



Meeting Notes
September 8, 2026
8:30 a.m. - 10:00 a.m.

Paso del Norte Health Foundation
221 N. Kansas, 19th Floor
El Paso, Texas 79901
Meeting Room C

Attendees:

Yovanni Atienzo
David Avila
Karina Bocanegra
Sharon Butterworth
Andres Castaneda
David Cotchery
Adrian Duran
Gilda Gil
Emily Hartmann
Rene Hurtado
Josue Lachica
Vanessa Leon
Longoria Katherine
Violeta Lopez-Unzueta
Adrianna Lopiccolo
Enrique Mata
Chief Rosie Medina
Natalie Mendez
Amanda Munoz
Doris Ogribene
Dr. Monica Reyes
Victoria Reyna
Jamie Rocha
Rhonda Russ
Nicole Schiff
Arlene Serrano

Representing:

Centro San Vicente
Emergence Health Network
Stephen A Cohen Veteran's Network
Paso del Norte Center at Meadows Institute
Child Crisis Center of El Paso
Veterans Outreach/American GI Forum
El Paso Center for Children
YMCA of El Paso
Paso del Norte Health Information Exchange (PHIX)
Emergence Health Network
Paso del Norte Center at Meadows Institute
Heart Gallery of El Paso
Emergence Health Network
United Way of El Paso
Paso del Norte Children's Development Center -ECI
Paso del Norte Center at Meadows Institute
County of El Paso Juvenile Probation
Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASA)
El Paso Child Guidance Center
Emergence Health Network
Canutillo Independent School District
Rising Perspective Counseling
TAMU – Texas Opioid Prevention for Students
Emergence Health Network
Paso del Norte Center of Hope
Stephen A Cohen Veteran's Network

Michael Talamantes
Wes Temple
Valerie Watters
Sophie Wozniak

El Paso Community College
Region 19 Education Services Center
Nurse Family Partnership @ UMC
Emergence Health Network

Welcome and Introductions

Cathy Gaytan convened the meeting at 8:35 a.m. and called for introductions.

Special 9-8-8 Day Recognition

Rene Hurtado, Chief of Staff at Emergence Health Network, highlighted the importance of 9-8-8 Day, observed annually on September 8. He shared data and recognized the El Paso-area team's 24/7 work supporting people at risk of or experiencing a crisis. He noted that strong community collaboration has expanded regional services and referral resources, strengthening the 9-8-8 system. FLC members marked the occasion with a 9-8-8-themed cake and took a photo, included with these notes, for possible social media use.

Legislative Change for Excused Absences in Schools

Dr. Monica Reyes, Executive Director of Student Support Services at Canutillo Independent School District, presented the district's efforts to implement legislation passed during the 89th Texas Legislature. The new laws, enacted by the Texas House and Senate, allow students to receive excused absences for participating in mental health services. Dr. Reyes explained that effective implementation could improve timely access to care, help prevent crises, and reduce attendance-related barriers to student success. She answered questions, and the group discussed ways to maximize these opportunities.

EPCC Support Services

Michael J. Talamantes Director of Recruitment Services for El Paso Community College provided an overview of the range of services available for youth and families who want to begin a college education pathway. He shared the 178 program of study options and numerous ways to help connect students with registration support and ways to cover tuition costs to set students up for success. Mr. Talamantes responded to questions from the group and provided as well as gift bags with numerous informational handouts on the programs at EPCC. Presentation slides are included with these notes.

Specialty Care Work Group

Nicole Schiff summarized the actions that took place during the last Specialty Care work group meeting. She provided data points from the presentations provided on human trafficking and responded to questions from the group. Presentation slides and meeting notes from the Specialty Care Work Group are included with these notes.

Other Business

- Enrique Mata shared that all FLC Members are invited to participate in the upcoming TAY SIM process on October 14th at Emergence Health Network administrative offices 201 E.

Main 6th Floor. The gathering will work to develop a strong TAY SIM resource that complements existing data. The process includes a survey, key informant interviews, and a virtual convening all leading to an in-person, day-long strategy session. The Judicial Commission on Mental Health lead facilitators Dr. Lynda Frost, JD, PhD, and Doug Smith, MSSW, are working with the Consortium SIM Task Force to complete the process and produce a robust final report.

- Dr. Monica Reyes asked for providers to check with her for participation in this year's 6th annual Teacher's Day at Canutillo High School.
- Gilda Gil requested for all to make plans to participate in this years 50th Annual YMCA of El Paso TURKEY TROT on November 26, 2026. She expects 3,500 participants this year's event is now the region's biggest holiday race and marks the official start of the Sun Bowl Parade. The funds collected support YMCA financial assistance, helping ensure children and families can access YMCA programs. To register visit:
<https://runsignup.com/Race/TX/ElPaso/YMCATURKEYTROTElPaso>
- Register now to join the largest mental health awareness event in the region! NAMI Walks El Paso will be held on Saturday, October 10th, Start time: 8AM, Ascarate Park (6900 Delta Dr, El Paso, TX). Learn more at namiwalks.org/elpaso. Those who are not already connected to a team are welcome to join the [Brain Trust In Unity Team](#) Click [here](#) for more information.
- Victoria Reyna with Rising Perspective Counseling introduced her services for adults with ADHD or autism and called for anyone interested in learning more to visit <https://risingperspectivecounseling.com/>

Adjourn – Ms. Gaytan Adjourned the meeting at 9:59 am







FLC General Meeting September 8 2026

Agenda:

- Welcome and Introductions
- Special 9-8-8 Day Recognition
- Legislative Change for Excused Absences in Schools
- EPCC Support Services
- Specialty Care Work Group
- Other Business
 - TAY SIM October 14th
- Next Meeting and Adjourn



Welcome and Introductions



Special 9-8-8 Day Recognition



Legislative Change for Excused Absences in Schools



EPCC Support Services

EPCC RECRUITMENT SERVICES



EPCC



www.epcc.edu/Services/Recruitment

MICHAEL JOHN
TALAMANTES

DIRECTOR

CALL CENTER

COLLEGE READINESS

RECRUITMENT
SERVICES

Linq

POWERED BY
Linq

Michael Talamantes



COMPANY

El Paso Community College

TITLE

Director - Recruitment Services





EPCC SWAG BAGS COURTESY OF:

ADMISSIONS & REGISTRAR

CAREER & TRANSFER SERVICES

CENTER FOR STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES

FINANCIAL AID

RECRUITMENT SERVICES

TESTING SERVICES





The Best Place to Start and Finish!

- Architecture
- Biological Sciences
- Chemistry
- CISCO Networking Training
- Civil Engineering
- Computer Programming
- Computer Science
- Computer Support Technician A+
- Cyber Security
- Data Support Specialist
- Electrical & Computer Engineering Principles
- Entry-Level Computer Programming
- Geological Sciences
- Industrial & Systems Engineering
- Information Networking
- Information Technology in Business
- Materials Engineering
- Mathematics
- Mechanical Engineering
- Multidisciplinary Studies in Science

- Basic Firefighter
- Court Reporting
- Criminal Justice
- Fire Inspector
- Fire Management
- Fire Science
- Homeland Security
- Law Enforcement
- Machine Shorthand Scapist
- Paralegal
- Realtime Closed Captioning/CART

- Automotive Technology
- Computer-Aided Design – Construction Specialization or Mechanical Specialization
- Cosmetology
- Culinary Arts
- Diesel Mechanic Assistant
- Diesel Mechanics
- Diesel Technology
- Driveability Technician
- Electrical Technology

- Front Desk Operations
- Heating, Ventilation, & Air Conditioning
- Hotel Operations
- Industrial Maintenance
- Industrial Manufacturing
- Interior Design Technology
- Kitchen & Bath Design
- Machining Technology - CNC Machinist
- Mechanic Technician
- Pastry
- Personal Design

- Accounting
- Accounting, Business, & Economics
- Computerized Accounting Applications
- Insurance
- Office Administration
- Office Assistant
- Real Estate

- Advertising Graphics & Design
- Art
- Chicana Studies
- Communication - Advertising & Public Relations, Journalism & Mass Communication or Radio & Television Broadcasting/Cinematic Production
- Dance
- English

