

MINUTES OF THE
SANTA FE COUNTY
HEALTH POLICY & PLANNING COMMISSION

December 5, 2025

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
Sun Vega
Deborah Weiss
Ronald Aldrich
Maria Jose Rodriguez Cadiz

Member(s) Absent:

Mark Hayden
Arthur Culpepper (excused)

County Staff Present:

Jennifer Romero, Community Services Deputy Director
Coy Maienza, Health Services Manager
Erin Rakestraw, CSD, Administrative Assistant

Others Present:

Olivia Romo, Field Representative, Office of US Senator Martin Heinrich [remote]
Christa Hernandez, City of Santa Fe Youth & Family Services Program Manager [remote]
Rosie Hudson, Nurse Manager, Santa Fe Public Health Office [remote]
Kim Horan, DOH, Health Promotion Program
Daisy Graves, SFC Fire Department, Battalion Chief of Medical Services [remote]
Stef Grundy, DOH, Overdose Prevention Section Manager [remote]
Dr. Christopher Novak, DOH, Public Health Division [remote]
Jasmine Meyer, Manager of Community Health Operations & Strategic Initiatives, PHS
Jeremy Espinoza, DOH, NE Region Community Epidemiologist

Introductions

Those present introduced themselves.

Approval of Agenda

Mr. Aldrich moved to add the closure of Nexus Health to “Matters from the Commission”. Mr. Aldrich then moved to approve the amended agenda, and Ms. Weiss seconded. The motion to approve the amended agenda passed without opposition.

Approval of Minutes

October 3, 2025: Mr. Aldrich moved to approve. Ms. Weiss seconded, and the motion to approve the October minutes passed without opposition.

Presentation: Overdose Response and Rescue Training, A Strategic Overview (PowerPoint attached)

Stef Grundy, DOH, Overdose Prevention Section Manager

Stef began their presentation by stating that the actual “first responders” to overdoses in the community are almost always community members: a friend, neighbor, family member. These people will likely be the first to encounter the overdosed person. Understanding that everyday citizens may be the best chance in saving someone’s life is the impetus for this training.

The urgency: New Mexico’s overdose death rate remains critically high, ranking #6 in overdose death rates in US. The presence of Fentanyl and the rise of polysubstance use have made the crisis more urgent and unpredictable, increasing the risk of fatal overdose across all demographics.

The goal shift: move away from relying only on professional emergency response to enabling community-based, immediate action.

- Core goal: Equip every community with the knowledge and tools to prevent and reverse an overdose.
 - Strategy Component 1: Training of the Trainer
 - Strategy Component 2: Quick Community Education

Several attendees expressed an interest in getting more information from Stef. A suggestion was made to connect Stef with Valeria Alarcon from NM Alliance of Health Councils. Introductions for each of the above will be made by Coy via email.

Presentation: Presbyterian Community Health Perinatal Strategy, A follow up discussion (PowerPoint attached)

Jasmine Meyer, Manager of Regional Community Health

Jasmine’s presentation addressed the goals of perinatal quality and equity, sharing how they’re trying to identify those who need perinatal and/or postpartum services but have not engaged. Also identifying those who are most at risk. Once engaged, ensuring that appropriate screenings are conducted and referrals are made to all appropriate resources.

In addition to the PowerPoint and discussion, Jasmine added that the ways in which HPPC members can assist this initiative are:

- To support and enhance the implementation of the 1115 Medicaid Waiver, Food is Medicine benefit for pregnant persons and those with diabetes
- Build the capacity of CBOs to participate in the Food is Medicine benefit through joint programming
- Partnering with other CBOs to help host events to gather community feedback
- Presenting a resolution for the Santa Fe County Board of Commissioners to identify gaps and needs and further financial assistance for those not covered by Medicaid
- Santa Fe County HPPC can assist by promoting the above initiatives

