Meeting Minutes

Voting Members:
- David Ley
- Paula Burton
- Rob Nelson
- Matt Dietzel
- Maxwell Kauffman
- Rosa Gallegos-Samora
- Nils Rosenbaum
- Sarah Alires
- Gilbert Ramirez
- Betty Whiton

Non-Voting Members:
- Eric Garcia
- Diane Dosal
- Absent:
  - Danny Whatley
  - Rick Miera
  - Lea Harrison
  - Robert Salazar
  - Laura Nguyen
  - Leyna Ingerg

Attendees via Zoom (captured by zoom list- some not captured due to lack of name on screen)

Travis Scott
Mark Landavazo
Shania Gallegos
Mike Kruchoski
Lawrence Saavedra
Mike Sciarrillo APD CIU
Sgt. Dosal (CIU)
Barri Roberts
Emily Jaramillo
Bentley Oliver
Kimberly Pruett
Elizabeth Toensmeier
C Salazar PRO (Parents Reaching Out)
Sarah Alires
Jason downing
Karen

Det. D. Padilla (CIU)
James Ogle
Joshua Reeves
Mary Perez
Patricia Serna
William Hoffman
Mary Chavez
Frank Reid
Cori Lowe
Christopher Ortiz
Timothy Espinosa
Paula

Out

Dr. Rosenbaum

Laura Kunard
Nancy Martin

Wendy Wofford
Lindsay Van Meter
Marguerite (Marguerite#Business Solutions LegalShield)
Lisa Huval
Jessie Chambers (Jessie)
Quinn Donnay (she/her)
Bex
Owen Whooley
Caroline.Chavez
Katherine Turner
Shannon Miera-APD
Laura Braun
Rob Garnand
Cathy Imburgia
rob nelson
Betty Whiton
We have lost our admin due to contract issues, I am trying to get a handle on the contact list, so if certain folks are not on it is on me.

Call the meeting to order (5:07 p.m. MT). In service to our chair Danny Whatley who is on sabbatical this month, we would like to start this meeting welcoming any first time guest. This is the Mental Health Response Advisory Committee in service to Albuquerque Police Department and the DOJ Consent decree.

Do we have any first time guests and would they like to introduce themselves and what brings them to the meeting today?

First Time Guests

Cmdr. Timothy Espinosa is present today to discuss the Proactive Response Teams (PRT)

Frank Reid I decided to come by and see what is going on.

Ryan Trujillo, Social Worker with Bureau of Behavioral Support (Employed by the Department of Health or Developmental Disability Support Division)

Cathy Salazar, Lead Healthcare Family Liaison for Parents Reaching Out

Carolyn Chavez, Work with the Developmental Disability Population

Katherine Turner, New member on SE CPC and President Fair West Association, Food Pantry for St. Johns Cathedral

Patricia Serna, Policy and Procedure Manager with APD

Mike k, SE CPC

Joshua Reeves, City of Performance Innervation Department on the team designing the new ACS

Laura Braun, Program Manager for Assisted Outpatient Treatment
- MHRAC was formed in response to the consent decree that APD entered into with the DOJ. This committee is by agreement. Required to include members of APD, as well as, individuals from the community representing homeless services, mental health services, drug and alcohol services and folks from the hospitals here in ABQ.
- I have served on this committee since inception and I will say over the time we have had some very positive influence. The mental health aspects of the consent decree with the PD are the elements of the consent decree that have been identified by the monitors and the judge involved as being successes. This committee has done and effective job of engaging with the PD and developing relationships. Such as we were able to revise and transition many policies, training procedures and even organizational structures within the PD as it regards mental health and homeless issues in a way that has ultimately served our community very positive. I am proud to have served on this committee and serve as interim chair tonight.

Approval of meeting minutes

David

- Member of the committee should have received the minutes. I hope everyone has had the chance to review them. I will entertain a motion to approve them or any recommendations for revision that may be necessary.

Paula

- Do we have enough members tonight for a quorum?

David

- We do have a quorum.

Paula

- Beginning of the minutes I am not sure how these names are organized but it has the non-voting and absent members above the second session of people who attended.

David

- That might be an artifact to the way you are looking at it but I printed it out and it looks clean.
- Any other comments or concerns about the minutes?
- I entertain a motion to approve them.

