



Homeless Coordinating Council (HCC)

Virtual Meeting Via Zoom Video Conference Tuesday, June 11, 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 Nichole 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 – Vice Chair Julie Morgas Baca called to order at 10:05am

2. Review & Approve June 11, 2024 Agenda

Motion: Councilor Renee Grout

2nd: Councilor Nichole Rodgers

Unanimous

3. Introductions and Announcements

4. Review and Approve May 14, 2024 Meeting Minutes

Motion: Councilor Renee Grout

2nd: Rodney McNeese

Unanimous

5. HCC member updates discussion – how shall we handle updates in the future?

County Manager mentioned that each entity should just send the HCC members the updates individually and any questions could follow. Commissioner Barboa said that she agrees that the updates can take up a lot of time and that maybe there could be other plans, like putting the updates at the end of the agenda or maybe just doing them once a quarter to give a full update. Otherwise, if there are major highlights, maybe those could be brought up at the meetings. One example: County Manager Julie Morgas Baca said that they are excited to have the Crisis Triage Center ribbon cutting on Friday and thanked everyone involved in the project.

Wayne Lindstrom introduced himself as the Deputy County Manager for Behavioral Health and gave a short statement regarding his path and thoughts about the homeless situation.

Deputy Director Ellen Braden said that for the COA, we are excited to announce that we have hired a new Gateway Health Hub Operations Administrator, Jennifer McDonald. Also, the COA has issued the RFPs for the Westside Emergency Housing Center Operations and for the Services, due July 10th. Lastly, there is a “Housing is the Remedy for Homelessness” speaker in Santa Fe on June 20th and we will send details after the meeting for anyone interested in attending.

6. Homeless Coordinating Council Leadership – nominations and elections for officers

Vice Chair Morgas Baca indicated that she was not aware that this meeting was to be used for nominations and elections. She asked if the group would like to defer to the next meeting.

Councilor Grout asked to defer to the next meeting when Chair Maria Wolfe would be back.

No nominations were made at this time. It was agreed to table this to the July meeting so that every party could come better prepared to nominate and vote.

Commissioner Adriann Barboa asked if the regular rhythm of the office was known at this time? Vice Chair agreed that there should be a rotation.

7. Dual-Diagnosis Training Conference Committee – updates & actions needed

- Dr. Chenoa Bah discussed a meeting coming up on Thursday after 2 for the original planning committee. We have until July 10th to make the agenda so that they can begin to verify the program for the CECs & CEUs as that takes approximately 60 days to get done. If anyone knows about any other sponsors, we would appreciate any more sponsorships.

8. Update Community Solutions built for Zero Program – Jazmin Moreno – Lead for Built for Zero

- Hosting a Strategy Session on Friday, July 12 from 10 – 2. Highlight and discuss system barriers identified during the case conferences. Help identify the mental models, behaviors and patterns and the structure of the system that contribute to these issues that keep people from getting housed.

9. Public Comment: ** Agenda Variation**

- Anami Dass spoke to the committee to invite everyone to the Human Rights Board’s public hearing on anti-homeless sentiment taking place at the International District Library on Saturday, June 22nd from 1:00 – 2:00pm.

10. Subcommittee Update- Native American Homelessness – Dr. Chenoa Bah

- Just concluded the Native American Housing Survey and the report will be created and will be shared with the HCC.
- Continuing to work on ways to partner and support Native Leaders – Trying to get a couple of leaders to come to Albuquerque to learn more about our resources. If anyone knows of any other tribal leadership that might want to come to Albuquerque to do a site visit, let Dr. Bah know.
- Looking forward to hosting the Pueblo of Zuni leadership again.

- Dr. Bah shared the highlights of a recent visit to Seattle with the National Indigenous Women’s Resource Center. They work with domestic violence shelters and look at best practices in different urban and rural areas to create ways to address Indigenous women and people who are missing and murdered and how to use housing as way to prevent this. She met with people from HUD that oversee the Native American programs as well as other community leaders. Seattle is creating what is known as the Spirit Village Journey which is a new shelter that will triage Native American people in a very culturally relevant way. They will have a property that has different cottages used for cultural arts and wellness and healing. Dr. Bah envisions something similar here in Albuquerque someday.

