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District 4

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Justin J. Salazar-Torrez

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Kelly Duran

City Clerk

Melissa Velasquez

405 N. Paseo de Oñate
Española, NM 87532
505-747-6100 (Main)
505-747-6084 (Fax)
www.cityofespanola.org

CITY OF ESPAÑOLA

"The Heart of Northern New Mexico...Where Cultures Unite"

Office of the Mayor

A Community Call to Action for Healing and the De-Escalation of Violence

We have experienced violence in our community for many years. It has infiltrated our neighborhoods and ingrained itself in our very being. It has almost become a normal part of everyday life. But we mustn't let it. We have the ability and responsibility to attempt to put an end to the violence around us. Now is the time to uncover the root causes of the destruction that pervades us and search for potential solutions. We are culturally and spiritually unique in the Valley of Española and we must find solutions that are specific and unique to us.

I, along with Bobbie Gutierrez, Superintendent of Española Public Schools; Dr. Rick Bailey, President of Northern New Mexico College; MaryBeth Maassen, Executive Director of United Way of Northern New Mexico, Roger Montoya, Director of Moving Arts and Española Police Department, am calling those citizens who are willing to challenge the norm, recognize the need and create a path forward with real and deliverable solutions. The time for discussion is now. Please join those committed citizens willing to help.

- Monday, October 29th, 2018 from 8am-3pm at the Santa Claran Event Center, community leaders, parents, teachers, and concerned citizens will come together to actively construct a blueprint. This is Part One of a Series, which will chart the programs, actions, and steps we will take in order to de-escalate violence and give our children the coping mechanisms and tools necessary to live a happy and constructive life.

Seating is limited and lunch will be provided. Please register with Angelica Serrano at 505-747-6012 or aserrano@espanolanm.gov.