(Missed who said this)

- I motion to approve

David

- That would be a motion because I cannot move that.
- Is there a second a then?
Nils
- Yes, I second that.

David
- Thank you Dr. Rosenbaum.
- All in favor of approving the minutes as indicated?
- Any opposed?

(No objections)

Albuquerque Community Safety Department

Joshua
- (C) As far as the overall design we don’t have any set plans for it. This whole effort needs to steam from community desire and community need. Right now, we have various working groups looking at various operations, dispatch, emergency responses, the budget, etc. We are in the process of working out all the considerations to include outreach. Are first priority is getting community input. Well we are looking at various options of what it will look like, we have not decided what will be the responsibility of this Department. We are still very much in the planning stage and looking into public input. We are noticing trends with the types of areas when it comes to mental health, homelessness issues that we could use the experts’ in the field that can better help.

- (Q) Are there any specific questions?

Pam
- (C) I am joining this because I am not sure what this is going to be. Are you looking at a collaborative effort with officials to assist with some of these issues or is this going to be kind of a citizen based training program to where people who are interested in being involved can make some kind of an impact in some of these areas kind of on their own?
- (C) I was at a store and there was an incident that occurred where a lady was trying to steal and one of the employees was trying to keep her from stealing and waiting for the police. The girl had issues, drug issues mostly, but she kept saying “the police aren’t going to come”. I know that they are not going to come and I wanted to step in. I don’t know where my part is as a citizen to try and help with that. I don’t know if this group is going to revolve into something like that with some training. I don’t know what this group is or if this group knows what it wants to be.

Joshua
- That is an excellent point. While we might not know exact details on the levels of calls or the exact collaboration is going to be APD or AFR but we want this to be a cabinet level where it is an equal response to PD to Fire, we are going to take 911 calls…… they will provide a different level of support than they might get from a police officer. Responders from this department would interact differently than a police officer would and we are still determining the level and background the type of responders will have. For now, this will be city employees just as PD and AFR to come and offer a different type of support to those various needs.
- Does that make any sense?

Pam
It does

I would like to propose to the city that included with that maybe would be some type of citizen training. I think the situation yesterday could have been resolved fairly easy but I didn’t know how to approach the situation. I think in conjunction with a cabinet level group of first responders and you would have to have a level of education of masters and above. If there were some citizen training programs to go on to deal with this professionally without anger or violence. I think that would double the city’s effort.

Joshua

I hear you there and I think this is going to be an ongoing conversation and as we roll out we will see what areas we need to grow. It will take education and educating the public and the public educating us. Are there ways we need to adapt to better meet the needs. In the chat gilbert put that the person who is leading is Mariela and her email is there. feel free to email your questions to her. We are taking all this input and will eventually come out with what our plan is.

David

(Q) not sure if this is a rumor or information share publically. Is it a plan for COA to release a tentative ACS budget by august?

Joshua

(A) we are currently working on that right now but do not have that entirely worked out yet.

David

My concern and me speaking on my own behalf is that is raises my eye brow to announce a creation of such a large project and potentially pulling funding from other programs and not have much of a plan. I certainly think this is an important powerful project long reaching project but I am always concerned about “ready fire aim” strategies.

Joshua

I hear you there but I think the Mayor’s ultimate goal is to have this 3rd alternative response and he wanted people to know that is the direction we are heading. It is difficult to say we know what that looks like best and we are coming up with different possibilities but we felt that we needed to hear the public first and what they need before we announce what this brand new revolutionary idea looks like. We are in the process of creating that strategic plan.

David

The elements of the consent decree that the MHRAC is responsible for, services to folks with mental illness, homeless, etc. They are not going to go away if the responsibility with those individuals are transferred to another department. If the COA moves the responsibility, this committee still holds the COA responsible to the consent decree for them. Which leaves APD in a complicated place if responsibility for those interventions moved away from them.

This is something I am concerned about and this is something we are watching. The data that we track for those things, we are still going to ask Lt. Dietzel for them and if he has to get them from your department than I am sorry but that is on you guys and you are responsible for that.

Joshua

That is one of our working groups responsibilities is identifying all of those places where those responsibilities of APD and how they see us integrating to make sure none of those
are falling through the cracks and that we have met all those requirements, so we welcome the accountability.

