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SANTA FE COUNTY

HEALTH POLICY & PLANNING COMMISSION September 2, 2011

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MINUTES OF THE

SANTA FE COUNTY

HEALTH POLICY & PLANNING COMMISSION

September 2, 2011

A meeting of the Santa Fe County Health Policy and Planning Commission was called to order at 9:05 a.m. by Chair Judith Williams on the above-cited date at the Santa Fe County Health & Human Services Department, 2052 Galisteo Street, Suite B, Santa Fe, New Mexico.

Roll call indicated the presence of a quorum for conducting official business as follows:

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Judith Williams, Chair James Bond George Gamble David Harwell Antoinette Montaño Anna Vigil

MEMBER(s) ABSENT:

Deborah Armstrong, Vice Chair, resigned Kathleen Rowe, excused

STAFF PRESENT:

Marie Garcia, Health and Human Services Department
Joseph Gutierrez, Community Services Department Director
Annabelle Romero, County Corrections Department Director
Steve Shepherd, Health and Human Services Department Director
Greg Smith, Healthcare Assistance Board
Ardis Thomas, Medical Administrator Corrections Department

OTHERS PRESENT:

Rita Gervers, SF Public Schools, Child Wellness Department Ron Hale Commissioner Kathy Holian Lynda Longacre, Project Access Jo Ann G. Valdez, Stenographer

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Commissioner Bond moved to approve the Agenda as published. Commissioner Gamble seconded the motion, which passed unanimously by voice vote.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Draft Minutes for August 5, 2011

The following changes were made to the Minutes of the August 5, 2011 meeting:

Artis Thomas was changed to: Ardis Thomas

Page 2, last paragraph, 3rd sentence, the words: "Department of Health" was changed to read" Department of **Public** Health".

Commissioner Bond moved to approve the Minutes of the August 5, 2011 meeting as amended. Commissioner Gamble seconded the motion, which passed unanimously by voice vote.

MATTERS FROM PUBLIC CONCERN

There were none.

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

A. Coordination of Health Services
Kathy Armijo-Etre, CHRISTUS/St. Vincent Regional Medical Center
Ardis Thomas and Annabelle Romero, SF County Adult Detention Facility Staff

Chair Williams introduced Ms. Romero and Ms. Thomas. Ms. Romero is the Director of the County Corrections Department and Ms. Thomas is the Medical Administrator for the Corrections Department.

Chair Williams said the Commission has had some discussions with CHRISTUS St. Vincent Regional Medical Center about those individuals who repeatedly visit the Emergency Room, the jail and community health providers. These are usually individuals who have behavioral health issues. She said the HPPC is interested in knowing what the jail's procedure is for handling these individuals; how they work with community providers; and what the health care issues are for the County jail.

Ms. Romero reported as follows:

- There are a number of reasons why individuals end up at a correctional facility; and usually it has to do with the fact that they are going through some kind of crisis. Often times they will present themselves at the jail and have to be referred to the hospital.

- Approximately 70% of the individuals who come to the jail utilize the Emergency Room.
- The County Corrections Department does not have the staff resources or the equipment to deal with these individuals.
- The average length of stay at the jail is 11 days the reason for this is that the County Adult Detention Facility has a number of inmates who are housed for other counties and these are required to stay for a longer period of time. Secondly, some of the population stays in the facility.
- During the 11 days, some of the individuals will need medical care.
- When an individual arrives at the jail, an assessment is done by a nurse and a decision is made immediately on whether or not the jail can accept and care for the individual.
- Planning is done upon entry to the jail with regards to the individuals' stay at the facility- where the individual will be housed; what programs they should be involved in; and what the exit strategy is going to be. Staff assists individuals in connecting them with housing and community services. Family members are encouraged to participate in the continuation of services that are provided to the inmates.
- The jail has identified approximately 25 individuals who are seen on a regular basis at the ER and the jail.
- There are some issues with releases that happen after hours, such as transportation.

Commissioner Gamble asked what the maximum length of stay is.

Ms. Romero said this varies; some individuals could end up serving their time at the facility.

Commissioner Gamble asked what the maximum capacity is.

Ms. Romero said 550.

Commissioner Gamble asked Ms. Romero if they provide the same kinds of services to those individuals who are housed from other counties.

Ms. Romero said yes, and they are reimbursed for these services.

Commissioner Harwell asked what the HIV infection rate is in the jail population.

Ms. Romero said this is very rare.

Chair Williams asked if it is correct to say that the only way the jail would know if someone is HIV positive, is if they self-declare that.

Ms. Thomas said yes, if they self-declare that and they are tested. She noted that the Department of Health works with them and conduct tests on the first and third Thursdays of the month. Also, most of the time people are upfront if they are HIV positive because they are usually on various medications.

Ms. Gervers asked if the jail asks people if they have children when they come into the facility.

