

Santa Fe County
DWI Planning Council Meeting Minutes
Quarterly Meeting Minutes

Date: June 15, 2026

Time: 10:00 a.m. – approximately 11:40 a.m.

Location: Virtual Meeting

1. Welcome, Roll Call, and Quorum

Sylvia Barela welcomed participants and conducted roll call. Planning Council members participating included:

- Esteban Trujillo, Chair – New Mexico Department of Transportation
- Jonathan Fernandez – New Mexico Department of Transportation
- Mary Stramel – Friendship Club
- Ginger McGuire – Santa Fe Family Health Center/Presbyterian Medical Services
- Traci Pepper – MADD New Mexico
- Heather King – Santa Fe Recovery Center, participating in place of Stacey Martin

A quorum was established.

Sylvia also informed the Council that Leo Almazan had resigned from the Council due to work commitments. He was asked to explore whether another representative from Christus St. Vincent might be interested in serving.

2. Approval of Agenda

Mary Stramel moved to approve the agenda. Jonathan Fernandez and Traci Pepper seconded. The agenda was **approved unanimously**.

3. Approval of March 16, 2026 Meeting Minutes

Mary Stramel moved to approve the March 16, 2026 meeting minutes. Esteban Trujillo seconded.

The minutes were **approved unanimously**.

4. Introductions

Council members, Santa Fe County staff, law enforcement representatives, behavioral health providers, evaluators, community partners, and other participants introduced themselves.

Participants represented organizations and programs including Santa Fe County Community Services Department, Youth and Family Services, DWI Compliance, Uplift Youth, Santa Fe Police Department, New Mexico State Police, New Mexico Department of Transportation, New Mexico Department of Finance and Administration, Santa Fe Public Schools, Santa Fe Recovery Center, Santa Fe Family Health Center/Presbyterian Medical Services, MADD New Mexico, Friendship Club, Aspen Solutions, Law Offices of the Public Defender, and other community partners.

Tyler Riemann was introduced in his new role as Santa Fe County DWI Program Manager.

5. Behavioral Health Reform and Investment Act (BHRIA/SB3) and Region 1 Update

Presenter: Anne Ryan, Santa Fe County Community Services Director

Anne Ryan provided an overview of New Mexico's behavioral health reform efforts and the Behavioral Health Reform and Investment Act (BHRIA/SB3), including the development of regional behavioral health systems and the Region 1 Behavioral Health Plan.

The presentation reviewed Senate Bill 1 and Senate Bill 3 from the 2025 legislative session. Senate Bill 1 established mechanisms for long-term behavioral health funding, while Senate Bill 3 created the regional behavioral health planning and implementation structure.

Region 1 corresponds to the First Judicial District and includes Santa Fe, Rio Arriba, and Los Alamos Counties as well as Tribal Nations and Pueblos and municipal partners within the region. Santa Fe County serves as the Accountable Entity responsible for coordinating the regional planning process.

Anne described the significant planning and coordination undertaken by Santa Fe County and regional partners, including regular meetings of the regional advisory group, stakeholder engagement, listening sessions, behavioral health workshops, and development of the regional plan.

The Region 1 planning process identified seven behavioral health priorities:

1. Expanded managed withdrawal/detoxification and crisis stabilization;
2. Expanded medication-assisted treatment (MAT);
3. Development of youth behavioral health and crisis infrastructure;
4. Behavioral health workforce development, recruitment, and retention;

5. Regional navigation and transportation;
6. Housing and re-entry; and
7. Prevention and outreach across the age spectrum.

Approximately \$8 million in BHRIA funding is anticipated for Region 1 over the three-year FY27–FY29 implementation period. Because the State permits regions to fund up to five priorities, related priorities are being combined for implementation.

A significant portion of the regional funding is proposed to support expansion of crisis, detoxification, and related services in both Rio Arriba and Santa Fe Counties. This includes potential expansion of La Sala in Santa Fe County and Darrin's Place in Rio Arriba County. The goal is to strengthen crisis and withdrawal-management capacity at both ends of the region and provide additional alternatives for law enforcement diversion.

The presentation also highlighted:

- Continued development of the Santa Fe County regional Youth Behavioral Health Center;
- Approximately \$1.5 million proposed for regional behavioral health workforce development;
- Expansion of regional navigation and transportation resources, including CONNECT and related transportation strategies;
- Prevention activities across the age spectrum;
- Development of a regional behavioral health provider map to support outreach and future solicitations; and
- Significant County resources already being leveraged alongside BHRIA funding.

BHRIA Early Access Funding

Anne Ryan also reviewed Region 1's Early Access funding strategy.

Region 1 developed a one-time allocation formula designed to account for population, disproportionate behavioral health impacts, Tribal communities, and the needs of lower-population areas.

Early Access investments include support for Tribal partners, behavioral health treatment and planning activities, infrastructure development for crisis and detoxification services in Rio Arriba County, and expansion of Santa Fe County's Mobile Integrated Health Unit.

The Mobile Integrated Health investment is intended to expand capacity to respond to overdose and other behavioral health needs and support communities throughout the region.

Regional BHRIA meetings will continue monthly, with quarterly in-person meetings rotating among communities throughout Region 1. Council members and other stakeholders were encouraged to remain engaged in the regional planning and implementation process.

Chanel Delgado offered to provide the Planning Council with a future presentation regarding the County's Youth Behavioral Health Center initiative, and the Council welcomed the offer.

6. Uplift Youth Program

Presenter: Tyler Riemann, Santa Fe County DWI Program Manager

Tyler Riemann provided an overview of the **Santa Fe County Uplift Youth Program**, formerly known as Teen Court.

