

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT & ADVOCACY

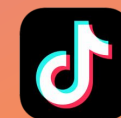
CHAPTER SPOTLIGHT: OCTOBER 2023



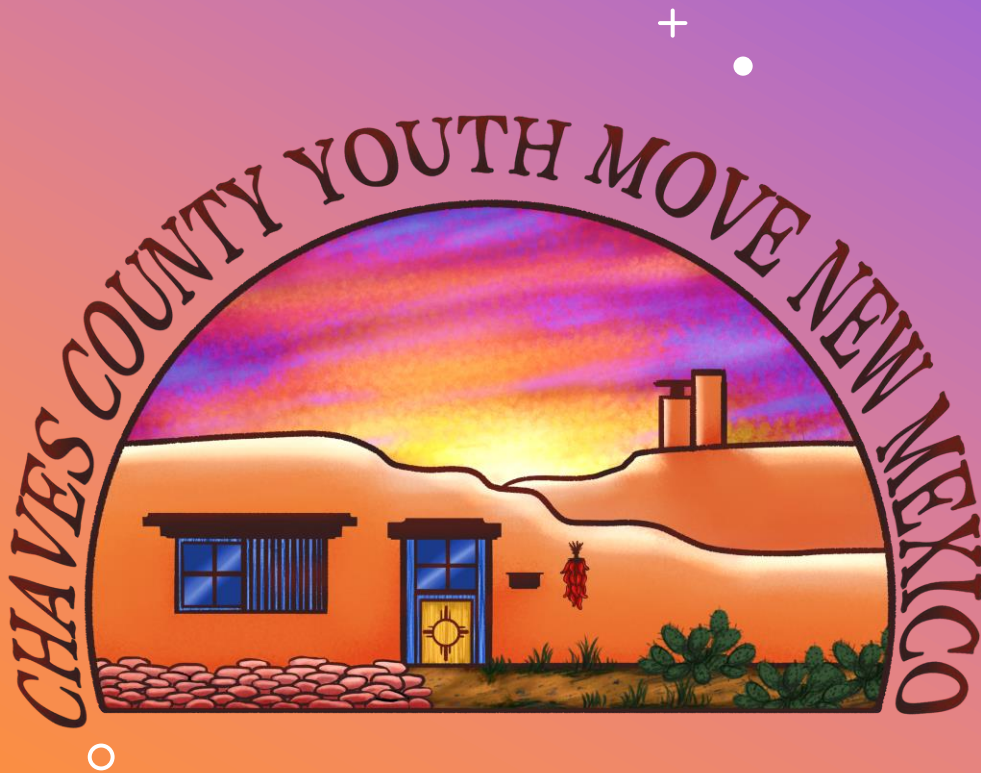
Chaves County Youth MOVE



@chavescountyyouthmove



@chavescountyyouthmove



OUR VISION

Our vision is to create a safe environment for growing youth to learn, come together, escape from day-to-day life, feel welcomed, socialize in a nonjudgmental place, and not worry about others; to have a go-to person that offers security and is trustworthy.

Why Community Engagement & Advocacy is Important

We understand that not everyone has immediate access to resources and that some people don't know what resources are even offered within our community. Everyone deserves to have their basic needs met and it's important to us for people in our community to know that there are people who are listening to them and who want to help them. We have a lot of fun with our projects, so it benefits us in a lot of ways as well.



**VOLUNTEERING &
COMMUNITY
SERVICE PROJECTS**





Cooking Meals for the Homeless

We've worked with the Roswell Homeless Coalition multiples times to cook meals for the homeless. RHC is a safe space for women who are homeless, but they were willing to work with us and provide delivery to some of our male homeless population as well so that we could reach more of our homeless community.

It's a lot of fun to serve our community as a group. We get to spend time with each other while doing something that we know is going to help people who are struggling. It makes you feel warm inside to put a smile on people's faces.

