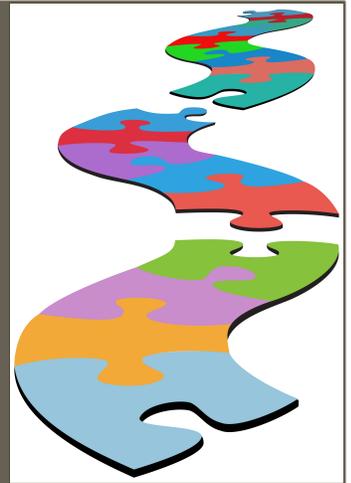


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# BEHAVIORAL HEALTH INITIATIVE

*Improving outcomes  
in our community*



A publication of the Albuquerque/Bernalillo County collaborative



## In this issue

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Meet the current members from our community — elected officials, staff, consultants, and volunteers — who are working together to improve lives through the BHI.

3

An update on approved BHI projects, work underway by the subcommittees, and a feature article on a different approach to address re-entry rates at the Metropolitan Detention Center (MDC).

4

Learn what our community partners are doing to further leverage behavioral health resources to improve outcomes, including a new inpatient treatment service for teens, *Recovery Month* celebrations and more.

## The Facts: BHI is Responsible, On Task and Improving Lives

In the last issue, we discussed the importance of communications to help clarify questions on funding and priorities that are “filling the gaps” in our behavioral health system. Recent articles in the media highlight the accomplishments made thus far yet concerns prevail over the rate of progress and lack of a Crisis Response Center structure to date.

While most criticism acknowledges the slow rate of implementation, all agree that building out an adequate and efficient behavioral health system in Bernalillo County takes time. Past reports point out that our current system is disjointed and that we need a coordinated system with an expanded array of core services for an adequate Response Center to work here in Albuquerque.

As Paul Hopkins noted in a Letter to the Editor sent to the *Albuquerque Journal*, “This is exactly what Bernalillo County has been doing with the Behavioral Health Initiative (BHI). The implementation strategy is primarily guided by a carefully drawn business plan, is being shaped by dedicated staff from the county and the city, and is advised by a diverse group of community volunteers (myself included).”

It’s clear that timely and accurate communications is needed to facilitate further understanding about the collaborative work underway to complete the behavior health continuum. We appreciate any help you can do to share the updates provided in this newsletter and on the BHI web page at [www.sharenm.org/BHInitiative](http://www.sharenm.org/BHInitiative) to accurately explain the facts, dispel myths, and address concerns that may arise within your personal sphere of influence.

Your feedback is welcome. To do so, email us at [BHInitiative@berncogov](mailto:BHInitiative@berncogov)

# BHI MEMBERS

*Together we're  
improving lives*

# Meet the People Behind the Behavioral Health Initiative

## ABCGC

The following city-county representatives serve on the 2017 commission.

**Steven Michael Quezada, Chair**  
Commissioner, District 2

**Isaac Benton, Vice Chair**  
Councilor, District 2

**Ken Sanchez**  
Councilor, District 1

**Klarissa J. Peña**  
Councilor, District 3

**Debbie O'Malley**  
Commissioner, District 1

**Lonnie C. Talbert**  
Commissioner, District 4

**Maggie Hart Stebbins**  
Commissioner, District 3

**Trudy E. Jones**  
Councilor, District 8

**Mayor Richard J. Berry**

## SMALL WORKING GROUP

Membership includes the following city, county, provider and project consultant representatives, with advisement from Subject Matter Experts as needed.

**Katrina Hotrum (BC)**  
**Rodney McNease (UNMH)**  
**Ellen Braden (CABQ)**  
**Andy Vallejos\* (City Council)**  
**Margarita Chavez\* (BC)**

**George Schroeder\* (BC)**  
**Michael Robertson (CABQ)**  
**Cathy Imburgia\* (CABQ/BC)**  
**Paul Guerin (UNM/ISR)**  
**Hyde & Associates**

\*Denotes also serves as a Subcommittee staff representative.

## STEERING COMMITTEE

This group includes the above noted Small Working Group members and the following community representatives that also serve as Subcommittee chairs and co-chairs.

