

MINUTES OF THE
SANTA FE COUNTY
HEALTH POLICY & PLANNING COMMISSION

January 8, 2016

Santa Fe, New Mexico

I. This regular meeting of the Santa Fe County Health Policy & Planning Commission (HPPC) was called to order by Chair Reena Szczepanski at approximately 9:00 a.m. on the above-cited date at the Santa Fe County Community Services Department conference Room, 2052 Galisteo Street, Santa Fe.

II. The following members were present:

Members Present:

Reena Szczepanski, Chair
AnnaMaria Cardinalli
Vivian Heye
Bonnie Keene
Don Reece
Carolyn Roberts
Kim Straus
Anna Voltura

Member(s) Absent:

Judith Williams [excused]
John Abrams [excused]
[Three Vacancies]

County Staff Present:

Patricia Boies, Director, Health Services Division
Rachel O'Connor, Director, Community Services Department
Kyra Ochoa, Health Care Assistance Program Manager
Kati Schwartz, RN, Mobile Health Van
Dave Sperling, Fire Chief

Others Present:

Mark Boschelli, PMS	Dede Feldman, Consultant
Laurel Carraher, PMS	Barak Wolff, Consultant
Desiree Valdez, NMDOH	Jim Breland, PMS
Julian Duran, Blue Cross/Blue Shield	Amy Cost, RN
Prisma Orozco, BCBS Outreach	Kerry Clear, BCBS
Amy Fisher, BCBS Outreach	Kristy Trujillo, BCBS CSS
Gayle Bland, BCBS CSS	Nicole Morgan, SF Mountain Center

III. Introductions

Those present introduced themselves.

IV. Approval of Agenda

Commissioner Reece moved to approve the agenda and Commissioner Roberts seconded. The motion to approve the agenda passed without opposition.

V. Approval of Minutes: November and December 2015

Upon motion by Commissioner Reece and second by Commissioner Voltura the minutes of the November 2015 and December 2015 meetings were unanimously approved as submitted.

VI. Matters of Public Concern

Desiree Valdez announced that the Health System Innovation project's application deadline was extended. The stakeholders meeting that was postponed is now tentatively scheduled for March 2016. They continue to work on the proposal.

VII. Presentations

Report on Santa Fe County's Mobile Crisis Response Team (Mark Boschelli, LPPC, LADC, and Laurel Carraher, MA, LPCC, Presbyterian Medical Services)

Mr. Boschelli indicated this was a report on the first six months of the Mobile Crisis Response Team (MCRT). He distributed handouts, which included interim statistics on the project which began on July 1, 2015. He gave a history of the situation starting with deinstitutionalization of the mentally ill in 1963 and 1984. The community outpatient facilities meant to take up the slack did not materialize, resulting in the current situation. First responders are now the contact point for this population and those with co-occurring disorders.

The purpose of the MCRT, in addition to responding to people with a behavioral health crisis, is to be proactive in linking these individuals to services. The federal government is looking into similar programs and SAMHSA has provided some funding, having noted drops in suicide rates. There is evidence supporting efficacy and savings.

Mr. Boschelli provided statistics and mentioned other innovative programs throughout the country. PMS had a crisis response unit from 1997 to 2002, funded through a grant. He stressed the importance of face-to-face encounters and substantial follow-up with multiple contacts. They have learned a great deal from this and similar programs in the past. Successful linkage appears to be key, particular with high utilizers.

The current MCRT program uses credentialed, licensed personnel, two of whom are generally sent on calls. Partnership with first responders is essential and presents "teachable moments." Mr. Boschelli summarized how encounters are dispatched and gave scenarios of how they proceed. He listed the trainings and presentations, held and planned. They are seeking funding beyond Centennial Care and the County of Santa Fe.

The MRCT has responded since July 1, 2015 to 147 calls. Additional numbers include walk-ins: 25; phone call crises, 11; clients referred: 174; 911 calls: 130; non-911 calls: 21;

indigents: 65; follow-ups from first responders: 32; insufficient information: 10; cancellations: 12; wellness checks: 8; referral to psychiatric housing: 18; respite housing: 18. The overall total is 245 clients. He stressed there have been no deaths since inception.

Commissioner Reece asked about the effects of the Affordable Care Act. Mr. Boschelli said there is increased Medicaid coverage. Regarding substance abuse, Ms. Carraher said, "We're used to working with that kind of client." They do not carry Narcan, given that many first responders are now provided with and trained in Narcan administration.

Commissioner Voltura asked what would happen if someone showed up at the office experiencing overdose. Mr. Boschelli said Narcan is available at the clinic.

Commissioner Straus asked if they serve the tribal communities and Mr. Boschelli said they do.

Asked whether this was the only service of its kind in the state, Mr. Boschelli said Doña Ana County had something similar but a changeover has taken place; he was not sure if it has continued. There are few communities throughout the country that have crisis response teams, which are expensive although cost-effective in the long run.

Ms. Boies pointed out the County Community Services Department funds the project at \$350,000 for the first year, under a contract that is renewable for up to a total of four years.

Commissioner Cardinalli asked about veterans and interfacing with the VA. Mr. Boschelli said they do determine veteran status; about eight percent of the clients are vets, and they try to link them back to that system.

Commissioner Straus asked about the possibility of a SAMHSA grant. Mr. Boschelli has indicated SAMHSA wants to fund through federally qualified health centers, and PMS falls in that category. The problem is dollar siloing which makes it more difficult to compare ultimate costs.

Ms. Ochoa noted CMS is coming up with opportunities to apply for funds, emphasizing accountability and medical home models.

Commissioner Voltura mentioned PCORI grants as a possibility for additional funding.

Commissioner Keene asked how many staff were on call. Mr. Boschelli said there are always two people on call, and the program is busy. The State's Behavioral Services Division has inquired about replicating a program in Rio Arriba County.

