

**MINUTES OF THE**  
**SANTA FE COUNTY**  
**CORRECTIONS ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

**October 10, 2013**

**Santa Fe, New Mexico**

This meeting of the Santa Fe County Corrections Advisory Committee was called to order by Chair Frank Susman at approximately 3:00 p.m. on the above-cited date at the Youth Development Center, 4250 Airport Road, Santa Fe, New Mexico.

Roll call indicated the presence of a quorum with the following individuals present:

**Members Present:**

Frank Susman  
Michelle George  
Mary Ellen Gonzales  
Maria Cristina Lopez  
Joan Morales  
Steve S. Spencer  
Maria Jose Rodriguez Cadiz  
Judy Williams

**Member(s) Excused:**

Adan Mendoza

**Staff Present:**

Mark Gallegos, Santa Fe County Warden  
Tila Rendon-Varela, Department Administrator, Public Safety Department  
Lupe Sanchez, DWI Program Coordinator  
Mark Caldwell, Santa Fe County Deputy Warden  
Amanda Valencia, Youth Interim Administration

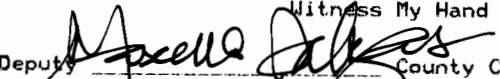
**Others Present:**

Dale Letterman, Captain, Santa Fe Police, Investigative Bureau  
Tom Starke, Santa Fe County DWI Planning Council

COUNTY OF SANTA FE )  
STATE OF NEW MEXICO ) ss

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### **III. Approval of the Agenda and the Minutes of September 12, 2013 Meeting**

The agenda was accepted by consensus.

Dr. Spencer moved to approve the minutes of September 12, 2013 and Ms. Lopez seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

Those present introduced themselves.

### **IV. Changes to the Behavioral Health System**

Joan Morales, Public Defenders Office, introduced Santa Fe County DWI Program Committee member Tom Starke and program coordinator Lupe Sanchez, present to discuss available community providers and the coordination with the local courts.

Mr. Starke said after reviewing the DWI Planning Council enabling legislation it was determined that they were responsible to reach out to the other organizations impacting DWI/alcoholism/alcohol and substance abuse and to coordinate and partner with them. Alcohol is a key factor in domestic violence, for instance, and incarcerated individuals are frequently left to return to alcohol/substance abuse. There may be an opportunity to work together and address these issues.

He said meetings are occurring with the Court, probation, DA, and treatment providers, etc. posing the same question: "What needs to be done to make the system better?" The idea is to work as a community.

The DWI Planning Council desires to work with this committee.

Mr. Starke mentioned that with the availability of healthcare through the Affordable Care Act, it is possible that as people leave incarceration they will be signed up for Medicaid. The state is making sure individuals leaving prison have Medicaid and have set up kiosks to facilitate the distribution of information. He understood there were three kiosks available and the Santa Fe County jail, in collaboration with HSD, could participate in this program. If an individual has medical care upon leaving the jail it might reduce substance abuse.

Mr. Sanchez said the overall goal is to increase communication amongst the different players in the community.

Mr. Starke said the DWI Planning Council is developing an issues list and exploring everything from legislation to emerging issues. He invited the Committee to provide a list of identified key issues and any solutions.

Ms. Morales said the Medicaid expansion will create an influx of patients to the service providers. Reintegration and helping to assist the population leaving incarceration is tremendous. She mentioned the County "Community Health Profile" that provides an excellent overview of

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the County's health status. She said it was available on the County's website and should be used as a guiding document.

Ms. Rodriguez Cadiz said it was important that the work of the Committee advance the needs of the immigrant population. She offered to serve as a conduit for the City's LEAD program.

Ms. Williams said the County Health Policy and Planning Commission is working on an action plan that identified a series of goals in response to the findings of the profile. The HPPC will be soliciting "conveners" to coordinate work on the high priority issues. Mr. Starke said the Planning Council was interested in working on that and a joint meeting was suggested.

The following programs, individuals and basic information were offered:

- First Born, United Way
- Santa Fe City LEAD program
- CDC survey, Youth Risk and Resiliency Survey
- Deacon Anthony – contact individual with the Catholic Church
- Kids County – Dr. Veronica Garcia, New Mexico Voices for Children
- CYFD JJAC

Mr. Starke said wet housing – a place for people still using alcohol – has been suggested repeatedly. With the knowledge that recovery includes relapse, respite or wet housing is necessary.

Ms. Lopez remarked that Santa Fe's immigrant families are blended with those documented and undocumented. The undocumented population is not covered in the Affordable Care Act.

Ms. Morales commented on the fact that the criminal justice system contains a multitude of components with different policies and procedures that she sees as divergent. With an influx of new judges, new patrol officers, new district attorneys and new public defenders an effective orientation is necessary.

It was mentioned how difficult the system would be for a substance abusers to navigate in terms of finding adequate assistance. Mr. Starke said they have contacted the Friendship Club and hopefully will gain insight from the offender/patient's perception on the system.

"Right service for the right client at the right time" is coming back into the dialogue and Ms. Morales mentioned that a one-stop shop is under consideration.

Family involvement was noted as key and that Chaves County was using the Recovery Oriented Systems of Care through CYFD.

Mr. Sanchez said many states are projecting their need for future prison space by estimating the adult population with a 3<sup>rd</sup> grade reading score. The concept is up to 3<sup>rd</sup> grade people learn to read; after 3<sup>rd</sup> grade people read to learn. Practical knowledge is stunted without the reading skills and that is predictor of incarceration. Mr. Starke underlined the importance of working with the schools.

Education about the Good Samaritan Law is important in reducing the drug overdose deaths.

Undocumented individuals are not being counseled on the impact of a DWI and the Dream Act, stated Mr. Starke. The Act voids eligibility for residency if the individual has a DWI. In fact, if they apply for residency with a DWI they will be removed from the country.

There was consensus that Santa Fe lacks treatment and diversion programs. Mr. Caldwell mentioned that the State of Texas was able to close some prisons and save over \$2 billion by investing in treatment and diversion programs. It was pointed out that there was a shortage of behavioral health providers in the state.

Ms. Rodriguez-Cadiz advocated for a "central case management" entity as well as granting the individual control over their own health management plan and that a central location will provide the help.

Comprehensive Community Support Services (CCSS) was developed to serve as a statewide system of care for behavioral health, based on principles of recovery and resiliency. Ms. Morales said the jail has been excellent in terms of internal case management and coordinating services in the community. Case management/continuum of care was cited as a top priority.

**V. General Discussion/Future Agenda Items**

Prepare a list of ideas for the DWI Planning Council

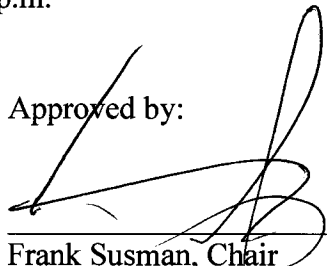
Dr. Spencer requested the attendees' affiliations.

**VI. Schedule Next Meeting** – November 14<sup>th</sup> at 3 p.m. at the Juvenile Facility.

**VII. Adjournment**

This meeting was adjourned at approximately 4:15 p.m.

Approved by:



Frank Susman, Chair

Submitted by:

Karen Farrell, Wordswork

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