



Homeless Coordinating Council (HCC)

Virtual Meeting Via Zoom Video Conference Tuesday, August 13, 2024

10:00 am-11:30am

Chair, Maria Wolfe, City of Albuquerque
Vice Chair, Matthew McGahran, Veterans Administration

Wayne Lindstrom, Deputy County Manager for Behavior Health - Bernalillo County, Commissioner Steven Michael Quezada - Bernalillo County, Commissioner Adriann Barboa - Bernalillo County, Mayor Tim Keller - City of Albuquerque, Councilor Renee Grout - City of Albuquerque, Councilor Nichole Rogers - City of Albuquerque, President Garnett S. Stokes - The University of New Mexico, Dr. Douglas M. Ziedonis - The University of New Mexico Health Sciences Center

Minutes

1. Call to Order – Chair Wolfe ensured quorum and called to order at 10:03

2. Review & Approve Agenda for August 13, 2024

Motion: Councilor Nichole Rogers

2nd: Commissioner Adriann Barboa

Passed Unanimously

3. Introductions and Announcements

Chair Wolfe - the Westside Emergency Housing Center has been renamed Gateway West. 3 dorms have undergone improvements and 2 more are under construction. The Receiving Center is now accepting intakes from APD, ACS & AFR. This month, they will be expanding to Bernalillo County partners as well. We are finalizing arrangement with the providers for the Gateway West. We are working on the feasibility study that was just completed and will be going out to all with information on recovery housing. We have a subcommittee that was established at the last HCC regarding the Medicaid programs, working with Peter Cubra. Please let us know or put it in the chat if you would like to join this committee. Two new COA employees introduced themselves Jennifer McDonald – Gateway Operations Officer and Charlie Verploegh – Deputy Director of Social Services and Connections.

All others introduced themselves, no other announcements.

4. Review and Approve July 9, 2024 Meeting Minutes

Motion: Rodney McNease

2nd: Wayne Lindstrom

Passed Unanimously

5. Public Comment: Two public comments this time.

- A. Chair Wolfe read the following from Anami Dass: The most recent meeting of the CABQ Human Rights Board meeting featured discussion on the board upcoming findings from the Hearing on Anti-Homeless Sentiment, and the Board's will be discussing the matter further during the August 15 HRB meeting which will take place at 5PM in City Council Chambers on the Basement Level of City Hall. I'd like to once again, invite HCC members to participate in this discussion during that meeting, while zoom is available, I highly encourage in person participation, if at all possible. If you have any questions, please feel free to email me at AnamiDass@outlook.com

Thursday 8/15

5 - 7 PM (estimated)

Council Chambers, 1 Civic Plaza

- B. Chuck McCune spoke regarding the ideas he sent (forwarded to the committee on 08/12/24). He stated that he is available to discuss these with anyone interested.

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

Pari & Destiny reported - the program is established with many breakout sessions. CME/CE credits have been established. Flyer for registration is created and ready to go. Keynote speaker, Liz Frye is a renowned expert on Street Medicine. They are hoping to have between 25-35 vendors to have exhibits. We will be inviting the vendors from the Fentanyl summit, which is also in September. Contact Pari for info on the resource fair portion.

7. Update Community Solutions Built for Zero Program

Zoe and Priscilla presented – gave a quick overview slide-show presentation. Highlighted bi-weekly case conferencing, coordinating resource sharing, identifying barriers experienced, 1:1 meetings with agencies to provide technical assistance, and monthly data analysis. Chair Wolfe asked to have a more detailed update including actual numbers, what are the recurring challenges, and systemic barriers.

Chair Wolfe asked has there been any measurable progress on the barriers?

Commissioner Barboa asked who would be attending the meetings that BFZ is having on the case conferencing?

Priscilla presented that there was a reduction from 376-359 families in June on the CES wait list of known individuals. She went into more detail on the numbers from the slide show and why they use the CES wait list.

