



Homeless Coordinating Council (HCC)

Virtual Meeting Via Zoom Video Conference Tuesday, April 9, 2024

10:00 am-11:30am

Chair, Maria Wolfe, City of Albuquerque
Vice Chair, Julie Morgas Baca, Bernalillo County

Commissioner Steven Michael Quezada, Bernalillo County, Commissioner Adriann Barboa, Bernalillo County, County Manager Julie Morgas Baca, Bernalillo County, Mayor Tim Keller, City of Albuquerque, Councilor Renee Grout, City of Albuquerque, Councilor Nicole Rodgers*, City of Albuquerque, President Garnett S. Stokes, The University of New Mexico, Dr. Douglas M. Ziedonis, The University of New Mexico

Minutes

1. Call to Order – Chair Maria Wolfe called to order at 10:04am

2. Review & Approve April 9, 2024 Agenda

Motion: Vice Chair Julie Morgas Baca, County Manager
2nd: Councilor Renee Grout

3. Introductions and Announcements:

VA: Lisa Hamilton announced that this will be her last meeting as the VA was hiring a new person. She hopes that the new person will be able to attend the next meeting.

4. Review and Approve March 12, 2024 Meeting Minutes

Motion: Vice Chair Julie Morgas Baca, County Manager
2nd: Rodney McNeese

5. Updates: **Agenda Variation**

Bernalillo County – County Manager Julie Morgas Baca

Economic Development/Housing March 2024

- Housing Collaborative:
 - The first meeting with Collaborative Commissioners will meet on April 11th at MRCOG at 3pm
 - Agenda items include:
 - Discuss perspectives for the 5th Commissioners.
 - Discuss developing a job description for the Director position.

- Electing interim officers
 - Other administrative items related to the operation of the Collaborative.
- Requesting earmark from the remainder of the Federal Delegation (already submitted one for Heinrich) for a 60-unit multifamily site that will provide housing to low- and moderate-income families and senior citizens. The housing project is located on Bernalillo County-owned land at 6th Street and Coal Avenue in Downtown Albuquerque.
- The Bernalillo County Emergency Rental Assistance Program has now closed. The final figures include: 2,898 households served with rent and/or utility assistance; \$17, 413,211 disbursed in Bernalillo County outside the CABQ.
- Ceja Vista, a new affordable housing development will have its ribbon cutting on 4/24. This is over 400 units of affordable housing. The county provided conduit financing for the development.

BHI Housing Updates March 2024

*****Only numbers from February are reported as March performance reports haven't been received at the time of sending this report *****

- **Youth Transitional Living Services (YTLS)**
 - 45 young people were served in February.
 - BHI staff and clinical auditor, Dr. Helen Tafoya, conducted audits of all YTLS programs from December 2023 to April 2024. Summaries included below:
 - **Serenity Mesa** – Serenity Mesa well exceeded their performance targets. They continue to provide predominantly substance use treatment and service planning for youth ages 14-21. They demonstrated that a lot of groups, case management, and counseling is taking place, as they had plenty of documentation to prove so. They had a few findings regarding how client information was documented and sorted in their electronic medical record. Dr. Tafoya helped answer a lot of question from the staff regarding best practices and client care principals. The program will be receiving an increase in funds to help Serenity Mesa retain staff who serve clients.
 - **YDI** – YDI had a staffing shortage over the last 6 months which impacted the number of clients they were able to serve. The audit showed consistency in programming, but found a few deficiencies in chart notes of clients and how they were discharged from the program. Some documentation habits had improved from last years' audit, but the implementation of those practices was inconsistent. Auditors recommended several steps to remedy these. In the financial audit, several expenses could not be verified with the documentation provided. Auditors requested additional documentation from YDI and recommended these expenses be credited to the county if they could not be verified.
 - **New Day** – The team at New Day has shifted their staffing model. Overall, they are helping youth in their program to make connections to community supports and to support their individual goals. For a non-clinical program, New Day does well at being a “navigation” center for youth in whatever their needs are (i.e. housing, job readiness, applying for benefits, etc.) There were a few inconsistencies in how and what documentation was collected, the format chart notes were written in, and the content included in service plan goals. The program has shown improvement since their audit last year. Auditors made a few recommendations on best practices.

