

Summary of R1 Needs, Priorities, and Strategic Investments

SUMMARY OF IDENTIFIED NEEDS

BHR1 is experiencing a multi-layered behavioral health crisis characterized by rising overdose mortality, persistent alcohol-related deaths, severe youth mental health distress, high rates of untreated substance use disorder, and fragmented infrastructure across counties and Tribal communities. Recent data confirm escalating overdose trends driven by fentanyl and methamphetamine, increasing Emergency Department utilization, and persistent alcohol mortality. Approximately two-thirds of individuals living with substance use disorder are not receiving treatment.

The region includes urban, rural, and sovereign Tribal communities with significant socioeconomic disparities. Rio Arriba County demonstrates higher poverty and overdose rates, while Santa Fe County reflects increasing overdose mortality in recent years. Alcohol-related mortality remains among the highest nationally. Youth report high levels of persistent sadness and suicidal ideation. Workforce shortages, detox capacity gaps, transportation barriers, and housing instability compound these challenges.

SUMMARY OF PROPOSED PRIORITIES¹

Priority 1: Regional Medical Detox & Crisis Stabilization Expansion

Need: Insufficient detox capacity; jail-based detox reliance; rising overdose deaths.

Priority 2: Medication Assisted Treatment (MAT) Expansion

Need: High opioid-related mortality; treatment gap (66% untreated).

¹ Data Sources: NMDOH Recent Drug Overdose Data Trends (Oct 2025); Substance Use Epidemiological and Assessment Report for Rio Arriba County and Santa Fe County (2023); Guidance for New Mexico's Opioid Settlement Money (Updated September 22, 2025); Santa Fe County SIM Behavioral Health Mapping Report (2025); Rio Arriba County SIM Behavioral Health Mapping Report (2024); Los Alamos Community Behavioral Health Mapping Report (2025); E-SIM and Regional Prioritization Workshop Report (January 2026); SB3 Region 1 Community Listening Sessions Report (January 2026); Rio Arriba Final Blueprint Project Report (Chapin Hall, March 2025); 100% Rio Arriba Summit Assessment Results (April 2024); CSV CHNA-CHIP Presentation (2025); Gov Executive Order 2026-004 re OD Related Deaths in Region One (January 2026). *Please note that R1 deeply values and respects the rights of Sovereign Data, and the AOC is working with R1 Sovereign Partners directly on Sovereign-specific data.*

Priority 3: Youth Behavioral Health & Crisis Infrastructure

Need: High rates of depression, suicide ideation, and limited youth crisis stabilization options.

Priority 4: Workforce Recruitment & Retention

Need: Provider shortages, supervision gaps, burnout, rural service deficits.

Priority 5: Regional Navigation & Clearinghouse System

Need: Fragmented service access; lack of centralized referral and coordination.

Priority 6: Housing & Reentry Stabilization

Need: Homelessness, voucher refusal, relapse risk post-incarceration.

Priority 7: Prevention and Outreach

Need: Preventing the cycle that causes addiction.

REALISTIC, STRATEGIC INVESTMENTS

The State allocation for Region One over the course of FY27 – FY 29 is \$8,073,455.30 plus \$644,718.50 that is exclusive to Sovereign Entities. **It is not financially realistic for these funds to effectively tackle all of our region’s identified needs,** so we will scale them to reflect realistic impact while factoring in regionally-leveraged supports (for example, Santa Fe County – which carries 73% of the region’s population -- is developing a regional Youth Behavioral Health Center along with significant housing and reentry services). BHR1’s Regional Plan will **focus on increasing access and capacity through coordinated, infrastructure-level investments to address both acute crisis response and long-term prevention** to help mitigate escalating overdose mortality, increasing emergency department utilization, intergenerational trauma, and system strain on law enforcement and healthcare facilities. **Realistic, strategic SB3 investments in crisis and detox expansion, navigation coordination, workforce development, and prevention will be the focus** to help to reduce overdose deaths, decrease hospital utilization, improve youth behavioral health outcomes, and strengthen regional resilience. Region One understands that these priorities may change over time and our intent is to ensure that our regional plan represents a dynamic rather than static document.