

Recommendation Update Form

This response is in reference to recommendation # 23-4 / Area Command VA

Responsible SME: Cmdr. Dietzel

Date Sent: 07/12/23

Date Due: 07/19/23

The recommendations in CPC 23-4 are already in place and their suggestion is appreciated.

Recommendation: That Albuquerque Police Department form a working group with Albuquerque Community Safety and any other organizations of expertise in behavioral management such as the Mental Health Response Advisory Committee, to address prevention of calls to APD for help managing those in behavioral crisis. Specifically, that the working group identify those individuals for whom there are a high volume of such calls, and formulate strategies to address the needs of these individuals and their families or caregivers with the goal to reduce the necessity of calls for police management and assistance.

Reference Recommendation:

The Crisis Intervention Unit is fortunate to already have a close relationship with the Albuquerque Community Safety Department and for the reasons below, an additional working group is not required.

Every Thursday morning for the past four months, the ACS supervisor of field response, attends the Crisis Intervention case staffing where information is shared about individuals on both the APD caseload and individuals ACS frequently visits. For these cases, a lead agency is determined based on a person's history of violence, access to and past use of weapons, and level of cooperation/receptiveness to efforts made by one agency or the other. The staffing is also meant to reduce duplicative service from both of our teams.

APD CIU also refers all non-violent cases that are received from field officers to ACS or the Bernalillo County Community Engagement Team facilitated by Youth Development Inc., for follow up, which could be an in person visit or phone call to provide post crisis resources.

Additionally, ACS responders have access to all APD CIU case notes in situations where the individual's identity is known at the time of dispatch for their reference before contacting a person in crisis. These notes can also be referenced after an ACS responder identifies a person during a contact. APD also supplies our active case list to Albuquerque Fire and Rescue's HEART, Albuquerque Street Connect, The University of New Mexico Psychiatric Services Department and Bernalillo County's Behavioral Health Department on at least a quarterly basis, but generally monthly or even weekly in the case of Street Connect and UNMH.

Albuquerque Community Safety personnel have attended MHRAC's Information Sharing and Resources Subcommittee meeting since their inception. As of May, the subcommittee has begun staffing particularly challenging cases, to allow ACS and CIU to obtain community perspective and recommendations on how to reduce utilization of both of our services by these individuals.

CIU also participates in the monthly ACS Coordination meeting involving ACS, APD, AFR, City Security, and often Albuquerque Ambulance. This meeting is meant to provide updates to changes in policy and handle recurring problems with dispatch and response of ACS and the aforementioned partners. The Mobile Crisis Team supervisors from APD and ACS also attend the meeting to provide updates to the group though the joint work of the Mobile Crisis Team program requires those supervisors to communicate daily.

Currently, APD and MHRAC are in discussions on how to consult with MHRAC for calls for service with a person in a behavioral health crisis. A review of these cases with MHRAC will center on how to better approach these situations.

Chief made aware of recommendation: Yes ☒ No ☐ Date: 7/27/23

Recommendation Status: Approved ☐ Denied ☒

*If denied please give reasoning:

This working group would be duplicative to efforts already underway.