

March  
2024



Coalition Connection Newsletter

Working *together*  
to improve the **SAFETY** & **QUALITY**  
of **LIFE** in **OUR** *community*



PO Box 1867 Carlsbad, NM 88221



(575)256-0565



@carlsbadcoalition



## Coalition Connection Newsletter



### RIVERBLITZ

Our team had a blast serving lunch for all of the amazing Riverblitz volunteers! We served around 600 hamburgers and hotdogs and got to hear lots of great stories from the teams who volunteered again this year. We're proud to help support this event every year!

### SRO APPRECIATION

We are so thankful for the SROs that keep our students safe every day! We showed them a little love and appreciation this week with gift cards to say "Thanks for all you do!" If you see them around, make sure you tell them how grateful you are for them!





## Coalition Connection Newsletter

# SPF - STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIP FRAMEWORK

**Description:** SPF is a 5-year federal grant that focuses on reducing underage drinking and substance abuse. We implement the All-Stars curriculum with middle school students, which is an evidence-based curriculum that is designed to change qualities that research shows accounts for why adolescents engage in risky behaviors. The various All Stars programs address the following qualities: normative beliefs, personal commitment to not use, positive relationships attentiveness, beliefs about consequences, idealism, positive character, goal with peers and important adults, parent/adult setting skills, decision making skills and resistance skills.

**(Prevention in Motion) – 300,000.00/yr**

**Joana Wells / Tiffany Shirley / Esther Hernandez / Hannah Ornelas**

This month the students worked on lessons 3-5 of All Stars PLUS at PR Leyva for the 8th graders in Mrs. Duarte's class. The lessons included the topics of developing positive habits, using goals to develop ideal futures, and learning the 3 methods to help make decisions. The students learned why it was important to incorporate habits and ideal futures as a guide toward their goals, and methods to avoid risky behaviors, peer pressure and forming bad habits.

This month a lesson about harmful marijuana acts was incorporated using a true or false game. We reinforced that although the cannabis industry may promote cannabis for ways to cope with anxiety, stress, sleep or eating disorders, that it is still a substance involving many risks that can be life altering in youth. We found this as an effective presentation due to some of the rising stats of vape and cannabis use among middle schoolers.

**TALK IT UP**  
Having conversations regularly with your kids about drugs and alcohol will help to encourage them to avoid substance abuse all together.

**LOCK IT UP**  
Secure, Monitor and Dispose of substances within your home so that youth do not have easy access to alcohol, tobacco, cannabis or prescription drugs.

Scan for Resources

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## Coalition Connection Newsletter

# OSAH – OFFICE OF SCHOOL AND ADOLESCENT HEALTH

**Description:** OSAH is a 4-year mental health grant. We will be implementing evidence-based suicide prevention programming with high school students, as well as early detection training for educators. Our staff will be trained in QPR (Question, Persuade and Refer) and Youth Mental Health First Aid, as well as creating marketing and awareness campaigns for our community.

**140,000.00/yr**

**Joana Wells / Julie Fuentes**

**Tiffany Shirley / Hannah Ornelas**

This month Sources of Strength focused on the Mentor section of the Wellness Wheel. SOS groups meet at Alta Vista, P.R. Leyva, Carlsbad High School and Early College. They created campaigns to highlight Mentors. P.R. Leyva highlight Mentors by making announcements naming and thanking adults at the school. CHS wrote notes to mentors and delivered them.





## Coalition Connection Newsletter

# OSAP - OFFICE OF SUBSTANCE ABUSE PREVENTION

1100,000.00/yr

**Joana Wells / Esther Hernandez / Tiffany Shirley / Hannah Ornelas**

This month the OSAP team attended the 2-day annual OSAP Recipient Meeting in Albuquerque, NM. During this time, all OSAP staff joined together to learn new concepts to implement in their workplace such as: forming a coalition, developing positive perspectives, reducing stigmas, learning about the launch of the new epidemiology website and helpful information for prepping for the certified preventionist exam.