- Fashion Technology – Design, Illustration or Merchandising
- Industrial Patternmaking
- Multidisciplinary Studies
- Music
- Philosophy
- Speech Communication
- Theater



www.epcc.edu/Academics/Catalog/programs-of-study

- Accounting
- Accounting, Business, & Economics
- Computerized Accounting Applications
- Insurance
- Office Administration
- Office Assistant
- Real Estate
- Small Business Management

- Child Development
- EC-6, 4-8, EC-12, Special Education
- Infant & Toddlers
- Teacher Assistant
- Teacher Preparation – All Grade Levels

Program Awards:

- Associate of Applied Science (AAS)
- Associate of Arts (AA)
- Associate of Arts in Teaching (AAT)
- Associate of Science (AS)
- Certificate of Completion (CC)

- Administrative Medical Assistant
- Advanced EMT
- Border Health Issues
- Community Pandemic
- Critical Care/Flight Paramedic
- Dental Assisting
- Dental Hygiene
- Diagnostic Medical Sonography
- Echocardiography (Adult)
- Emergency Medical Services - Paramedic
- Emergency Medical Technician

- Health Information Management
- Kinesiology
- Medical Assisting Technology
- Medical Coding & Billing
- Medical Imaging Technology – Radiography
- Medical Laboratory Technology
- Medical Transcription
- Nursing - LVN to RN Transition or Paramedic to RN Transition
- Paramedic
- Pharmacy Technology
- Physical Therapist Assistant

The El Paso County Community College District does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, religion, gender, age, disability, veteran status, sexual orientation, or gender identity.

178 Programs Of Study



Enrollment Checklist

EPCC > Admissions & Aid > Enrollment Checklist

Online Assistance Available



Get Connected

Admissions & Aid

Enrollment Checklist

Academic Calendar

Financial Aid

Registration

Transcripts

Tuition and Fees

Orientation

Withdrawing from
Courses

Admissions Forms

Apply For Admissions



Apply For Financial Aid



Submit Official Transcripts



Get the Bacterial Meningitis Vaccine



Take Assessment Tests



Meet With a Counselor or Advisor



Register For Classes



Paying for College: Informational Sessions for Parents and Families

Join us for an informative session on paying for college, presented by The University of Texas at El Paso, Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center El Paso, and El Paso Community College. Our financial aid experts will walk you through the true cost of college, how financial aid works, and the options available to make higher education more affordable. Get answers to your questions and guidance to help your family confidently prepare for college costs.

Choose the session below that works best for you:

- **Saturday, October 3, 2026 9:00 am – 1:00 pm**
Region 19 Education Service Center | 6611 Boeing Drive
- **Saturday, October 17, 2026 9:00 am – 1:00 pm**
Region 19 Education Service Center | 6611 Boeing Drive
- **Saturday, November 7, 2026 9:00 am – 1:00 pm**
Socorro ISD District Service Center | 12440 Rojas Drive
- **Saturday, November 21, 2026 9:00 am – 1:00 pm**
Jenna Welch & Laura Bush Community Library | 6701 S. Desert Boulevard
- **Saturday, December 5, 2026 9:00 am – 1:00 pm**
El Paso Community College Mission Del El Paso | 10700 Gateway Blvd East
- **Saturday, January 23, 2027 9:00 am – 1:00 pm**
Region 19 Education Service Center | 6611 Boeing Drive

We can also help you fill out the FAFSA
(Free Application for Federal Student Aid) and
the TASFA (Texas Application for State Financial Aid)!

Please make sure to bring:

- Your personal electronic device, fully charged
- Active personal email account information for student and parent
- Personal information for student and parent
- 2025 tax information

Questions about these sessions?

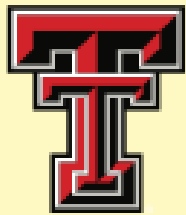
Contact 915-831-2561, 915-747-5204 or 915-215-4370

Register Now!

forms.office.com/r/i45jPuTPz6



Presented By:



**THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS
AT EL PASO**

VISIT

<https://www.epcc.edu/Admissions/FinancialAid>

TUITION AND FEES

RESIDENT TUITION

Credit Hours	Resident tuition	General Use Fees	Total Fees
1	\$116.00	\$20.00	\$136.00
2	\$232.00	\$40.00	\$272.00
3	\$348.00	\$60.00	\$408.00
9	\$1,044.00	\$180.00	\$1,224.00
12	\$1,392.00	\$240.00	\$1,632.00

TUITION AND FEES

NON-RESIDENT TUITION

Credit Hours	Non-Resident tuition	General Use Fees	Total Fees
1	\$201.00	\$20.00	\$221.00
2	\$402.00	\$40.00	\$442.00
3	\$603.00	\$60.00	\$663.00
9	\$1,809.00	\$180.00	\$1,989.00
12	\$2,412.00	\$240.00	\$2,652.00

TAKE
A
MOMENT



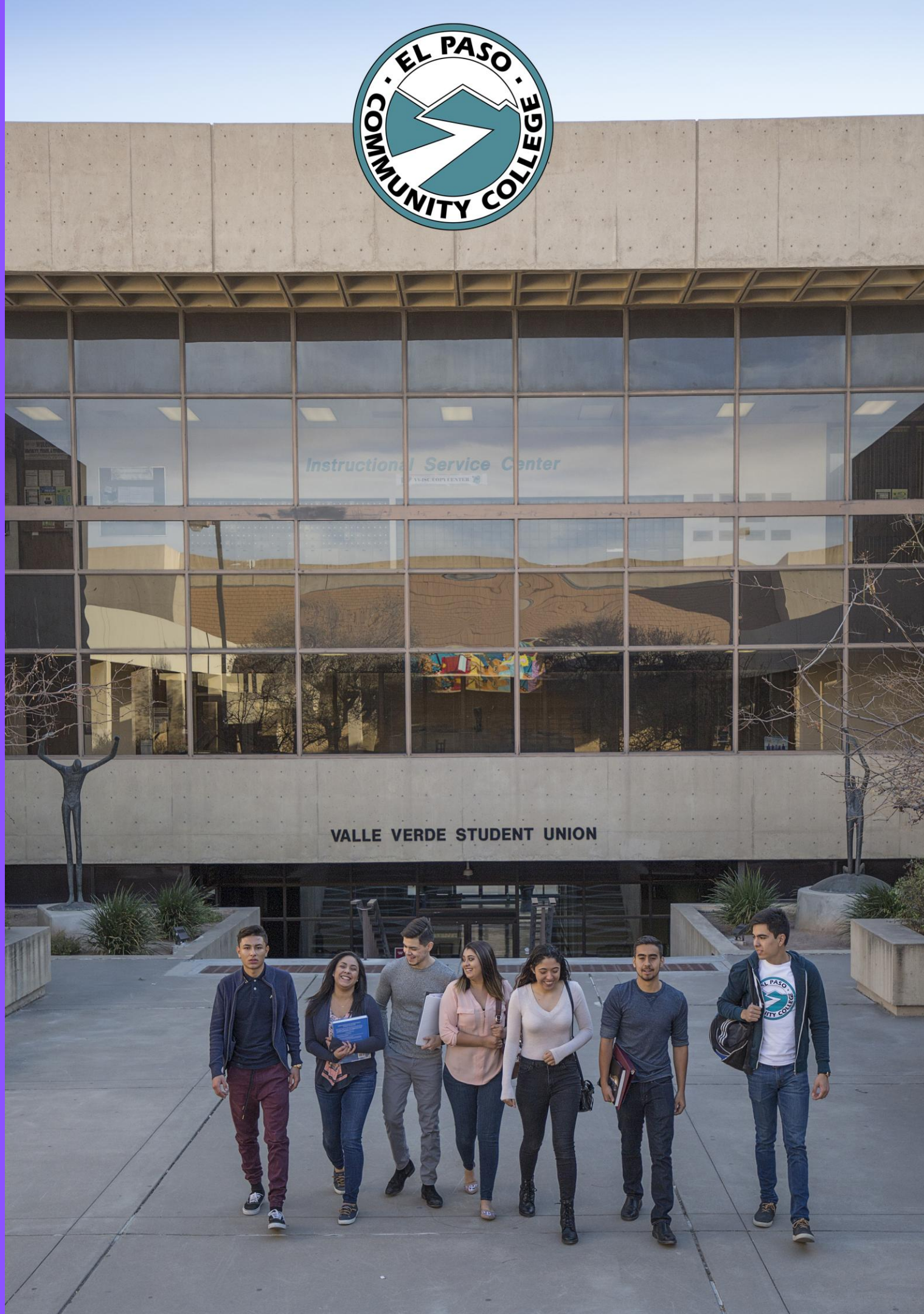
TEXT
"TEJANO"
TO 58052
FOR ALL CAMPUS
RESOURCES HERE AT EPCC!



