



**Coordinated Street Outreach (CSO) Committee**  
**3:30 – 5:00 pm**  
**August 12, 2021**  
**Minutes**

**Committee Purpose** – *The purpose of the committee is to establish a shared approach to conducting street outreach among workgroup members. The workgroup defines street outreach as the process of connecting and building trust with people experiencing homelessness where they are, with the goal of helping each person meet his or her immediate needs for survival, and helping each person to achieve wellbeing, belonging and connection according to their own understanding.*

**Meeting Purposes:**

1. **To bring all meeting participants up to speed with current information with updates**
2. **To address system gaps and unmet needs with high impact strategies within the first 60 days of meeting**
3. **To address and identify our philosophies, limitations and potential to meet the needs of our community members experiencing homelessness.**

**Meeting Participation Principles:**

- Past Progress – Many diverse, and respected voices have contributed to where we are today.
- Preparation - All background materials, minutes and project updates should be read, prior to meetings.
- Contribution – Every voice is elicited, uninterrupted, and heard.
- Distraction - Mute cell phones, avoid side-conversations, stay on-topic.
- Transparency – Acknowledge mistakes, provide upward feedback, seek differing opinions.

<b>Co-Chairs:</b> Dr. Denise Lin (UNM), Adriann Barboa (BernCo Commissioner), Lisa Huval (Dep Dir, CABQ-FCS)
<b>Attendees:</b> Christine Barber (StreetSafe), Laura Norman (CABQ Consultant), Lisa Huval (CABQ-FCS), Joseph Aranda (HopeWorks), Diana Lopez (YDI), Charlie Verpleogh (BernCo), Reed Russell (AHCH), Dolores Gomez (BCBS NM), Celina Lopez (CABQ DFCS Outreach), Pelatia Trujillo (DOPE Svcs NM), Dr Denise Lin (UNM), Alexandra Paisano (NMCEH), Billy Gallegos (CABQ), Trish Nogales (YDI)

<b>Item &amp; Individual:</b>	<b>Discussion/Action</b>
Welcome and intros of new participants, Lisa Huval	Lisa Huval facilitated introductions then reviewed agenda. Motion to approve minutes of March and April was made by Reed Russell and seconded by Denise Lin. Motion to approve passed.
Purpose/Meeting Schedule of Committee Going Forward, Lisa Huval	Lisa Huval proposed for discussion keeping the same time and day for CSO Committee meetings, but moving them to every other month beginning with next meeting being in October. Discussion followed with consensus being to hold meetings monthly, but reduce to 1 hour per meeting instead of 1.5.

Updates and Discussion:

a.DFCS Encampment Policy

Lisa Huval shared screen and reviewed the updated draft policy on Homeless Encampments. This was sent prior to this committee. Feedback previously received has been incorporated. Public comment period is open 2 weeks with the target to finalize the policy by end of September. Submit comments to Paul Haidle at the City; he is collecting the written comments. Lisa Huval shared staffing changes and hiring plans. The outreach/encampment team will be working more closely with the solid waste department of the City, because clean up is an important part of encampment removal. Community Safety Department will also work closely with the team. Question regarding how often the team interacts with the mobile crisis team, and Celina Lopez said that it is quite often in addition to contacting Street Connect too. Diana Lopez shared that YDI does community engagement with the County and reminded all that can call; a peer support worker may be assigned to help the person being moved.

b.COVID response for people experiencing homelessness

Lisa Huval reported that the City has closed some of its Covid/Wellness motels, effective June 30. There were 3 providing non-congregate emergency shelter for vulnerable individuals during the height of the pandemic. Adults have the opportunity now to be vaccinated, so the need had changed. Still operating 1 for families with children and plan to keep it open for this fiscal year (June 30 end). Still providing fast track to housing program, which is collaboration to help exit into housing. WEHC (Westside Emergency Housing Center) is the housing option for single men and women, and there are no plans for the WEHC to add back family services again said Lisa Huval. Screening and testing for Covid happen at WEHC, as well as vaccination opportunity.

When asked whether there were plans to reopen the closed motels, Lisa Huval said not at this time. Several committee members shared that housing for families is becoming an increasingly common need. Apartments are difficult to find, even though people have housing vouchers. An increase in calls for shelter related to domestic violence issues was also mentioned. The WEHC uses the former family pod to spread out single men and women, to keep healthy distancing among the guests; no plan to add family capacity back to WEHC per Lisa Huval.

Motel voucher enquiry by Christine Barber for families in need. Can more emergency motel vouchers be made available? Lisa Huval said that obtaining additional vouchers is a funding issue; not sure when new HUD money for this will be available but it is coming and will be focused on homeless persons.

Vaccine question from Christine Barber: is there data on how many people without homes are vaccinated? Lisa Huval does not think that housing status is tracked, so no data. Do have some isolation rooms at a motel (not a whole motel) related to those with Covid or awaiting Covid tests, and are now considering how to scale up given the Delta variant impacts. AHCH has a weekly Covid vaccine clinic for people experiencing homelessness, per Reed Russell.

c.Gateway Center at Gibson Health Hub

Lisa Huval provided update that in April, City acquired Gibson Medical Center, now called "Gibson Health Hub". Will have wide range of health-related services. Already 10 tenants in building, 7 of which provide medical or behavioral health services. One of the components will be the emergency shelter for people experiencing homelessness, called the "Gateway Center.". Released a high-level operations plan, feedback requested, then another document will come soon -the administrative

d.ABQ Community Safety Department	<p>policies. Also hope to have a Medical Respite program at the Gibson Health Hub, but this program is just in preliminary planning stages.</p> <p>Lisa Huval said that she would like to invite guest from ABQ Community Safety Department to a future meeting to answer questions, likely October meeting.</p>
<b>Next Meeting: Thursday, Sept 9, 2021</b>	

**Core Documents:**

**CABQ:** ABQ Street Outreach Agreement Draft 3-2-20, Street Outreach Report, <https://www.cabq.gov/family/partner-resources/meeting-minutes-agendas/homeless-coordinating-council>  
**BernCo:** Non and MCT Responses, **UNM:**