

AGENDA
CULTURAL RELATIONS ADVISORY BOARD

Wednesday, September 17, 2025 – 10:00 am
2nd Floor, East Training Room Santa Fe Depot (101 E. Wyatt Earp)
Enter through Train Station under Green Awning

Call to Order: Chair Brenda Carmona

Visitors:

Consent Calendar:

1. Approve CRAB Minutes from August 20, 2025.

Unfinished Business:

1. Cultural Currents Project- Report by Holly Mercer
2. Language Access Community Needs Survey – Report by Roxana Arjon
3. International Festival Debrief – Report by Darlin Rayo

New Business:

1. Housing Update – Report By Mollea Lightner

Board Program/Dates (keep in mind):

- November 4, 7:00 am – 7:00 pm – 2025 General Election

Board Member and Staff Comments:

Next Meeting Dates:

- October 15
- November 19

ADJOURNMENT

MEETING MINUTES

CULTURAL RELATIONS ADVISORY BOARD

Wednesday, August 20, 2025 – 10:00 am
2nd Floor, East Training Room Santa Fe Depot (101 E. Wyatt Earp)

Call to Order

Chair Brenda Carmona called the meeting to order at 10:00 am.

Present: Brenda Carmona, Karla Lees, Yari Sanchez, Holly Mercer, Debbie Snapp, Perla Lopez, Susan Finley

Absent: Esmeralda Soto, Jose Ramos, Kristin Hines,

Visitors: Hugo Hernandez, Michael Marino, Angel Romero

Staff: Roxana Arjon, Darlin Rayo

Consent Calendar

1. Motion to approve the July 17th minutes with an amendment to remove Cindy Soriano from the guest list was made by Holly Mercer and seconded by Yari Sanchez. The motion passed 7-0.

Unfinished Business

1. Cultural Currents Project- Report by Holly Mercer

The kickoff event was July 31 at Boot Hill Museum. There has been significant interest in the topic, with coverage from High Plains Public Radio, KAKE, and other outlets. Governor Kelly recently posted about water, reflecting a broader statewide conversation. The Humanities Kansas director reached out and noted that funding opportunities from NEH cycle every few years; Holly will present the project to them. The first podcast episode will be released next Friday.

2. Language Access Community Needs Survey – Report by Roxana Arjon

Survey has been deployed and shared at community and school events, including with the Dodge Globe, Beyond Barriers, and Church of the Nazarene. To date, 43 community responses and 97 internal City staff responses have been collected. Key feedback requests included more translators, translation technology, and improved access to services. Roxana has created flyers and quarter-sheet handouts for additional distribution. Brenda requested a direct link to share with staff; Roxana will send this to the Board.

3. Mexican Consulate Mobile Services – Report by Roxana Arjon

The recent Consulate event served 350 people, with support from other community organizations also providing services. The Consulate expressed satisfaction with Dodge City as a host location. This will be the final mobile service visit for the year.

4. Strategic Plan for Welcoming and Integration Goals Review – Report by Roxana Arjon

- a. Civic Engagement: The Chamber of Commerce will host a public forum on October 2 to encourage local office participation. Joel offered space for meetings, and several members volunteered to assist.

- b.** Refugee & Immigrant Integration: USCIS has moved from its City-provided location, but Melissa continues to advocate for services in Dodge City.
- c.** Safe & Healthy Community: Debbie shared that City employees are supported through the Ford County Health Coalition. Holly will host a mental health session, and translation services may be needed. Joel noted he has 200 transmitters to assist with translations, and Michael offered to translate for the DC3 event hosted by Holly. Joel's wife, a licensed mental health provider, has also offered to volunteer. Members agreed language remains the largest barrier, as providers do not speak all community languages. USD 443's school nurse has updated a resource guide, and the Multicultural Committee plans to distribute a similar guide. Brenda will share the USD 443 version, and there was discussion about partnering with Compass on a possible Mental Health Fair.
- d.** Childcare: Work continues with the repurposing of Cinema Circle to expand childcare options. DC3 also offers courses to certify childcare providers. Holly will reach out to Lorna Ford about opportunities.
- e.** Housing: CHAD continues to seek opportunities for housing support, and CRAB may assist by providing letters of support.

