**Mental Health Response Advisory Committee (MHRAC)**

Meeting Minutes

May 21, 2024

Via Zoom

**Board Members in Attendance**

Commander. G. Bartlett Crisis Intervention Division

Dr. Nicole Duranceaux APD Behavioral Science Services

Betty Whiton NAMI

Mariela Ruiz-Angel /Jasmine Desiderio Albuquerque Community Safety

Robert Salazar Peer Representation

Coty Maxwell Crisis Intervention Division

Paula Burton Peer Representative

Ryan Delaware Albuquerque Health Care for the Homeless

Bernice Varela Crossroads for Women

Jane Garland NAMI Albuqueque

Gilbert Ramirez/Maria Wolff Health, Housing, and Homelessness

**Introduction to MHRAC**

The Mental Health Response Advisory Committee (MHRAC) was created by the Court Approved Settlement Agreement (CASA). We’ve been around since day one and have a focus on three areas, resources, and resources being available to access different things within the city that APD and first responders can use as it impacts homelessness and mental health issues. We are also involved in training and policy; training is one of those things we made a tremendous impact on. As far as the training that is offered. Policies are one of those things where the MHRAC is involved with assisting in writing approving, and recommending policy as it relates again to the narrow focus; we think narrow, but sometimes it gets pretty wide-focused on how law enforcement interacts with those experiencing homelessness and those experiencing a mental health crisis.

**Attendance of Board Members, Brenda Vigil-Gallegos**

Eleven of Sixteen MHRAC Board Members were in attendance.

**Welcome First-Time Guests**

Dr. Wayne Lindstrom, Deputy County Manager, Behavioral Health Division which includes the CARE Campus, Behavioral Health Initiative, Tiny Home Village, and Resource Reentry Center)

Liz Dekinder (Did not state where she was from)

**Approval of Meeting Minutes**

1st Motion – Ryan Delaware

2nd Motion – Bernice Varela

Minutes from the April 2024 meeting were approved.

**Public Comment (Two minutes per person), Ryan Delaware**

There was no public comment made

**Fathom Summary**

[**Welcome and Attendance**](https://fathom.video/share/xsxtXvFYkH6Vzrt9qxRcxLW_fpivLyhT?tab=summary&timestamp=0)

* The meeting began with Brenda Gallegos and Ryan Delaware welcoming participants, taking attendance, and getting the meeting started. They discussed the challenges of the busy time of year and the lower-than-usual attendance.

[**Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes**](https://fathom.video/share/xsxtXvFYkH6Vzrt9qxRcxLW_fpivLyhT?tab=summary&timestamp=843)

* Ryan Delaware moved to approve the minutes from the previous MHRAC meeting, which was seconded by Bernice Varela. The minutes were approved.

[**ACS Update**](https://fathom.video/share/xsxtXvFYkH6Vzrt9qxRcxLW_fpivLyhT?tab=summary&timestamp=953)

* Jasmine from the Albuquerque Community Safety (ACS) department provided an update, including that ACS is continuing to hire and train new field responders, has completed shift bids for different shifts, and is collaborating with other city departments. ACS is also finalizing plans for their new headquarters building.

[**Gibson Health Hub and Homelessness Updates**](https://fathom.video/share/xsxtXvFYkH6Vzrt9qxRcxLW_fpivLyhT?tab=summary&timestamp=1103)

* Maria Wolfe provided updates on the Gibson Health Hub, including that the receiving center is nearing its mid-June opening, with a careful rollout and testing of systems. She also shared updates on the West Side Emergency Housing Center, including dorm refreshes, a recent job and resource fair, and upcoming RFPs for service providers.

**APD,** [**CIU, and BSS Updates**](https://fathom.video/share/xsxtXvFYkH6Vzrt9qxRcxLW_fpivLyhT?tab=summary&timestamp=1560)

* Commander Bartlett from the Crisis Intervention Unit (CIU) provided updates, including that they recently completed a 40-hour CIT training block, have had collaborations with other agencies like Hobbs PD and Rio Rancho PD, and are planning to host speakers on mental health competency. Shannon Miera also offered information on CIT training opportunities.

[**Discussion on Homeless Encampment Dismantling**](https://fathom.video/share/xsxtXvFYkH6Vzrt9qxRcxLW_fpivLyhT?tab=summary&timestamp=2272)

* Paula Burton raised concerns about reports that the city's policies around dismantling homeless encampments and handling personal property are not being properly followed in practice. This led to a discussion with input from Jasmine, Dr. Wayne Lindstrom, and others about the need to ensure the policy is being implemented as intended, with proper storage and return of personal belongings.

[**Closing and Next Steps**](https://fathom.video/share/xsxtXvFYkH6Vzrt9qxRcxLW_fpivLyhT?tab=summary&timestamp=3000)

* The meeting wrapped up with Ryan Delaware thanking everyone for attending and noting that the next MHRAC meeting will be on June 18th. He acknowledged that the meeting went very quickly this month.

**The MHRAC Meeting Fathom Full Transcript is available upon an email request to** [**bvigil-gallegos@cabq.gov**](mailto:bvigil-gallegos@cabq.gov)

**Next MHRAC meeting is scheduled for June 18, 2024.**