Ms. Romero said yes, they are asked if they have children; however, the jail is not tabulating these numbers anywhere.

Ms. Gervers asked if the jail offers any parenting classes to the families who visit their relatives at the Juvenile and Adult facilities.

Ms. Romero said there are a number of programs at the Adult Facility that provide parenting skills. She noted that the Juvenile Facility has a program for young fathers.

Ms. Gervers asked Ms. Romero if they offer classes for the family members of those who are incarcerated.

Ms. Romero said no.

Ms. Gervers said that Impact Personal Safety in Santa Fe has a variety of seminars, one of which is a series called "*How to Stop Getting in Trouble*". She asked if the jail offers this at the facility. She noted that this is offered at no charge.

Ms. Romero said no.

Ms. Gervers asked if she could get data on the number of children that are involved when an inmate enters the facility. This information would be interesting for the school district to have, but they do not have this data. She said in discussions with the juvenile justice system, they estimate that 26% of the children have a family member who is incarcerated.

Ms. Romero said they could try to get this data from the Boys Club. They provided services to children who had family in the jail.

Ms. Gervers said the Boys Club only served 20 families. She asked Ms. Romero if she knew what the recidivism rate is.

Ms. Romero said this is hard to track at the jail but she estimates that it is approximately 40%. She said this could also be seasonal because they see people come in at winter time.

Ms. Gervers said another thing she would be interested in knowing is whether or not this is generational-family members who are in jail. She said as a community it would be really important and critical to track this and pay attention to.

Ms. Romero said they are interested in this also. She noted that she has worked on this in the past and they identified some children who are high-risk. She mentioned that she sees children of inmates who were in the State Penitentiary.

Chair Williams asked what the average daily census is at the jail.

Ms. Romero said 415.

Chair Williams asked how they handle substance abuse.

Ms. Romero said substance abuse is a big problem for them and there are many layers why people arrive intoxicated or on any type of drug. She said the first step is the medical piece of getting them back, in terms of their health. She noted that they take pictures when someone arrives and when they leave and in many cases, there is a dramatic change. She said the second step is mental health. She explained that there are a number of groups and volunteers that come to the facility. There are over 100 volunteers participating in different programs.

Chair Williams asked what kind of impact they see in terms of connecting individuals with community providers.

Ms. Romero said the impact could be a number of things: the time of services is limited; services have dropped off in the last 6-8 months when the state contract changed from Value Options to Optum Health. Providers are having difficulty getting paid from Optum Health and some providers are not able to continue to provide services. This infrastructure is breaking down. In some cases it would be easier to offer services in the facility, in terms of providers coming into the facility. This way they could make the connection and referrals to community providers; and keep track of the individuals' care and possibly transport the individuals to the providers.

Ms. Romero said the jail should not be the mental health provider.

Ms. Romero would like to track cases in the future to find out what happens in terms of continuation of services.

Ms. Romero noted that the Corrections Department has two PT Psychiatrists that work a total of 36 hours a week and two MD's that work a total of 30 hours per week at both facilities. They also have two Nurse Practitioners who work 40 hours a week and five mental health workers. They have "round the clock" RN and LPN coverage. They presently do not have a dentist.

Mr. Shepherd asked if it would be possible for the Commissioners to tour the facilities. Ms. Romero said anytime, and requested that this be done in two separate groups.

B. Healthcare Assistance Program-Greg Smith

Mr. Smith is the Program Manager of the County Healthcare Assistance Program. He noted that members of the previous Health Policy and Planning Commission (HPPC) attended the Healthcare Assistance Board meetings and provided them with updates. They would like the new members of the HPPC to start doing this again on a monthly basis, if possible. Mr. Smith said the Healthcare Assistance Board frequently has questions for the HPPC related to health issues. In addition, two months ago, the Commissioners of the Healthcare Assistance Board asked that the HPPC take a look at the Indigent funding - that is provided to healthcare providers and hospitals throughout Santa Fe County - and provide their input.

Mr. Smith referred to the handout entitled "Santa Fe County Indigent Fund, Primary, Dental, Rehabilitation, and Ambulance Provider Contracted Expenditures for Fiscal Year 2011 & 2021, August 30, 2011. (A copy is hereby incorporated to these Minutes as Exhibit "A".)

Mr. Smith explained that this is a breakdown of the providers for Fiscal year 2011 and 2012. He briefly reviewed Exhibit "A". Please see Exhibit "A" for the specifics.

The Commission commented and asked questions as follows:

- Commissioner Bond noted that there was \$56,264.39 remaining in the 2011 remaining contract balance. He asked what happens to this funding.

Mr. Smith said these are allocated dollars that were unspent that fiscal year; and State statute requires that those dollars revert back to a cash balance – for the Indigent Fund to use at the discretion of the fund as needed. He said they could possibly ask the Finance Department to reallocate these dollars, if needed.

Mr. Shepherd said they also try to keep a cushion in the Indigent Fund in the event of an emergency and things of this nature.

