

MINUTES OF THE
SANTA FE COUNTY
HEALTH POLICY & PLANNING COMMISSION

July 10, 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 Grant 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
Maria Jose Rodriguez Cadiz [remote]
Michael Spainer
Ronald Aldrich
Arthur Culpepper [remote]
Laura Elliman
Sun Vega

Member(s) Absent:

Mark Hayden (excused)
Deborah Weiss (excused)

County Staff Present:

Jennifer Romero, Community Services Department Deputy Director
Coy Maienza, Health Services Division Manager
Chanelle Delgado, Youth Services Program Director [remote]
Anjelica Griego, Community Services Department Accountant
Geraldine Espinosa, Community Services Department Intern

Community Members Present:

Kyaolin Rajbhandary, NE Region Health Promotion Specialist, DOH
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
Jasmin Milz, Chief Impact Officer, La Familia Healthcare
Crystal Archuleta, NE Region Health Promotion Specialist, DOH
Kate Field, Crisis Services Director, NM Solutions [remote]

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Brandon Estrada, Market Director of Business Development, Peak Behavioral Health [remote]
Kathleen Tunney, Director of Community Health, Christus St. Vincent [remote]
Yomei Shaw, Epidemiologist, DOH [remote]
Jeremy Espinoza, Public Health Promotion Team, DOH [remote]
Valeria Alarcon, Executive Director, NMAHC [remote]
Valentina White, DOH

Introductions

Those present introduced themselves.

Approval of Agenda

Ronald Aldrich moved to approve, seconded by Laura Elliman. Motion to approve passed without opposition.

Approval of Minutes

February 6, 2026: Ronald Aldrich moved to approve, Sun Vega seconded, and the motion to approve the February minutes passed without opposition.

Presentation: Regional Youth Behavioral Health Center Update (PowerPoint attached):

Chanelle Delgado provided an update on the development of the Santa Fe County Youth Behavioral Health Center, a centralized hub intended to improve access to coordinated behavioral health services for youth and families. The Center will support a continuum of care from prevention through treatment and intervention and will prioritize culturally responsive and community-informed services.

Chanelle also discussed the phased implementation of the Center, including facility improvements and the current NOFA (Notice of Funding Availability) for co-located service providers. A second NOFA is planned to support community-based prevention efforts.

Chanelle stated that while direct outreach to faith communities has not yet occurred, these organizations are viewed as important partners, and intentional community outreach and promotion are included in the vision for the Center. She also highlighted plans to expand youth and adult peer support worker capacity as another way to connect individuals with services.

Santa Fe Public Schools, Pojoaque Valley School District, and rural schools have been involved in the project, with school representatives participating in the NOFA review process. The County is also working toward an agreement with the school district to continue supporting prevention efforts. Outreach and services are available to private schools, although engagement has been more limited.

A suggestion was made to consider a vacant clinic space in an area of high community need as a potential location for additional behavioral health services. Chanelle explained that the County's current priority is establishing the Regional Youth Behavioral Health Center but noted the suggestion as a possible future consideration. She also emphasized that transportation access is a priority to help ensure families can reach behavioral health services without transportation becoming a barrier.

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Presentation: Development of Comprehensive Integrated Behavioral Health System

Dr. Jonathan Gordon presented a proposal for developing a regional teaching mental health hospital in Northern New Mexico to address gaps in behavioral health services, including shortages of providers and inpatient psychiatric beds, particularly for children and adolescents.

The proposed hospital would serve as a hub for an integrated and coordinated behavioral health system offering inpatient and outpatient services, crisis and substance use treatment, transitional care, and telehealth services for rural communities. Dr. Gordon also emphasized partnering with the University of New Mexico to establish a teaching hospital model that could help train and retain behavioral health professionals in New Mexico.

The proposal includes exploring federal, state, community, and private funding opportunities; developing partnerships with existing behavioral health organizations; and forming a committee to further evaluate and advance the concept.

Matters from the Commission

• Update on Anchorum Metting

- The Commission discussed identifying key health priorities for Santa Fe County to share with Anchorum.
- Jennifer Romero suggested using priorities identified through the Region 1 behavioral health planning process as a starting point, including behavioral health workforce needs.
- Chair Berkshire shared possibility of forming a subcommittee to identify and further develop priorities discussed.
- Members noted that Region 1 priorities were developed through a regional process and have broader community support.
- The group discussed exploring additional funding opportunities and partnerships involving Santa Fe County, neighboring counties, and the State.

• Climate Initiative:

- Healthy Climate New Mexico has begun discussions about working more closely with Connect Navigators to identify climate-related needs among vulnerable community members.
- Members discussed increasing temperatures and the need for resources to help residents safely heat and cool their homes, particularly seniors, homebound individuals, and residents of poorly insulated housing.
- A vacant building was suggested as a potential cooling center for community members during periods of extreme heat.
- The Commission discussed possible assistance with cooling equipment, such as swamp coolers or air conditioners, and whether flexible funding could be used for these needs.
- Members suggested identifying existing programs that provide home assessments and low- or no-cost improvements before developing new resources.

- Existing resources, including utility assistance, supportive housing programs, and County home improvement programs, were discussed as possible options to explore.
- Next step: Contact Healthy Climate New Mexico to identify available resources and potential strategies and provide an update at a future meeting.
- **Criminal Justice Coordinating Committees**
 - An update was provided on efforts to better connect individuals leaving the County jail with community-based services and reduce gaps in support that can contribute to recidivism.
 - The County has coordinated re-entry fairs that connect individuals with available resources before release, including healthcare, behavioral health, employment assistance, and help obtaining essential documents.
 - Additional re-entry events are being planned for individuals who have already returned to the community and may not have participated in programs while incarcerated.
 - A pilot program, launched by Judge Lidyard within the First Judicial District, provides peer support to help individuals navigate the criminal justice system. New Mexico Re-entry assists individuals' pre-adjudication, while The Life Link provides support following adjudication.
 - Housing continues to be identified as a significant challenge for individuals returning to the community.
 - Commission members interested in participating in the housing or peer support committees were invited to become involved.
- **NM Alliance of Health Councils/Tribal Health Councils**
 - An update was provided on the recent Alliance meeting and its ongoing collaboration with Tribal Health Councils.
 - Members were encouraged to attend upcoming meetings and will continue to receive meeting notices.
 - The Commission was reminded of its role as Santa Fe County's designated health council and related health planning and reporting responsibilities.
- **Election of Vice Chair:**
 - Voted in to serve in the role was Michael Spanier

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 in which was approved with no notes.

Next Meeting & Adjourn

Meeting called for adjournment by Chair Berkshire at 12:00pm. Sun Vega moved for adjournment, seconded by Laura Elliman.

Next HPPC meeting August 7th

Respectfully submitted by:
Anjelica Griego, Santa Fe County

Approved by:



Steven Berkshire, HPPC Chair

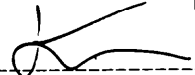
7 Aug 2026
Date

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COUNTY OF SANTA FE)
STATE OF NEW MEXICO) ss

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I Hereby Certify That This Instrument Was Filed for
Record On The 10TH Day Of August, 2026 at 04:21:25 PM
and Was Duly Recorded as Instrument # 2089402
in The Records Of Santa Fe County

Deputy  _____
Witness My Hand And Seal Of Office
Katharine E. Clark
County Clerk, Santa Fe, NM