Councilor Rogers asked what this wait list was for? Priscilla clarified this is a list for Coordinated Entry System for Permanent Housing Vouchers and Rapid Rehousing Vouchers.

Commissioner Barboa asked about the coordination of data regarding HMIS and the move to UniteUs? She also asked who from the County is representing at BFZ since Pam Acosta is no longer with BernCo? The County will have to get back on that as we don't have that info.

Commissioner Barboa asked how the VA was integrated in the findings from BFZ data? David Selvage from Project Echo said that they are involved in BFZ and they are involved in the case conferencing with effective results. Chair Wolfe said that they arranged for BFZ to meet with Dr. Ziedonis which took place yesterday; there were discussions on working to try to bring BFZ and Project Echo together to meld the programs as they can.

Zoe said that veteran status wasn't considered on the status of their definitions of family, but they are included in some groups, namely the "street families". Councilor Rogers asked if BFZ was sharing with the VA when they are helping veterans? Zoe said that yes, they were. Camila Lopez from the VA did say they are involved. Zoe said that some barriers were not enough affordable housing, language barriers, landlords unwilling to rent to people with evictions on their records or using vouchers, IDs being lost/stolen, no SSN, and no transportation.

Commissioner Barboa asked what kind of solutions are there? Are there any short-term solutions yet? What kinds of things can we try or take a chance on? Zoe said that they can come back with some ideas and solutions. Chair Wolfe clarified that the Landlord Liaison Program has hired three people and this will include some funding for landlords to get some help when there is property damage as well as some funding to help landlords bring their properties up to code so that they can pass inspections. Commissioner Barboa said that the County has a larger program that has been already offering these exact benefits and she hasn't seen any change and would like to see some accountability. Attendee Winter Torres requested to speak: They would like to meet with the County as their organization is currently working with BernCo to apply for the HUD Eviction Protection Grant.

8. Subcommittee Update- Native American Homelessness

Dr. Chenoa Bah said that several people went to Phoenix to visit the Native American Connections Addiction Treatment and Housing programs; they also have medical – it is very similar to the model here at First Nations Community Healthcare. She screenshared their website and went through the pages for the committee. Dr. Bah encouraged the HCC to do a site-visit. The website is: Nativeconnections.org/housing. Chair Wolfe asked the committee what they would like to see from Dr. Bah in the future?

Commissioner Barboa said we don't need to visit Phoenix, but could we have some people, or maybe a subcommittee, go meet with tribal leaders regarding the collaboration of those monies - perhaps even bring in Linda Son Stone; she wants to explore more of the suggestions and follow-up. Dr. Bah said that she would like to host the tribal leaders here to look at the opportunities and for the coordinated effort of the tribes and the monies.

Wayne Lindstrom asked to see some meaningful action planning with objectives, tasks and timelines and who is responsible. Dr. Bah said that is being discussed with the tribal leadership already and many ideas that are out. Cross training would be a very powerful action plan.

Chair Wolfe asked if we would like to have a tribal leader / HCC meetup? Dr. Bah said that we could explore it, but perhaps prior to their day with the legislature, we might be able to host them; possibly spring or early summer.

Question from an attendee regarding 700 2nd street. We requested them send to Stephanie so that she can forward to the proper individuals within the COA.

Wayne Lindstrom asked Dr. Bah to reach out to the tribal leadership to meet with us and if they are

amenable then he would promote a meeting. He also said that BernCo runs a wellness motel and their insurance carrier has raised an issue regarding our population posing a liability issue and that there were probably going to be significant premium increases that might be prohibitive. He wanted to let the HCC know as these types of things might apply to other parties that are leasing hotels/motels.

Chair Wolfe asked Dr. Bah when she might be able to come back with some information from reaching out to the tribal leaders? Dr. Bah said probably in two months. Chair Wolfe said we would revisit in the October meeting.

9. Next HCC Meeting -

- September 10, 2024 10:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.

10. Adjourn Meeting – Chair Wolfe adjourned the meeting at 11:35