February 26, the NMCS (New Mexico Community Surveys) will start and continue till April 28th. The project is meant to assist substance abuse prevention efforts in our local community, The survey is open to all 18 and older Eddy County members. You can find more information on this year's survey, the link and last year's results on the Coalition website. The direct link for the survey is <https://tinyurl.com/NMCS2024>

In All Stars Plus at Alta Vista, the 8th graders in Mr. Pittman's class went through lessons 2-4. They learned new concepts about communication, habit forming, the difference between ideals and goals, and began a habit tracker to help keep them accountable towards a short-term goal for 2 weeks.

**Description:** OSAP preventionists are committed to the implementation of evidence-based prevention programs and infrastructure development activities. OSAP delivers effective prevention services aimed at reducing alcohol, tobacco and other drug abuse, which includes reducing underage drinking, binge drinking and DWI, reducing prescription painkiller misuse and abuse, reducing adult binge drinking and DWI and reducing prescription painkiller opioid improving these goals by partnering with local law enforcement, school overdose related deaths. We work towards I administration, pharmacies, medical providers, parent trainings and many other community organizations.





## Coalition Connection Newsletter

# STOP - SOBER TRUTH ON PREVENTING UNDERAGE DRINKING

**\$48,509.00/yr**

**Joana Wells / Julie Fuentes / Hannah Ornelas**

All Star lessons 9 and 10 were completed this month. Youth discussed social norms and commitment. Loving Middle School invited the Carlsbad Coalition to set up a booth at Stem Night on February 20th. Special Thank You to Brandy Mendoza Eddy County DWI Program Adult & Youth Prevention Education for attending and setting up the presentation booth at Loving Middle School Stem Night. The booth provided information on the harmful effects of vaping, marijuana, and alcohol use to parents and youths.

**Description:** The Sober Truth on Preventing Underage Drinking (STOP) program's goal is to expand evidence-based prevention initiatives to prevent and reduce alcohol use among youth ages 12-20. A youth council will lead community education and media messages for their peers as well as parents and other adults in the community. We use an evidence-based curriculum, All Star Core, with sixth grade students to establish positive norms and personal commitments to avoid risky behaviors (including substance use), promote bonding to the school and peer group, and build positive parent/adult connections.

**DID YOU KNOW?** PROVIDING ALCOHOL to a **MINOR** (under 21) is a

**4<sup>TH</sup> DEGREE FELONY!**

Scan for Resources

**DRINK RESPONSIBLY. LOCK IT UP. NEVER PROVIDE ALCOHOL TO MINORS.**

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## Coalition Connection Newsletter

# TOP - TEEN OUTREACH PROGRAM

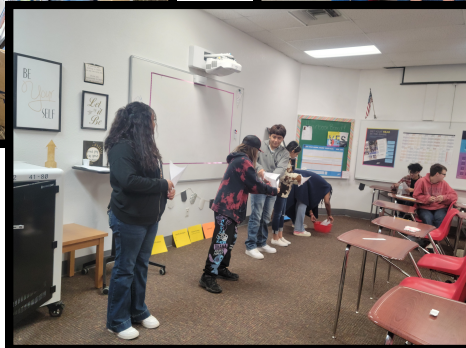
**\$50,150.00/yr**

**Julie Fuentes**

**Hannah Ornelas**

**Description:** Curriculum that promotes the positive development of adolescents through Wyman's Teen Outreach Program® (TOP®) is a youth curriculum-guided, interactive group discussions; positive adult guidance and support; and community service-learning projects. This program is funded through the New Mexico Department of Health/Family Planning Program. TOP is designed to meet the developmental needs of middle and high school teens and is focused on key topics related to adolescent health and development, including building social, emotional, and life skills; developing a positive sense of self; and connecting with others. The TOP Club meets for 9 months throughout the school year and requires 80% attendance and 25 service-learning hours in order to receive a graduation stipend of \$200.

