

STUDENTS CLOTHING BANK

- * **Service Hours:**
Tuesday – Friday
1:00 p.m. to 4:30 p.m.
- * **Donation Hours:**
Monday
9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.
Tuesday – Friday
1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.
- * **Physical Address:**
6020 Constitution Ave. NE,
Ste. I
Albuquerque, NM 87110
- * **Mailing Address:**
P.O. Box 94735
Albuquerque, NM 87199
- * (505) 294-1647
- * www.locker505.org
- * **Email:**
director@locker505.org
- * Please contact us for referral forms, flyers, or with any other questions!

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

You Will Be Missed!	2
Please Welcome Lisa and Saudi!	2
Thank You Donors!	3
Tips on Referring Students	3
Current Wish List	3
Coming Up: Recyclothes	3

Locker #505

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MAY 2017

National Family Month

This month we at Locker #505 want to celebrate and honor the families of the students who come through our doors. National Family Month begins on Mother's Day and ends on Father's Day and is celebrated as a time to reflect on family and how to make it stronger. Family can mean different things to different students, and our hope is as students come through our doors, their families feel honored and respected as well. No matter who a student considers their family, whether it be their parents, guardians, case worker, siblings, grandparents, neighbors, aunts and uncles, best friends, or

other members of the community, our job is to support that family so that their student is successful.

According to the Child Welfare Information Gateway, many child developmental specialists define family as, "someone who has a strong emotional attachment to another." When students come through our doors we understand that they come from all different backgrounds and situations and honor the circumstances that have allowed us to serve all of our students and families.

When a family member

comes with their student to Locker #505 we encourage them to relax and have a small break from the daily hustle and bustle. Our staff and volunteers strive to make not only the students comfortable, but the families as well. We want our students' families to know, that we are so grateful for all they do and the support they offer day in and day out!



A Message from the Director

It is hard to believe that Locker #505 will be completing its third year on May 19, 2017 and that **we have clothed more than 3,000 students in those 3 years**. Each year it seems the need grows and more recently so do are supporters, luckily. However, this year it is with a heavy heart that we say good-bye to two very dedicated ladies that have not only worked at Locker #505, but at the Bernalillo County Council of PTAs Clothing Bank. Between them they have dedicated more than 28 years to clothing students in Bernalillo County so they can

attend school looking good and feeling confident. I truthfully can say, "I could NOT have made Locker #505: Student's Clothing Bank a reality without them!" I will miss both of them terribly and wish them all the best!

We do have two new employees joining us, Lisa Kempfski and Saudi Herrera, we welcome you both with open arms and hearts!

One other thank you to ALL our fabulous volunteers, they make everybody's job easier and are wonderful with our students. They put in hundreds of hours; we couldn't do it without them. I

hope each of them has a wonderful summer and come back refreshed next school year.

One a side note, please continue to make donations over the summer at our drop off locations (listed on our website), we will need them at Back to School time. We have not determined an opening date for the 2017-2018 school year, so check our website, Facebook page, or give us a call for more information.

Have a relaxed summer and we will see you next year!

Kim Kerschen
Director
Locker #505: Student's Clothing Bank

You Will Be Missed!

As we explained in our April Newsletter, two of our amazing employees are retiring this month. We know this isn't goodbye, but more of a "see you later!" This month, we would love to show case Liz Thorn and Rebecca Gomez.

Liz Thorn is a mother, grandmother, wife, sister, nurse, and has spent over 20 years clothing students in need so that they feel comfortable and confident. She started bringing students in need of clothing that attended her son's school to the Bernalillo County Council of PTA's Clothing Bank (BCCPTA). The employees at BCCPTA Clothing Bank quickly noticed Liz's passion for children and her knack for knowing sizes and fashion; before she knew it she was an employee instead of a volunteer. After BCCPTA Clothing Bank closed, she took a year off until Kim Kerschen, founder of Locker #505, came calling—leading Liz back to clothing students like she had for numerous years previously. She has spent countless hours not only dressing students, but sorting, washing, stocking, and organizing clothing for thousands of students in need. Her dedication and dependability to Locker #505 has been extraordinary, and truthfully, Locker #505 would not look the way it does if not for Liz's exceptional organization skills, energy, and a bit of OCD tendencies. By June 1st, Liz will be retired not only from Locker #505, but also from her 38 year nursing career. She will leave behind a legacy that will be hard to match. Thank you Liz for everything you have done for the children of Bernalillo County, please know you are appreciated and loved!

