

## WHAT'S HAPPENING AT THE EYTC?

The cold days of winter have turned into warm, spring days and hot, summer days. 2020 has been a year like no other we have ever experienced. The first half of 2020 has been great and not so great. January and February brought us new adventures. Teens came back from holiday break ready to participate in various classes and events. We held our annual Valentine's Day Party. Teens enjoyed Nachos, drinks and delicious cupcakes made by our volunteer, Ms. Irene, who is also a retired professional baker.

March began like any other March, with the thoughts and anticipation of Spring Break. Extra excitement amongst the teens with the Española Sundevils making it to the New Mexico State Tournaments. This prompted the idea of doing a field trip to the Dreamstyle Arena to cheer them on. Every Spring Break we try and plan something fun and exciting and this year it was decided amongst the teens and staff that we would enjoy lunch together and an afternoon and evening watching high school basketball. Unfortunately, the Sundevils lost to the Gallup Bengals, but the experience is one for our book of memories. For some of our teens, it was the first time they had ever been to the arena and attended the tournaments. We continue having the privilege of providing "first time" experiences for our teens. We do not take this privilege for granted and feel honored to be a part of it.



Dodge Ball Fun - January 2020

The not so fun side to March, is that on Monday, March 16th was the last day to provide services for our teens for the following three months. We received the unfortunate news that due to COVID-19, we would have to close our doors during this trying time. Breaking the news to our teens was tough, as they have relied on us through ups and downs, and other crisis situations, but with this one we wouldn't be able to remain open. As much contact was continued through Facebook postings on our page and other social media forums, but the day to day, face to face interactions were missed. This was done to help ensure their safety and reduce spread of the virus. On June 17, 2020, we were able to reopen our doors to our teen members and welcome them back to enjoy their Teen Center. Safety measures were put in place to provide the safest environment possible. Screening takes place outside, where temperatures are checked and teens sanitize before entering the Center. Furniture, computers, etc., have all been changed and moved to practice physical distancing and teens and staff are required to have their masks on. Attendance is limited to meet government and health official recommendations. For more information, please feel free to contact us at the Teen Center, 505.747.6569.

Life is full of happy times and trying times and even though we don't like the trying times, we can all learn from them. We can't take life, friends, family members, loved ones for granted. We have to remember that in this busy, fast-paced world we have to hit the pause button for a minute and just appreciate what we have and who we have in our lives and just be. The relationships we've built, the people we love, the memories we've created help carry us through the tough, trying times, and we will come out stronger on the other side, like refined gold.

We so appreciate every one of you. Those of you who think of us, who support financially and in other ways, who volunteer, who share our story, who allow us to be a part of your lives, and all of you who are behind the scenes cheering us on, THANK YOU!! You are what makes our Y family strong.

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

### January - June 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.

- 307 youth (260 members & 47 guests) served
- Recorded visits by members and guests totaling 2,147 in 59 open operating days (01/01/20-06/30/20, CLOSED 3/17-6/16/20 due to COVID-19)
- Averaged 37 teens per day with peak days of 67 youth attending
- Held classes in 12 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.

**Anchorum St. Vincent**

**Anonymous Donor**

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**City of Española**

**Community Health Funders Alliance**

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**Presbyterian Española Hospital**

**Rio Arriba County**

**Santa Fe Community Foundation**

**Santa Fe County**

**Smith's Food and Marketplace**

**State Farm Insurance**

**Texas A & M University**

**Triad/LANS**

**United Way of NNM-LA**



NM High School State Tournaments—March 11, 2020



### 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**.

### Additional support has been provided by:

Los Alamos Community Foundation, PMI (Performance Maintenance Incorporated), 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.

## Class and Program Offerings and Attendance (January 1–June 30, 2020)

- 39 Homework Assistance/Summer Tutoring: 20 non-duplicated, 20 total participants
- 3 Fun With Food: 39 non-duplicated, 50 total participants
- 11 Movie Afternoons: 31 non-duplicated, 86 total participants
- 1 Impact of Drugs: 34 non-duplicated, 34 total participants
- 3 Josh’s Comics Courses: 18 non-duplicated, 23 total participants
- 8 Gym classes: 13 non-duplicated, 25 total participants
- 31 Health/Sports Classes: 134 non-duplicated, 252 total participants
- 1 Holiday/Special meals: 30 non-duplicated, 30 total participants
- 3 Art classes: 16 non-duplicate, 23 total participants
- 1 Robotics Classes: 4 non-duplicated, 4 total participants
- 1 Field Trip: 11 non-duplicated, 11 total participants

## Teen Center and Community Events

- New Year 2020!
- Our annual Valentine’s Day Party
- Spring Break for all area schools
- Field trip to NM State High School Tournaments
- CLOSURE due to COVID-19, March 17-June 16, 2020
- Welcome Back, reopened, June 17, 2020



Sports and Recreation – January 2020



Team Building Activities– February 2020

## Upcoming Teen Center and Community Events

- Back to School, various dates
- 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

### A New Journey



As we begin this new journey with so many unknowns, we rely on our faith and on the foundations we have all built over the years. Our beliefs, our family, our friends, our co-workers, the love we have for each other all make this journey a little easier. We may not know where we will be in six months, but we know that as long as we have each, our faith and love, we will be more than conquerors. Take one day at a time, don't worry about tomorrow, cause tomorrow will worry about itself. We have to enjoy the moment we have right now and think of all the blessings and good things in our lives and focus on those. Fear is one of our biggest enemies, but we cannot allow fear to control us, we have to move forward, even in the presence of fear, cause our reward will be worth it.

We wish all of you good health, peace, love, and better days ahead. With your help and support, we will continue to be here to serve the youth of Española and the surrounding communities. Our yearly events will return, our field trips, our programming, our sleepovers, and much more. For now, we continue to provide the programs we are able to within the safety guidelines and even though we have to stay away from each other physically, we still do air hugs and can definitely listen, help and provide guidance. Physically apart, but bound in heart. ~ Renee Sandoval