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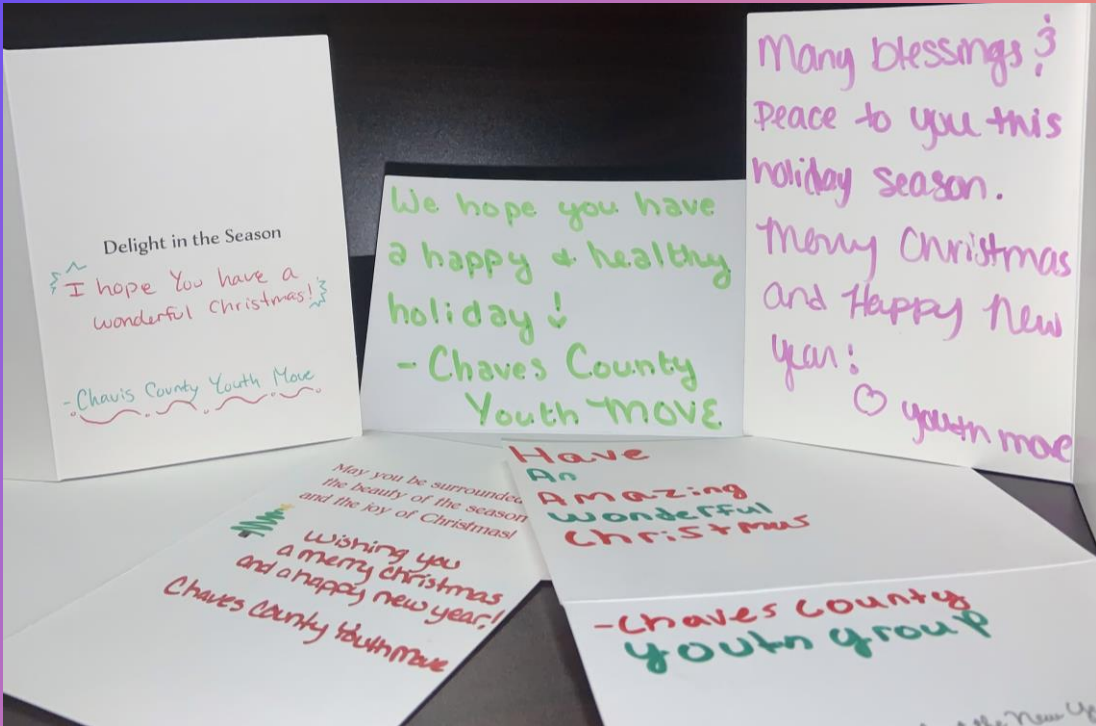
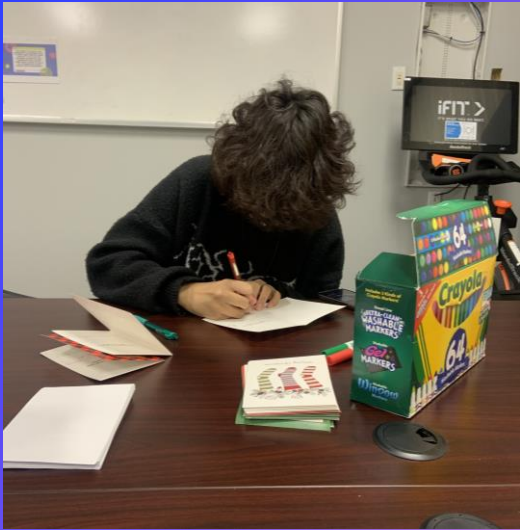


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Nursing Home Christmas Cards

Last Christmas, we purchased over 150 Christmas cards and filled each of them out by hand.

Chaves County has over 20 living facilities that work with the elderly and COVID restrictions were still in place, so it was important for us to reach out to each facility and ask if we would be allowed to give cards to the residents. After getting permission from several nursing homes, we were able to ask how many residents each one had so that no one was left out.

We know how lonely it must be for our elderly community who don't have families to visit on Christmas, so it was really important to us to include them in our community service goals somehow.



Giving Back to Students

We have been fortunate to be involved with a number of donations to Chaves County students. This year, we were able to purchase two backpacks fit for an elementary school student and a middle school student. We filled each backpack with about \$50 worth of school supplies and then raffled them off at a community event completely free of charge.

A lot of our members have their own experiences watching their parents struggle to afford school supplies, so knowing that we are able to ease that burden for some parents is a great feeling. We know how expensive these things are, especially for parents who have more than one child.

Nancy Lopez Elementary School Supplies Donation

In Chaves County, several of our public schools have low funding and work mostly with students who come from low-income families. At these schools, items that are expected to be brought by students are often overlooked because students do not have the means to buy things like Kleenex and Clorox wipes.