RECRUITMENT SERVICES

AY 26-27

AT-A-GLANCE

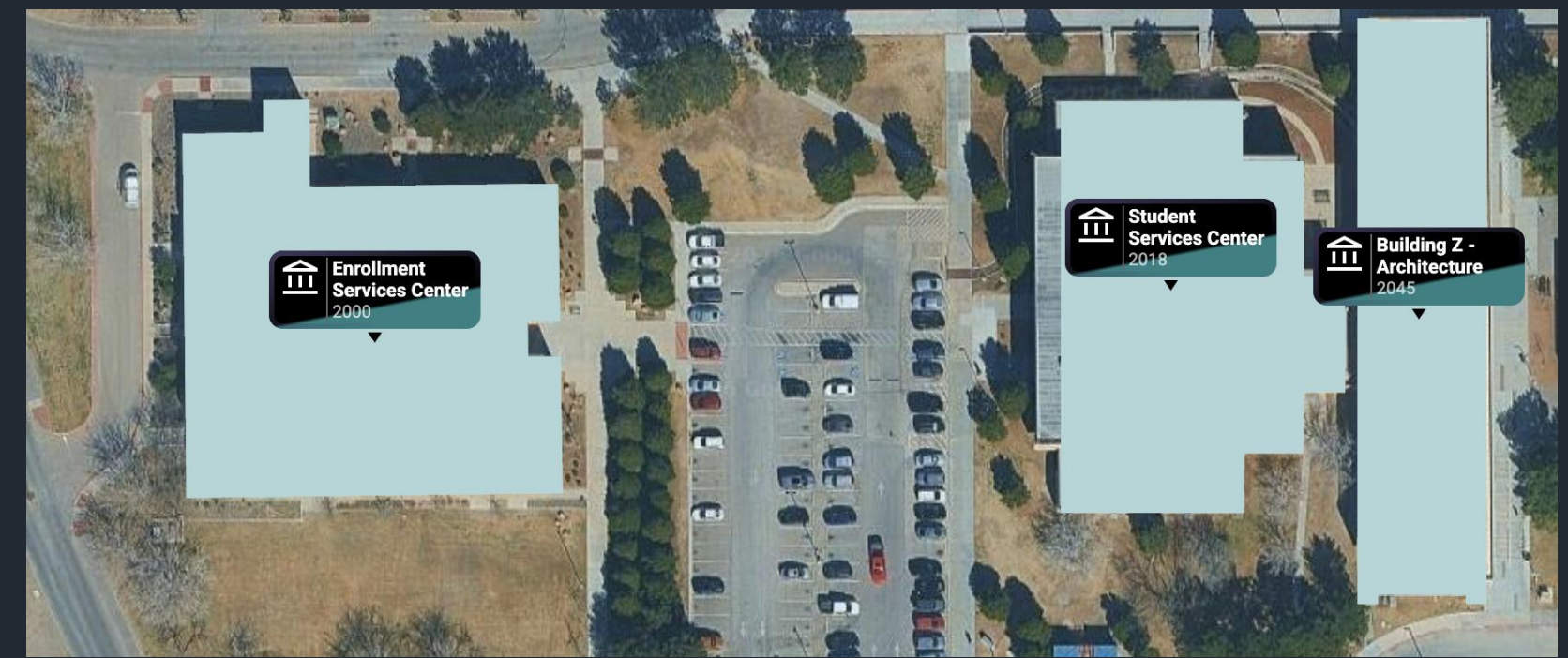


EXPANSION

RECRUITMENT SERVICES | COLLEGE READINESS | CALL CENTER

AT VALLE VERDE CAMPUS

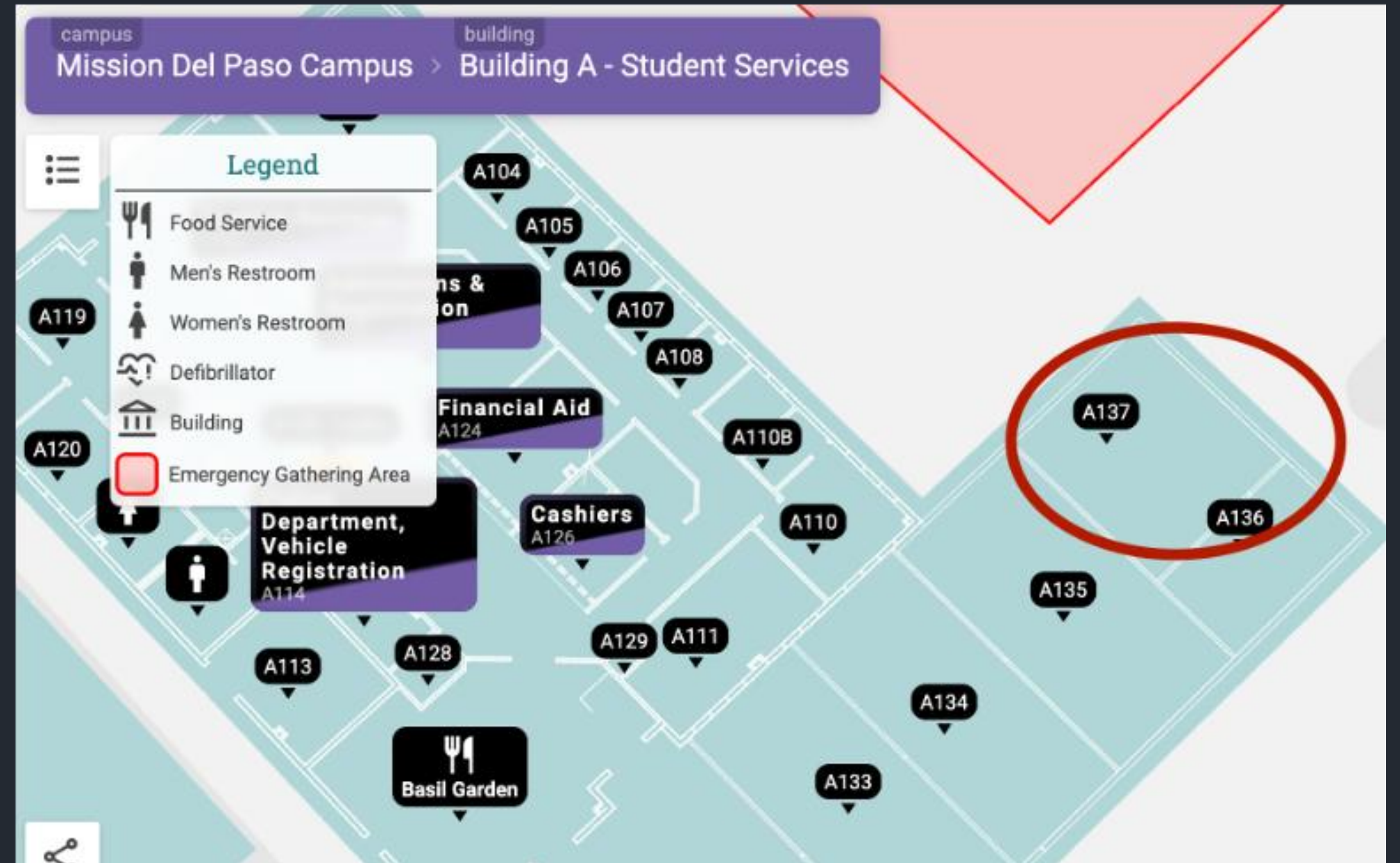
**EPCC Valle Verde Campus
Student Services Center
Recruitment Services |
College Readiness -S37**



**EPCC Valle Verde Campus
Student Services Center
Recruitment Services |
Call Center -S137**

EXPANSION

RECRUITMENT OUTPOST AT MISSION DEL PASO CAMPUS



RECRUITMENT SERVICES BOOKING PAGE

BOOK GROUP TOURS | BOOK 1HR MEETINGS WITH RECRUITER



EPCC - Recruitment Services

✓ SELECT A SERVICE

Elementary and Middle School - Group Tours ☐

Submit your request and speak to one of C... [Read more](#)

Free • 3 hours

PTECH and ECHS - Group Tours ☐

Submit your request and speak to one of R... [Read more](#)

Free • 2 hours

High School and Community - Group Tours ☐

Submit your request and speak to one of R... [Read more](#)

Free • 2 hours

Meet with your EPCC Recruiter! ☐

PLEASE READ: This service is only for any ... [Read more](#)

Free • 1 hour 

First and last name *

First and last name

Add any special requests *

Add any special requests

Email *

Email

Address

Address

Phone number *

Add your phone number



PROVIDE ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Were you ever in foster care? There are benefits available to those who are eligible. More information at <https://www.elpasohumanservices.org/pride-center>.

