

VOLUNTEER

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Volunteer

A semi-annual publication of the
State Volunteer Resource
Council for Texas Youth
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Member-at-Large

Tammy Holland (Austin)
Executive Secretary

Changes in TYC mean changes for your Council

At the end of July and in response to extreme budget shortfalls and a dwindling youth population, the Texas Youth Commission (TYC) closed the Al Price, Crockett and Ron Jackson II facilities. All youth have been moved from those facilities and July 31 was the last day of employment for almost all remaining staff, as well as those affected by the consolidation of Mart I and II. As TYC continues passing through an extended period of enormous change, we have accumulated impressive accomplishments that would not have been possible without the efforts of these staff.

While much activity this summer has focused on the closure of three facilities and the consolidation of the Mart Units 1 and 2, the agency received a 50 percent reduction in appropriations for the delivery of parole services during the next biennium based on our projected reduced parole population. As a result, the agency also reduced the number of positions in our parole offices and closed several offices. In the cases where offices were closed, TYC is moving to "virtual offices," in which parole officers will continue their work by using laptops and meeting youth in the community.

Looking ahead to FY 2012, TYC has already begun working on the transition leading up to the December 1, 2011 effective date for the new Texas Juvenile Justice Department, which will combine TYC with the Texas Juvenile Probation Commission. TJPC

Executive Director Vicki Spriggs and TYC Executive Director Cherie Townsend have had several meetings with the Governor's Office to discuss transition issues, and staff from both agencies have begun meeting to identify tasks that must be completed by December 1st to ensure a smooth transition to the new agency.

On or after September 1, the Governor will appoint a seven-member Transition Team to coordinate and oversee merger activities as required by our Sunset legislation, SB 653. We anticipate that our collaboration with TJPC now will assist the work of the Transition Team beginning in September. The new Texas Juvenile Justice Department 13-member governing board will be appointed by December 1.

This has been a very busy and challenging year for TYC resulting from a difficult legislative session, an uncertain economic environment, intense personal uncertainty among the employees, including saying goodbye to long-time coworkers, and now anticipating another major transition in December. Despite these challenges, or perhaps because of them, there continue to be hundreds of remarkable employees and volunteers throughout the agency doing their jobs with dedication, professionalism, positive attitudes, and individual leadership.

Community Resource Councils in the Affiliated Council Network are experiencing an increase the

number of donation requests as youth are being released and families visit new locations; some have lost the staff support historically provided by TYC. More changes are in store too for local councils. Organizational bylaws will need to be updated to reflect the new agency name, jurisdiction, and youth populations.

Council members can get the up-to-date information emails by ensuring your community relations coordinator has your email address accurately listed in the volunteer database. Your Council delegates should be sure to attend the next semi-annual meeting of the State Council where important guidance will be shared.

Much of this article is excerpts taken from Executive Director Cherie Townsend's "Message to Staff" dated 7/28/2011, and will soon be available online in its entirety at <http://www.tyc.state.tx.us/news/>.

Austin Area Community Advisory Council

The AACAC meets the last Tuesday of the month at noon at Turman House.

Officers

President, Ken Muennink
muennink.k@gmail.com
Secretary, Andrew Gershoff
Andrew.gershoff@mcombs.utexas.edu
Treasurer, Phil Sanders
AgyjdgPhil@cs.com

Brownwood Community Advisory Council

The CAC meets on the final Monday of each month in the Unit II Activities Room at 12:00 noon on the RJSJCC campus.

Officers

President: Athena Bean
abean@hputx.edu
Vice-President: Keith Clark
kclark@cnb-brownwood.com
Treasurer: Sylvia Mares
lcbgabriel04@gmail.com
Secretary: Vella Palette
eevr@windstream.net

Affiliated Council Network

Corpus Christi Youth Resource Council for Texas Youth

The council meets every third Wednesday of each month at the York Halfway House at 4:30 p.m.

Officers

Christina Hernandez
christinappst@yahoo.com
David Resendez
dave@apollotowing.com
Marilyn White
ewhite7@stx.rr.com
Teresa Arredondo
tarredondo@fpocb.org

Corsicana Resource Council

The CRC meets the second Thursday of each month at 12:00 noon.