**Nancy Jo Archer, Chair**  
Community Supports  
**Robert Baade, Vice Chair**  
Supportive Housing  
**Sister Agenes Kaczmarek**  
Supportive Housing  
**Dr. Kathy Finch**  
Community Supports

**Barry Ore**  
Prevention, Harm ...  
**Susan Page**  
Prevention, Harm ...  
**Buck Sanchez**  
Crisis Services  
**Jim Ogle**  
Crisis Services

## SUPPORTIVE HOUSING SUBCOMMITTEE

### Voting Members

**Robert Baade, Chair**  
**Sr. Agenes Kaczmarek, Vice Chair**  
**Constance Banuelos**  
**Laura Nguyen**  
**Laura Carlisle**  
**Marc Walch**  
**Lisa Domenici**  
**Elaine Miller**  
**Jason Villancourt**

### Technical Advisors

**Lisa Huval**  
**Britt Baca Miller**  
**Betty Valdez**  
**Karen Meador**  
**Lisa Howley**  
**Gina Bell**  
**Heidi Jordan**  
**Louella Arellano**  
**Kelley Lee**

## COMMUNITY SUPPORTS SUBCOMMITTEE

### Voting Members

**Dr. Kathy Finch, Chair**  
**Nancy Jo Archer, Vice Chair**  
**DR. Paul Hopkins**  
**Marcia Harris**  
**Verner Westerber**  
**Melissa Beery**  
**Laura Tuzinowski**  
**Robin Connell**  
**John Schopner**

**Hanson Scott**  
**Micaela Cadena**  
**Roslynn Gallegos**

### Technical Advisors

**Mika Tari**  
**Ann Waldorf**  
**Yolanda Mantoya-Cordova**  
**Dr. William Narrow**

## CRISIS SERVICES SUBCOMMITTEE

### Voting Members

**Jim Ogle, Chair**  
**Buck Sanchez, Vice Chair**  
**Caroline Monie**  
**Betty Whiton**  
**Valerie St. John**  
**Megan Aragon**  
**Diana Fosse**  
**Rick Miera**  
**Dinna Spilca**

**Yvonne Brusuelas**

### Technical Advisors

**Richard Pugh**  
**Wayne Lindstrom**  
**Jane Keeports**  
**Ann Taylor Trujillo**  
**Nils Rosenbaum**  
**Chris Zafra**

## PREVENTION, INTERVENTION AND HARM REDUCTION

### Voting Members

**Barry Ore, Chair**  
**Susan Page, Vice Chair**  
**Barri Roberts**  
**Jennifer Osterling**  
**Mark Clark**  
**Mary Jo Picha**  
**Heba Atwa-Kramer**  
**James Jones**  
**Michelle Buchanan**

**George Wallace**  
**Regina Robertson**

### Technical Advisors

**Jean Klein**  
**Karen Cheman**  
**Swala Abrams**  
**Jennifer Sena**  
**Misty Pilgrim**

The listings reflect current members as of September 7, 2017.

APPROVED PROJECTS BY COMMITTEE	ANNUAL FUNDING	STATUS
<b>SUPPORTIVE HOUSING</b>		
<i>Community Connections Jail Re-entry Diversion</i>	\$1.3 million – BC \$500,000 – CABQ	Implemented
Youth Transitional Living	\$650,000 – BC	RFP in process
<i>Community Connections Scattered Supportive Housing</i>	\$1.2 million – BC	Implemented
<b>PREVENTION/HARM REDUCTION</b>		
Reduction of Adverse Childhood Experiences	\$3 million – BC	Implemented
Community Engagement Teams	\$1 million - BC	RFP in process
<b>COMMUNITY SUPPORTS</b>		
Peer Driven Support Services	\$300,000 - BC	RFP in process
Transportation Services	\$210,000 - CABQ	Pilot implemented
Case Management for Substance Use Disorder	\$700,000 - CABQ	RFP in process
<b>CRISIS SERVICES</b>		
Mobile Crisis Teams	\$1 million – BC \$456,291 – CABQ	RFP in process
Transition Planning and Re-entry Resource Center	\$1,341,188 - BC	In process
<b>STEERING COMMITTEE</b>		
UNM ISR Contract	\$246,553 – BC	Implemented
Behavioral Health Advisor Contract	\$140,000 – BC	Implemented

Figure 1

## Reversing Historical Recidivism Trends While Improving Health

Too often, individuals discharged from jail immediately confront homelessness, addiction, untreated mental illness and other challenges that frequently result in additional incarcerations. Through a new BHI approach called the *Transition Planning and Re-Entry Resource Center*, Bernalillo County is creating a front door into a network of services that provide the needed behavioral health services and supports for individuals as they exit the Metropolitan Detention Center (MDC).