- **Community Connections Supportive Housing (CCSH)**
 - 209 individuals were housed and receiving services through this program in February. There were no new client referrals in February due to the waitlist being temporarily paused. It was reopened and more clients were drawn in March.
- **Single Site Housing-HopeVillage**
 - There were 36 individuals housed at HopeVillage in February. There are 6 vacant units due to clients discharging from the program.
 - A new CEO of HopeWorks/HopeVillage (Leon Dixon) was hired in December 2024.
 - A clinical audit of random selected charts was conducted at HopeVillage in March. BernCo has requested to complete a full clinical audit of all charts to further assess the program.
 - A One Time Funding agreement with HopeWorks expired in March. HopeWorks was able to make needed repairs for their facility and purchase supplies with the funds.
- **Transitional Housing Vouchers**
 - 123 motel vouchers were issued in February. All clients served received case management services and were offered resources by BHI service providers.
 - HopeWorks' One Time Funding Motel Voucher Program service request expired on March 21, 2024.
 - RRC issued a total of 57 motel vouchers to individuals exiting the Metropolitan Detention Center. 14 individuals (24%) did not report to First Nations to receive their motel voucher.
- **Capital Contracts and One-Time Funding Contracts**
 - The City of Albuquerque's Westside Emergency Housing Center (WEHC) capital contract expired on February 29, 2024. Nearly all the funding allocated in the agreement was used to make updates to the WEHC's restrooms and flooring, and to purchase 450 new mattresses and bedding. The updates will be completed by May 2024.
 - NM Veterans Integration Center continues to make great progress on their transitional housing facility. They anticipate being finished with the building construction before Summer 2024.
 - BHI staff continue to meet regularly with NM Children Youth and Families (CYFD) staff to discuss renovations of the SafeHouse for Sex Trafficked Youth facility. CYFD is working to get all of the work done in the facility before having a provider start licensing and operating the program. The projected completion date for the renovations is December 2024. Services are expected to begin in early 2025.
- **Tiny Home Village (THV) Updates**
 - As of March 31st, the census is 27 out of 30 residents. Two individuals self-discharged indicating they did not want to follow program requirements and guidelines, despite efforts by THV staff, contracted case managers and the contracted therapist efforts to engage client and provide opportunity for success. One self-discharged to live with family.
 - Interviews for potential new residents are being scheduled weekly with the goal of being at full capacity by the end of April.
 - Tiny Home #20 bedframe construction has been completed which will allow for all 30 units to be occupied.
 - Paul Chavez asked if that meeting on April 11th open to the public? County

Manager Baca said yes.

- Councilor Grout asked when the WEHC improvements, beds, bathroom facilities, etc. would be complete? Maria responded that they will be doing the flooring first, then the updates. We would be able to do one dorm at a time due to the current census.
- Councilor Grot asked if there was an estimated time for the completion? Maria said we don't have an approximate time frame as of yet.
- Commissioner Barboa brought up that there are several seniors in the WEHC – need more help – medical care – closer housing for elders at risk – we should discuss how to address this; should it be addressed at a future meeting or try to address prior? County Manager Baca – knows that Gilbert is working on this. Should we address as the HCC or should the HCC be updated on what the current plan is? Commissioner Barboa wants it addressed prior to the next meeting.
- Councilor Rogers did a pop-up visit and wanted to level set – appalled at WEHC – wanted to make it known what she saw, says she spoke to the construction people and says that the timeline is not what we are saying it is; we have postponed it due to not having a plan. She says that our census numbers are also not correct due to witnessing people being there that the staff didn't know about. She said every pod was full. Councilor Rogers wants the HCC to figure out where we can put the people staying there while we do the work so that we can start as soon as possible.
- The HCC agreed to a subcommittee to discuss WEHC concerns and report back at the next meeting. Chair Wolfe will put out a call to members of the HCC to see who wishes to be part of the subcommittee.

Veteran's Affairs – Lisa Hamilton

- No updates at this time

UNMH/HSC – Rodney McNease

- Dual Diagnosis Conference – will be covering in depth later
- Rodney – continuing MDC addiction clinic work – have identified a couple new providers – hiring directors for addiction work at MDC – expanding efforts
- Expanding discharge planning for addiction clinic – improve transition from MDC to the community to clinics to help with suboxone. Working to ramp up Suboxone induction at MDC.
- Child programs – child outpatient programs – Lamberton (Menaul/Freeway) – expanding programs for kids/adolescents – some addition programing. Young adults transitioning to Adults.
- County has funded the crises stabilization center for UNM
- UNM Street medicine – Chief of internal and geriatrics Alisha N Parada, MD – Center for Health – street medicine institute – April 11, 5:30 Hodgin Hall informational meeting – at Hodgin Hall – free parking on site – Lindsay Fox speaking there

City of Albuquerque – Maria Wolfe, Homeless Innovations Officer

- Receiving Area contract at the Gateway Center – the contract sitting at UNM now, need to finalize last changes.
- Medical Sobering scheduled for this winter
- We had a visit from the US Secretary Becerra to recognize the SAMHSA and HERSA funding.
- We have a few RFPs posted.

- The Family Housing Navigation Center (FHNC) is continuing to work with McKinney Vento to make sure the children located there can get transported to/from their schools on the APS busses.
- Thanks to BernCo for their funding to establish the therapeutic playrooms, teen rooms and other activity rooms to help the families at the FHNC. The rooms were all staffed and open during all of spring break.
 - Commissioner Barboa mentioned that the Medical Sobering Center and the Crisis Stabilization Center are separate needs both needed and are both equally important and that these two centers will be the places that NO ONE will be turned away from.
 - Commissioner Barboa wants to make sure that during summer break, is there something we can do to make sure the kids can get enrolled into the community centers and other summer programs.