Mary Chavez (Lisa)
- My concerning is the funding will be taken away from the agencies we use. How is this going to affect other agencies that we need? Is the funding going to be cut back from the agencies that we need since the ACS is developing?

Joshua
- Excellent point. We are not trying to step on the toes who are already providing the support, we want to only enhance or add upon them or restrict to better collaborate.

David
- This is something that is very important to the community. There probably is some nervousness on the possibility that this is a shiny object that goes away. We ask that you can keep coming to this meeting and perhaps we can hope for a presentation of a plan on how it would look and how it will function.

Josh
- Yes, we can do that when we finalize this we will do our outreach to all stakeholders in the community. I understand the desire to have something right now. We are wanting to make sure what we do actually reflects the needs and desires of the community.

Lisa Chavez
- Do you have any plans to meet with the stakeholders in the future?

Josh
- Yes, that is one of our biggest priorities. We are working on a facilitation model and identify various holders of stakeholders we want to approach.

David
- I know Mariela is in the meeting today and I am not sure if she wants to comment about that plan. Has there been a creation of a plan with specific communities around provider, peer, family, and homeless input. Is there a plan on how to get that input?

Mariela
- I have been meeting with a ton of groups. I have this master list with everyone and if I have not reached out and you would like to be involved please let me know. Once we are ready to start the facilitations we will send out the invite to this group. we do not only want to bring in “experts” that are working this but those who are impacted by this work. I am doing additional outreach to people who are homeless, have addiction, etc. we are working on getting a perception survey out there so we can get additional comments.

David
- I encourage you to share some of those documents with some members of this committee so we can identify groups you might not be talking to.

Mariela
- I will talk to Lt. Dietzel on how we can work on that and what to share with you guys that would make the most sense.

Max
- What I am curious about, this is a question to the board here. I know there were a number of concerns raised, but I am wondering if anyone else has some strong objectives about this department?

Paula
The issue of financing will have to be answered at some point and I think there will be overlapping assignment. I heard this was a reaction to the protests and rioting. I have some reservations that this department has not very well thought out.

Mariela
- I have reservations. We have a right to have reservations so I welcome those because it is what is going to keep us accountability. We are the first in the nation to do a department wide response. I am happy to meet offline and discuss further.

Rosa
- I have been able to have discussion with Mariela and I think her heart is in the right place….. I also think some of us who work within the community have certain concerns. I don’t know that this response is going to make us all happy but if we keep it under the MHRAC and CASA umbrella and making sure the right entities are overseeing this, I think that is best for all of us.

Mariela
- I welcome these conversations. To me transparency is going to be the key to having better relationships. We are going to have to start slow and build up.

David
- My…. Drops out when it comes to hiring those folks because that is my staff you are talking about.

Mariela
- We are forming a pipeline with NMHU, social work. figure out how to better keep our social workers, pay them well and do additional training, etc. we are trying to figure out how to start a pipeline.

Gilbert
- As a board member of course I have reservations but this administration has always said that public safety is a priority of theirs. We have a public safety group that has all the department heads meeting weekly to discuss how we can improve all services. A lot of great ideas have been shared in that area and it was not just a reaction it was an opportunity that came forward that at this time what can we do to bring all these changes together. We are facing a hard time in regards to the budget due to the gross receipts tax has gone down so there is a lot of digging we are going to have to do and we hope to be as transparent as possible.

David
- I will share that Laura Kunard said the IMT is interested and supportive in the development of this department but will watch it closely in terms of the CASA. She is available for contact if needed.

Audrey Barada (in the chat)
- Is there a plan to include youths/minor mental health issues or is it largely adults?

Mariela
- We will need a youth perspective

Public Comment

Audrey Barada
- I have been referred to you guys. In my situation I have a young man in my house who has mental health issues. I was encouraged to reach out to you guys but the officers told me
that they would be submitting my case to your department but it might be denied because as far as mental health they are not sure he will meet the qualification. As I hear Mariela speak, I want to be more involved in this because the way I am seeing it is I am trying to prevent a problem from happening in the future.

David
- I invite you to reach out and chat with me, I will send you my email and perhaps I can help provide your family resources.

Lisa Chavez
- Here we see an increase in calls with the youth, who suffer maybe autism, how involved are we going to have the department of health, parents reaching out and other agencies dealing with these individuals?