We will also be bidding a sad farewell to our long time employee, Rebecca Gomez. When the Bernalillo County Council of PTA was looking for a new employee, Rebecca was the answer to all our hopes. It is obvious that Rebecca enjoys children when you look at her previous experience of being an Educational Assistant for Albuquerque Public Schools, not to mention the look in her eyes when her grandson walks in the room. Being bilingual is a true asset; Rebecca has been wonderful with our Spanish speaking students and parents. She also left the Bernalillo County Council of PTA's Clothing Bank when it closed and took a year off until Kim asked for her assistance in starting Locker #505. Her dependability and dedication are notable and both have made it possible for Locker #505 to succeed. Rebecca is truly going to be missed, not only her gentle disposition, but also her smile. Many thanks, Rebecca, for the thousands of students you made feel more comfortable and confident!



Please Welcome Lisa and Saudi!

We are so excited to welcome our new employees, Lisa Kempfski and Saudi Herrera! Lisa has been a professional volunteer most of her adult life; she has volunteered at her children's school and is the current Baseball Booster President for her son's high school team. As Lisa's children are starting to venture out on their own, she found she had more time, and thankfully will be spending it with us! Her many volunteer positions have all involved working with

children and coupled with her great organizational skills and flexibility, we are truly honored to have Lisa join us at Locker #505!

Saudi is a Native New Mexican who was raised in the East Mountains and attended APS schools all throughout her academic careers. Saudi has a true passion for helping others and has extensive experience in

retail and great knowledge about current fashion trends and the importance of having adequately tailored clothing—especially for children. Saudi has worked as a caregiver for the past several years and truly brings a warming and welcoming spirit with her wherever she goes. Saudi's relaxed and fun nature will truly be an asset for our Locker #505 team!



Thank You Donors!

This month we would like to thank the Solid Waste Department of Albuquerque and iHeart Radio!



Tips on Referring Students

- Our last day to see students will be May 19th this year, and we are currently not seeing anymore uniform students. Please do not wait until the last minute to refer students. Please encourage parents to come as soon as possible after receiving their referral.
- When referring a student please point out the hours for Locker #505, we do not take students after 4:30pm, and they are seen on a first come, first serve basis. Parents can always call before coming to Locker #505 to see if we will have time to see their child.

Our Current Wish List

This month we are in need of:

- **A rack for hanging clothes**
- **Small bookshelf**
- **Underwear: All size**
- **Socks: All Sizes**

We would love to have your school's lost and found! If any school wants to bring us their lost and found please do so no later than May 22nd!

Remember that if you have clothing to donate over the summer or when we are closed– we have a few places you can drop it off: Star Bright Cleaners (8000 Wyoming Blvd. NE B-8; Paseo and Wyoming), Aahsome Nails (3006 Altez St. NE; Moon and Candelaria), Dathan Weems Law Firm (108 Wellesley Dr. SE; Central and Wellesley) and The Recognition Place (3320 San Mateo Blvd. NE; San Mateo and Comanche).

Coming Up: Recyclothes Clothing Drive

Locker #505, iHeartMEDIA, the Solid Waste Management Department of the City of Albuquerque, and Hinkle Family Fun Center invite you to join us on **May 20th, from 9am-2pm**, for the Sixth Annual Keep Albuquerque Beautiful **Recyclothes** Clothing Drive! Participants that bring a donation of clean, reusable clothes, to Hinkle Family Fun Center on that day, will receive a free mini golf pass. All donations will go to the students of Locker #505. Come bring your donations and help us provide clothing for students in Bernalillo County!

