

EAGA Business Builder

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Today's presentation was by Angelo Gonzales - Mission Graduate



Dr. Gonzales is the Executive Director of Mission Graduate. The organization is a cradle-to-career education partnership in Central New Mexico, which is committed to producing 60,000 new graduates with college degrees and certificates by 2020. They focus primarily on a four county area within central New Mexico. There are many challenges experienced by youngsters as they attempt to navigate the path to a meaningful career and the earlier those barriers can be broken down, the better the chance for a child's successful education. The issues however, are present in all phases of the education process. Benchmarks have been determined to evaluate a better potential for success. Kids need to be ready for kindergarten (having experienced early childhood reading and interest from parents or guardians); Third graders need to be reading for themselves at a proper grade level, otherwise they will be at a disadvantage as they attempt to progress; Mid-school, and even high school age kids, have to be provided assistance in overcoming hurdles related to mathematics, otherwise those challenges will evolve into even bigger problems in higher education. Dr. Gonzales showed a slide of a cartoon made by journalist, John Trever. It was a circle of various education process participants, each pointing a finger at the next guy. Universities say they need better prepared high school grads; high schools say that they need better trained mid-school kids; and on around the circle where schools need businesses to provide better opportunities for workers and businesses need better trained graduates. Mission Graduate realizes where the hurdles are, but does not attempt to establish new initiatives to assist with overcoming those barriers. There are many useful programs already in place, and M.G. directs its efforts toward determining which of the existing assets are working, then building channels for coordination of their efforts. Collaboration will be the solution. Getting the various programs to work together to encourage, promote and benefit from the others' success. Mission Graduate has over 400 volunteers involved in four primary networks that have been set to accomplish the plan. The programs of: 1) Early childhood accountability partnership; 2) High school graduation network; 3) College and career readiness network; 4) Employment network. Are further broken down into initiatives. A couple examples of those initiatives are: The Workforce Alignment Initiative—seeks to build high school and advanced education courses and programs that would better prepare graduates for jobs that exist, or are planned to exist, here in New Mexico. Part of this initiative concerns training teachers. Many teachers achieve their roles only through the educational processes. They are not experienced in the workings of business. By providing teachers with an opportunity to learn how businesses work and what the workforce needs are, the program gives the teachers knowledge that can be used to tailor classroom instruction toward things actually beneficial to the student as they progress into the workforce. Career Exploration Initiative provides students with actual experiences and knowledge that they can use to better understand what careers that might be of interest...or those for which they do not have an interest. Involved businesses provide internships, shadowing opportunities, apprenticeships and classroom seminars or discussions, all with the goal of providing students an advance look at career exploration options and possibilities. A major part of instilling the desire to graduate, is the students having a pretty good idea that good jobs will be available upon graduation. If the entire plan comes together, New Mexico businesses will benefit; New Mexico students, our future workforce, will benefit and the general economy on New Mexico will benefit. As stated before, the increase in graduations is an admirable goal, but is also extremely aggressive and the process has formidable obstacles. It is a doable thing, if all pertinent parties can collaborate effectively. Volunteer persons and businesses are needed. For more information visit the Mission Graduate website missiongraduatennm.org If you can help, please contact Dr. Gonzales at 505-247-3671

- ♦ Two organizations have decided to terminate their EAGA membership. Butterfield Jewelers, most recently represented by Bill Maxey, and Urology Group of New Mexico, represented by Dr. Fred Snoy. We thank them for their past contribution to EAGA and we wish them well in the future.
- ♦ There will not be a meeting on November 24th so we can celebrate the Thanksgiving Holiday.

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Business Leads:

Bridgestone-Firestone store at 4300 Rankin Lane NE will become Bill Williams Truck Center Michelin-Goodrich. Elite Physique Gym is opening at 1660 Rio Rancho Drive, Rio Rancho.

- Lionel Specter—Zeon Signs

I will pay a fee for someone to tow a 24 foot travel trailer from Longview, Texas to Albuquerque

- Dan Mowery—Rader Awning

Reciprocity:

None written today.

- ♦ EAGA Holiday Party has been set for December 5th at Hyatt Regency - Downtown Albuquerque. 330 Tijeras, NW Cocktail hour from 5:00 to 6:00 PM. Dinner and presentations 6:00 to 7:30 PM. Dancing until 11:00 PM. Hotel self-parking is complimentary, upon availability. \$10 special for Valet Parking. Dinner entrée selection will be: Beef or salmon with wild rice and seasonal veggies; salad, desert and wine service. We will have sign-up sheets available at our Tuesday breakfast meetings beginning November 3rd. The hotel has set aside a block of rooms with a special rate of \$89 per room, plus tax. They have also provided a Booking Website for you to use when securing your room reservation. <https://resweb.passkey.com/go/EAGApartnership>
- ♦ November 15, 2015 will be the 55th anniversary of the formal founding of the Executive Association of Greater Albuquerque. According to various notes and memories that have been periodically recorded over the years, our nine 'Founding Fathers' actually had their first meeting on March 3, 1959 at the Tradewinds Motel. The purpose of that meeting was to develop a workable plan which would generate business for each participating company. They established a meeting format: Meeting time would begin 7:00 am and adjourn promptly at 8:00 AM; Meeting place would be the Tradewinds Motel; breakfast cost to be individually borne; and the next meeting would be on March 10th. No one had a good recommendation of what to name their group, so for a few weeks they called it "You Name It". Realizing that a serious and formal name would be more appropriate, and after some research, it was decided that the group should align themselves with the nationally chartered "Executive Association", and "You Name It" formally incorporated as Executive Association of Greater Albuquerque, on November 15, 1960. In the next few bulletins, we will provide other information, historical notes, and items associated with the organization's beginnings. We currently have a lot of 2nd generation member representatives, and would appreciate any information, memorabilia or documents that you can provide concerning those early years. If you have any information you would like to contribute, or documents you can loan, please contact Mario.

Badge Board Greeters

Nov 3rd Miguel Morrison - Gold Street Cafe
Nov 10th Kent Cravens—Kent Cravens Consulting, LLC
Nov 17th Jeff Bentley - Bentley's Auction
Nov 24th No Meeting - Thanksgiving Holiday
Nov 31st

Upcoming Speakers

Nov 3rd Round Table Discussion - "Best practices on finding new accounts"
Nov 10th Miguel Morrison - Gold Street Cafe
Nov 17th Brock Carter - Safety Counseling
Nov 24th No Meeting - Thanksgiving Holiday
Nov 31st

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