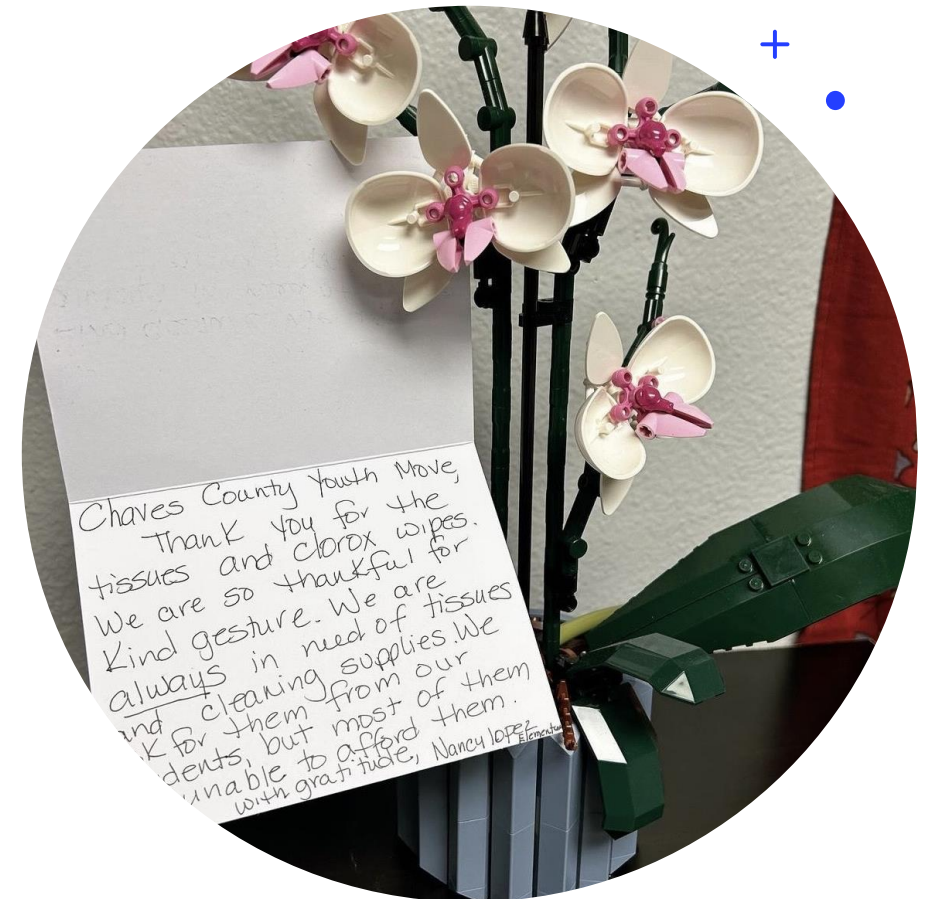
We were asked by a community member if we would be willing to help with a donation and we were able to donate 20 containers of Clorox wipes and 24 boxes of Kleenex.



Helping Our Schools is Important to Us!

We received our first thank you note in the mail from the school after this donation!

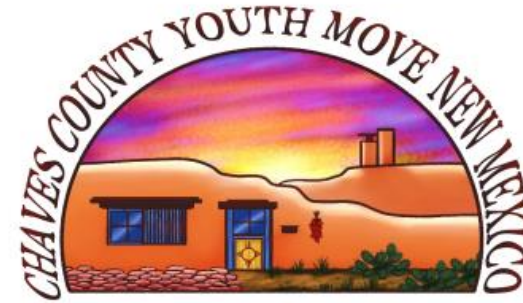
Several of our members actually attended Nancy Lopez and have siblings that currently go to school there, so we have been able to experience firsthand how hard the staff tries to meet the needs of their students. Most of the teachers provide school supplies for their students using their own personal funds. Seeing how grateful the staff was for the supplies that we bought really put into perspective how important and fulfilling it is to help others when we can.



Asking for Donations and Seeking Out Resources

When we made the “go bags,” we did not have chapter funds, so we had to depend on donations to make this happen. First, we determined what we wanted to put inside the bags, then we made a letter to send to local agencies in the community to ask for donations of the items we had decided on. The letter that was sent out can be seen on the right.

With the help of our supportive adults, we were able to get in touch with Blue Cross, Blue Shield to ask if they would be willing to donate our bags and some hygiene products. Fortunately, they agreed and supplied us with 50 bags and travel toothbrush kits!

