

**MINUTES OF THE**  
**SANTA FE COUNTY**  
**HEALTH POLICY & PLANNING COMMISSION**

**June 1, 2018**

**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 9:06 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  
Kim Straus  
Christa Coggins  
Sandy Dransfield  
Bonnie Keene  
Michael Munson  
Carolyn Roberts

**Member(s) Absent:**

Laurie Glaze [excused]  
Don Reece [excused]

**County Staff Present:**

Patricia Boies, Director, Health Services Division  
Rachel O'Connor, Director, Community Services Department  
Kyra Ochoa, Health Services Staff  
Alex Dominguez, Health Services Staff

**Others Present:**

Eirian Coronado, DOH  
Linnea Moreno, Las Cumbres  
Wendy Johnson, La Familia  
Kristin Carmichael, SCC  
Jesse Cirolia, Christus St. Vincent  
Elizabeth Peterson, Consultant

Ana Morales, Las Cumbres  
Kim Krupnick, La Familia  
Michelle Lis, Consultant  
Dawn Abriel, Bright Heart Health  
Laura Brown, DPA/UNM  
Gwendolyn Gallagher, DOH

**Others Present** (cont.)

Terrie Rodriguez, NMAHC

Tom Starke, Citizen

Anne Albrink, NAMI

Terri Marney, Presbyterian

Shelly Felt, Youth Shelters

Robert Jahner, SFPA

Nelsy Dominguez, Con Alma

Emily McRae, Americorps/Vista

Julian Duran, BC/BS

Emily Folks, Youth Shelters

Adonata Pyaga, SF Recovery

Sophie Andar, SFPA

Barry Cooney, Focused Awareness

**II. Introductions**

Chair Szczepanski welcomed new member Sandy Dransfield to the HPPC, and those present introduced themselves.

**IV. Approval of Agenda**

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

**V. Approval of Minutes**

**May 4, 2018:** Commissioner Roberts moved approval. Commissioner Straus seconded and the motion to approve the May minutes passed unanimously.

**VI. Matters of Public Concern**

None were presented.

**VII. Presentations**

**A. Perinatal Health Surveillance in New Mexico: Risk and Protective Factors**

Patricia Boies stated that the prevention of low birth weight (LBW) is one of the priorities of the *Health Action Plan*. It was chosen because with the small number of low birth weight babies born in Santa Fe County, it was believed that focused intervention could make a difference. Following an RFP, Las Cumbres and La Familia were awarded contracts and are in their fourth year working on the LBW prevention initiative.

Kyra Ochoa referred to a fact sheet compiled by Emily McRae to frame the issue. A reasonable weight at birth “is a good proxy for a baby born healthy.” She noted the sample size is small, but Santa Fe County has a rather high rate, close to ten percent. They are looking into causal factors behind LBW. There is a range of risk factors including poverty, smoking, poor nutrition, teen and older pregnancies, etc. Access to early care is a huge component. Recently it has emerged that “weathering” – persistent stress, historical trauma, racism – is a factor. She pointed out that altitude is also among the risks.

Eirian Coronado from the PRAMS (Pregnancy Risk Assessment Monitoring System) project stated they have been collecting data since 1997 in the form of birth certificates and

surveillance. They monitor whether the birth was intended, insurance coverage, prenatal care, breastfeeding, as well as risk factors such as drug use, youth, physical abuse, smoking, alcohol use, stress, etc.

Ms. Coronado also reviewed “baby-friendly” perinatal factors such as encouragement of breastfeeding, gift packs from hospitals, etc.

Ms. Ochoa noted that a distinction should be made between low birth weight and very low birth weight. Additionally, whether the birth is a singleton or twins has to be factored in.

Ms. Coronado said in the future other factors might be surveyed, such as depression and opioid use, which currently is a statistically minor component.

Among the protective factors, Dr. Wendy Johnson mentioned the Latina Paradox, especially among first generation immigrants, whereby a resiliency is conferred.

## **VII. B. Progress and Outcomes for Low Birth Weight Prevention Initiatives**

Linnea Moreno from Las Cumbres gave an overview of their Healthy Baby Program – ¡Qué Cute! – focusing on the various risk factors. They instituted an outreach plan with brochures and flyers. She looked into gaps leading to inability to connect to resources. Program flexibility is a key to success. She reviewed the number of clients served and the degree of engagement of the participants. They found the highest risk factor in their study was stress. She discussed ACEs, Adverse Childhood Experiences, before age 18, which are tied to long-term health. Many of the pregnant women in the program scored high on the ACEs survey.