New Business

Board Member and Staff Comments

- Angel De Paz shared a Lucha Libre show, September 6 at Boot Hill Distillery at 6:00 p.m., with the youth summer camp participation.
- Joel's Backpack Event received many donations and has extra items to share.
- September 22-27: DC3 Community anniversary celebration with free events, ribbon cutting, cupcakes, and drinks at 5:45 p.m.
- September 27: DC3 football tailgate with bounce houses, food, and drinks.

Adjournment

Motion to adjourn by Susan Finley, seconded by Joel Tuche.
Meeting adjourned at 10:58 am.

Todo sobre EFNEP

El Programa Ampliado de Educación Alimentaria y Nutricional (EFNEP, por sus siglas en inglés)

quiere ayudar a responder preguntas acerca de cómo **Comer Bien y Moverse Más**. Nuestro programa es **práctico** y enseña **nuevas habilidades** que se pueden utilizar en casa **todos los días**, desde consejos sobre planificación, compra y cocina hasta **Soluciones Simples** para una alimentación saludable y para hacer actividad física diariamente.

Desarrolladas por profesionales en alimentación, nutrición y actividad física

nuestras sesiones le ayudarán a crear su propio plan personal para **Comer Bien y Moverse Más**. ¿La mejor parte? ¡Sabemos que funciona! Desde el año 2005, el **97%** de las familias que participaron en nuestro programa mejoraron su dieta, mientras que ahorran dinero.

EFNEP quiere que usted se convierta en un experto en **planificar, comprar y preparar** comidas deliciosas y nutritivas para usted y su familia. ¡Una vez que haya completado el programa, usted recibirá un **Libro de Cocina de EFNEP** y un **certificado de graduación** firmado para mostrarle a su familia, amigos e incluso a posibles empleadores!



A través del Programa de Educación Alimentaria y Nutricional Ampliado usted explorará maneras en que usted y su familia pueden:



preparar y comer más comidas en casa



comer más frutas y verduras



aumentar la actividad física



tomar decisiones de bebidas saludables



limitar el tiempo en la TV y computadora



controlar el tamaño de las porciones



mantener los alimentos seguros

No hay ningún costo para participar, ¡así que únase a nosotros!

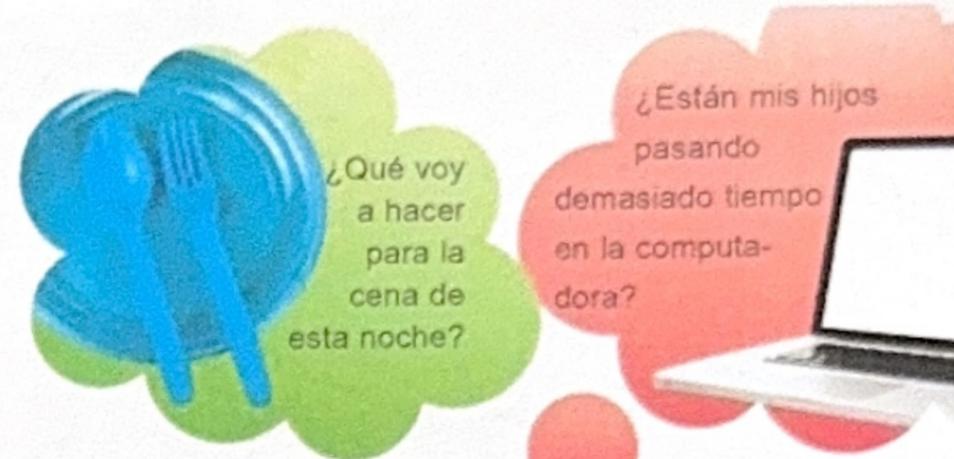
Las clases de EFNEP se ofrecen de forma gratuita en su comunidad por los asistentes nutricionales de Extensión de EFNEP que están capacitados y supervisados por agentes de Extensión del condado.

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Este material se basa en el Programa Ampliado de Educación sobre Alimentación y Nutrición (EFNEP), aprobado por el Instituto Nacional de Investigación y Agricultura, Departamento de Agricultura de los Estados Unidos. Todos los nombres, marcas, marcas comerciales o recomendaciones expresadas en esta publicación son del autor o los autores y no reflejan necesariamente la opinión del Departamento de Agricultura de los Estados Unidos.

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¿Qué voy a hacer para la cena de esta noche?

¿Están mis hijos pasando demasiado tiempo en la computadora?



Soluciones simples para ayudar a las familias a comer inteligentemente y moverse más