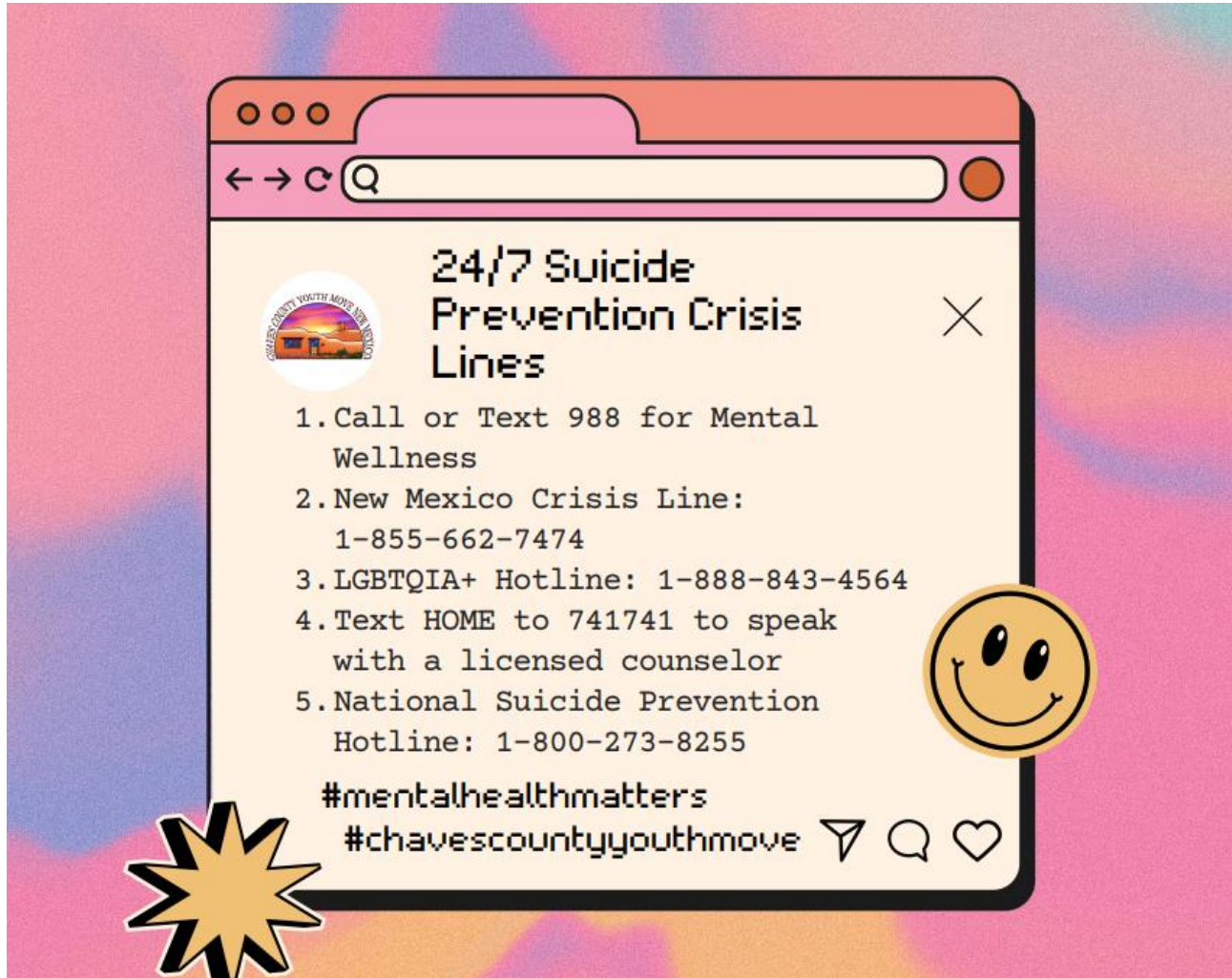


After becoming an officially recognized chapter of Youth MOVE National in October of 2022, Chaves County Youth MOVE has worked towards our mission to provide a safe space for youth where they can spend time guiding self-growth, building relationships, and practicing leadership.

Our vision is to create a safe environment for growing youth to learn, come together, escape from day-to-day life, feel welcomed, socialize in a non-judgmental place, and not worry about others; to have a go-to person that offers security and is trustworthy.