Matters from the Commission

- HPPC Action Plan—do we need to revisit?
 - It was suggested and decided that the HPPC will wait until the vacancies are filled before making any changes.
 - Can we track how we've been addressing the HAP items?
- Climate Impacts Discussion
 - The presentation provided by Healthy Climate New Mexico was quite impactful for those able to participate.
 - Members expressed disappointment that the County Commissioners were not in attendance at this presentation. Discussions regarding how to get this training to them, as they will most likely be those who can influence change. Perhaps requesting a half-hour presentation to the BCC by Healthy Climate NM.
 - May want to revisit a climate subcommittee for HPPC.
 - Does CONNECT screen for environmental/climate-related issues? Staff recommend letting Healthy Climate NM review and make recommendations for questions.
- Meeting with Anchorum?
 - Nothing to ask or present today
 - Perhaps an HPPC member (Deborah?) can invite them to our next meeting
- Closure of Nexus Health
 - This seems to have come without warning and was a surprise to many, including some who still have appointments scheduled with them.
 - Determined that there isn't anything that can be done by HPPC but wanted to discuss its impacts.
- Community Collaborative Forum meeting 11/6/25
 - Planned 2026 dates **April 1st | August 20th | November 5th**
 - These have had some great presenters and some great information shared, great small group discussions, and all are encouraged to attend when possible.
- Behavioral Health Leadership Council Update
 - Skipped to BHRIA updates, as this encompasses the BHLC updates as well

Public Comment

- N/A

Matters from staff

- BHRIA Updates

- CSD Deputy Director Jennifer Romero shared the updates on the SB3/Behavioral Health Reform and Investment Act (BHRIA)
 - The BH Region 1 workshop is scheduled for 12/18 and 12/19. CSD has taken the lead as Accountable Entity for the region
 - The County website contains a webpage that will continue to be updated as any new information is released or as any changes occur
 - There is an early funds release via a Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO), the County plans to submit an application but this will be complicated, as the application must be submitted by 12/19.
 - HPPC member Sun Vega will be in attendance at the workshop
 - The first 6 months of 2026, our BH Region 1 will be hosting Regional planning meetings, encouraging participation from local health council members. These will take place the first Tuesday of each month during the noon hour: January 6th, February 3rd, March 3rd, April 7th, May 5th, June 2nd. The link to participate will be posted on the Santa Fe County website, under the BHRIA tab. [Behavioral Health Reform and Investment Act | Santa Fe County](#)

Regional Noon Meetings Link:

Virtual Participation

[Join the Meeting](#)

Meeting ID: 258 087 309 048 7

Passcode: ca2Ls6tx

Dial-in: 1-773-352-2011

Phone Conf. ID: 651 166 404#

- The application for the larger pool of funds is due June 30, 2026
 - Listening sessions for the community to share their thoughts will take place virtually on 1/12/26, 1/14/26, and 1/15/26, during the noon hour. Registration is required.
- District 1 & District 5 Vacancies
 - We have received one application for D-5 but still none for D-1. Please reach out to anyone who could be a good fit and who also lives in this area (Tesuque, Cuyamunge, Pojoaque, Nambe, south Espanola)
 - Interstate Compacts
 - These allow for various licensed health care providers to move across state lines without having to become credentialed in a each state.
 - There are 9 separate compacts, and New Mexico is currently only in the Nursing compact
 - Legislature will be reviewing this again as in years' past. We are hopeful that they

will pass this year.

- Federal Government Impacts on County
 - We are not seeing major impacts yet, but many of the cuts that Congress has made have not yet taken effect. We are preparing as best we can.
- Updated resolution regarding HPPC to go to BCC
 - We are putting forth a resolution to officially establish the HPPC as the “Health Council” for Santa Fe County
 - We are also proposing the election of a Vice Chair, who can substitute when the Chair is unavailable

Next Meeting & Adjourn

Meeting adjourned by Chair Steven Berkshire at 12:00pm
Next HPPC meeting March 6, 2026

Respectfully submitted by:
Coy Maienza, Santa Fe County

Approved by:

Steven Berkshire, HPPC Chair

Date