

SANTA FE COUNTY

Resolution No. 2009 - 5

A RESOLUTION SUPPORTING THE "YOUTH CAN DO IT" POSITIVE YOUTH DEVELOPMENT CONFERENCE ON APRIL 23-25, 2009 IN SANTA FE

WHEREAS, youth represent 100% of the future of New Mexico and they are our most precious resource; and

WHEREAS, all young people need support, guidance, and opportunities during adolescence; and

WHEREAS, helping young people to achieve their full potential is the best way to prevent them from engaging in risky behaviors; and

WHEREAS, organizations and communities that promote Positive Youth Development give youth the chance to exercise leadership, build skills, and get involved; and

WHEREAS, the self-confidence, trust, and practical knowledge that young people gain from these opportunities help them grow into healthy, happy, self-sufficient adults; and

WHEREAS, the nonpartisan National Academy of Sciences conducted a 2-year study to find out how effective community-level programs are at helping youth. The resulting report, *Community Programs To Promote Youth Development* (2002) concluded that "adolescents who spend time in communities that are rich in developmental opportunities . . . experience less risk and show evidence of higher rates of positive development."; and

WHEREAS, research into Positive Youth Development's efficacy continues at universities around the country and at organizations such as the Search Institute, Girl Scouts of the USA, and 4-H; and

WHEREAS, cultural identity plays a major role in instilling positive development and self confidence in our youth and is defined by history, music, art, spirituality and traditions but also by the natural and built environment in which they live; and

WHEREAS, in the effort to build cultural identity among our youth, various local non-profit agencies could assist the city and county, including the Old Santa Fe Association whose mission is "to promote the prosperity and welfare of the City and County of Santa Fe and their inhabitants, to preserve and maintain the ancient landmarks, historical structures and traditions of Old Santa Fe and to guide their growth and development in

such a way as to promote that unique charm and distinction, born of age, culture, tradition and environment, which are the priceless assets and heritage of Santa Fe"; and

WHEREAS, the conference would be a high energy interactive FUN event that would provide students with the motivation and support to shift attitudes on an individual basis; and

WHEREAS, the youth will take away from this conference: my community cares about me, I have dreams and plans, we trust others, we value life, businesses will be willing to hire us, I respect myself and others, education is important to me; and

WHEREAS, the conference will culminate with a "Run For Success" rally at the SF Rail Yards, on April 25, 2009, where the top youth finishers will receive scholarships; and

WHEREAS, the key indicators for the success of this conference are: that youth have a voice; that there is high community and parental involvement; that social norms change; and that there is on-going adult support for youth; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of County Commissioners of Santa Fe County:

- 1) Support the "YOUth Can Do It" positive youth development conference on April 23-25, 2009 in Santa Fe.
- 2) Urges the Santa Fe City Council to support same.

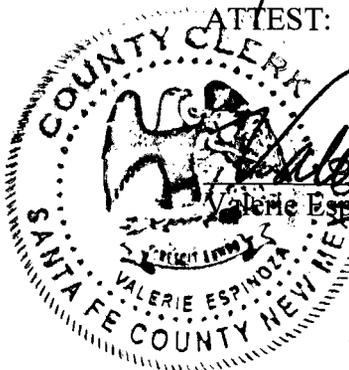
PASSED, APPROVED AND ADOPTED THIS 27th day of January, 2009.

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

Michael Anaya 1/27/09
Michael D. Anaya, Chairman

ATTEST:

Approved as to Form:



Valerie Espinoza 1/27/09
Valerie Espinoza, County Clerk

Stephen C. Ross
Stephen C. Ross, County Attorney

COUNTY OF SANTA FE)
STATE OF NEW MEXICO) ss

BCC RESOLUTIONS
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I Hereby Certify That This Instrument Was Filed for Record On The 27TH Day Of January, 2009 at 03:20 56 PM And Was Duly Recorded as Instrument # 1550349 Of The Records Of Santa Fe County

Witness My Hand And Seal Of Office
Valerie Espinoza
Deputy _____ Valerie Espinoza
County Clerk, Santa Fe, NM

