

TORRANCE COUNTY
DWI PLANNING COUNCIL MEETING
NOVEMBER 21, 2024

1. Call Meeting to order

Debbie Ortiz, Chairwoman, called the November 21, 2024, DWI Planning Council Meeting to order at 1:07 PM

2. Determination of Quorum

Quorum met

3. Introductions and Welcome of Guests

Debbie Ortiz – Chairwoman

Sheryl Boerger – Silver Sneakers, Moriarty

Natalie Romero – Director of Learning Services, Moriarty/Edgewood School District

Amanda Spaulding – Torrance County Compliance Officer

Amanda Lujan – Torrance County Grant Administrator

Jose Aguilar – Lieutenant, New Mexico State Police

Rebecca Armstrong – Juvenile Justice Board, Estancia

Mateo Page – Senior Trial Attorney, 7th Judicial District Attorney's Office

Angela Zamora – Community Health Worker, Moriarty

Adrian Ortiz – Teen Court Coordinator/Program Manager, PTMI

Deanna Lopez – DWI Program Coordinator

Jordan Duran – Sergeant, Estancia Police Department

Tom Carter – Chief of Police, Estancia Police Department

Todd Brogowski – Reporter, Mountainair Dispatch

4. Approval of Agenda

Todd Brogowski- Motion to approve

Mateo Page – Second the motion

Motion carried to approve agenda as proposed

5. Approval of Minutes from 7/31/2024 Meeting

Mateo Page – Motion to approve

Todd Brogowski – Second the motion

Motion carried to approve the Minutes, no one opposed

6. Coordinator Update

Deanna Lopez stated that for Quarter 1, amounts spent:

\$ 22,214.33 Distribution

\$ 20,166.56 Grant funds

The Special application was approved. Deanna Lopez attended the Grant Council Meeting on October 2, 2024, and the Torrance County DWI Program was awarded an additional \$58,215.52 in Grant Funds. A breakdown was given: \$27,215.52 will be spent on Community Wellness and Outreach. Examples include prevention activities, advertising the Smart Choice Ride program, working with Law Enforcement to have DWI Enforcement activities in the community. \$21,000.00 is for treatment services. \$10,000.00 is for staff training. In-kind match of \$5,800.00 is to hire a Needs Assessment Evaluator.

MOUs have been executed with Torrance County Sherrif's Office, State Police, the Town of Estancia and City of Moriarty during Quarter 1. City of Moriarty did directed patrols resulting in 26 citations. Prevention activities were done, including two Bingos at County fair which had 145 attendees. The event scheduled at the pool was rained out, so they will allow the event to be rescheduled for June 2025. Deanna attended the American Legion Youth Corp Camp. There were 30 students. She took the golf carts, the impaired goggles and the oculus headsets and met with the children while they did the activities. Ads were run regarding the Smart Choice Ride in The Independent. A survey was written about the program and was distributed at Bingos. 15 Games were attended by Deanna, Adrian Angela and Debbie. 1, 500 foam hands were distributed and they interacted with at least 200 people at each game. Social Media posts reached 1,500 people. The Smart Ride post reached about 4,500 people at least. The

foam hands had information about the Smart Ride Program on them. Also, during Quarter 1, booths were set up at the Torrance County fair, the Sunflower Festival, the Pinto Bean Fiesta, and Old Timer's Day. There were numerous interactions as there were several at each event. As far as training, Deanna attended the DWI Affiliate Compliance Ad Hoc meeting in August, attended New Mexico Edge classes for DWI Certification and has completed 15 of 26 classes to get her Certification. Amanda Spaulding, the Misdemeanor Compliance Officer, and Deanna attended Court Officer training at the end of August in Santa Fe. Upcoming events include Bingo at PTMI. Mateo Page asked when the special application money had to be spent, and Deanna stated that it had to be spent by the end of the Fiscal year; June 30, 2025. She stated that anyone in the misdemeanor compliance program not having health insurance would be referred to Pinwheel and Wave. Deanna said that she planned to attend training with Amanda to get a special designation and certifications. Debbie Ortiz stated that there has been a good partnership in working with Deanna at different events. Deanna said that there was good feedback about being out in the community at the different events. Mateo said that it is good that all are working together, and all have a good attitude and share.

