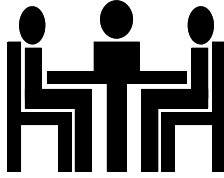


## STAFF

Alice Price - Exec. Director  
Paula Medina - Program Manager  
Erin Kenzie—School Programs Coord.  
Renee Mackey—Parent/Teen Coord.

# San Luis Valley



## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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## Victim-Offender Reconciliation Program

PO Box 1775, Alamosa, CO 81101 (719) 589-5255 slvorp@amigo.net <http://www.slvorp.org>

# Newsletter Fall/Winter 2006

### Program Philosophy

SLV-VORP brings young offenders, victims and the community together to search for reconciliation and solutions to “make things right.” We also serve 1) Schools & after-school sites—facilitation, training and systems development around conflict resolution, peer mediation, restorative discipline and bullying prevention; 2) Families—Parent-Teen Mediation.

## VORP Welcomes New Staff

This fall, VORP welcomed two new staff members to its team - Renee Mackey and Erin Kenzie. They have assumed responsibilities previously filled by Luke Yoder, who left for graduate school. Both employees have been kept very busy!

Renee, part-time coordinator of the Parent-Teen Mediation program, has been working to raise awareness of this valuable service. Her outreach efforts have focused on churches, schools and other youth and family organizations throughout the Valley. Parent-Teen mediator get-togethers in August and November provided opportunities to review ongoing cases and set goals for program development.

Our new School Programs Coordinator, Erin, has continued our work with the Bullying Prevention Initiative at 5 after-school sites and neighboring schools. We had the privilege to host John Halligan at three middle schools assemblies in September, where he

shared about his family’s experiences with bullying and his son’s related suicide. His presentations, sponsored by the Colorado Trust, helped articulate the seriousness of bullying to these youth.

VORP is excited to welcome Centennial Schools into the bully prevention initiative, through a partnership with the Youth Guild in San Luis. An all-staff training and school-wide kick-off were successfully completed recently, and we look forward to working with them on implementation in the coming year.

This fall, VORP also trained nine teams of peer mediators at the middle and high school levels. Many thanks to Teri Ebel of Tu Casa for her wonderful help!

Our Victim-Offender program continues to be strong due to increased referrals coming from Rio Grande and Costilla counties. We are also working closely with the Alamosa Municipal Court to identify young people who would benefit from referrals.



## VORP Honored as Finalist for El Pomar Award for Excellence

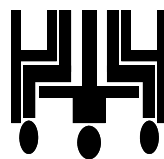
Members of our staff and Board travel to Colorado Springs at the end of November for a banquet and awards presentation hosted by the El Pomar Foundation. Awards for Excellence is a program established in 1989 by the El Pomar Foundation to “recognize and reward nonprofit Colorado organizations, businesses, and individuals who serve their communities with distinction.” As a finalist, VORP has been awarded \$7,500 and is in the running for a top Award for Excellence in its category. Wish us luck!

Turn over for an invitation to our Holiday Open House.

☞ *“If crime is a wound, justice should be about healing.” - Dan Van Ness* ☞

Return Service Requested

Victim-Offender Reconciliation Program  
PO Box 1775, Alamosa, CO 81101 (719) 589-5255



San Luis Valley

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(SLV-VORP)

**HOLIDAY OPEN HOUSE**



December 14, 2006  
3:30-5:30 p.m.  
Sacred Heart Church (Fireplace Room)  
709 4th Street  
Alamosa, CO