

## **DWI Application - June 2018**

Bernadette Lauritzen [REDACTED]  
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### **Champions of Youth Ambitions (C'YA)**

Our local non-profit provides elementary, hands-on, science education in the classroom, youth leadership and community celebrations through the Community Asset Awards.

### **Why do you want to be on the DWI Council:**

I have my Prevention Specialist Certification, valid until December 2019. This is actually a need of the DWI Council and one that hasn't been consistent in several years.

### **What knowledge and experience do you bring to this position:**

I earned my Prevention certification through a contract between the County and Los Alamos Public Schools. While the schools felt the prevention position required a Master's degree in counseling, I still feel indebted to the County of Los Alamos for funding the prevention work.

I have taken the required courses and have the resources to teach several classes related to the Mother's Against Drunk Driver's curriculum.

My public relations background could be very useful to the DWI Council.

### **What do you think are the best things currently being done to reduce drunk driving:**

I currently work with youth through the Youth Activity Centers, but I am applying for a position through my non-profit. The building of the 40 Developmental Assets to increasing protective factors is important.

Promoting the topic of drinking and driving is very important. This community doesn't always discuss problems and therefore many people don't think they exist. Unless one is a regular reader of the Police Beat, you may not even realize we have drunk drivers in the community.

Our work to build relationships with local alcohol establishments is important. It is important for them to know we are promoting responsible drivers, not trying to harm their business.

**Do you have any suggestions for what could be done to further reduce drunk driving:**

I think a review of the Strategic Plan efforts, that I was previously involved with, needs to be revisited and applied to the current work. One goal was to ramp up our community education and that appears to be lacking.

I'm not sure what current work is taking place within the schools, but efforts through driver's education and health classes were valuable work. Those conversations and relationships were key.

I would like to approach UNM-LA to see if our work could be applied to the 18-24 age population.

**What constituencies do you represent (circle all that apply):**

Concerned Citizen While I don't work for ANY of the local media, I write for all three entities.

*Bernadette Lauritzen*

June 13, 2018