

Application for Appointment to the Los Alamos County DWI Planning Council

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Occupation: Elementary Prevention Specialist for Los Alamos Public Schools

I would appreciate being recommended by the Los Alamos DWI Planning Council for appointment by the Los Alamos County Council for membership to the DWI Council.

Why do you want to be appointed to the DWI Planning Council?

In my role as the Elementary Prevention Specialist for Los Alamos Public Schools, I am focused on addressing risk factors for substance use—including alcohol—at an early age. I believe in the power of early prevention to shape healthier futures, and I see my work with young students and families as a foundational piece of long-term efforts to reduce alcohol misuse in our community. By promoting healthy decision-making and increasing protective factors early in life, we have the potential to decrease risky behaviors—such as driving while intoxicated—later on. I would be honored to contribute this perspective to the DWI Planning Council and support a comprehensive, upstream approach to prevention.

What knowledge and experience do you bring to this position?

I bring a unique combination of training in both business and psychology, which allows me to approach complex challenges with a strategic and human-centered lens. My prior experience in strategic corporate consulting has equipped me with skills in systems thinking, data analysis, and collaborative problem-solving—tools that translate well into prevention planning and community work. More recently, my role in prevention at Los Alamos Public Schools has deepened my understanding of local needs and strengthened my ability to develop and implement initiatives that address risk factors early and build protective factors across diverse populations. Together, these experiences position me to contribute meaningfully to the DWI Planning Council's mission.

Please return this completed form to sara.martinez@lacnm.us, or mail Sara Martinez, 2500 Trinity Dr. Suite C; Los Alamos, NM 87544

What do you think are the best things presently being done to reduce drunk driving?

One of the most promising efforts currently underway is the increased use of sobriety checkpoints by law enforcement. These checkpoints serve as both a deterrent and a means of identifying impaired drivers, and research consistently shows they are effective in reducing alcohol-related crashes. I am also encouraged by the focus on prevention and education in schools, which plays a key role in delaying the onset of alcohol use and shaping healthier behaviors into adulthood. Programs like the "Arrive Alive" car and Alcohol, Tobacco, and Other Drug education integrated into driver's education classes are strong examples of how targeted, early education can support long-term reductions in drunk driving.

Which constituencies could you represent? (Circle all that apply)

1. Local Media 2. EMS **3. Schools** 4. Community Substance Abuse Treatment
5. Public Health 6. Law Enforcement 7. Courts/judicial 8. Community Traffic Safety
9. Prosecutor/legal 10. Elected County Official 11. Independent Behavioral Health
12. Business Community **13. Concerned Citizen** 14. Other