



Coordinated Street Outreach (CSO) Committee
3:30 – 4:30 pm
September 9, 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.

Co-Chairs: Dr. Denise Lin (UNM), Adriann Barboa (BernCo Commissioner), Lisa Huval (Dep Dir, CABQ-FCS)
Attendees: Christine Barber (StreetSafe), Laura Norman (CABQ Consultant), Lisa Huval (CABQ-FCS), Diana Lopez (YDI), Reed Russell (AHCH), Dolores Gomez (BCBS NM), Celina Lopez (CABQ DFCS Outreach), Dr Denise Lin (UNM), Alexandra Paisano (NMCEH), Evelyn Kuhn (Community Rep), Allie Busching (AHCH), Jodie Jepson (Heading Home), Comm Adriann Barboa (BernCo), Sam Sisneros (New Day), D’Albert Hall (CABQ-ACS)

Item & Individual:	Discussion/Action
Welcome and intros of new participants, Lisa Huval	Lisa Huval facilitated introductions then reviewed agenda.
Approval of Minutes, Lisa Huval	Motion to approve August minutes was made by Comm Adriann Barboa and seconded by Reed Russell. Motion to approve passed.

Updates and Discussion,
Lisa Huval, Dr Denise Lin
and Comm Barboa

1.)**DFCS Encampment Policy:** Lisa Huval said the second round of public input closed Aug 25th. Did receive some feedback, but not much. Incorporating this input, with the final document to be released by end of this month. Will review this again with this committee in October.

2.)**COVID 19 Response for People Experiencing Homelessness:** City continues to maintain a system of care to protect people experiencing homelessness from Covid 19. Continue to operate wellness motel as shelter for families; can serve up to 100 families there which includes 150 to 175 kids who are part of those families. AHCH and UNM Pathways continue to provide services in support of wellness motel residents. Are helping people to exit into housing using City-funded housing vouchers. More housing money coming later this Fall; will help house more families. Also, continue to offer isolation hotel for those needing a safe place to isolate due to Covid. Had been operating more, ramped down, now ramping back up due to Delta variant. City partners with the State on this hotel. Lisa said she sent email last week on how service providers can refer people who are Covid-symptomatic or positive; it is not just for homeless persons to isolate.

Comm Barboa shared that former Committee member Kevin Santry has passed away. He was passionate about his work with those who are homeless. He was honest, direct, a strong advocate.

Comm Barboa also shared that free bus passes are up for discussion at the City Council again; funding is set aside, but the implementation has yet to occur. The issue has stigma around it, thinking it relates only to homeless persons – but the free bus transportation would be for all.

Lisa Huval shared that the WEHC is still open 24/7, serving warm lunch and dinner in addition to providing shelter. Continue to offer screening and testing on site, and can move people to isolation hotel as needed. There was a question if another hotel will open to help families; Lisa Huval said the City is in conversation to expand motel vouchers but no opening of another hotel planned.

3.)**Gateway Center at Gibson Health Hub:** Continue to work on developing this Emergency Shelter (“gateway center”); one component of this very large facility that will be a hub for health and healing. Released operating plan a few weeks ago, and getting ready to release draft administrative policies that will include bed capacity and other internal details. Do need to request a conditional use permit for the Gateway Center, and there will be a hearing Sept 21. Winter 2022 earliest date for a projected start to operations.

4.)**ABQ Community Safety Dept (ACS):** D’Albert Hall said that the ACS Dept started responding to calls last week; volume is variable. Welfare checks and unsheltered individuals are the majority of calls thus far. 5 responders in 2 units now; hiring of staff continues. Main objective is to respond to non-emergency 911 calls; dispatched through AFR. If staff have down-time between these calls and see someone who may seem in need of help, they can reach out. Will begin working with encampments soon, to encourage people to connect with services. Lisa Huval added that FCS Dept of CABQ will be hiring 3 staff to work with encampments on public property also. Jodie Jepson asked what resources the ACS Dept has, to which D’Albert Hall replied that this have lists, provide linkages, and warm handoff were

Wrap Up / Q&A	<p>possible; they assist the people in making calls to resources. Not transporting currently. D'Albert will return next month for another update.</p> <p>Reed Russell asked about the status of the Citywide Outreach Coordinator Position. Lisa Huval said that First Nations has sent an updated proposal, but it has not yet been reviewed. Target to start was July 1, but now the target is as soon as possible.</p>
Next Meeting: Thursday, Oct 14, 2021	

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:**