

Mental Health Response Advisory Committee (MHRAC)

Information Sharing and Resource Subcommittee

Annual Report 2021

Prepared by: MHRAC Information Sharing and Resource Subcommittee, November 2021

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Information Sharing and Resource Subcommittee

The purpose of this MHRAC Subcommittee is to help develop protocols that govern and release and exchange of information about individuals with known mental illnesses and to protect their confidentiality. Additionally, this subcommittee works to help APD identify new mental health resources in the Albuquerque area.

Subcommittee Topics covered in 2021 included:

- The APD/MHRAC Resource Card update specific to the conditions created by COVID
- Communication between MHRAC and Field Services Bureau Officers
- Trends from Force Review Board and CIT call reviews
- Non Law Enforcement Mobile Crisis Teams
- ECIT Response Rates
- The role of the new Albuquerque Community Safety Department
- New Community Engagement Teams and their use at APD
- Privacy/confidentially language for APD's Response to Behavioral Health Issues policy
- Review of APD SOP 2-19 Response to Behavioral Health Issues

Major Projects of the Subcommittee in 2021

City's Encampment Policy

During April's meeting the process of how city employees from both APD and the Department of Family and Community Services, should respond to reports of encampments on public property was discussed. This meeting included members of multiple city departments and the majority of the MHRAC Board. Feedback was given from the board and subcommittee members on what the process of removal of an encampment should be. The policy is close to publication and this early input in the policy was helpful both to the city departments involved and for MHRAC members to understand the proposed strategy.

Bylaw Update

Another major topic of discussion this year for the subcommittee was a review of the MHRAC bylaws, headed up by Max Kauffman. The bylaws had not been updated since 2016. The subcommittee spent considerable time weighing issues like term limits, the approval of new members to the Board, as well as

what organizations should be represented. MHRAC will soon have new leadership and the final approval of the new bylaws will likely wait until that new governance is acclimated to the role.

Goals in 2021

- Review and Update the MHRAC/APD Resource Card for 2022
- Clarify Policy Review Process
- Continue to provide input to the integration of the Albuquerque Community Safety Department into the City's response to behavioral health emergencies.
- Publish confidentiality language in the revision to APD behavioral health policy.
- Continue to evaluate the new encampment policy as implemented
- Continue to advise on the integration of the Gateway Center
- Publish revised bylaws for MHRAC's Board