

MINUTES OF THE
SANTA FE COUNTY
HEALTH POLICY & PLANNING COMMISSION

April 3, 2026

Santa Fe, New Mexico

This regular meeting of the Santa Fe County Health Policy & Planning Commission (HPPC) was called to order by Chair Steven Berkshire at approximately 10:00 a.m. on the above-cited date at the Plaza Conference Room, 240 Grant Ave., Santa Fe, New Mexico.

The meeting was held in a hybrid manner with both in-person and virtual participation.

The following members were present:

Members Present:

Steven Berkshire, Chair
Mark Hayden
Deborah Weiss
Ronald Aldrich
Arthur Culpepper
Laura Elliman

Member(s) Absent:

Sun Vega (excused)
Maria Jose Rodriguez Cadiz (excused)
Michael Spainer (excused)

County Staff Present:

Coy Maienza, Health Services Division Manager
Anjelica Griego, Health Care Assistance Program (HCAP) Administrative Assistant

Community Members Present:

Kyaolin Rajbhandary, NE Region Health Promotion Specialist, DOH [remote]
Korina Lopez, La Familia, Healthcare for the Homeless [remote]
Rosie Hudson, Nurse Manager, Santa Fe Public Health Office [remote]
Jasmine Meyer, Mgr. Community Health Operations & Strategic Initiatives, PHS [remote]
Amber N Jeansonne, Community Engagement Liaison, UNM [remote]

Introduction

Those present introduced themselves.

Approval of Agenda

Mr. Aldrich moved to approve, seconded by Mr. Hayden. Motion to approve passed without opposition.

Approval of Minutes

February 6, 2026: Ms. Weiss moved to approve, Mr. Aldrich seconded, and the motion to approve the February minutes passed without opposition.

Presentation: Overview of Connect (PowerPoint attached):

Coy Maienza, Health Services Division Manager

Coy presented an in-depth overview of CONNECT and spoke about the history of when it started, identifying in 2017 having 13 navigators across 8 programs to 2025 growing to over 300+ navigators across 85 programs. Ms. Weiss asked about the data of CONNECT and requested demographics to see what it looks and if the next meeting a presentation can be on just that data.

Matters from the Commission

- **Perinatal Collaboration:**

- Jasmine Meyer Community Health Operations and Strategic Initiatives Manager, PHS provided an overview of perinatal efforts, including partnership with the Santa Fe County Connect network for referrals and Northern Roots' produce prescription program supporting perinatal individuals and children
- Update: The Chain Breaker Perinatal event is scheduled for May; a follow-up will be provided at a future meeting.
- Mr. Culpepper reviewed the Parental Responsibility Act, noting it allows suspension or denial of licenses for noncompliance with child support orders. He will explore how related funds are allocated and whether they could support perinatal initiatives.
- Chair Berkshire requested a project update at the next meeting; Jasmine confirmed she will report back in June following the Chain Breaker event.

- **Santa Fe County Court Mapping Update (Sequential Intercept Model Mapping, a Criminal Justice initiative) Chair Berkshire, Ms. Weiss, and Coy**

- Ms. Weiss presented on the peer support subcommittee, which assists individuals with reentry through peer mentors with lived experience.
- Program targets primarily non-violent, substance-related cases and has demonstrated reduced recidivism (~86%). Currently implemented in Judge Lidyard's court, with potential and hopes for expansion to others to follow suit.
- Services begin pretrial with New Mexico Reentry Services and continue post-adjudication in partnership with and The Life Link.
- Ms. Weiss inquired about alignment with CONNECT Services. Coy confirmed County contracts with Life Link and NM Reentry Services and noted jail-based navigators are integrated with CONNECT Services.
- Strong collaboration between Community Services and the jail was noted, including ongoing reentry planning efforts.
- Approximately 48% of individuals are released from Santa Fe County jail within 48 hours of being booked.
- Over 70% of incarcerated individuals have behavioral health needs.