6. Public Comment: **Agenda Variation**

- Peter Cubra thanks the committee for speaking about the WEHC – really needs vast amount of work. The Coalition for Safer Albuquerque is working on how to get the Medicaid State plan to help pay for housing. The Desert Hills facility is ready already and that could be 200 beds that we would be able to have. They would love to come to make a presentation to the committee if we could put it onto our agenda.

7. Updates Dual-Diagnosis Training Conference- Dr. Chenoah Bah Stilwell

- Dr. Tohen and team lead – Dr. Arora shared that Project ECHO will provide CME/CEU for free
- Logistics – APS, Berna Facio has openings in first 2 weeks in September as does Convention Center – not just a conference for training – also a network, discussion between VA, City, County, UNM, and other non-profit entities to serve more effectively our unsheltered, patients in need and re-entry for community members who need coordinated efforts
- In addition to 1-day summit, a pre or post session to coordinate more effectively. Better coordinated or warm hand-offs, more flow with the System of Care.
- Berna Facio & Convention center are the 2 main locations under consideration – plan to finalize date this week. Still looking to see if we can get any of the MCOs to co-sponsor. Also looking at hybrid options?
- Adding Lindsay Fox, Lisa Sedillo White and Dr. Parada to advisory group.
- Many topics that will be covered including Street Medicine Project ECHO, expecting mothers with dual-diagnosis and many others (see outline document).

8. Update Community Solutions built for Zero Program

Jazmin Moreno – Lead for Built for Zero

- working with project ECHO on case conferencing sessions – streamlined, centralized process to advance a group – FAMILIES at this time (then will progress to other demographic groups) – to advance toward stable housing – meeting bi-weekly – to identify actions needed to move people toward housing ASAP, end goal of August 2025 for functional zero.
- Thanks to agencies who are involved – so many are concerned about silos – we need to build commitment to coordinating and collaborating – details will be available at next meeting – starting analysis on current Homeless Coordinating Council (HCC) April 9, 2024

priority family lists – trying to be equitable – next on list plus demographics that should be considered for equity – looking at social network as well – looking at agencies and what they are doing together and where there are gaps

- Dr. Ziedonis question – leadership is very helpful and updates are helpful – Excited to hear about Social Network Analysis. You’re doing great networking and community groups together; collecting the correct data analysis to ensure we are analyzing similar data to other entities. Do you have a write-up of progress, plan, the team, staffing needs, \$\$ from UNM? Dashboard of data? How as an Advisory Group can we be helpful? Jazmin replied that as for the staffing question – we are hiring a data manager. Built for Zero has the dashboard – Have toolkit and comprehensive guide to services. He expressed feeling a little disconnected from the program. Jazmin apologized and gave the probable time for the next meeting, stressing that it is bi-weekly at this time. They have a meeting end of May – working with Project ECHO on May 23 – she will reach out ASAP when a time is set. Dr. Ziedonis also spoke about DNI, given your interest in data, have started <https://hsc.unm.edu/research/centers-programs/cadis/>
- Commissioner Barboa said that the DNI is amazing. They had a subcommittee on Community Outreach Teams that met regularly on outreach efforts. When they closed that group, they provided a grant to First Nations to continue that work? Jazmin said that there is a member of First Nations that attends their improvement meetings, they are taking over the monthly sessions for case review that were organized by Erin Boyd; using that time to adjust it to the BFZ. Also, Randy John from First Nations is a outreach coordinator has a city contract. Erin Boyd is also working on an outreach continuum from starting off with coffee to full housing.

9. Subcommittee Update- Native American Homelessness – Dr. Chenoa Bah Stilwell

- Southwest Indigenous Housing Justice Collective meets the 3rd Monday of each month via zoom so anyone is invited. They convene a variety of tribal leaders and community members – not just unhoused throughout our communities but looking at resources for human rights framework with housing first perspective bringing community partners together to help people gain access to stable housing.
- Flora Lucero and her staff from Bank on Burque gave a presentation on Financial Empowerment Programs.
- Collaborative efforts between tribes for people coming here for medical treatments with lodging; Casa Esperanza is a good resource.
- Native American Housing Survey has been launched to ask Native American about their housing needs. Will share the results when they get them.
- Gallup McKinley County will be having a resource fair this summer if anyone is interested in helping to support.
- UNM has a basic needs grant that is peer to peer training for UNM students, and now tribal college students in NM to share about supportive access for food security and housing security – the two biggest reasons why students are dropping out of higher education.

- Commissioner Barboa said that at the HCC Summit last year it was brought up about

the high population of Native Americans – that it was important to focus on this topic and is excited about this committee; she would like be able to attend the next meeting.

10. Announcement of the next HCC Meeting

May 14, 2024 10:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.

WEHC update and Seniors at WEHC collaboration to be discussed instead of the UNM Regents presentation overview as previously planned.

11. Adjourn Meeting – Maria Adjourned at 11:31am

* correction in spelling