We are collecting donations for our Mental Health Awareness Month service project

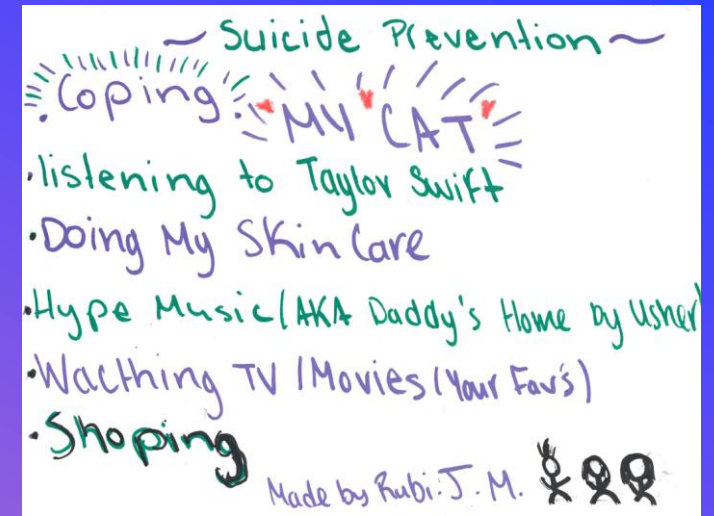
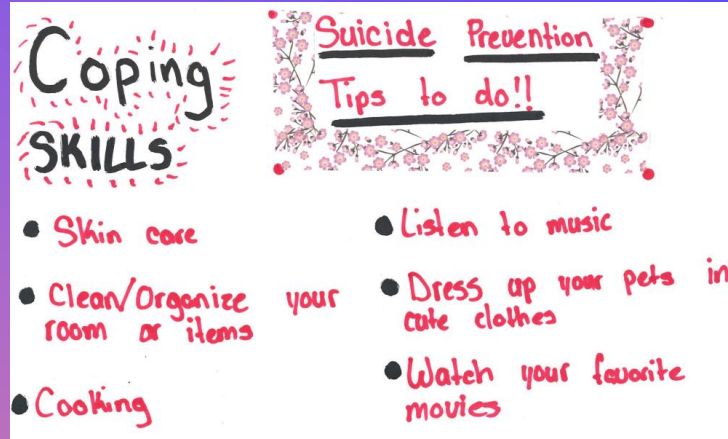
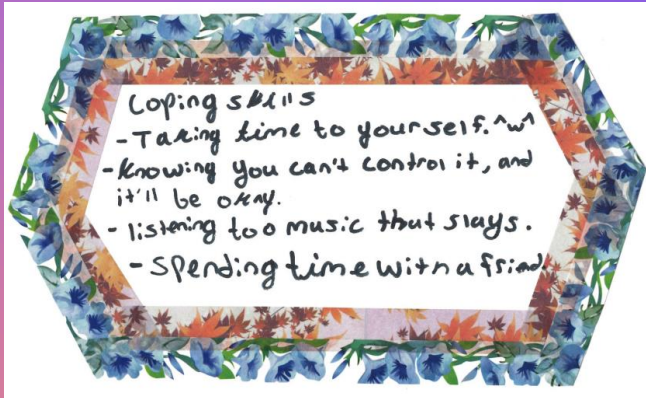
Our chapter realizes the importance of mental health awareness and activism. For Mental Health Awareness Month, we would like to help children and young people who will be spending time in an RTC (residential treatment center) to heal and work on their mental health struggles. Through communication with local service providers, we have found that many of these youth do not have the utilities that they may need during their stay. We are hoping to create “go bags” that youth can bring with them during their stay to ensure their basic needs are being met. We have created a list of items that can be donated, however if these items are out of your reach, we would greatly appreciate gift card donations to Roswell shopping centers, such as Target or Walmart. Thank you for your consideration!



Mental Health Matters

Advocating for mental health treatment, self-care, and reducing stigma is important to us. We're currently working on doing more mental health advocacy and outreach by posting on social media and providing information on youth resources in our community at events.

We want all of our information to be written *for* young people *by* young people. Even when we get help from our supportive adults or other community members, our efforts are 100% youth driven.



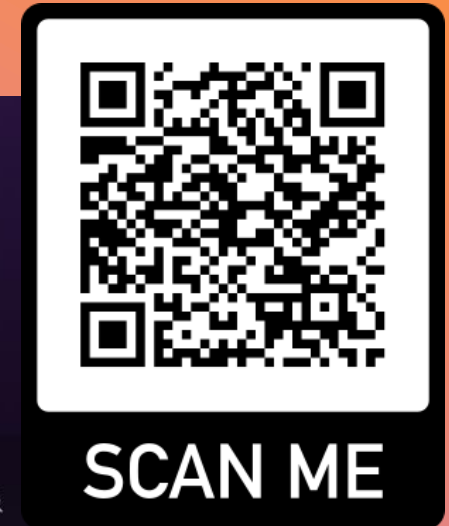
These are coping skill suggestions that we created for our social media to advocate for mental health awareness.