Officers

Gary Colburn, Chairman
gbcolburn@hotmail.com
Barry Lippart, Vice-Chairman
blippartjr@aol.com
Mary Rozelle, Treasurer
glrshopTYC@yahoo.com
Steve Jessup, Secretary
sjessup@guardian.com

Dallas Youth Resource & Advisory Council

The council meets on the third Thursday from 6:30 pm -7:30 pm at the Dallas District Office.

Officers

Chairperson, Rose Jones Williams
Rosemjones972@aol.com
Vice Chairperson, D'Juan Mcduffie
D'Juan.Mcduffie@edwardjones.com
Secretary, Stacy Paredes
sparedes26@gmail.com
Treasurer, Krystal Bennett
krystal.bennett@cigna.com

Evins Volunteer Council

The Evins Council meets on the second Tuesday of the month.

Officers

Raul Arredondo, President
sunray925@yahoo.com
Eduardo Saenz, Secretary
saenzins@yahoo.com
Michael Garcia, Treasurer
mtgarcia56@yahoo.com

El Paso Community Resource Chapter

The council meets the second Thursday of every other month at 12:00 noon at the Schaeffer House.

Officers

Dave Speelman, President
daves@kvia.com

Fort Worth Resource Council for Youth

The council meets on the fourth Wednesday of every month from 12:00 to 1:00 p.m. with the exception of November meeting. The council meets at Willoughby House during the month's January through October and November they meet at the Fort Worth District Office. The council does not hold a meeting during the month of December.

Officers

Chair, DeAnn Spence
deann.spence@tyc.state.tx.us
Co-Chair, Sherry Legan
slegan@yahoo.com
Treasurer, Lynn Chavez
chavezlynn59@yahoo.com
Secretary, Dawn Sheppard
dvshepard927@yahoo.com

Gainesville Student Support Council

The council meets the 2nd Tuesday of the month at 4:00 p.m. at the Gainesville State School Campus.

Officers

Ronald Linam, President
linam7@verizon.net
Janice Holland, Vice-President
twooutoffthree2003@yahoo.com
Kanita Maxwell, Treasurer
maxwellk@sbcglobal.net;

Community Advisory Council for Giddings State School

The GCRC meets at noon on the 2nd Tuesday of the month at the Los Patrones Restaurant in Giddings.

Officers

President, Scott Rohloff
tgs_1@verizon.net
Vice-President, Bill Jones
wmorrisj@msn.com
Secretary, Betty Kellar
hllkellar@verizon.net
Treasurer, Mary Gutierrez
mgutierrez@bluebon.net

Volunteer Resource Council for Valley Youth

No information given.

Officers

President - Joey Ruedas

Houston Area Resource Council for Texas Youth

The Houston Area Resource Council for Texas Youth meets the 3rd Saturday of each month at 10:00 a.m. at the Houston District Office.

Officers

President, Dyetra Limbrick
dyetra@sbcglobal.net
Vice President, Gabrielle Hadnot
gmhadnot@aol.com
Secretary, Wendy Richard
wendynrichard@gmail.com
Treasure, Morris Fountain
morrisfountain@sbcglobal.net

McLennan County Community Resource Council for Troubled Texas Youth

The council meets the first Monday every month at 6:00 p.m. in the conference room at Mart Orientation & Assessment Unit except for Holidays, then we meet the following Monday.

Officers

Rhonda Carpenter, Vice-President
Rhonda_carpenter@yahoo.com
Sue Kalka, Secretary
Kalkas@yahoo.com
John Perry, Interim Treasurer
No email available (254) 896-7141

McAllen Community Volunteer Chapter

The council meets the last Tuesday of the month at 12:00 p.m. at Beto House.

Officers

Mark A. Kent
mark.kent@jpd.co.hidalgo.tx.us

McFadden Community Advisory Council

The council meets on the second Monday of every month from 6:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. at McFadden Ranch. The executive members meet prior to each council meeting from 4:30 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.

