



Homeless Services System
11:00 – 12:00
October 5, 2021
Minutes

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.

<p><i>Co-Chairs: Erin Engelbrecht (Mayor’s Office), Margarita Chavez Sanchez (Bernalillo County), Rodney McNease (UNM)</i></p> <p><i>Attendees: Erin Engelbrecht (CABQ), Cate Reeves (Presby Med Svcs), Rodney McNease (UNM), Marit Tully (Near North Valley NA), Margarita Chavez Sanchez (BernCo), Reed Russell (AHCH), Mario Cruz (Parkland Hills NA), Christina Apodaca (Martineztown/Santa Barbara NA), Cristy Hernandez (CABQ), Beth Brownell, (Stronghurst NA), Doreen McKnight (Wells Park NA), Laura Norman (CABQ), Melinda Frame (Parkland Hills NA), Laura Nguyen (MHRAC), Christina Parajon (CABQ)</i></p>
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Individual:	Discussion/Action
<p><i>Welcome and Agenda Overview, Erin Engelbrecht</i></p>	<p>Erin Engelbrecht welcomed committee members then introduced Christina Parajon who is the new Gateway System Analyst.</p>
<p><i>Introduction of committee members and approval of minutes, Rodney McNease</i></p>	<p>Committee members introduced themselves. Minutes for two months Aug and Sept approved; no objections, so approved as distributed.</p>
<p><i>Gateway Center Admin Policies – Cristy Hernandez</i></p>	<p>Cristy Hernandez provided update on Gateway Center: did have conditional use hearing last month and should have decision today or tomorrow from the zoning hearing examiner. She and Christina Parajon will attend neighborhood meetings of nearby neighborhoods for closer more consistent connections. They will be hosting weekly business meetings also via zoom and/or in-person, to build connections with nearby businesses, churches, schools – but all are welcome. Admin policies and ops plan are on website cabq.gov, with feedback forms. A question was asked regarding the status of the public safety district for the Gateway area; she did not have any updates since last discussion. Neighborhood associations are interested in furthering discussions on ‘good neighbor agreements’ per Melinda Frame. Cristy Hernandez said</p>

<p><i>Bernalillo County Updates,</i> Margarita Chavez Sanchez and Lisa Huval</p>	<p>she will be a part of that, so please contact her if there are questions on good neighbor agreements. Question asked as to whether there will be standard operations on all the Gateways, which would be helpful for neighborhoods. She was not sure and will research the answer. It was pointed out that limited housing supply could be problematic in the successful launch of this, as moving people out of shelter and into permanent housing is a part of the plan; what progress has city made in terms of housing supply increase? Cristy Hernandez shared that in FY21 the City spent \$20 million on supportive housing and services for people experiencing homelessness; rental assistance and case management, \$9.8 million; and city funded various agencies for housing vouchers. City is committed to increasing funds for next year. 73% increase between 2018 and 2022 by City in supportive housing vouchers..</p> <p>Margarita Chavez Sanchez provided updates from BernCo: the Community Connections budget has been increased by \$1 million, which increases case management and vouchers for clients with behavioral health issues. Infusion of federal ARPA funds coming into the State, so many plans and discussions underway on how to use the funds. She is continuing to highlight the need to invest in housing. Are in open application phase for single-site, 42-unit housing program “hope village” through HopeWorks. Link provided with request to get it out asap; 60-day window end of October to apply https://www.bernco.gov/department-behavioral-health-services/media-gallery/. https://www.bernco.gov/community-services/blog/2021/09/30/emergency-housing-voucher-landlord-incentive-program/. While there is not a large number of applications received yet, she anticipates many will be received by deadline. Hope Village is targeted to be operational by end of this year, dependent upon construction schedules. BernCo is discussing ways to engage landlords in all areas of the community to create more housing opportunities to use vouchers. County and City worked with a provider to do a gap analysis recently, which is published on their website – it is a good starting place to guide next steps, but there are some things missing still https://www.bernco.gov/community-services/blog/2021/09/02/bernalillo-county-hope-village-supportive-housing/. https://www.bernco.gov/community-services/wp-content/uploads/sites/57/2021/09/Hope-Village-Application-8.24.21-FINAL.pdf. City and County are working to build a joint strategic plan to reduce redundancy and ensure goals are aligned; will have community meetings related to the draft to gain input. One gap Mario Cruz will be looking for is lack of certified group housing for those in need psychiatrically; he sees this issue in the psych emerg room often. Margarita Chavez Sanchez added that the BHI housing subcommittee has raised this; part of where seeing some stressors are around certification/licensure which require action at state level. An intermediary service level like single-site does help address higher acuity behavioral health populations which can walk downstairs for help/support. In addition, there is a landlord incentive program related to moving in tenants with housing vouchers (link above). Erin Englebrecht said that a future meeting topic could be a presentation on this gap analysis.</p>
<p><i>UNM Updates,</i> Rodney McNease</p>	<p>Rodney McNease reported that planning and discussions continue with AHCH regarding medical respite services and what that may look like.</p>
<p>Q&A</p>	<p>Suggestion was made to incorporate and consider homeless issues related to new construction developments and developers; address these issues as growth is occurring. Research done related to mitigating adverse impacts to neighborhoods –</p>

<p><i>Wrap Up</i>, Gateway Center or GMC final questions</p>	<p>this was mentioned by Jackie Fishman at a neighborhood meeting per Melinda Frame; City staff to follow up on this and see where/what this research is and send to the entire committee. Question on WEHC related to misinformation that gets spread among the unhoused population – did it close due to Covid, because that has been shared on social media. Cristy Hernandez said it was not closed and offered for people to reach out to her via email if difficulty reaching the WEHC.</p>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • First Tuesday in Nov is next meeting: Nov 2, 2021

Core Documents:

CABQ: Focus Group – People With Lived Experience, Gateway Center Site Ranking Report, Gateway Center Online Survey Report, Gateway Center Public Input Session, Changing the Story document, Assessing Shelter Capacity Report (Barbara Poppe and Stephen Metreaux report), Gateway Concepts document, Medical Respite Community Needs Assessment

UNM: UNM Hospitals 2020 Community Health Needs Assessment

BernCo: Bernalillo County Healthcare Task Force Recommendations: 2014