will host their annual fundraiser breakfast. The event celebrates the power of education to change lives and provides an opportunity to hear from AVANCE children and parents who have benefited from the program. The breakfast is FREE. You can help most by bringing people to learn about AVANCE. A special program is planned and there is seating for 400. Please RSVP to Sanjay Mathur, Executive Director, at smathur@avance-elpaso.org, with your name for nametag and seating. Visit website at http://www.avance-elpaso.org/fundraising_breakfast.htm.

Consolidated Strategic Plan Public Hearing May 1st

El Paso Health and Human Service (HHSC) agencies will be hosting the Consolidated Strategic Plan Public Hearing on May 1, 2008 at the El Paso Community College Administrative Services Center Boardroom, 9050 Viscount, 3 p.m. to 7 p.m. Contact: Lupe Torres, HHSC. (915) 834-7752.

UTEP Seniors in WNBA Draft

Congratulations to UTEP seniors Natasha Lacy and Izabela Piekarska who were chosen in the 2008 Women's National Basketball Association Draft to become the first players in program history to be selected! Lacy went as the 29th overall pick to the Detroit Shock while Piekarska landed with the Sacramento Monarchs at No. 40.

Crystal Darkness Campaign Thanks Media Partners

The Crystal Darkness Campaign extends their deepest thanks to those who helped broadcast and made possible the documentary to be viewed in our area: KDBC Channel 4, KTSM Channel 9-2, cable 366, KCOS TV Channel 13, CW Time Warner Cable 13, digital TV 7.2, LATV digital 7.4, KFOX Channel 14, KSCE TV Channel 38, and T48 KTDO Telemundo Channel 48.



BENEVON
Creating Sustainable Funding For Nonprofits

Finding the Perfect Donors

Learn a tested system to identify and cultivate donors who love your mission - donors who will give for operations, capital, and endowment - at the Major Gifts: Finding the Perfect Donor seminar, presented Marcy McNeal and Lynda Bowman. The free event will be Tuesday, May 20, 2008, at the El Paso Library, Downtown Branch, 501 N. Oregon. RSVP required; register online at <http://sforce.benevon.com/intros/southern.htm>. Contact: Jan Slack (206) 709-9400; jan.slack@benevon.com.

Project Celebration

Chapin, Irvin and Austin High Schools' Communities in Schools will host an alcohol/drug free "Project Celebration" to keep the graduates and their guests safe on graduation night, June 11, 2008, 8:30 p.m.- 4 a.m. A variety of entertainment will be provided, to include senior gift giveaways (drawing for \$3,000 in gifts at 3:30 a.m.), live bands and food. Chapin High School would appreciate financial support for their 2008 Drug and Alcohol Free Project.

The campuses of Chapin, Irvin and Austin would appreciate any tangible donations for the giveaways such as gift certificates, food, movie coupons, gifts, etc. (in 3's to equally divide between each school) towards the 2008 Senior and guest Project Celebration. Monetary donations may be specifically designated for Chapin High School and checks can be made out to Chapin High School. Contact: Donna Mullens, Chapin Student Activities Mgr., 832-6737 or drullic@episd.org.



Love of Life Pregnancy Center, located at 8888 Dyer, Suite 315, offers free pregnancy tests, prenatal and parenting classes, life-skills, and clothing. Contact: Cindy Peters, Director. at (915) 755-1222.



Working Towards a Safer Future

On May 6-7, 2007, Sexual Trauma and Assault Response Services (STARS) will sponsor the 11th annual border issues conference at the El Paso Marriott, 1600 Airway Blvd. For fees/registration contact STARS, (915) 533-7700 or stars-elpaso.org.



Adopt-a-Highway Clean-Up

American Legion Law Enforcement Post 74 conducted its quarterly Adopt-a-Highway clean-up project on April 5, 2008. Members of the post were joined by students from the Sandra Day O'Connor Law Enforcement/Public Service Academy who have a requirement to participate in community service projects. The academy instructors all belong to Post 74 and the post is on the academy advisory board. Contact: John McKinney, Post 74 Adjutant at e-mail lwenfpst74@juno.com.



