

WHAT'S HAPPENING AT THE EYTC?

Well, we did it, we survived 2020! This year will definitely be in the history books for so many reasons. Like learning to be in school from your kitchen table, doing P.E. in the living room, which means you can't get in trouble for jumping in the house, cause the teacher made you do it. Masks are now in every pattern you can think of, and who knew they would match your favorite t-shirt. Learning to live in our same world in a whole different way has been a challenge to some degree for all of us. We will never forget 2020, that's for sure. The pandemic has affected all of us in one or more ways. The days of insane, busy days, not being able to hear ourselves think are now filled with a much quieter Center. We are thankful for the teens who do come to hang out and continue to enjoy the classes, and activities. So many changes, but we are well-adjusted to the new norm of things. Temperature checks, masks and constant sanitizing are all part of an ordinary Teen Center day. We are so proud of our teens and the way they have adjusted to all the safety guidelines. They wipe down computers after each use, and other equipment, too. They have learned to stay away from each other physically, but are so happy to be together. Together, but apart is our motto. They show kindness, they compliment each other on their choice of mask for the day, they encourage each other and listen to each other. We don't have to stop living, we just have to adapt to the new guidelines to be as safe as we can be. So, we may continue to be together, yet apart.



Delicious Fun with Food class

The cool days of autumn have turned into cold winter days. Along with the change of the weather, we have also created some change to our programs. We have introduced two new classes, photography and videography. Teens can work on projects alone. All equipment is sanitized before and after each use. The photography class created beautiful appreciation photos for supporters and our local police and fire departments, our hospital cafeteria staff, and other community members. We enjoyed holiday activities together in a different way than in years past. Creativity, brainstorming and staff dedication continue to create opportunities for our teens. We all look forward to going on field trips, going camping, attending sports events and hosting community events, but for now we appreciate seeing each other, being there for one another and enjoying the activities we can do.

We couldn't provide any of this without all of you. So, from the bottom of the hearts of our teens and staff, we thank you all and appreciate all the support, donations, phone calls, emails, words of encouragement, and love. Together we will overcome! Wishing you all good health and a much better 2021!

If you would prefer to receive our newsletter electronically call us at 505.747.6569,
or email us at yteencenter@live.com and provide us your email address.

July –December 2020 Membership and Program Information

FREE membership is available to individuals between the ages of 12 and 19 years of age. Registration with parent and teen signatures is required.

- 204 members served, we had 12 new members, but due to the COVID-19 pandemic are not able to have guests
- Recorded visits by members totaling 670 in 118 operating days (07/01/20-12/23/20)
- Held classes in 11 program categories

Teen Center Major Supporters

We would like to acknowledge and extend a **HUGE** thank you to our Teen Center supporters. Without your dedication and support, our offerings of educational and recreational opportunities to the teens of the City of Española and surrounding communities would not be possible.

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Additional support has been provided by:

Los Alamos Community Foundation, Tandy Leather Santa Fe-137, The Española Community Matanza, Avanyu, LLC, Hoy Recovery Program, Inc., Susan Herter, Blake's Lotaburger, Enchanted Expressions Car Club, Rotary Club of Los Alamos, Kelly Myers, Rio Grande SUN, Youth for Christ, Northern New Mexico College Athletics, Española Public Schools, Rio Arriba Health Council, Alicia Fine Jewelers, Andrea Suazo State Farm Insurance, Rio Arriba County Sheriff's Office, Faculty and Staff at Northern New Mexico College, Attorney Sheri Raphaelson, Zia Credit Union, First Judicial District Attorney's Office, Victory Faith Foursquare Church, Regional Development Corporation, and Phillip Haworth & Gayle Mills Fund.

Happy Halloween



Photo Shoot Prep



2020 Teen Center Volunteers

Doug Roth Teen Center Activities, 01/2018-currently

Angela Roth Teen Center Activities, 01/2019-currently

Simon Vaz Teen Center Activities, 01/2019-currently

Crystal Romero Teen Center Activities, 01/2019-currently

A special **thank you** for your giving hearts, which demonstrates all our core values, Honesty, Respect, Responsibility and most of all **Caring**.

Class and Program Offerings and Attendance (July 1– December 31, 2020)

- 33 Homework Assistance/Summer Tutoring: 38 total participants
- 5 Fun With Food: 19 total participants
- 25 Movie Afternoons: 103 total participants
- 5 Woodworking classes: 12 total participants
- 22 Gym classes: 77 total participants
- 67 Health/Sports Classes: 310 total participants
- 8 Holiday/Special meals: 56 total participants
- 3 Art classes: 9 total participants
- 9 Videography Classes: 30 total participants
- 5 Photography Classes: 16 total participants
- 1 Science Class: 2 total participants

Teen Center and Community Events

- Happy Halloween!
- Remembering our Veterans
- Happy Thanksgiving!
- Christmas Tree and Center decorating
- Farolito making and lighting
- Decorated Gingerbread Houses
- Closed for holiday break, December 24, 2020–January 1, 2021, reopened Monday, January 4, 2021
- Good-bye 2020, Happy New Year 2021!

Pumpkin Carving



Farolito Making

Upcoming Teen Center and Community Events

- Martin Luther King, Jr. Day
- Happy Valentine's Day!
- Spring Break for area schools, various dates.
- Happy Easter!
- Events and activities are dependent on COVID-19 restrictions and guidelines and will be scheduled, canceled, or postponed as needed



PRESORTED STANDARD
U.S. POSTAGE PAID
LOS ALAMOS, NM
PERMIT NO. 152

The Española YMCA Teen Center

808 Vietnam Veterans
Memorial Park Road
Española, NM 87532



Community Partner

The Journey Continues



2021 is well underway and we look forward to what this new year will bring. Hopes of returning to a more “normal” way lies heavy on everyone’s minds, but while we wait, we continue our mission. 2020 was a year like no other, and we hope we do not experience another year like it, but amidst the darkness of 2020, there were still plenty of lights that kept the way lit. We were still able to keep our doors open and continue to offer the programs and activities which we determined to be able to be carried out safely. Things were different from the large groups we were used to, but that didn’t stop the teens who continued to attend from enjoying our offerings. Even in the middle of the pandemic, we were able to begin two new classes, photography and videography. Teens were super excited to get their hands on the cameras and begin shooting videos and photos. The holiday celebrations were quite different, but although we had to sit further apart and not share hugs, we still enjoyed celebrating the holidays with each other. The Y family is a strong family and together we will weather the remainder of the storm. Our doors are open and welcome every teen in our community and surrounding areas to come in and participate and join the family, all at no cost to parents. A HUGE thank you to our teens, who continue coming to participate in the classes, activities and just to hang out with each other and share conversation. All we do is for you and with you in mind.