--select an option--

Which format will you want your appointment to be conducted?

--select an option--

Do you need any ADA Accommodations? If yes, please type the accommodations needed below so we can communicate with our Center for Students with Disabilities department. *

Add your answer here

What is your EPCC ID number?

Add your answer here

If you don't know your EPCC ID number, what is your date of birth?

Add your answer here

Book

EPCC RECRUITMENT NETWORK (ERN)

ERN OBJECTIVES:

- Bring campus representatives who have a vested interest in EPCC's recruitment efforts
- Bring campus representatives who would like to participate in these efforts together
- Share best practices
- Brainstorm ideas
- Provide updates from Recruitment Services:
- Territory Management
- On Campus Visit Program
- Upcoming Events



RECRUITMENT SERVICES HOST EL PASO AREA DIRECTORS OF SCHOOL COUNSELING(EPADOSC)

2026-2027 Meeting Dates:

- Tuesday, August 18th
- Wednesday, September 16th
- Tuesday, October 27th
- Wednesday, November 18th
- Tuesday, January 12th

REGION 19 COUNSELOR CONFERENCE AT EPCC

Tuesday, February 2nd & Wednesday, February 3rd

- Tuesday, March 2nd
- Tuesday, April 20th
- Tuesday, May 11th
- Wednesday, June 2nd



EVENTS



FALL 2026 EVENTS

- Welcome Week – Monday, August 24th – Friday, August 28th
- EPCC Professional Development Day at TM – Thursday, September 17th
- EPCC EXPO at TM – Friday, September 18th
- YISD Career Exploration at EPCC VV - Monday, October 19th
- NMEC College Days – Monday, October 19th - Wednesday, October 21st
- TACRAO College Week – Monday, October 26th – Friday, October 30th
- EPCC ROUND UP at YISD – Monday, November 9th

SPRING 2027 EVENTS

- REGION 19 COUNSELOR CONFERENCE- Tuesday, February 2nd & Wednesday, February 3rd at ASC Building A & B
- EPCC Professional Development Day at TBD – Thursday, February 11th
- EPCC ROUND UP at SISD – Monday, February 22nd
- El Paso Science Festival – Saturday, April 17th and Sunday, April 18th
- Operation College Bound – TBD
- Tejano Day at NW – Saturday, May 1st



OPERATION COLLEGE BOUND



OPERATION COLLEGE BOUND 2026

- Students check-in and receive swag bag
- Participate in Program of Study Showcase
- Visit with Campus Partners
- Meet with an academic counselor and/or advisor
- Students will be registered for courses
- Register for their New Student Orientation session
- Check status on their Financial Aid



2026 Operation College Bound

- Over 60 staff members
- 28 host campuses
- 12 campuses bused to host campuses
- From March 23rd to May 7th
- Total enrolled FTICs – 1, 736 (9.6%+) for Fall 2026





THANK YOU!

EMAIL

recruitment@epcc.edu

SOCIAL MEDIA

[@epccrecruitment](https://www.instagram.com/epccrecruitment)

CALL US

(915) 831-3373





Specialty Care Work Group



Specialty Care Work Group Meeting Notes

August 18, 2026

9:00 a.m. - 10:30 a.m.

Paso del Norte Health Foundation

221 N. Kansas, 19th Floor

El Paso, Texas 79901

Meeting Room C

Attendees:

Rafael Aguilera
Merissa Amerete-Soliz
Sharon Butterworth
Josue Lachica
Vanessa Leon
Beatriz Marin
Enrique Mata
Rebecca Sanchez
Nicole Schiff
Sophia Wozniak

Representing:

UTEP
El Paso County Juvenile Probation Dept.
Paso del Norte Center at Meadows Institute
Paso del Norte Center at Meadows Institute
Heart Gallery of El Paso
El Paso Center for Children
Paso del Norte Center at Meadows Institute
Texas Dept of Family and Protective Svc.
Paso del Norte Center of Hope
Emergence Health Network

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sharonbutterworth@mac.com
jlachica@mmhpi.org
vanessa@heartgalleryelpaso.org
bmarin@epccinc.org
emata@mmhpi.org
Rebecca.sanchez@dfps.texas.gov
Nicole@cohhelps.org
sophia.wozniak@EHNELPASO.ORG

Welcome and Introductions

Nicole Schiff welcomed the group and called for introductions at 9:03 am.

NCMEC Cyber Tip Report data for 2025

In follow up to questions from the July meeting, Ms. Schiff provided a presentation on the Cyber Tip Report from the [National Center for Missing and Exploited Children \(NCMEC\)](https://www.ncmec.org/). She shared findings from the 2025 report and explained the history behind how the report developed. She share that there was no tracking of data on this complex topic until the year 2000. Today, any form of sexual abuse to an individual under 18 is a crime regardless of whether or not the youth wants to prosecute. Unfortunately, in today's world there is a huge demand for photo and video media related to child abuse. Law enforcement just cannot keep up with the numbers. Even more alarming is that the US is #1 in the world with unique domains hosting this sort of material. Since 2017, El Paso continues to be a hot spot for human trafficking and child abuse. Ms. Schiff shared that new policies are developing such the ESP Bull pass in the last federal legislative session. Electronic service providers (e.g., Meta, Google, Amazon) are now mandated to report within 48 hours to the cyber tip line any time a suspected act is identified within their servers. Ms. Schiff responded to questions from the group. **Presentation slides are included with these notes.**

Center of Hope - CSEY Care Coordinator for El Paso County

Ms. Schiff provided an overview of the Paso del Norte Center of Hope and the range of services they provide. She shared that her Teams are available 24/7 to help individuals in need and in most cases can respond within an hour's notice. The organization was formed in May Of 2013. Under Ms. Schiff's leadership the organization has grow to more than 14 staff including a full time therapist. The are supported by strong connections to the Texas Governor's office. Ms. Schiff responded to questions from the group. **Presentation slides are included with these notes.**

Youth SIM & TAY SIM

Enrique Mata and Josue Lachica shared the news that the Texas Judicial Commission on Mental Health approved a technical support grant to the El Paso region. Under this grant two facilitators will gather information through some key informant interviews, a survey that can be found at this link: <https://el-paso-tay-survey.netlify.app> , and through one virtual and one in person event. The final report will be posted to the Healthy Paso del Norte website. Mr. Lachica explained the importance of emphasizing transition age youth (TAY) in this process identified as youth ages 16 – 24. Mr. Mata emphasized the importance of participation from key leaders such as the partners in the Specialty Care Work Group. They asked that those who can participate in the August 24th information gathering session (virtual event) or in the in person October 14th event, or both, please register at the following links:

- **Virtual:** via Zoom, Monday, August 24, 2026, 1:00-3:00 PM MST
 - **Register for the virtual session here:**
<https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/Cv8jNUSiSTy4HgunM91fzg>
 - **In Person:** Wednesday, October 14, 2026, 8:30 AM - 3:00 PM MST
 - Location: **Emergence Health Network ****
201 E. Main, 6th Floor, Suite 600
El Paso, Texas 79901
 - **Register for the in-person session here:** <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/el-paso-county-tay-behavioral-health-and-justice-planning-workshop-tickets-1996989789217?aff=oddtcreator>
- **Please note parking is on your own and will not be validated or reimbursed**

Other Updates

- Ms. Schiff called for anyone interested in sponsoring the event or hosting a team to please connect with her or her staff or register at: https://form.jotform.com/Paso_del/2026-tee-up-against-trafficking



Tee Up Against Trafficking – 2026 PdN Center of Hope Charity Golf Tournament
September 12, 2026, 7:30 AM – 3:00 PM
Butterfield Trail Golf Club, 1858 Cottonwoods Dr, El Paso, TX 79925, USA

Next Meeting

The group agreed to meet monthly on the last Tuesday of the month. The target date for the next meeting is Tuesday, September 29th from 9:00 am – 10:30 am at Paso del Norte Health Foundation Meeting Room C.