David
- I will note we have someone here from disability rights of NM. We have had in the past CYFD members attend and you bring up a good point on tending to the needs of youth and children in our system is one that has always been a growth area for us.

Max
- Perhaps Lisa can talk about this more as of Aug. 31, the stay on evictions is said to be lifted. I believe a month ago that 20, 000 evictions are going to be lifted, so we might see an up take in homeless related crimes. This new department is probably going to roll out in time to catch this wave. This is not to say that its efforts might not save off its impact. It is affecting its communities out there already, so I think we should all keep this in mind.

Ryan Trujillo
- We are here attending because we do want people to become more familiar in what we do. we do support just over 6,000 individuals with IDD and they need a variety of services. A small portion do need mental health services and have interaction with APD. We do want to slowly develop partnerships with the community……………we want to grow with our community.

David
- We have had in the past number of discussion around children and youth with autism.

New Shelter Update by Lisa Huval, Deputy Director, Family and Community Services

David
- Can I ask you to update us on the never ending shelter plans?

Lisa
- In the fall of 2019 approved 14 million dollars in general obligations for a new homeless facility, soon after election we referred to this as the Gate Way Center.
- After the Nov election we engaged in several types of community planning and we released a report in Feb. that identified the potential locations we were aware of and we evaluated in rank those sites and identified 3 top potential sites. We are now looking at other two potential sites but no final decisions have been moved away.
- We have total moved away from a very large gateway center. At this point we are talking about multiple gateway centers, at least two. We will continue to remain apart of the system of care while we build up our capacity.
- I wanted to clarify on the comment on the evictions. I am not aware there is an expiration date yet, I don’t know if things have changed.

Eviction conversation

Quinn

- I am here to give an update. We have completely moved away from the 300 bed mega shelter. we are moving to several multiple sites. We are focused on the two narrowed down locations and what we are looking at now… helping the needs of those who are experiencing the needs of homelessness. One of the locations we are looking to have a medical recuperative focus. The level of recuperative focus we are going to have, we are still looking into licensing, would be a 24/7 drop off for first responders and also a referral location for hospitals and healthcare facilities. One of the locations we believe will have 70 beds. The target demographics we are not sure about that yet.
- In terms of services, a person is already connected to any services. We do not want to completely re-traumatize someone. With the medical focus there will be a small number of emergency shelter bed if the first responder did not have enough time to make it to the west shelter.

David

- In service to the first responders dropping people off. I would strongly encourage thinking about protocols and which individuals are brought to which location for drop off. The more guidance the better.

Quinn

- We are in strong conversation with the county and UNM.

Jeremy Lihte

- I assume Haven, turquoise log, etc. would remain at the same site but we would work collaboratively with them?

Quinn

- That is correct, that is the hope.

Introduction to APD Policy Unit with APD Policy and Procedure Section

Patricia Serna

- I joined APD March 2nd as the Policy Manager in the Compliance Bureau in the Accountability and Oversight Division
- I wanted to point out that in some areas in APD website you will see the mention of office policy analysis but it is a part of policy and procedure.
- In my roll I am responsible for APD 200 plus policies. I function as a liaison with internal and external stakeholder such as yourself and the DOJ, independent monitoring team and the civilian police oversight agency board. My team consists of our SOP liaison and SOP coordinator. Together we work with our policy owners and City Legal to get out sop developed and implanted.
- The CASA paragraphs 139-14 require the department to meet specific requirements. SOP 3-52 essentially legitimizes the paragraphs. (provided on the screen a flow chart that outlines the process)
- We have an ask, moving forward for any new policy that we are unsure if they need MHRAC review we are going to send them to you for a courser review.
We wanted to know, and we can talk these things through email, that if you have any recognizable criteria when considering a policy needing MHRAC’s review and if you would be willing to share those with our team.

Lt. Dietzel
- Policy Update: CIU policy and Response to Behavioral Health Issues are both heading to the CPOAB next. They passed PPRB July 8. The Proactive Response Team SOP is due to for feedback, expires tomorrow. Peer support is due back July 29 at 1:00.

David
- I was concerned when I found out with in folks in the department that the peer support policy had not been looked at since 2016.