IN ADDITION TO OUR COPING SKILLS, WE
CREATED A SUICIDE AWARENESS PLAYLIST ON
SPOTIFY FILLED WITH MUSIC TO CHEER
SOMEONE UP ON A BAD DAY.

CCYM CHAPTER SPOTLIGHT

The screenshot shows a Spotify public playlist titled "Suicide Awareness" created by Rubi and 5 others. The playlist features 23 songs and has a duration of 1 hour and 27 minutes. The cover art for the playlist is a purple heart with a teal ribbon and the text "SEPTEMBER SUICIDE PREVENTION AWARENESS MONTH". Below the title, there are icons for play, heart, download, and a search icon. The playlist contains the following songs:

#	Title	Album	Added by	Date added	Duration
1	Hey Stephen (Taylor's Version) Taylor Swift	Fearless (Taylor's Version)	Rubi	Sep 6, 2023	4:14
2	Hey Daddy (Daddy's Home) USHER	Raymond v Raymond (Expanded Edition)	Rubi	Sep 6, 2023	3:44
3	These Days Wallows	Spring EP	Rubi	Sep 6, 2023	3:23
4	I Was Made For Lovin' You KISS	Dynasty	Rubi	Sep 6, 2023	4:31
5	Les Childish Gambino	Camp	Rubi	Sep 6, 2023	5:17





Community Events

Our chapter attends a lot of community events where we are able to speak with other young people, hand out flyers, and get the word out about our projects and goals.

Attending events and reaching out in advance to ensure that we can have our own table/booth also helps us to be more recognizable as a group in the community because we are able to interact with other groups, agencies, and community professionals.

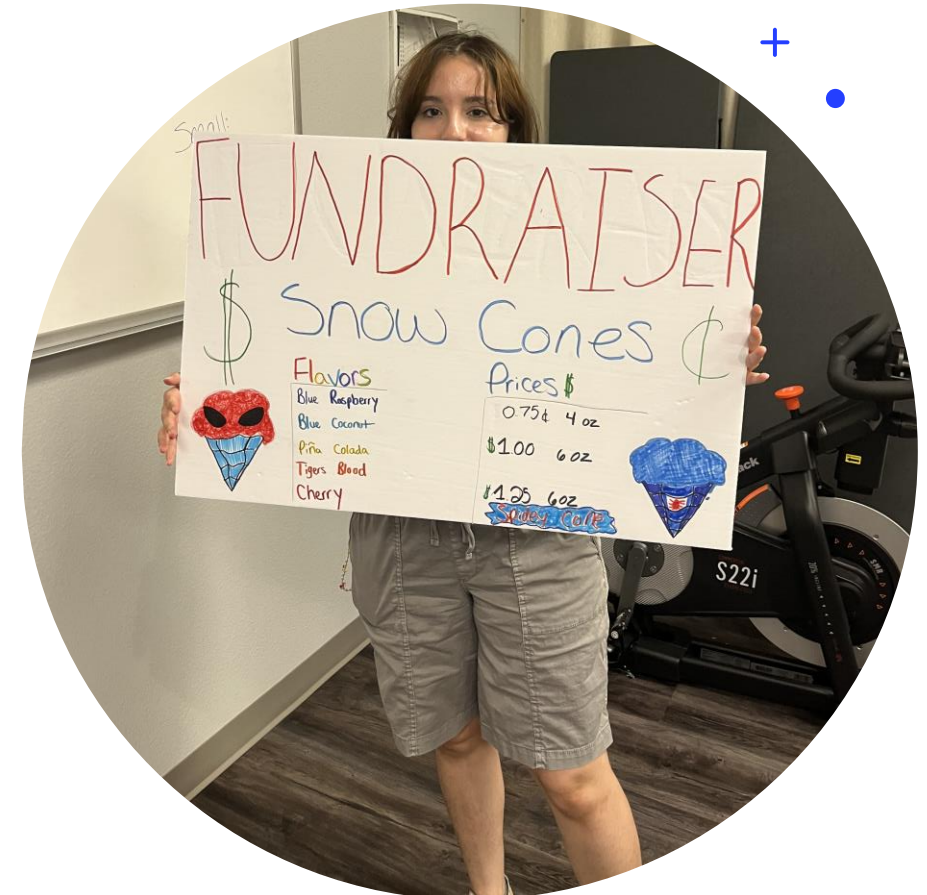


FUNDRAISING & BUDGETING

Earning Chapter Funds

We mainly earn funds through fundraising. While we often have to fund our own events by purchasing our own supplies, we work hard to get the word out about our events through social media and flyers so that we can get enough engagement to make a profit. Our chapter is always transparent about where our funds will be used (community service projects, mental health advocacy, etc), which has encouraged community members to want to contribute and get involved.