- Emphasis on early intervention with youth to prevent system involvement.
 - Peer mentors provide guidance, resource navigation, and accountability based on lived experience.
 - Support aims to reduce repeated cycles of incarceration by helping individuals make improved decisions post-release.
- **Anchorum Update:**
 - Chair Berkshire, Ms. Weiss, Ms. Rodriguez Cadiz and Coy will be meeting Monday April 6, 2026, at 8:30 am with Anchorum to discuss collaborations and opportunities there might be. The group will be updated at next meeting to discuss what is
- **Climate Initiative:**
 - Chair Berkshire briefly talked about Climate affecting northwest or northeast part of our County versus Edgewood which has a much higher heat index.
 - Mr. Hayden sits on the board of Santa Fe 350 (Climate Organization in Santa Fe). He mentioned they are sponsoring a movie at the CCA on April 26th, 2026, at 6:30 PM. It is a free two movie showing, one called Land of Sacrifice which is about fracking and the Permian basin and the other is called Arctic Alchemy which is about what is happening in Alaska with melting and permafrost. He mentioned there will be a Q&A after the showings with the filmmaker and other people in the movie.
- **New Youth Behavioral Health Center:**
 - Chair Berkshire mentioned attending the Santa Fe County Youth Behavioral Health Center (YBHC) tour. The YBHC was recently purchased and will be opening within the next few months.
 - The location is not for the county to provide direct services but rather it's a location where the county plans on having agencies that provide Behavioral Health Services within the location, primarily youth.
 - Coy mentioned this initiative in Santa Fe County Youth and Family Services Division over seen by Chanelle Delgado.
 - An RFP or a notice of available funding will be released to providers, and those interested will be at this building.
 - Coy mentioned Uplift Youth Family Services used to be Teen Court, but that model wasn't working, so this is more of a restorative justice program and with this change there has been a lot more referrals currently.
- **2026 NM Legislation Issues:**
 - Chair Berkshire stated there wasn't a lot that was passed that impacts what we are doing.
 - Mr. Culpepper stated the biggest discussion is Behavioral Health and there is going to be a national oversight group that will implement rules at the national level. New Mexico legislature just passed the interstate licensing compacts for physicians and social workers. Your license will be approved in all the states you go to.

- Mr. Culpepper mentioned the reduction in malpractice rates from \$25,000 versus \$100,000 in which now the hospitals are making pay 100% of it. Legislation was passed to reduce the burden of malpractice insurance.
- Chair Berkshire stated the State's Alliance of Health Councils offers trainings and state-wide collaboratives and are available to attend by Zoom or in person.
[NMAHC](#)
- **Discussion from Mr. Hayden:**
 - Mr. Hayden introduced a concept regarding developing a comprehensive, integrated behavioral health system in Santa Fe County, led by Dr. Jonathan Gordon and supported by multiple stakeholders. Dr. Jonathan Gordon (Former Kaiser Permanente Regional Chief, NAMI, Santa Fe County Behavioral Health Council), University of New Mexico (Dr. Towin, Psychology), Congresswoman Teresa Leger Fernandez, Stephen Merz (Sheppard Pratt Solutions), New Mexico Healthcare Authority and other state stakeholders
 - Severe shortage of inpatient psychiatric beds (approx. 8 in Santa Fe)
 - Lack of coordinated, continuous care, leading to repeated treatment cycles
 - Workforce pipeline gaps (psychologists, nurse practitioners, behavioral health workers)
 - Broader systemic issue: deinstitutionalization leading to increased homelessness and incarceration of mentally ill individuals.
 - Mr. Hayden and Dr. Gordon will present this topic at the next HPPC meeting.

Public Comment

- N/A

Matters from staff

- BHRIA Updates
 - Coy discussed Behavioral Health Reform and Investment Act, which is a regional model, Santa Fe County is the accountable entity for Region one, which follows judicial districts.
 - Santa Fe County, Los Alamos County and Rio Arriba County,
 - In addition are the seven tribal nations Jicarilla Apache Nation, Ohkay Owingeh, Pueblo of Santa Clara, Pueblo of Tesuque, Pueblo of Nambe, Pueblo de San Ildefonso and Pueblo of Pojoaque.
 - Regional Health Council meeting, every first Tuesday of every month.
 - County Website: <https://www.santafecountynm.gov/community-services/hhsd/behavioral-health-reform-investment-act>
 - Region one is set to get about \$8.1 million but that is for three (3) years for three (3) counties and seven (7) tribal nations.
- District 1 New Member:
 - Laura Elliman
- Updated resolution regarding HPPC
 - DOH requested an updated resolution as the last one was five years ago. Also, to

identify that the HPPC is the Health Council, so that was clarified.

- Vote for Vice Chair
 - Assistance needed for meeting planning/agenda creation/ communications.
 - Possibility for a subcommittee so if someone does leave then there is someone else ready to move things along.
 - Mr. Aldrich volunteered, Ms. Weiss was mentioned as a good candidate for Vice Chair. Ms. Elliman mentioned she is willing to support and help with the distribution of work.
 - Chair Berkshire requested to wait until June meeting when there is a full board present.
- Development of P&P's and Welcome Packet for new member
 - Needs to be updated
- Health Action Plan Review
 - Chair Berkshire requested all to think about if they would like to the subcommittee that will review the revisions to the Health Action Plan.
 - The subcommittee's role would be to lead the process to review the Health Action Plan.
 - Chair Berkshire does have some ideas on how to go about the process of the subcommittee

Next Meeting & Adjourn

Meeting called for adjournment by Chair Steven Berkshire at 12:00pm. Mr. Aldrich moved for adjournment, seconded by Mr. Culpepper.

Next HPPC meeting June 5, 2026

Respectfully submitted by:
Anjelica Griego, Santa Fe County

Approved by:

Steven Berkshire, HPPC Chair

Date