7. Misdemeanor Compliance Officer Update:

Amanda Spaulding stated that she has all files separated and has the forms modified, packets made, new files made, and letters sent to clients for 2025 schedule. She said she had 39 on Probation for DWI and 9 on pretrial for DWI. She stated she has been working on entering the clients into the DIMS system and expanding the list for treatment facilities. She has been scheduling clients for assessments and plans to create a system for sanction and reward levels to provide positive feedback. She has attended the Pretrial and Sentencing Hearings of Wednesdays and monitoring progress for clients currently in in-patient rehab. Amanda currently has 3 at Darren's Place, doing a phenomenal job. She has another going into treatment. She is working with the Courts, working on a referral process for treatment Court so clients can be referred, rather than having to go back to Court to change the JNS. Amanda is looking into what is needed to have a DWI school in the local area. She is working on collecting data for the files needed for tracking in Court compliance and updating files to show what insurances the clients have, in order to assist clients in getting into treatment programs. Amanda said she is monitoring 96 for Probation, 84 for Pretrial. That number will increase to 200 by December 1st. Deanna stated that the highest amount other Officers have is 75 and when you have high risk/high needs clients, one should only have 35, so Amanda is very overworked. Deanna said she has spoken to the County Manager as they should not be monitoring

pre-trial clients as the Courts receive money for that, and the County does not. She said the County is paying Amanda's salary, but the Courts are not giving any money for that. She stated that Amanda is doing the work of 3 Officers. Amanda started at the end of August. Amanda found that some clients had one, two, or no files. Deanna stated she appreciated Amanda. Deanna said that the program should have twice the staff. Debbie asked Amanda if any of those clients are being referred to the DWI Court. Amanda stated that they are not and has spoken to Judge Davis about referrals needing to be made to DWI Court instead of her. Amanda said that some clients should be referred to treatment or DWI Court. Amanda said that she is not sure why this is happening, but a public defender told her that they were not aware there was a DWI Court. She said she has had three meetings with Judge Davis, in person, to discuss this matter, and she will not give up. Debbie said she is on the panel for the DWI court and that it is a resource for people to avoid jail sanctions. Debbie said that the program could be lost if it is not being used. She said there are two clients, and one will be graduating soon from the DWI Court Program, which is a very good program. Amanda said that her understanding that it must be in the JNS, there cannot just be a referral to the DA's office, or the client's attorney. Amanda stated she is doing all the assessments. Mateo stated that the Court will be taking over the pre-trial cases, they are in the process of hiring. He stated that from his perspective, there are not that many DWI cases that are appropriate for DWI Court. Mateo told Amanda they can talk about cases she might think are appropriate for the program. Deanna stated that out of the 108 cases Amanda has, 40 are DWI. Mateo said there are a lot of first offenses. Adrian said he does not understand why New Mexico is highest in the Nation in DWIs, and why people cannot be sent to DWI Court, even on their first offense. Mateo said that overtreating people is as damaging as undertreating people. Adrian said he wished there could be something different in that area as people quickly establish patterns and habits. Mateo said that the Public Defenders are overwhelmed. Amanda gave an example of a person who had an offense she thought should be sent to DWI Court and is afraid that the program could be lost. Amanda Lujan asked what the requirements for DWI Court are. Amanda stated that clients were able to attend DWI school on-line, which met the DWI Court requirements, it does not meet the motor vehicle requirements. She stated that clients must attend an in-person program. She stated there is a list of approved schools on NMDOT. The closest school is in Albuquerque. She said she would be willing to teach the courses if she had help. Amanda said she looked at the requirements and has looked into getting an Interlock Installer for Torrance County.

Mateo asked if the County would assist in getting a DWI school. Amanda Lujan said she would speak to Deanna and Finance and see if the County can assist.