According to Gabe Nims, Adult Detention Reform Coordinator at County Legal, MDC releases back

to our community approximately 60 individuals/day; 420/week; 1,800/month; and 21,000+/year. With More than 40 percent of the MDC population receiving some type of care from the jail's Psychiatric Services Unit (PSU), the need is great to ensure coordinated care and services for high-need individuals after release.

"Introducing more inmates to coordinated transition planning and case management services during and immediately following time in jail will help break the cycle of repeated incarceration," Nims explained. Through the new approach, individuals will be

## Projects in Subcommittee

### *Single Site Supportive Housing*

The single site model is a partnership between the county and the city that addresses where some clients have a higher level of need for wrap around services and support. The city has committed \$2 million for design and site development.

### *Community Training and Education*

Education for providers, school based training and train the trainer courses will be provided to address workforce needs and access to service

### *Crisis Center Model Development*

Many individuals fall below the high need threshold yet are still in need of "step-down" services for continued care until they are able to stabilize. This project provides a safe place for individuals to stabilize and be connected to services.

### *Workforce Development with Peers*

Exploring ways to address behavioral health workforce shortages in the community through extension and further development of a peer workforce,

screened at booking to inform who may need further assessment to determine needed treatments while incarcerated and to inform the services and supports needing to be coordinated before and after release for high-need individuals transitioning back to the community.

The combination of upfront screenings, a dedicated transition planning team at MDC, and the Re-Entry Resource Center site will guide coordinated planning and linkages from booking through post release from jail for improved outcomes overall.

# BHI Community Updates

*Leveraging resources through collaboration to fill the gaps in our behavioral health system continuum*



## **UNMH Adds New Inpatient Service to Help Teens Suffering Drug Addiction with Complex Psychiatric Disorders**

*Modified reprint from UNM press release*

Adolescents with substance use disorders – like addiction to opiates, such as heroin and prescription drugs – who also suffer complex psychiatric conditions are the focus of a new inpatient treatment service at University of New Mexico Hospital.

The new service is effectively an extension of UNM Hospital's (UNMH) Addiction and Substance Abuse Program's (ASAP) STAR program – a full-service outpatient service for addicted teens. Using a multidisciplinary team from UNMH and the UNM Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences, STAR provides a comprehensive outpatient approach to treating addiction and mental illness that can include detoxification, psychotherapy and a host of other therapies.

Now, the UNM Children's Psychiatric Center (CPC) offers an inpatient option for the most complex patients with substance use disorders complicated by psychiatric illness. Those teens admitted into the center for treatment – regardless of ability to pay – will have access to a team

of behavioral health and medical experts for comprehensive yet individualized treatment.

"Inpatient treatment is a critically important option for young people with complex substance use disorders," said Bernalillo County Commissioner Maggie Hart Stebbins. "When Turquoise Lodge closed its adolescent treatment beds last year, those patients had no place to go. We are all grateful to University of New Mexico Hospital for stepping in to fill the gap so our children will have a good shot at recovery."

## **Celebrating Recovery Month**

Several events are planned to commemorate National Recovery month and the *2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Albuquerque Celebrates Recovery*, including four Mental Health First Aid trainings; a march prior to the opening of an exhibit called *Art from the Heart*; and an awareness celebration on September 28, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Downtown Albuquerque Convention Center, where there will be information for those seeking recovery. For details, visit [www.sharenm.org/BHInitiative](http://www.sharenm.org/BHInitiative)

## **BernCo Chosen to Participate in National Data Design Institute**

Bernalillo County was recently selected to participate in the *Data Driven Justice and Behavioral Health Design Institute*. Jointly sponsored by the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA), the Laura and John Arnold Foundation (LJAF), and the National Association of Counties (NACo), the Design Institute will advance the work of jurisdictions committed to meeting the needs of persons with complex, physical health, behavioral health, and social service needs while reducing unnecessary use of jails and emergency room visits.

The Design Institute provides the opportunity for a team of representatives from Bernalillo County to work directly with expert faculty in facilitated sessions and workshops during a training session scheduled this September in Washington, D.C. Following the training, BernCo will work with a Design Team facilitator to assist in the development of a customized data-driven action plan to address the needs of high utilizers of jails and emergency services.