11. Vice Chair Julie Morgas Baca thanked Commissioner Steven Michael Quezada for volunteering to help out with the sponsorship of the Dual Diagnosis Summit. She alerted the HCC about an idea they are discussing about providing some sort of portable shower/restroom for the homeless. Commissioner Quezada explained that when he was researching a role for a play he wrote called “Homeless”, he was “living” the life of a homeless individual, and what he saw that people need the most is a place to clean up and use the restroom. He would also like to include a washer/dryer in these “mobile units”. There are logistics that need to be worked out such as who/how will keep clean, where will the funds come from, how to transport, etc. They would like to see if the different HCC entities want to partner on this.

12. Councilor Renee Grout asked about the HCC Framework. The framework has “coordinated street outreach” on it and Councilor Grout would like to know if we have actually put that into place and is there any coordination between the HCC stakeholders, are there any contracts and if so, who is the coordinator? Ellen Braden said that there are contracts in place. Commissioner Adriann Barboa said that Randy John from First Nations is the coordinator and that they and HealthCare for the Homeless were two Street Outreach teams that she was aware of but has just recently noticed that UNM, or maybe an independent group of doctors, has started one. They would like an update from the Street Outreach on the agenda for July. Councilor Grout said that there is no coordination and that when we are out and about and see someone that needs help, she doesn’t know who to call. Councilor Nichole Rogers said that ACS coordinates with Street Outreach. Ellen Braden wanted to clarify what we need to see at the July meeting; is it contract coordination or is it the agencies/representatives? Councilor Grout said that if it’s First Nations, then we would like to hear from them. Rodney Mcnease said that the medical side isn’t really involved in the coordination side as it seems like it’s been its own piece, but that it might be helpful to have it involved in the coordination. Wayne Lindstrom said that it would be helpful to see the implementation plan from the framework to get to a finalized product. Councilor Grout said again that she was out with a non-profit and had a citizen that needed help and she didn’t know who to call. Ellen Braden responded that ACS, since they are now 24/7, is the place to call in a situation like that. Councilor Nichole Rogers explained that 911 will dispatch ACS so that is the proper way to contact. Wayne Lindstrom also suggested 988 as a resource. Commissioner Barboa asked if the Crisis Center would also be a resource? Rodney Mcnease responded that, upon it’s opening on June 25th, yes, it would also be a resource.

13. Presentation by Peter Cubra ** Agenda Variation**

Peter Cubra went over the documents he sent that morning. He asked that we make a decision and take action steps in order to get the State’s Medicaid policy to help pay for housing for Seniors. Wayne Lindstrom had worked with Centennial Care where Seniors could get tenancy and pre-tenancy services, he is not sure if it transfers to Turquoise Care. What other states have done, the new Healthcare Authority which now will be superseding HSD and some functions of the Health Department, has the ability to apply to CMS for an 1115 waiver to greatly expand housing supports that could be paid for via Medicaid. Wayne is not sure if those two services he had gotten in place are continuing or if they had been dropped which could be a problem around expanding Medicaid if there is not adequate support education around the coding and which provider types can deliver the services, etc. Wayne said he thinks Kari Armijo would be amenable to a conversation about this. Peter would like for the HCC to send a letter to Kari Armijo to apply for any and all authorized monies for housing and housing services to be paid from the Medicare System. Vice Chair Morgas Baca asked for a draft letter she could circulate. Peter agreed to have one to her within the week.

14. Announcement of the next HCC Meeting

- July 9, 2024 10:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.
- Will need to discuss the plan of succession and leadership nominations for the Homeless Coordinating Council.
- Presentation from the Street Outreach Team with UNM/ACS/Randy John (COA contract with First Nations)
- UNM Substance Use Treatment presentation.
- Please be sure to be on time or if you can't be here, please remember to appoint a proxy so we can assure quorum.

15. Adjourn Meeting – Vice Chair County Manager Julie Morgas Baca adjourned at: 11:16am

****Agenda variations due to speakers not available when the meeting reached their slotted times.