Adjourn

Nicole Schiff adjourned the meeting at 10:22 am. **Presentation slides are included with these notes.**



Child Sexual Exploitation and Abuse 2025 Data

PRESENTER: NICOLE SCHIFF, MPH - EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
CENTER OF HOPE / EL PASO COUNTY CSEY CARE COORDINATOR

AUGUST 2026

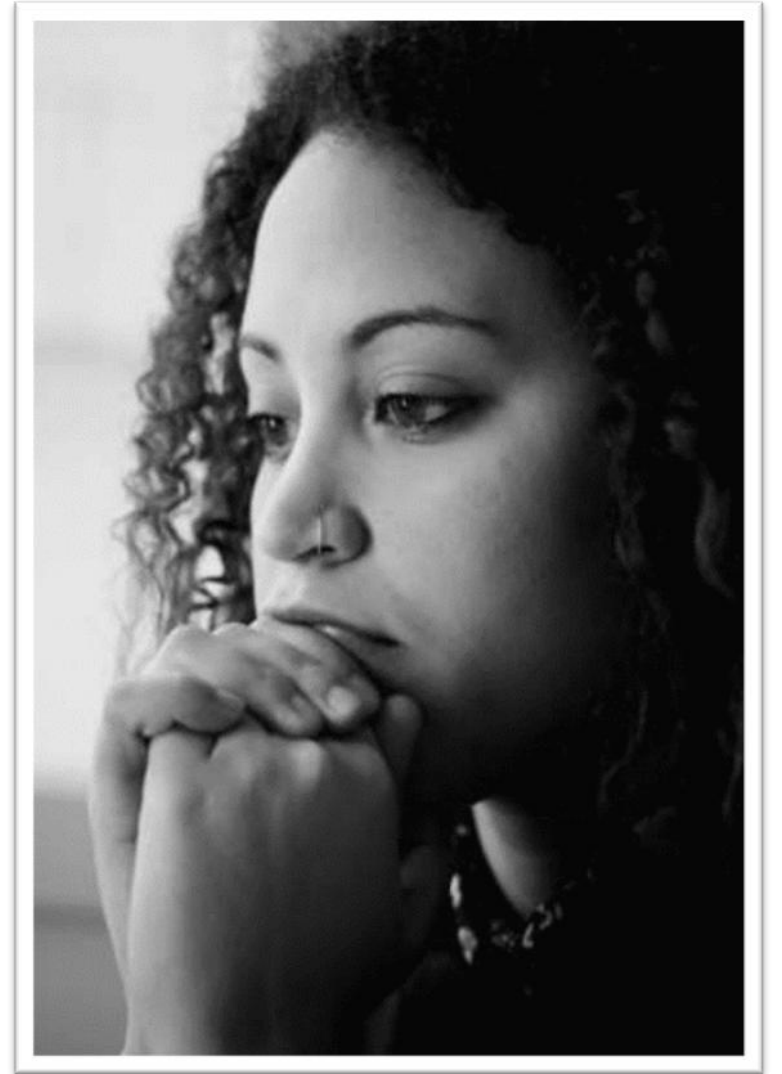
CONTENT WARNING

The following presentation contains images and information that can be potentially upsetting and may be traumatizing and/or triggering to some audiences.



The sex trafficking of minors, and human trafficking as a whole, is one of the fastest growing criminal enterprises in the U.S...”

-Homeland Special Agent in Charge Mark Dawson, Sept 2023



HUMAN TRAFFICKING DEFINED

Human Trafficking is a crime involving the exploitation of someone for the purpose of compelled labor or a commercial sex act through the use of force, fraud, or coercion.

Where a person younger than 18 is induced to perform a commercial sex act, it is a crime regardless of whether there is any force, fraud, or coercion, also known as Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Youth (CSEY).

Victims of Trafficking and Violence Protection Act of 2000 (TVPA), Pub. L. No.106-386, 8 U.S.C. 1101, 7101, 114 STAT 1464 (2000)

COMMERCIAL SEXUAL EXPLOITATION

A range of crimes and activities involving the sexual abuse or exploitation of a child for the financial benefit of any person or in exchange for anything of value. **This is child abuse.**

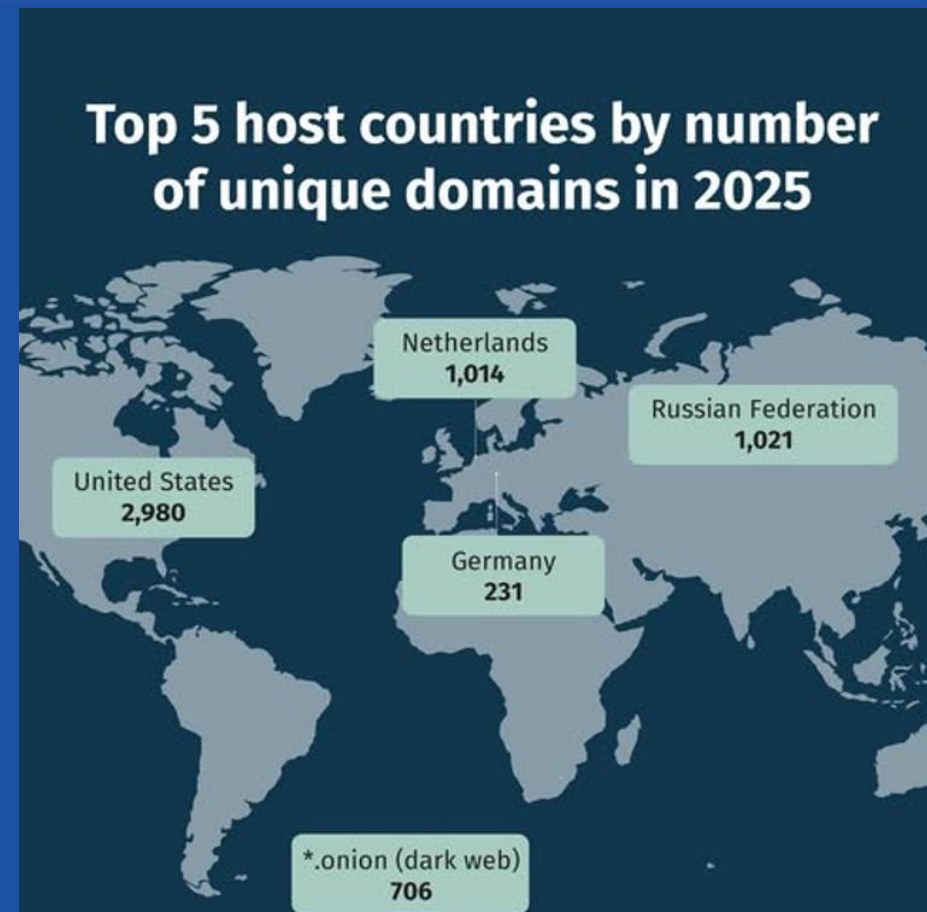
Examples:

- ✓ Child Sexual Abuse material “CSAM” (Formally known as child pornography)
Includes: possession, manufacturing, and distribution
- ✓ Online enticement of children for sexual acts
- ✓ Conversations of a sexual nature, misleading words or images
- ✓ Engaging in a romantic/sexual relationship with a person under 18
- ✓ Child prostitution / child sex trafficking
- ✓ Child sexual molestation
- ✓ Sextortion / Financial Sextortion
- ✓ Sadistic Online Exploitation

INTERNATIONAL DATA

In 2025, the **top 3 host countries** by number of unique domains hosting child sexual abuse material were:

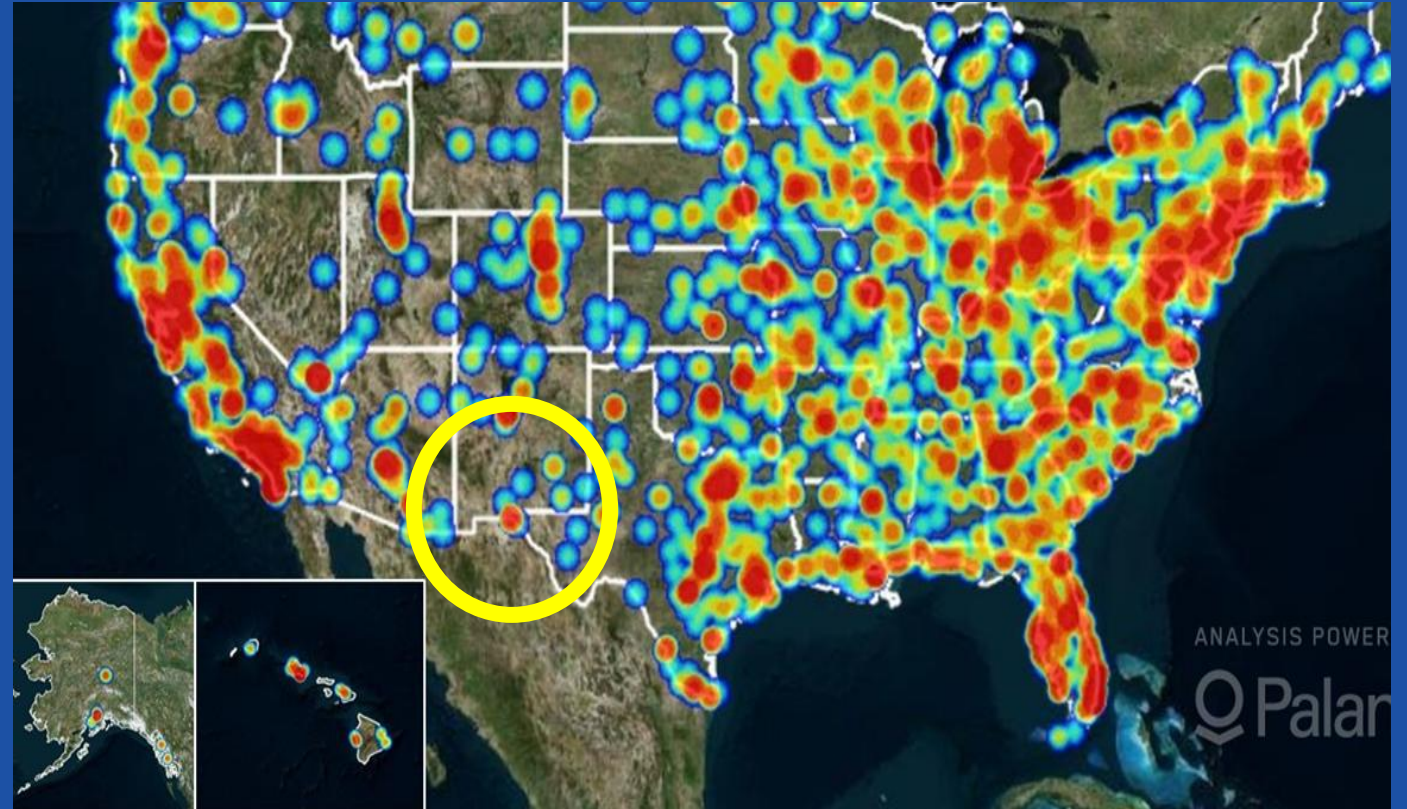
1. United States
2. Russia
3. Netherlands



Internet Watch Foundation (IWF) – Annual Data & Insights Report 2025 / www.iwf.org

NATIONAL DATA

As of 2024, **Texas** continues to be 2nd to California in the number of calls to the hotline reporting a tip or requesting assistance since 2017 and **El Paso** continues to be a “hot spot” in the state for reported calls.





“Children are sexually abused online regularly, and the problem is only growing.”

– Madeline Holcombe, CNN Health



NEW AT 5:00 |

SOCIAL MEDIA USED TO LURE TRAFFICKING VICTIMS

JOURNAL FINDINGS

Data was analyzed from 123 studies between January 1, 2010 and September 30, 2023.

Findings:

- ✓ 1 in 12 kids are being exposed to sexual exploitation and abuse online.
- ✓ Children are being sexually exploited and abused online about **ten times every second**.
- ✓ It's **a global health emergency** linked to poorer mental and physical health, reduced employment prospects and lower life expectancy.
- ✓ Online (child sexual abuse) is **more prevalent** than other major childhood public health problems like asthma, obesity and ADHD

THE LANCET Journal – Child & Adolescent Health / Volume 9, Issue 3 –
“Prevalence estimates and nature of online child sexual exploitation and abuse: a systemic review
<https://www.cnn.com/2025/01/21/health/children-online-sexual-abuse-wellness>



2025

CyberTipline Report

In 2025, the CyberTipline received
21.3 million reports
of suspected child sexual exploitation.

**Child sex
trafficking
reports rose
323%**

61.8M
total files included in 2025 reports to the
CyberTipline

National Center for Missing & Exploited Children – 2025 Cyber Tipline Report – NCMEC.org

CyberTipline Reports by Reported Incident Type, 2025

Child Pornography (possession, manufacture and distribution)	19,514,872	
Online Enticement of Children for Sexual Acts	1,413,347	
Unsolicited Obscene Material Sent to a Child	253,812	
Child Sex Trafficking	113,530	
Child Sexual Molestation	29,913	
Misleading Words or Digital Images on the Internet	12,892	
Misleading Domain Name	12,174	
Extraterritorial Child Sexual Abuse and Exploitation	953	
Total	21,351,493	

Financial Sextortion

Financial sextortion is reported under the reporting category of online enticement and in 2025, we continued to see an increase in these cases. Many of them continue to involve teenage boys being targeted by offenders who often use fake social media accounts to convince the boys to send them a nude or sexual image and then immediately begin demanding money. In 2025, NCMEC received an average of 137 reports of financial sextortion a day – a 37% increase in reports daily compared to the year before. Tragically, NCMEC is aware of at least 3 dozen teenage boys in the US who have taken their lives as a result of being victimized by this crime. Financial sextortion is reported under online enticement.



137
Reports of
financial
sextortion
every day

Sadistic Online Exploitation

There has been a continued increase in reports of violent online groups or individuals targeting vulnerable children and encouraging them to harm themselves and others by creating CSAM and sexually exploiting other children. While still a relatively small portion of the overall CyberTipline reports, the extreme harm caused in these cases makes them especially concerning.

In 2025, NCMEC's CyberTipline received more than 3,000 reports concerning sadistic online exploitation – a more than 125% increase over last year, largely driven by enhanced industry reporting.