This month TOP Club has completed 4 lessons and 5 hours of Community Service Learning. They discussed social media, hygiene, sexual health, and healthy relationships. TOP is also planning for a LHS Motivational Rock Garden. They painted rocks with positive messages and planned for rock painting contest with the mentor classes.





## Coalition Connection Newsletter

# TEEN COURT

**\$38,400.00/yr**  
**Esther Hernandez**  
**Hannah Ornelas**

**Description:** Teen Court is an alternative approach to juvenile sentencing. We receive misdemeanor cases from around Carlsbad, including Municipal Court, JPO, and Magistrate Court. Juveniles either plead guilty or no contest and are referred to Teen Court for their sentencing hearing. Sentencing is determined through a jury of their peers, which includes previous Teen Court defendants. The juvenile defendants are assigned volunteer youth attorneys as a defense team and are also prosecuted during a trial by another team of volunteer youth attorneys. Local attorneys and judges from Carlsbad volunteer their time, sitting in as Judge, for Teen Court trials every Tuesday. Teen Court is hosted by the City of Carlsbad's Municipal Court House and is funded in part by the United Way of Carlsbad and the City of Carlsbad.

Teen court held 2 teen court nights with a total of 8 new cases. March is filling up fast with new cases. Recruitment flyers were handed out to all the All Stars Plus classes at PR Leyva and Alta Vista for youth attorneys and volunteers in the court room. A training day is starting to be planned for the spring for new youth attorneys, bailiffs and judges. If you know a 6th-12th grade student that you feel would be a great fit for Teen Court, have them contact Esther Hernandez at 575-256-0565 ext. 1.

**Teen Court**  
of Eddy County

**About Teen Court**

- Teen Court is a program for individuals 12-18 who are charged with traffic violation, shoplifting (\$250 or less), possession of alcohol or drug, disorderly conduct and other misdemeanor offense.
- Referring agencies: Municipal Court, Magistrate Court, Juvenile Probation and Parole Office, Carlsbad Municipal Schools and Loving Schools.

**Teen Attorneys**

- Be mentored by local judges and experienced attorneys on how to prosecute and defend cases.
- Be mentored by local law enforcement agencies on laws and statutes.
- Improve your public speaking skills.
- Open doors for opportunity on college applications and community efforts.

**Teen Defendants Must**

- Admit to charges.
- Appear at sentencing hearing with a parent, guardian, or custodian.
- Complete sentence within the allotted time frame.
- Follow the Teen Court Rules Of Conduct.
- Not commit any other offenses while serving their sentence in Teen Court.

**Volunteer Judges**

- Facilitate courtroom proceedings as they are in District Court.
- Provide guidance and support for Teen Attorneys.
- Expand your community partnerships.





## Coalition Connection Newsletter

### TEENS IN ACTION



**Hannah Ornelas**

This month the Teens in Action Youth Council held another free youth event at the Carlsbad REC Center. The event was for 6th-12th graders and we had a total of 31 teens in attendance! We provided drinks, pizza and candy and the activities included all kinds of board games and a dodgeball tournament. At the end of the evening we did several drawings to give away the new board games for the students to take home and enjoy with their families. It was a successful event and we're looking forward to participating in the Gus Macker event at the end of March!





**VENDOR  
OPPORTUNITY**

**5K FUN RUN  
& WALK** WITH ACTIVITY  
STATIONS!

**VENDORS WANTED!**

**SATURDAY APRIL 20TH, 2024  
8:00AM - 1:00PM**

**FOOD TRUCKS/VENDORS: \$50**

**LIMITED SPOTS AVAILABLE, REGISTER ONLINE NOW!**

**REGISTER ONLINE:**  
[WWW.CARLSBADCOALITION.COM](http://WWW.CARLSBADCOALITION.COM)



FOR MORE INFORMATION CALL  
**575-256-0565 EXT.6**

OR DROP US AN EMAIL TO  
[coalition.ornelas@gmail.com](mailto:coalition.ornelas@gmail.com)



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PO BOX 1867 CARLSBAD, NM 88221

PHONE: (575)256-0565