Patricia
- We have gone through some turn over. A CASA related policy on average can take 9-12 months to develop and revise and re-implement, so that alone is a tedious process. we are working on shorting that lead time in an attempt to look at policies on a more regular basis.

David
- The concern I have with that is MHRAC is reviewing to polices and curriculum on an annual basis. If it takes a year to get our input in place, then in a year we are reviewing a policy that may have just gone into effect and we have no idea what programmatic input we may have had.

Patricia
- In terms of submitting a policy recommendation, does it help to know that anyone can submit a policy recommendation? I provided the link for the policy recommendation form.

David
- It is still a lingering concern on the length to implement policy changes.
- In service to your early question, I would say anything related to the CASA. What we have found is training curriculum and polices that spoke to mental health and we ran across is and that has lessened so I am hoping we have found them all.

Introduction to Proactive Response Teams, with Commander Tim Espinosa

Cmdr. Espinosa
- I am the SW Area Commander. History on PRT…almost two years ago Sgt. Middleton was working downtown and there was a study done that mapped out the “hot spots” where we had the most amounts of concerns, calls for service, etc. for each area command. As a result, instead of creating a band aid on the area, we took an approach as considering it as your zone for your outreach and enforcement through the PRT. We did a pilot program in the SW and SE area command, so we designated some officers and supervisors in that area to do a full on community policy approach. It was not about strictly enforcement or community engagement; it was a good balance of both. Over our pilot project within 6 months we saw a reduction in the calls for service by about 40%. We then expanded into the other area commands and creating a policy to abide by. The PRT is not strictly about targeting anyone specific demographic in that area. We use resources based off the issues of concern in that area and the feedback we get from the community stakeholders in that area. The term outreach can encompass almost anything that we are doing to provide resources to the citizens in that area.
- They focus on the specific area in the area command that brings the most concern.
- I wanted to make sure we are not gearing this toward one specific group if demographics. We are contacting business owners, community members, etc. to gather the most information to help that area.

Max
- It is very interesting that this is intersecting with ACS, so I wonder if that is contemplated with the PRT. I would suggest that if your team is filing a charge on some low level misdemeanors that you are connecting them to a service provider. I can explain more if you want to get together.

Cmdr. Espinosa
- Definitely I would like to discuss that. The tip of the spear is not enforcement, it is always outreach and resources first.

David
- Is there a training curriculum set up for officers that are in the PRT that helps them understand those duties/responsibilities? I am wondering if any of those touch on mental health or substance use related components.

Cmdr. Espinosa
- That is in the development stage. The reason why is that the policy has not been approved yet, so in order for us to submit to the 7 step training process with the Academy we have to have a policy set up.

David
- My concern always is that when these things are not thoughtfully integrated things fall through the cracks, good things go away, so I would like the department to put in some good thought on how PRT integrates with other programs.

Introduction to Welfare Check program AFR and City Security
Defer this to the next meeting due to time.

Report and Update from CIU, APD and Dr. Rosenbaum
Nils
- One of our clinicians is retiring, Mark Oberman. He will be leaving in September. He has done an amazing job for us, so he will be missed.

Report and Update from C.O.A.S.T
Rob
- COAST works in a dual role. We are still doing intakes for the HGI which is the hotel for the folks waiting for their results of the COVID tests. We have returned to working our cases of the low level because things are starting to stir up.
- I received a lot of calls today about people not receiving their unemployment benefits. Does anyone know when they are supposed to release those funds?

David
- I don’t. I will say that I got an unrelated email from CYFD that some of their funds were delayed. Historically I recall those results go into the same type of portal.

Rob
- I was just wondering so tomorrow I can address those issues. If the funds are there great, if not I will have to go a different direction because people are going to get evicted from their hotels.
Report and Update from Sub-Committees

David (Training)
- We met last month and had a productive discussion and then some productive behind the scenes work with APD and training miscommunication with the Academy and developed a process to move forward and have invited them to join the subcommittee next month.

Matt (Information)
- We this month. Patricia was there to talk about policy process. it seems this committee is going to do a lot more with policy. We had a quick discussion on LEAD and what it is and that was all we had time for.

MHRAC Final Discussion

David
- We will have a discussion next month around the welfare check program.
- Next meeting: July 21, 2020

6:56pm adjourned