

Transforming the Juvenile Justice System: LOUD Recommendations

Leaders Organizing 2 Unite & Decriminalize (LOUD)

LOUD serves as a youth advisory council to the Bernalillo County Juvenile Justice System. Our mission is to unite and empower youth to have a voice and create positive changes in the Juvenile Justice system.

Action Steps for Legislators

Treatment Facilities



1. For Legislators to tour and speak with youth in both treatment and secure facilities (long term and detention centers)
2. Increase oversight for all behavioral health and substance abuse treatment centers, and hold them accountable by using outcomes and recidivism data.

Community Based Resources



1. Invest funding and resources in out-patient substance abuse/behavioral health programs and community programs such as life skills and alternative forms of medicine.
2. Invest additional resources into emergency, short term and long term housing for youth and young adults.

Youth & Family Voice



Develop & formalize a survey for youth and families to complete at each point in the system, which create opportunities to provide feedback and evaluation. This would be utilized as a quality assurance tool in the Juvenile Justice System.

Training



Youth and community provide training on Positive Youth Development and ant-racism to all adults working in the Juvenile Justice System, Law Enforcement and School District Staff.

Youth Employment



Invest funding and resources in year-round youth employment, paid internship and paid apprenticeship opportunities for youth and young adults connecting them to college and career paths.

Community Programs



Invest in after-school programs that will stay open late to provide leadership/empowerment, sports & fitness and cultural & art enrichment for little to no cost.

Sponsored by the New Mexico Forum for Youth in Community & Bernalillo County Juvenile Detention Alternatives Initiative (JDAI)

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Please do not support legislation that will unnecessarily criminalize youth!