Our supportive adults and chapter treasurer help us keep track of how much money is going in and out of our funds and all decisions related to spending money are decided upon as a chapter.



CHAVES COUNTY YOUTH
MOVE

SNOW CONE FUNDRAISER

**JULY 14,
12-5 PM**

110 E. MESCALERO RD



Snow Cones

This summer, we were able to borrow a snow cone machine from a community member and sell snow cones in our community. Though we purchased some of the supplies ourselves, we were also able to get in touch with Bahama Bucks to ask for a donation of a few bottles of snow cone syrup. They ended up donating 3 full-size bottles!

We try really hard to reach out to businesses and agencies in our community often. When you have the courage to reach out, a lot more people are willing to help than you might think—especially when their donations are going to young people involved with officially recognized organizations or groups who are trying to make a difference.



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COOL OFF WITH SOME

SNOW CONES

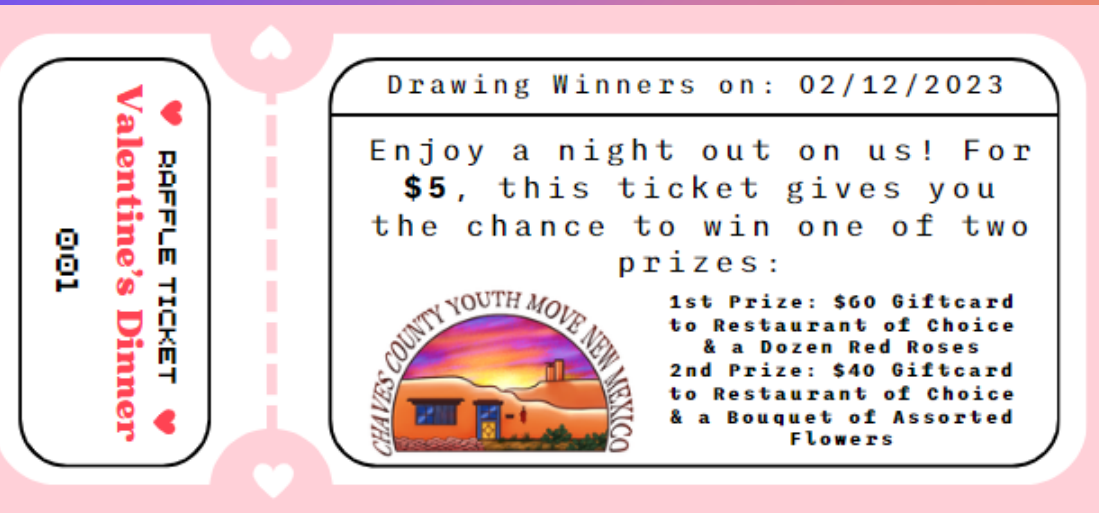
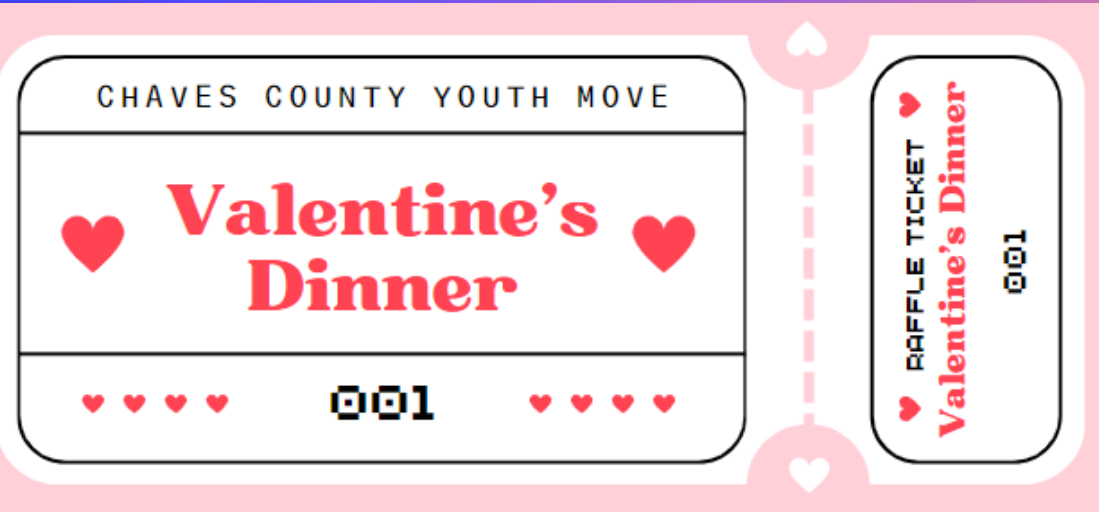
MADE BY CHAVES COUNTY YOUTH MOVE