8. Teen Court Update:

Adrian Ortiz stated that he has 4 pending referrals from the schools, from the Middle school, for Vaping. He stated he has received referrals for THC. He stated they have had classes in schools, but their challenge is that the students are able to order online and from people on the street. He stated that they are referring some students to Restorative Justice if they have a second offense, but he is trying to get more funding so that kids can go through that program. He said that their next Court would be the following Monday and that there were 4 cases. Deanna asked Amanda Lujan if the funding they would be getting could be used for Restorative Justice. Amanda Lujan stated that she is looking into it. Adrian said that a lot of the challenges are familiar and when Rebecca (Armstrong), the kids are able to speak about that with her. Adrian said that Teen Court is for first offenses. He said that he is trying to involve parents, and Restorative Justice works with the family.

9. Evaluator Update:

Deanna Lopez stated she is the Evaluator, now. She said that because of cost, the DWI Program decided to evaluate itself as the monies had been cut. She said she is constantly evaluating the program. She said the goals for FY25 are to increase prevention activities, increase social media posts and people reached, increase Smart Ride Program understanding, to increase the number of providers, to condense files, to enter information into DIMS, Noble, and RANT for the Misdemeanor Compliance Program, and to increase the number of successful discharges from Misdemeanor Compliance Program.

10. PTMI Update:

Adrian stated that he was excited because they were able to secure funding for Johnny's Ambassador, for Laura Speck to speak to two schools and he spoke to the County to put in a request to supply the funding for an additional two schools, for a total of 4 presentations. He said that Laura will explain how cannabis affects the brain. Laura will speak about her son's use and how he died as a result. Adrian said those presentations will be on April 3rd and 4th of the following year. Adrian said there would be a Twinkle light Parade in Estancia and the floats will have a message and there will be gift cards for the winners. Another idea is to get, "thunder sticks" to pass out at the games. He stated that they have Narcan supply for anyone who needs it, including training. He stated that Angela is working on her first Mental Health First Aid class,

virtually. Adrian said he can distribute the Narcan and can educate people on how to use it. He stated that agencies will be required to have a certificate on how to use Narcan. He said that he will be training people who work with youth (JPD, Law Enforcement). Adrian asked Amanda Lujan if they were good on getting the funding and Amanda said she would contact him for more information.

11. School Updates:

Natalie stated that she will be working with Adrian (on the presentations). She stated that she has no other updates. Adrian said that New Mexico two pack (he was not sure of the name), is trying to partner with community schools to train a staff member to teach a tobacco cessation class, so they can teach the class in the community as well. He said that the organization would also give the school some funding and will pay for the training.

12. Law Enforcement Updates:

Tom Carter stated that Estancia is working on building staff. He said they worked one operation but will do as much as they can. He thanked everyone for helping them.

Jose Aguilar stated that they are going to have 5 Officers stationed at the East Mountains along with a Sergeant. He said on October 24th they had have a Directed Patrol. They had 42 contacts and issued a couple of citations and would have another operation that evening in Torrance County. There was one arrest, one citation, one warning. Deanna asked if they were going to have a checkpoint on December 20th on Lexico Road. Mateo asked if the State Police would be working with other agencies. Jose said they would be the major agency. Deanna said she ordered two portable speed bumps and would get those to him. Mateo asked who the Officer in Charge would be. Jose said it would be Sergeant Edgar Lenus.

13. Member Comments

Deanna said she was open to ideas on how to identify local gaps or needs, determining potential services and activities to reduce DWI recidivism and prevent DWI incidents, and address other issues related to alcohol abuse in Torrance County. Debbie said they would be doing “sticker shock.” Amanda Lujan commended Amanda Spaulding and Deanna for their hard work. She offered information from the Domestic Violence program, such as flyers. Amanda said they are trying to use some of their funding (Opioid) for its intended use.

14. Public Comments

Deanna reminded everyone there would be Bingo the following night. Todd said he would share information on events with dispatch.

15. Next Meeting:

To be Determined:

16. Adjourn

Mateo Page – Motion to adjourn.

Todd Brogowski – Second the motion

Meeting adjourned at 2:05.