3,000
Reports of
sadistic online
exploitation

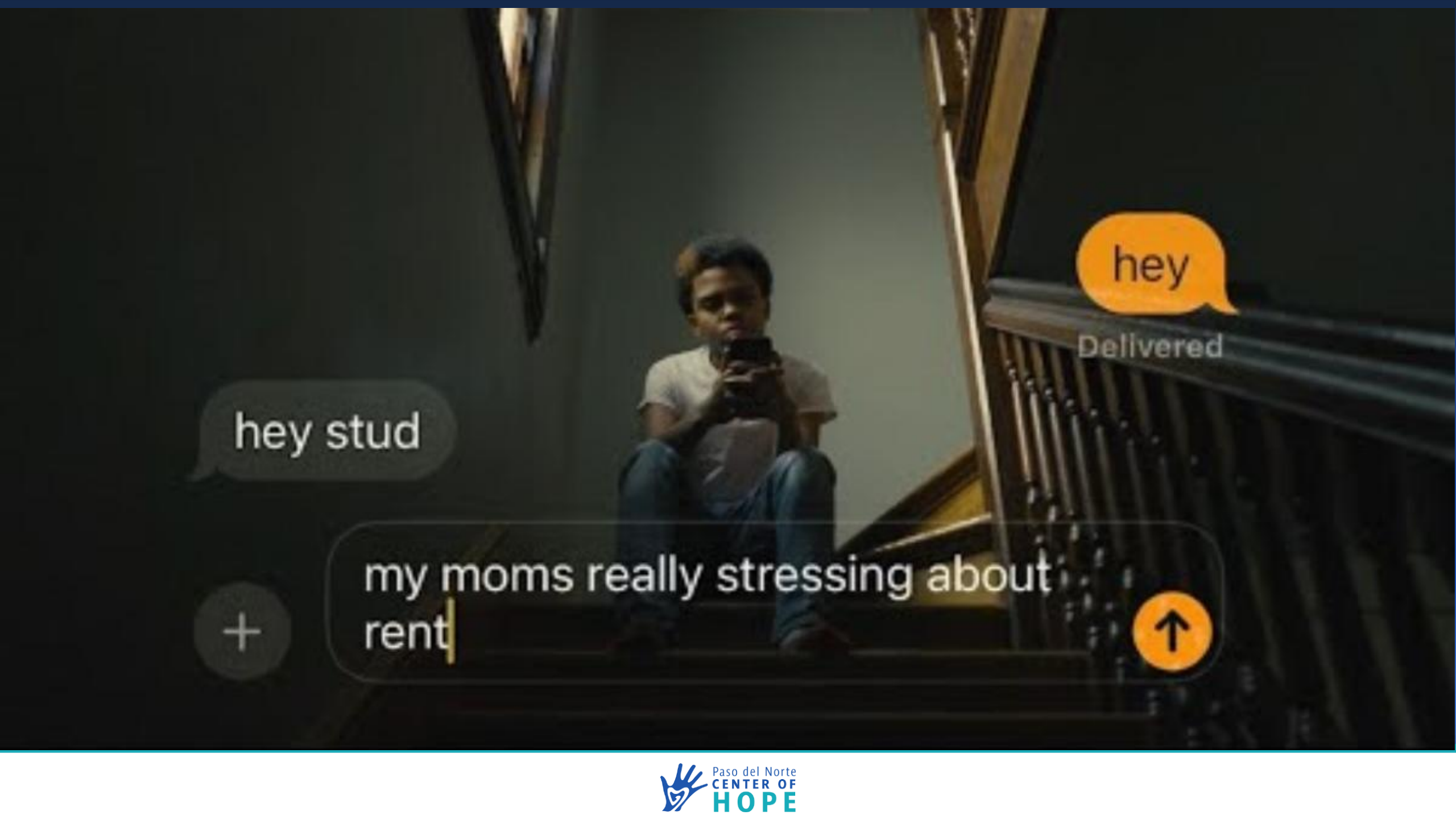
The FBI classifies "764" (also known as War764) as a dangerous, international, nihilistic violent extremist (NVE) network that actively targets and exploits minors online. The group operates through mainstream social media, messaging apps, and online gaming platforms.

Members of 764 target children and teenagers typically between the ages of 10 and 17

National Center for Missing & Exploited Children – 2025 Cyber Tipline Report – NCMEC.org

Three patterns are clear in that data:

- ① Buyers are directly targeting children, aggressively approaching them online and offering payment for sex acts without an apparent connection to a third-party trafficker, sometimes repeatedly over time.
- ② There is increasing overlap between child sex trafficking and child sexual abuse material (CSAM). Offenders first offer to pay a child to produce and send them CSAM as a “preview,” then escalate to in-person exploitation to pay the child for sex.
- ③ We are seeing coordination among offenders, multiple individuals working together online to coordinate the exploitation of a child through sex trafficking.



hey stud

hey

Delivered

my moms really stressing about
rent



In the event of an emergency or life-threatening situation, call 911

NATIONAL HUMAN TRAFFICKING HOTLINE



CALL

1-888-373-7888



TEXT

"BeFree" (233733)



LIVE CHAT

humantraffickinghotline.org

24/7 • Toll free • Confidential • 200+ languages

**Do NOT try to help the individual on your own
Call the National Human Trafficking hotline for support & resources**





QUESTIONS?





Paso del Norte **CENTER OF HOPE**

Private non-profit 501c(3) - Established in May 2013

**DESIGNATED THE OFFICIAL CSEY ADVOCATE &
CARE COORDINATOR FOR EL PASO COUNTY**



OUR MISSION

The Paso del Norte Center of Hope exists to protect victims of human trafficking and modern-day slavery and to lead anti-trafficking efforts within the Region through outreach, education, and person-centered services.



OUR SERVICES

Center of Hope's programs serve any child, youth, or adult of any ethnicity, race, income group, religion or immigration status.



Any individual, family, or population that has been impacted by any form of trafficking and/or exploitation:

- ☐ Sex Trafficking
- ☐ Labor Trafficking
- ☐ Domestic Servitude
- ☐ Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children/Youth (CSEC/CSEY)
 - Child sexual abuse material (CSAM)
 - Online enticement of a minor
 - Grooming
 - Sexting
 - Molestation
 - Sextortion
 - Sexual abuse



OUR TEAM

CHANGING THE FUTURE OF FREEDOM

NEVER UNDERESTIMATE
A SMALL, BUT MIGHTY TEAM

Nicole Schiff
Executive Director

Sebastian Vargas
Deputy Director

Jazmin Vasquez
Director of Advocacy

Cynthia Henry
Director of Care Coordination

Monica Garfias
Clinical Therapist

Brianna Sime
Executive Assistant

Martha Rodarte
Advocate (CSEY/Adult)

Gema Campas
Advocate (CSEY)

Celeste Alva
Advocate (CSEY)

VACANT
Advocate (Adult)

Karen Valles
Youth Coordinator

Diana Quiñones
Youth Coordinator

Lynette Romero
Outreach Coordinator

Hannah Vieira Gehrke
Marketing Coordinator



OUR PROGRAMS



PREVENTION
&
EARLY
INTERVENTION



CARE
COORDINATION



EMERGENCY
SHELTER
&
CRISIS RESPONSE



CHILDREN
&
YOUTH
SERVICES



ADULT
SERVICES





Human Trafficking & Cyber Safety

Free School Presentations

Paso del Norte Center of Hope offers educational presentations on **Human Trafficking & Cyber Safety** for students, parents, and teachers!

To request a presentation for your school, please email outreach@pdncoh.org



PdN Center of Hope is the designated advocate for Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Youth (CSEY) in El Paso County • www.pdncoh.org

Community
EDUCATION
PARTNER

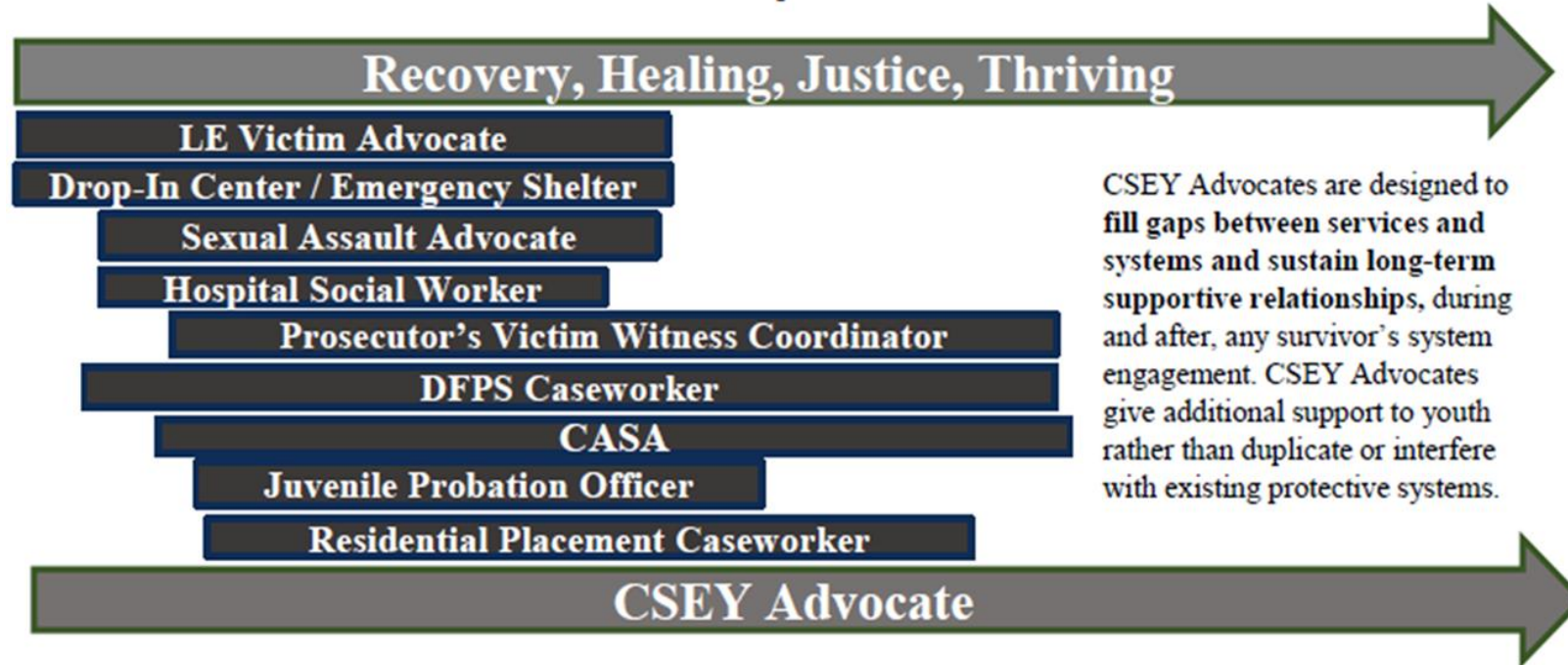


NATIONAL CENTER FOR
MISSING & EXPLOITED
CHILDREN

CHILDREN & YOUTH SERVICES (CSEY)