The program officially transitioned from Teen Court to Uplift Youth on July 1, 2025 and recently completed its first full school year under the new name.

Teen Court had operated for more than 30 years as a youth diversion program emphasizing peer accountability. The COVID-19 pandemic and suspension of in-person court activities prompted the program to reconsider where its greatest impact occurred. Staff determined that much of the meaningful work happened through direct engagement with youth and families rather than through courtroom proceedings.

The redesign therefore shifted the program toward a more holistic, restorative, trauma-informed, and family-centered model.

The name Uplift Youth was selected following input from community stakeholders, partners, youth, and families. Approximately two-thirds of survey respondents preferred the Uplift name. The new identity emphasizes empowerment, healing, accountability, support, and personal growth.

Core program goals include:

- Youth empowerment;
- Family engagement;
- Restorative justice;
- Comprehensive support and case management;
- Community healing; and
- Inclusivity and diversity.

The program generally serves youth ages 12–17, with some flexibility based upon individual circumstances. Referrals may come from courts, juvenile probation, schools, community organizations, families, or youth themselves.

An important expansion under Uplift is the ability to accept **social and self-referrals**, allowing youth to receive support before an offense or other significant incident occurs. This provides an opportunity for earlier prevention and intervention.

The program also works closely with Santa Fe County's youth behavioral health intensive case managers. Youth requiring a higher level of support can receive a warm handoff to intensive case management while continuing to participate in appropriate Uplift activities.

Uplift Youth Outcomes and Program Improvements

Uplift Youth uses a 0–5 level-of-engagement framework to better recognize progress among youth and families. Rather than defining success solely as completion of every program requirement, the framework recognizes meaningful levels of participation and improvement based upon the circumstances and needs of individual youth.

The program also replaced the former Teen Attorney component with a Youth Leader Internship Program. Youth age 15 and older who demonstrate progress and leadership may be recommended for paid internships supporting program activities and peer mentoring. Interns are paid \$16 per hour and gain leadership, employment, and mentoring experience.

Program results from the first year of Uplift Youth included:

- More than 600 youth referrals;
- 428 youth served;
- Increased diversity in referral sources, including greater participation from charter schools;
- Fewer unsuccessful discharges;
- An improving successful completion rate, approaching approximately 40–50%; and
- Lower recidivism, with fewer youth returning to the program.

Program evaluation is conducted in collaboration with Aspen Solutions, including pre/post measures, program-specific evaluation, participant feedback, and exit surveys.

Council members expressed appreciation for the program's evolution and the emphasis on helping youth and families outside of a punitive court framework.

7. DWI Strategic Plan Update

Sylvia Barela provided an update on the Santa Fe County DWI Strategic Plan.

The County's current three-year plan will be updated in preparation for 2027. The existing plan continues to provide a strong foundation, and the intent is not to substantially redesign

it. Instead, the upcoming process will review and update the existing plan, identify needed changes, and consider additional priorities, goals, or initiatives.

The County will schedule three to four 90-minute virtual planning sessions during July and August, generally meeting every two weeks. Council members were strongly encouraged to participate.

Chair Esteban Trujillo emphasized the importance of Council participation, noting that the revised plan will guide DWI-related work in the community for the next three years.

Draft revisions are expected to be available for Council review at the September Planning Council meeting.

8. Public Comment and Community Announcements

Friendship Club: Mary Stramel announced the Friendship Club's Recovery Day planned for September 2026, from 2:00–5:00 p.m. Meeting discussion subsequently referenced the event as occurring September 26.

Court outreach: Kelley Ryals reported that she and Marco Serna had met with a Municipal Court judge and court representative to discuss concerns and opportunities for greater communication and collaboration. Additional discussions were planned, with information to be brought back to the Planning Council.

MADD New Mexico: Traci Pepper announced MADD New Mexico's annual Honoring Heroes Gala at Sandia Casino. The event recognizes DWI enforcement officers, courts, and first responders and was celebrating its 20th anniversary.

Santa Fe Family Health Center/PMS: Ginger McGuire announced the development of intensive outpatient programs serving adults and adolescents. She also reported that the Santa Fe Family Health Center had changed its behavioral health assessment process to allow walk-in assessments Monday through Friday from 8:30 a.m.–1:30 p.m.

Ginger confirmed that Presbyterian Medical Services/Santa Fe Family Health Center is operating as a Certified Community Behavioral Health Clinic (CCBHC) in Santa Fe.

Santa Fe County DWI Public Awareness Campaign: Eric Griego reported that Santa Fe County launched its new summer DWI public-awareness campaign around Memorial Day. Campaign materials were being placed in bars and restaurants, on portable restroom advertising, and through a new bus wrap expected to begin circulating in early July.

Santa Fe Recovery Center: Heather King clarified that Santa Fe Recovery Center was no longer operating as a CCBHC provider in Santa Fe County following an April billing change. The organization continues to provide the CCBHC service array in Santa Fe on a fee-for-service basis and continues to operate as a CCBHC in Gallup.

9. Adjournment

Esteban Trujillo moved to adjourn the meeting. Kelley Ryals seconded.

The motion to adjourn was **approved unanimously**.

The meeting adjourned at approximately **11:40 a.m.**

Next Meeting

The next quarterly Santa Fe County DWI Planning Council meeting is scheduled for:

Monday, September 21, 2026

10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

Minutes Approved by:

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Esteban Trujillo". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above a horizontal line.

Esteban Trujillo, Chair

DWI Planning Council