Officers

Chair, Ernie Black
eblack2@verizon.net
Co-Chair, Jim Bob Bruce
No email available
Treasurer, Mark Krynski
mdk.texas@verizon.net
Secretary, Marilyn Christopher
cmarilyn4@gmail.com
swabbie2@sbcglobal.net

Volunteer Council for Texas Youth in San Antonio

The VCTYSA meets every fourth Tuesday of each month at Ayres House at 6:00 p.m.

Officers

George Holmes- President
holmesg0318@yahoo.com
Clarence Saucer- Vice President
Clarence.saucer@lackland.af.mil
Maureen Purcell - Treasurer
maureen@speightsfirm.com

Contact your SVRC Officers

President – Johnny Rodriguez,
Edinburg Council
johnnyrod1416@sbcglobal.net

Vice-President – Kanita Maxwell,
Gainesville Council
maxwellk@sbcglobal.net

Secretary – Christina Hernandez,
Corpus Christi Council
chernandez@omnihotels.com

Treasurer – Rose Jones-Williams,
Dallas Council
rosemjones53@yahoo.com

Member-at-Large – Manuel Garcia,
Edinburg Council
mannygarcia@swbell.net

Can nonprofits make a profit?

Yes. Nonprofits can engage in revenue-generating activities that result in annual surpluses or profits. The distinction between nonprofits and for-profit companies is **what happens to the surplus**. For-profit businesses may distribute their gains to the owners or shareholders. Nonprofits must reinvest surpluses back into the organization and its tax-exempt purpose. Excess revenues may not be distributed to individuals affiliated with the organization.

References: BoardSource 2009



How can we deal with an ill-mannered board member?

Rudeness, aggressiveness, and hostile behavior have no place in the boardroom. Boards work as a team and each member of the team must contribute to making the atmosphere conducive to deliberation and decision making.



This does not mean that members should stop asking tough questions or airing differing opinions — on the contrary. But when rude behavior prevents the board from doing its job, the chair of the board should do the following:

- Ensure that all opinions on issues are welcome.
- Immediately stop negative personal comments or insinuations and steer the discussion back to issues.
- Have a private discussion with the disturbing board member and find out what's causing the behavior. Explain the effects of this behavior.
- Give the disgruntled board member meaningful assignments and expect results.
- If inappropriate behavior continues, consider making the situation a full-board issue and discuss removal — after asking the troublesome member to resign voluntarily.

Reference: *Katha Kissman, Taming the Troublesome Board Member* (BoardSource 2006).

How can we improve attendance in board of directors meetings?

One of board members' basic duties is to attend and participate in meetings. Although the chair is primarily responsible for making meetings productive and interesting, the task can be much easier with some input from the rest of the participants.

Ask your members to suggest helpful hints. Here are some sample questions for your survey:

- Are you aware of the board's attendance policy?
- Is the place of the meeting inconvenient for you?

- Do you find our meetings boring, ill prepared, or poorly chaired?
- Are all our meetings necessary?
- Are the meetings too long, held at an inconvenient time, or not scheduled enough in advance?

Besides surveying your board members, make sure your bylaws include a removal clause for missing a certain number of meetings.

For more information, see *Ten Basic Responsibilities of Nonprofit Boards* at http://www.boardsource.org/Bookstore.asp?category_id=1&Item=112

References: *Outi Flynn, Meetings, and Exceeding Expectations* (BoardSource 2009). <http://www.boardsource.org/Bookstore.asp?Item=1095>

Can social media help you further your Council's mission?

When surveyed, most Councils responded they have never considered using popular social media sources to communicate with their members. Facebook is probably the most widely-used media, but what is keeping organizations from maximizing the benefits of this resource? How social media can be used to promote the work of nonprofit organizations is not fully understood.

The Giddings Council suggests asking local Chambers of Commerce about how they've utilized social media. The Fort Worth Council has used personal blogs to promote fundraising events.

One concern about using Facebook or Twitter is the possible breach of confidentiality concerning TYC youth. These media resources are difficult to control and nearly impossible to monitor. Some council members have difficulty with computer skills while others are simply uncomfortable with the lack of privacy. Another barrier is the restriction TYC places on its employees with accessing such sites on state-owned computers.

Who knows how these social media will change the face of nonprofit organizations? For now, the councils will wait and see.