REACH for the STARS Conference

Teens signed in for a day of fun and learning at the annual REACH for the STARS Conference sponsored by the YWCA Youth Advisory Board. The event, held April 5th at Andress High School, provided an opportunity for youth to learn about the importance of finishing their high school education, financing their college education, and if necessary, the how to and why of seeking job training. Students gained a wealth of knowledge to prepare for their futures and an abundance of motivation to REACH for the Stars and accomplish all of the dreams they seek to fulfill. Over 400 students in 9-11th grade, parents, and community members from El Paso attended. Contact: Mike Perez (915) 533-7475, ext. 263 or via e-mail at mi.perez@ywcaelpaso.org.

Multi Agency Referral System (MARS)

MARS provides the cooperative delivery of services to students at a level where they can be further supported through their school. If your agency provides services to these areas, you are invited and encouraged to attend. Meetings at the high schools include the feeder schools. Schedule subject to change; please verify with school.

HIGH SCHOOL (includes feeder schools)	DATE/TIME	CONTACT/PHONE/E-MAIL
Austin High School Cafeteria lounge	2008: 1/15, 2/12, 3/11, 4/15, 5/13 @ 9 a.m.	Carmen Rodriguez, 587-2500 crodrig2@episd.org
Bel-Air High School Room 203	2008: 1/16, 2/20, 3/19, 4/16 @ 8:00 a.m.	Terry Randall, 434-2042 tqhammer@yahoo.com
Chapin High School Library	2008: 1/14, 2/11, 3/10, 4/14, 5/12 @ 8:45 a.m.	Mary Shepherd, 832-6730 mbshephe@episd.org
El Dorado High School Room A118	2008: 1/30, 2/17, 4/30 (cancelled) @ 10 a.m.	Yuzaleth Perez, 937-3253 Yperez04@sisd.net
El Paso High @ Austin High's cafeteria lounge	2008: 1/15, 2/12, 3/11, 4/15, 5/13 @ 9 a.m.	Christina Soria, 496-3800 cmsoria@episd.net
Fabens High School Library	2008: 2/27, 3/26, 4/16, 5/21 @ noon	Claudia Andrade, 892-2344 candrade@fabensisd.net
Franklin High School Cafeteria lounge	2008: 1/16, 2/13, 3/12, 4/9, 5/7 @ 9:15 a.m.	Rachel Olguin, 832-6600 olguin@episd.org
Hanks High School Room 104	2008: 1/30, 2/29, 3/31, 5/30 @ 9 a.m.	Jennifer Esparza, 434-5046 jazjasmine4@sbcglobal.net
Irvin High School Principal's conference room	2008: 1/14, 2/11, 3/10, 4/14, 5/12 @10:30 a.m.	Esther Hernandez, 587-3500 ehernan1@episd.org



Youth Initiative Program
www.eppd.org
 911 N. Raynor, 79903
 (915) 564-7173

A/Commander A. Medina
MedinaA@elpasotexas.gov

Sgt. Glenn Shelley
ShelleyG@elpasotexas.gov

Officer Raul Garcia
GarciaR@elpasotexas.gov

SSgt. Adrian Lopez, TX NGB
 Drug Demand Reduction
Adrian.E.Lopez@us.army.mil

Nell Tovar, Coordinator
TovarM@elpasotexas.gov

Job Zones to Visit Your Neighborhood

The Workforce Solutions Upper Rio Grande in partnership with the City of El Paso Parks & Recreation Department, will be hosting Job Zones to neighborhood job seekers and neighborhood employers. Several employers will be accepting applications for part-time and full-time positions. Times are 9 a.m. – 1 p.m. at the following Community Recreation Centers:

April 12 - Northeast – Nolan Richardson

May 10 - Westside - Galatzan

May 24 - Central - Armijo

June 1 - Eastside - Marty Robbins

Contact: Lauren Macias-Cervantes, Director of Regional Relations, (915) 772-2002 ext. 263, or cell (915) 269-6183.

Web: www.urgjobs.org.

Job Zones first started in April 2007; 400 job seekers were assisted!



In Memory of Donna Villareal-Ruiz
 January 4, 1963 – April 1, 2008

The community lost a very valuable friend and colleague on April 1, 2008. Ms. Donna Villareal-Ruiz was Program Coordinator for the West Texas Community Supervision and Corrections Department Victim Services and the Crime Victims' Rights Council. She was a very strong advocate for and supporter to victims. She will be greatly missed.