Ms. Boies referred to a meeting earlier in the week chaired by Tom Starke with first responders and members of the Mobile Crisis Response Team, which Kyra Ochoa attended. Ms. Ochoa said the response from the first responders using the MRCT was overwhelmingly positive.

Chair Szczepanski asked if any of the clients were under 18, and Ms. Carraher said there was a surprising number and they were generally able to hook them up with children's therapists. Mr. Boschelli spoke of the teen health centers at high schools featuring same-day suicide assessment.

There was discussion of the reimbursement issue.

Commissioner Straus asked about collection of data on such things as children in the home. Mr. Boschelli said they are on the scene and through follow-ups come to understand the family dynamics.

VII. B. Ongoing Evaluation of Prospects for Community Paramedicine in Santa Fe County (Dede Feldman, and Barak Wolff, MPH)

Ms. Feldman said they would be giving a preliminary progress report on how the County EMS can be used to help the health care needs of county residents and how to meet the goals in the Health Action Plan, especially as it relates to the frail elderly population. There are interventions that can be done that speak to social determinants – safe housing, adequate food, access to primary care and behavioral health services. Health literacy is also an issue.

Fire Chief Sperling stated this is a collaboration with the County's Community Services Department. He said the County's Fire Department is not traditional, being diverse with a mix of rural and urban and spread out. He said the partnership is an incredible opportunity to determine best practices and build something sustainable.

Mr. Wolff spoke of his roots in emergency medical services, and the newest iteration – community paramedicine, also called mobile integrated healthcare. Over time, the focus has changed from basic elements to expanded services beyond transportation to the hospital. He read a 1996 vision statement looking at the future of EMS. He stressed the importance of assessing the needs of a community.

Ms. Feldman spoke of the National Association of Emergency Medical Technicians which mentions post-hospitalization follow-ups, chronic disease management, alternate destinations other than strictly hospitals, telemedicine and telephone advice at the dispatch center for non-urgent situations. She gave examples nationwide that are on the cutting edge of this movement. She said Albuquerque has a pilot program with Blue Cross Blue Shield and Mr. Clear from that program said they saw 20 people in the initial phase. There was an 80 percent decrease in emergency room visits and a 95 percent drop in ambulance transports in the first 30 days.

Ms. Feldman said this partnership also backs up hospice patients and does linkage to social services and even food services. She said the City of Santa Fe is set to begin with 20 patients/frequent callers. The goal is to find partners, identify barriers and find funding. The goal is not to increase the scope of practice but to fill in any gaps in the safety net. Additional training may be required. They are speaking with EMTs and firefighters and looking into potential grants and CMS funding.

Ms. O'Connor said this research project is being funded by the Community Services Department.

Commissioner Straus asked how savings from reduced hospitalizations could be funneled back to the program. Mr. Wolff stated that the philosophy behind the Affordable Care Act is emphasis on positive outcomes and accountability.

Ms. Ochoa said the indigent fund program has had no claims for ambulance services this year, and savings will go to intensive case management.

Chief Sperling pointed out fewer ambulance trips actually results in less money for firefighter budget. Ms. Feldman said incentives are not always aligned, and getting cooperation is a big undertaking.

VIII. Matters from the Commission and Staff

A. Director's Report (Rachel O'Connor & Patricia Boies)

Ms. Boies gave the following updates:

- January 27th will be Public Health Day at the Roundhouse. Community Services will have a table to showcase its programs.
- New Mexico Alliance for Health Councils is requesting \$700,000 from the legislature
- The BCC passed a resolution supporting funding for New Mexico Grown Fruits and Vegetables for school meals for \$1.4 million
- Food Day at the Roundhouse will be February 3rd
- January 19th is the first day of the Legislative session and also Children and Youth Day
- The online report card is to be unveiled soon
- The Network of Care being launched by the state will have resources on behavioral health and for veterans

Ms. Boies stated she testified at a Human Services Department hearing regarding proposed increased work requirements for SNAP recipients. The HPPC had opposed those increases during hearings held over the summer, and this was a second round of hearings. The work requirements have since moved forward for parents of children 13 and older.

Ms. O'Connor stated the jail's first re-entry specialist position has been filled and they are funding a second position. She added she is on a LEAD steering committee aimed at reducing drug overdose through increased availability of Narcan.

B. Other Matters from the Commission

None were offered.

IX. Future Agenda Items

A. Possible Agenda Items for Future Meetings

The following topics were mentioned:

- Update on low birth weight initiatives
- A report on the lower teen birth rate, possibly something from the teen health clinic
- Colorado has an effective program to delay parenting in teens using awareness and long-acting reversible contraceptives; money would have to be raised from private sources

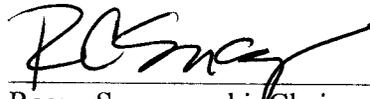
X. Announcements

A. Next HPPC meeting Friday, February 5, 2016, 9 a.m., Santa Fe County Community Services Department Conference Room, 2052 Galisteo Street, Santa Fe

XI. Adjournment

This meeting was declared adjourned at approximately 10:50 a.m.

Approved by:



Reena Szczepanski, Chair
Health Policy & Planning Commission

Respectfully submitted by:



Debbie Doyle, Wordswork

COUNTY OF SANTA FE) HEALTH POLICY & PLAN M
STATE OF NEW MEXICO) ss PAGES: 6

I Hereby Certify That This Instrument Was Filed for Record On The 5TH Day Of April, 2016 at 10:44:47 AM And Was Duly Recorded as Instrument # 1790449 Of The Records Of Santa Fe County

Witness My Hand And Seal Of Office
Geraldine Salazar

Deputy  County Clerk, Santa Fe, NM

