

**SANTA FE COUNTY
BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS**

RESOLUTION NO. 2024 - 032

**A RESOLUTION
ESTABLISHING THE BEHAVIORAL HEALTH LEADERSHIP COUNCIL**

WHEREAS, a healthy community is a key goal for Santa Fe County; and

WHEREAS, there is an increase in the behavioral health needs in Santa Fe County, especially among the County's children, adolescents and young adults; and

WHEREAS, there is a need for increased behavioral health service capacity to address this growing need for care; and

WHEREAS, Santa Fe County has made significant contributions of funding to various behavioral health initiatives in the County, including the creation and funding of both the **CONNECT** and **La Sala** Center programs; and

WHEREAS, Santa Fe County also provides funding for detox, prevention treatment, harm reduction, public awareness, and direct services to assist persons with behavioral health issues in our County; and

WHEREAS, there is an increase in the use of recreational and prescription opioids in Santa Fe County among both adults and youth, leading to an increased number of overdoses, deaths and dependency; and

WHEREAS, alcohol related deaths are high including increases in DWI crashes as well as morbidity associated with the consumption of alcohol; and

WHEREAS, coordination and integration of care for individuals among behavioral health service providers needs to be enhanced; and

WHEREAS, the Santa Fe County Community Services Department (CSD) has adopted and implemented the "*Behavioral Health Strategic Plan: Leadership and Services 2019-2024*", which, consistent with the County's goal to work collaboratively with community stakeholders and regional government partners, calls for a Behavioral Health Core Leadership Team; and

WHEREAS, CSD administratively established a Behavioral Health Leadership Team, comprised of representatives with diverse backgrounds, varied health care services experiences, service providers, government agencies, advocates and persons with lived experience, which began meeting regularly in July, 2019; and

WHEREAS, the Board of County Commissioners (BCC) of Santa Fe County seeks to appoint a formal planning council to provide recommendations on a comprehensive system of behavioral health services.

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NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the BCC as follows:

1. The BCC hereby establishes the Behavioral Health Leadership Council (Council), an advisory body whose purpose is to provide recommendations concerning a comprehensive system of behavioral health services to better meet the needs of the residents of Santa Fe County.
2. The Council shall be comprised of 15 voting members appointed by the BCC.
3. A County resident who is interested in being appointed to the Council shall submit a letter of interest and evidence of their qualifications. Members shall be appointed by the BCC based upon submitted letters of interest, documented representative qualifications, county-wide representation, and recommendations from the CSD. Members should be of diverse backgrounds and representative of varied health care services and experiences and should include providers, government agencies, advocates, and persons with lived experiences. Membership shall include representation from providers providing behavioral health services for adults and youth. All members shall reside within Santa Fe County or represent an organization that performs services in Santa Fe County.
4. Members of the Council shall serve three-year terms. In the event of a vacancy, the BCC shall appoint a member to serve out the remainder of the departing member's term, taking into consideration any recommendations from the Council and CSD staff to fill that vacancy. There shall be no limitation on the number of consecutive terms that a member may serve. Members of the Council may be removed by the BCC with or without cause.
5. The Council shall elect a chair and vice-chair by majority vote of a quorum of the members present at a meeting noticed for that purpose. The chair and vice-chair shall serve in those roles throughout the remainder of their terms unless they step down from those roles, the Council decides to elect a new chair or vice-chair, or the chair and vice-chair cease to be a member of the Council.
6. CSD shall appoint a staff member to serve as liaison to the Council, who shall be responsible for noticing meetings, posting agendas, distributing meeting material, and maintaining recordings of Council meetings. For the avoidance of doubt, as an advisory body, the Council is not required to create minutes pursuant to the Open Meetings Act.
7. The purpose of the Council is to provide recommendations concerning a comprehensive system of services and to advise the BCC, acting through and with the assistance of the liaison and other CSD and County staff as appropriate, on matters related to behavioral health services. The specific duties of the Council are to:
 - a. Complete an inventory of existing behavioral health programs and funding streams in Santa Fe County;
 - b. Recommend behavioral health priorities and action steps to fund those priorities through use of pooled resources;

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- c. Recommend ways for provider alignment and reducing duplication, such as Memorandum of Understanding (MOUs) and provider agreements for data sharing;
 - d. Recommend advocacy priorities and approaches to increasing resources for programs and services;
 - e. Recommend ways for agencies to collaborate on common public health goals;
 - f. Review and provide suggestions on proposed legislative initiatives;
 - g. Report annually to the Santa Fe County Health Policy and Planning Commission (HPPC) and annually to the BCC;
 - h. Recommend to the County, upon request by the CSD, regarding the expenditures of funds to meet the needs of individuals with behavioral health issues and their families;
 - i. Recommend ways to increase public education and awareness of behavioral health issues and available services to the general public; and
 - j. Provide such other assistance as directed by the BCC.
8. The Council shall no less frequently than annually present to the BCC a work plan detailing the relevant work to be accomplished during the period covered by the work plan with specific, measurable goals and timelines for accomplishing them.
 9. The Council shall meet no less frequently than every other month, or at the call of the Chair. The meetings of the Council shall be held at such County locations as may be conducive to visible and publicly accessible meetings. Meetings shall be held in accordance with all County ordinances and resolutions applicable to public notice, open meetings, and rules of order followed during meetings.
 10. All matters requiring action shall be resolved by majority vote of the quorum in attendance at the meeting. A quorum will consist of at least 51% of the appointed members of the Council being present.
 11. A member of the HPPC selected by the HPPC shall be an ex officio, non-voting member of the Council and periodically report to the members of the HPPC on the Council's actions.
 12. CSD shall, to the extent practicable, present behavioral health services issues to the Council for discussion, so that it can make recommendations to the BCC and, as appropriate, the HPPC.
 13. Council members shall not be entitled to receive a salary, per diem or mileage or any other form of compensation for any services they render in their capacity as members of the Council.
 14. Council members shall be subject to the Santa Fe County Code of Conduct as Appointed Officials.
 15. The Council may be dissolved at any time by resolution of the BCC.

PASSED, APPROVED, AND ADOPTED ON THIS 27TH DAY OF FEBRUARY, 2024.

SANTA FE COUNTY
BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

By: *Hank Hughes*
Hank Hughes, Chair



ATTEST:

Katharine E. Clark
Katharine E. Clark
Santa Fe County Clerk

Date: 03/01/2024

Approved as to form:

Jeff Young
Jeff Young
Santa Fe County Attorney



COUNTY OF SANTA FE)
STATE OF NEW MEXICO) ss

BCC RESOLUTIONS
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I Hereby Certify That This Instrument Was Filed for
Record On The 1ST Day Of March, 2024 at 12:35:40 PM
And Was Duly Recorded as Instrument # 2029212
Of The Records Of Santa Fe County

Witness My Hand And Seal Of Office
Deputy *Miranda Gull* County Clerk, Santa Fe,
Katharine E. Clark

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