TIGER'S BLOOD
BLACK CHERRY
BLUE COCONUT
GRAPE
BLUE RASPBERRY
MANGO

Valentine's Dinner Raffle

Another way that we frequently fundraise is by coming up with fun ideas for raffles that may interest people in the community. For Valentine's Day this year, we decided to offer two chances for people to win dinner and flowers if they bought a \$5 raffle ticket.

We made a major profit off this raffle and the people who bought tickets seemed to really want the prizes that were offered. The budget for the raffle was decided on as a group.



Skateboard Raffle

We received these skateboards as a donation from a community member to raffle off.

Working with businesses and agencies in the community to donate items to use in raffles or other types of fundraisers is an effective way to cut down on costs and can work as great advertisement for local businesses.



LA CASA BEHAVIORAL HEALTH

CHAVES COUNTY

YOUTH MOVE



MEETINGS TAKE PLACE EVERY OTHER WEDNESDAY FROM 5-6 PM.

AGES 14-26
HIGH SCHOOL AND UP

- ▶ **HOW CAN I HELP OTHERS AS A YOUNG PERSON?**
- ▶ **HOW CAN I HELP MYSELF?**
- ▶ **WHAT CAN I DO FOR OTHERS IN NEED?**

COME JOIN US FOR MEETINGS DISCUSSING YOUTH ISSUES WITHIN OUR TOWN. PARTICIPATE AND ENGAGE IN CONVERSATION WITH PEERS!

MEETINGS ARE LOCATED AT 110 E. MESCALERO RD

YOUTH MAY ALSO ATTEND OVER ZOOM BY SCANNING THE QR CODE



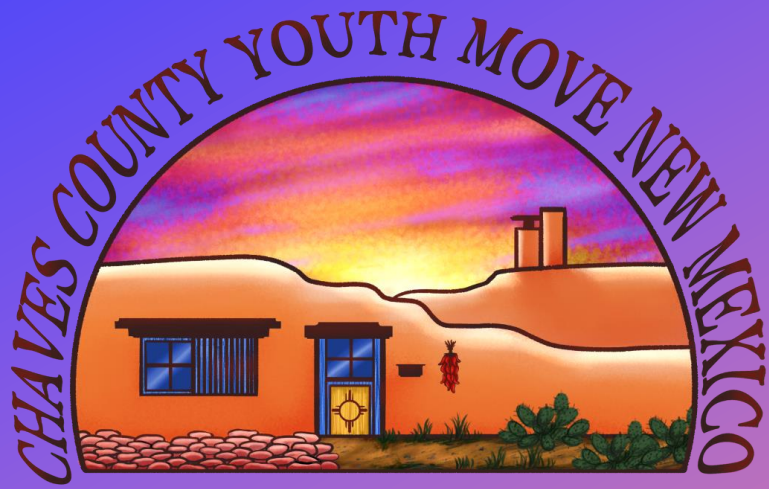
PLEASE NOTE THAT AFTER SCANNING THE QR CODE, YOU WILL BE REDIRECTED TO A ZOOM LINK THAT WILL ONLY BE ACTIVE DURING MEETING TIMES.

Wrapping Up

Our mission is to provide a safe space where youth can spend time guiding self-growth, building relationships, and practicing leadership.

When we first started with Youth MOVE, our main goal was to provide a safe space for young people to be themselves and meet new people, but another foundation of our chapter is allowing young people to have a platform where we can be heard and address issues in the community that we genuinely think are important.

Getting to help others and participating in service projects that matter to us has been extremely fulfilling, but part of what makes our chapter so great is that we have fun while doing it. Our events and meetings allow us to spend time with one another and be social while making a difference.



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THANK YOU!

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