Designated the official CSEY Advocates & Care Coordinators for El Paso County

CSEY Advocates Fill the Gaps in Between Services:

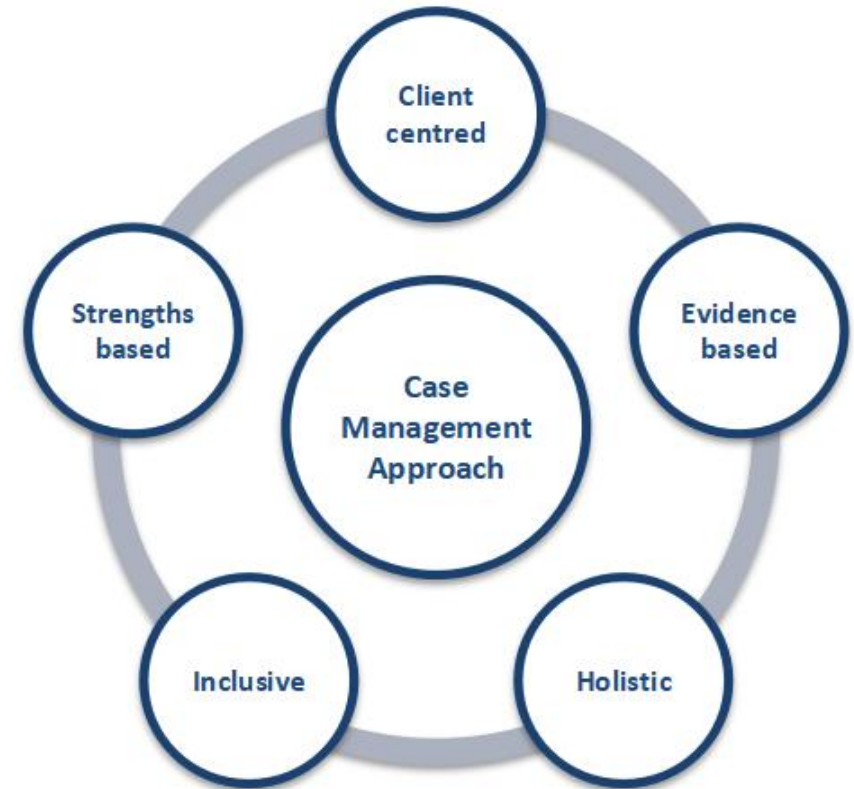


CSEY Advocates are designed to fill gaps between services and systems and sustain long-term supportive relationships, during and after, any survivor's system engagement. CSEY Advocates give additional support to youth rather than duplicate or interfere with existing protective systems.



CASE MANAGEMENT & ADVOCACY

- ✓ 24/7 crisis response
- ✓ 24/7 emergency shelter (18+)
- ✓ Basic needs
- ✓ Personal support
- ✓ Advocacy
- ✓ Local transportation
- ✓ Long-term case management
- ✓ Support in justice activities
- ✓ Job/school placement support
- ✓ Legal assistance
- ✓ Relocation services



FUNDING BREAKDOWN

5%

We are partially funded by **local donors** in the community

15%

We are partially funded by **fundraising events** such as:

- Masquerade Ball
- Charity Golf Tournament
- Thanksgiving Food Drive

80%

We are mostly funded by **state and local grants** such as:

- OOG Adult & OOG CSEY
- OOG Care Coordination
- MMI Foundation
- Carl Anderson Foundation



OUR PARTNERS

WE ARE JUST ONE PIECE OF THE "PUZZLE" IN THE FIGHT AGAINST HUMAN TRAFFICKING



Homeland
Security



FBI



Office of the Texas Governor
Child Sex Trafficking Team

NATIONAL
HUMAN
TRAFFICKING
HOTLINE

1-888-373-7888
TEXT BEFREE TO 23373



PASO DEL NORTE
HEALTH FOUNDATION

Office of
Border
Public Health



Texas Department of
Family and Protective Services



PASO DEL NORTE
COMMUNITY FOUNDATION

casfv

center against sexual & family violence



Texas Department
of Public Safety



NATIONAL CENTER FOR
**MISSING &
EXPLOITED**
CHILDREN



EL PASO
CHILD
GUIDANCE
CENTER



OJJDP

Office of Juvenile Justice and
Delinquency Prevention



Big Brothers
Big Sisters.
OF EL PASO



El Paso
Center for Children
Est. 1919



Sexual Assault
Nurse Examiner
(SANE) Program
University Medical Center



LOCAL NEWS

El Paso teacher faces federal charges in connection to crimes involving children

by Erika Esquivel | Nicholas Annabi | Fri, February 3rd 2023, 10:46 AM MST



[ICE](#) ▸ [NEWSROOM](#)

SEPTEMBER 8, 2023 • HOUSTON, TX • HUMAN SMUGGLING/TRAFFICKING

10 human traffickers arrested during multiagency operation targeting sex trafficking of minors

El Dorado head band teacher arrested for alleged sexual relationship with student

Published [February 21, 2024](#)

PRESS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

U.S. Attorney's Office, Western District of Texas

El Paso School Teacher Sentenced to Life in Prison for Coercion and Enticement of a Minor

Possible sex trafficking ring: documents reveal more in west El Paso bust

by Jonathan Mejia

Thu, August 24th 2023, 5:16 PM MDT

NEWS

IDEA educator facing charge of having sex with underage female student

by: Dave Burge

Posted: Sep 8, 2023 / 07:41 PM MDT

Updated: Sep 11, 2023 / 12:22 PM MDT

CRIME

FBI warns of increase in sextortion cases targeting children in El Paso



[Aaron Martinez](#)

El Paso Times

Published 5:02 a.m. MT April 17, 2023 | Updated 2:59 p.m. MT April 17, 2023

NEWS

Former Chapin High School teacher sentenced for child pornography

by: [Melissa Luna](#)

Posted: Nov 30, 2023 / 09:32 AM MST

Updated: Dec 1, 2023 / 08:54 AM MST

LOCAL NEWS

FBI exposes alarming trend of parents trafficking own children for drugs in El Paso

by Salina Madrid | Mon, January 20th 2025 at 8:21 AM

Updated Mon, January 20th 2025 at 7:57 PM

[ICE](#) > [NEWSROOM](#)

SEPTEMBER 15, 2025 • EL PASO, TX • HUMAN SMUGGLING/TRAFFICKING

ICE El Paso investigation results in 2 Mexican nationals, 2 US citizens charged in conspiracy to smuggle children from Mexico



United States
Attorney's Office
Western District of Texas

El Paso Man Sentenced to 20 Years in Federal Prison for Sexually Abusing Multiple Minors in Mexico

Monday, September 29, 2025

JANUARY 23, 2023 • EL PASO, TX • CHILD EXPLOITATION

El Paso man sentenced to more than 13 years in prison for child exploitation conviction

JANUARY IS
Human Trafficking
Awareness Month!



Shine a Light
on **Human**
Trafficking.

Human Trafficking Awareness Month



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QUESTIONS?



THANK YOU!

NICOLE SCHIFF, MPH - EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
CENTER OF HOPE

PHONE: 915-503-8008

EMAIL: Nicole@cohhelps.org

WEBSITE:

www.cohhelps.org





Other Business

- TAY SIM October 14th



Next Meeting Target:

Tuesday, November 10th at 8:30 am



ADJOURN