Referring to what has been learned in the course of the program, Ms. Moreno said the rate of homelessness was much higher than anticipated. She outlined means by which clients were supported, including housing, transportation and various social supports, which they were able to provide via flexible funding.

Ana Morales, Las Cumbres added that having a web of social support leads to resiliency.

Ms. Moreno indicated that collaboration with a number of partnerships has been valuable to the program. She mentioned that there was little correlation between their efforts and low birth weight per se. She touched briefly on the problems connecting with addicted women. In the future they plan to expand outreach, strengthen partnerships and continue to encourage coping skills.

Kim Krupnick, La Familia, said a priority is to make the community aware of their integrated approach, incorporating behavioral health, nutrition, diabetes education, prenatal classes, access to foods, anti-obesity, dental clinic, lactation consultants and a Suboxone program. She introduced a video made of participants in the Suboxone program. Suggestions were broached about where the short film could be disseminated. Ms. Krupnick passed around outreach materials done in English and Spanish.

The LBW initiative at La Familia consists of three prongs: pregnancy prevention,

awareness of prenatal care, and mitigation of risk factors, including depression screening and behavioral health services. Dr. Johnson pointed out that there are potential threats to Title X, which currently funds much of their LARC procedures.

Ms. Krupnick said they also emphasize storytelling and collaborations with partners. Participation in prenatal classes has increased four-fold with use of incentives. Transportation has been facilitated with bus and Uber passes. They offer CENA (Community, Exercise, Nutrition Action) to fight obesity, and smoking cessation classes which have met with only limited success. Group classes have been empowering and leads to post-partum support systems.

Dr. Johnson reviewed numbers served and how data collection has changed. She noted the MAT (Medically Assisted Treatment) program for drug users has been successful. Regarding lessons learned, she stated poverty and inequality lead to the social determinants of health that in turn create violence, depression, and self-medication. She indicated that La Familia doesn't do ACE screening but instead relies on SBIRT that checks for depression, anxiety and interpersonal safety. Generally, in the population they deal with everyone has a higher number of ACE factors. She advocates universal trauma-informed care.

## **VIII. Matters from the Commission and Staff**

### **A. Director's Report**

Ms. Boies gave the following updates:

- The 2018 resource directory is now available in English and Spanish. Copies may be picked up at the front desk, and organizations can receive multiple copies. The directory is also on the County website
- The dental therapy bill that the HPPC supported did not pass during the 2017 Legislative Session, but Health Action New Mexico plans to bring it up in the coming year. She has invited Health Action New Mexico to present to the Healthcare Affiliate of the New Mexico Association of Counties (NMAC) at the June meeting with a view to getting NMAC endorsement
- CSD met with new Mayor Alan Webber and provided an overview of the crisis center and the Accountable Health Community project

### **B. Other Matters from the Commission**

Commissioner Roberts lauded the work done by Chair Szczepanski during her tenure on the committee and as Chair. She received a round of applause.

## **IX. Future Agenda Items**

- Teen Court presentation
- Advanced directives -- August meeting

## **X. Announcements**

- ### **A. (Tentative) Next HPPC meeting Friday, July 6, 2018, 9 a.m., Santa Fe County Community Services Department Conference Room, 2052 Galisteo**

**XI. Adjournment**

This meeting was declared adjourned at approximately 1:12 a.m.

Approved by:

*Laurie Glaze*  
Laurie Glaze — Reena Szczepanski, Chair  
Health Policy & Planning Commission

Respectfully submitted by:

*Debbie Doyle*  
Debbie Doyle, Wordswork

COUNTY OF SANTA FE ) HEALTH POLICY & PLAN M  
STATE OF NEW MEXICO ) ss PAGES: 5

I Hereby Certify That This Instrument Was Filed for  
Record On The 7TH Day Of August, 2018 at 03:31:59 PM  
And Was Duly Recorded as Instrument # **1864587**  
Of The Records Of Santa Fe County



Deputy *Estrella Martinez* Witness My Hand And Seal Of Office  
Geraldine Salazar  
County Clerk, Santa Fe, NM