

Meeting Notes for Task Force on Behavioral Health

January 22, 2015

Brief Remarks by Mr. Andy Vallejos

- Goal of the task force was to produce actionable policy items for City, County and the 2015 legislative agenda

Review of Legislative Finance Committee's Proposed Budget

- Task Force's recommendations have been included in HB2 (recurring funding) for the 2015 legislative session and are described in the Legislative Finance Committee's (LFC) budget proposal: **(see attached)**
The recommendation also includes \$2.5 million for regional crisis stabilization units, \$1.5 million for transitional and supportive housing, \$1.2 million for health homes to coordinate physical and mental health treatment of the sickest patients, and \$400,000 for promotion, outreach, and expansion of HSD's crisis phone line. An additional \$700,000 in Temporary Assistance for Needy Families was included in the Children, Youth and Families Department recommendation for a supportive housing pilot project for at-risk families.”
- Our goal for this legislative session (2015) is to rally the troops- speak before committees, send hand-written letters to Senate Pro-Tem Mary-Kay Papen, Senator John Arthur Smith, and Representative Larry Larrañaga so that we can protect the budget proposal at the State
- \$2.5 million is proposed for a crisis stabilization center; in the meantime, and while a center is being constructed, other places can house the services

Benchmarking Trip with Greater Albuquerque Chamber of Commerce to Pima County, Tucson

- Review of trip and notes
- PowerPoint from Pima County trip by Neal Cash- CEO- Community Partnership of Southern Arizona **(see attached)**
- Pima County began their crisis response center in the early 90's
- They committed to receiving anyone that needed help
- Difference in funding streams between AZ and NM: AZ has significant Medicaid reimbursement for mental health initiatives, their operating budget is well-endowed and they have an extensive community of providers, whereas NM has neither

- Pima County’s crisis triage set-up is something to strive for. Their system includes co-locations that include medical components, a very tight-knit partnership of information sharing with their police department in Tucson
- The patients that they intake are both there voluntarily and involuntarily (they have A.O.T.)
- They created a “community” of full-service facilities; peer support and case managers are available on the mental health campus. They place a huge emphasis on collaboration

APS Response to Behavioral Health Initiatives

- It’s necessary to include adolescence and APS in the behavioral health initiatives
- Behavioral health funding within APS is not adequate
- APS will work with this task force to put together a Memorial that will call for HSD, PED , task force on behavioral health to collaborate on funding and programming
- Ideally, APS would like to increase funding in school based health clinics

Meeting Adjourned