



SOUTH SAN ANTONIO INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT

Agenda Item Summary

Meeting Date: July 20, 2026

Agenda Section: Consent

Agenda Item Title: Juvenile Outreach Vocational Educational Network (JOVEN)

From: Dr. Jennifer Gutierrez, Deputy Superintendent

Additional Presenters if Applicable: Rosemary Morales, Director of Guidance and Counseling

Description: JOVEN develops character and resiliency in students by delivering holistic support through counseling, and structured programming to include prevention services, risk avoidance education, and comprehensive counseling services.

Historical Data: SSAISD has approved an MOU with JOVEN since June, 2023.

Recommendation: Approve the MOU between SSAISD and JOVEN.

Purchasing Director and Approval Date: N/A

Funding Budget Code and Amount: N/A

Goal 3: SSAISD will create a safe, structured, and nurturing environment where all stakeholders feel supported and valued to foster a culture of care.

Goal 4: SSAISD will build strong partnerships with families, communities, and businesses to advance student success.



Memorandum of Understanding Program Agreement

JOVEN's Mission: is to develop character and resiliency in children by providing them with innovative and exciting programs, as well as structured alternative activities that are designed to help them succeed.

JOVEN and South San Antonio Independent School District mutually commit to the following:

Purpose of Collaboration:

This collaboration provides comprehensive counseling, prevention, and sexual risk avoidance services to students, promoting their social, emotional, and behavioral well-being.

Plan of Service

JOVEN will implement three integrated program areas:

1. **Prevention Services** – Deliver curriculum-based instruction to the targeted youth population, including Alcohol, Tobacco, and Other Drugs (ATOD) presentations and structured alternative activities to promote healthy decision-making and resilience.
2. **Sexual Risk Avoidance Education** – Use an evidence-based curriculum to engage students in positive youth development focused on character building, teen development, and healthy relationships.
3. **Counseling Services** – Provide individual counseling, family counseling, peer-to-peer groups, and psycho-educational sessions addressing topics such as self-esteem, anger management, coping skills, and other identified needs.

Programs will be conducted for the period determined by the curriculum or treatment plan. At the conclusion of each cycle, JOVEN and school staff will jointly assess the need for continued services.

Fee of Service:

All services are provided at no cost (\$0.00).

JOVEN Responsibilities:

- Provide qualified staff, including mental health professionals as appropriate
- Supply all necessary materials and/or program resources
- Maintain participant confidentiality in accordance with applicable laws and district policies
- Communicate regularly with designated school staff regarding program implementation and/or student progress

South San Antonio Independent School District Responsibilities:

- Obtain parent/guardian consent forms.
- Provide suitable space for program delivery (e.g., classrooms, counseling areas)
- Assist with required documentation and coordination as needed
- Maintain open and ongoing communication with JOVEN staff

Group Cycle Commencement:

JOVEN will provide counseling and related health and human services for children and adolescents at South San Antonio Independent School District. This agreement will automatically renew each cycle unless either party chooses to terminate it. Termination requires a 30-day written notice from one party to the other.

Dr. Saul Hinojosa
Superintendent

Date

Amy Cardenas
CEO

Date

6-18-26