With regards to the HPPC providing input on how the Indigent Fund should be spent, Commissioner Gamble said he is at a total loss, as to what criteria the HPPC would use to make a recommendation on how the Indigent funding is used. He asked Mr. Shepherd if he could inform the HPPC of this.

Commissioner Holian explained that there has been discussion as to whether or not they are using the limited Indigent funding in the most effective manner for Santa Fe County. She noted that some providers did not use all their funding last fiscal year and this is something that the County Commissioners would also like them to look at.

- Commissioner Harwell asked what the criteria is - for providers to qualify for Indigent funding.

Mr. Smith said this is an ongoing topic every year. He noted that this year's allocation of approximately \$1.5 million goes out to providers. He said if you add a provider to this list, you're going to take from somebody else.

- Commissioner Holian requested clarification from Mr. Smith on the allocation because she remembers when the Board of County Commissioners was voting on the budget for this fiscal year, they allocated approximately \$1.8 million to providers; \$1.9 million for sole community provider hospitals; however, this spreadsheet only shows \$1.4 million.
- Mr. Smith said the \$1.4 million is less the \$25,000 for Ayudantes (there is \$25,000 remaining in the 2011 contract).

Commissioner Montaño said she thought Ayudantes is closed.

Mr. Shepherd said the last that the County heard was that they were still operating in the Las Vegas area. The County kept on them on the list because they did not know if they would come back to Santa Fe, but at this point they are ready to take them off the list. The Board of County Commissioners has asked that the HPPC provide input and recommendation on how this money should be reallocated.

Mr. Shepherd noted that some funds are set aside for administrative. He offered to provide a breakdown of this. He noted that sole community funds are done separately, and therefore are not included in this budget. He said this also does not include burial costs, which have become a large item for the County.

- Commissioner Gamble asked what the nature is between the organizations and the funding they receive from the Indigent Fund.
 - Mr. Smith said the organization has to be a non-profit organization to qualify for Indigent funding.
- Commissioner Gamble asked for clarification about whether or not there is a contract with the organizations.
 - Mr. Smith said they probably shouldn't use the word "contract" as it is more of a budget allocation.
- Chair Williams asked if primary care services include mental health services.
 - Mr. Smith said no.
- Commissioner Gamble asked if periodic audits are done on the facilities.

Mr. Smith said Santa Fe County does not do this; however, all the facilities have their own independent audits done. Mr. Shepherd noted that the County does not have the staffing to do this but they do request a copy of these audits.

- Commissioner Bond asked Mr. Smith if he feels that this list of providers is covering the needs of the County.

Mr. Smith said they feel that they have a list of very good providers that serve the residents of Santa Fe County. However, there is a need for more mental health providers and substance abuse and alcohol abuse providers.

Mr. Smith was asked to provide a spreadsheet that shows the organizations that exist and can possibly be supported with Indigent funding.

ACTION ITEMS

There were no action items.

MATTERS FROM THE COMMISSION

A. UNM Results of Meeting (Commissioners Gamble and Williams)

Commissioner Gamble reported that he, Chair Williams and Commissioner Rowe met with three additional faculty members of UNM and they all welcomed the idea of doing a student practicum here in Santa Fe County. Commissioner Gamble will keep the Commission updated. This will be a standing agenda item.

B. Future agenda items for October and November 2011 (Commissioner Williams)

Larry Martinez from the Local Behavioral Health Collaborative (October)

- 1) Santa Fe Public Schools Wellness Department (October)
- 2) Linda Roebock from the State Local Behavioral Health Collaborative (November)

Commissioner Bond asked what kind of response the County received for volunteers/members for the HPPC.

Mr. Shepherd said they only received four applicants. He said that they will extend the advertisement for another 2-3 weeks.

Chair Williams noted that she attended the Healthcare Advisory Board on Tuesday and Commissioner Anaya brought up the fact that the HPPC does not have any provider-representation and he would like to see more diversity of the membership of the HPPC. They also suggested that the HPPC convene a meeting with the community providers, possibly the HPPC could sponsor a forum for the community providers to hear from them.

Commissioner Bond requested that the Healthcare Advisory Board give the HPPC some kind of guidance on what they want to hear from the community providers.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The next HPPC Regular Meeting is scheduled for October 7, 2011 at 9:00 a.m. at the Health and Human Services Conference Room.

ADJOURNMENT

Having completed the agenda and the meeting adjourned at 11:10 a.m.

Approved by:

Judith Williams, Chairperson

gudoth K. William

Respectively submitted by: Go Ann G. Valdez, Stenographer



COUNTY OF SANTA FE STATE OF NEW MEXICO

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I Hereby Certify That This Instrument Was Filed for Record On The 24TH Day Of October, 2011 at 10:10:32 AM And Was Duly Recorded as Instrument # 1648863

Of The Records Of Santa Re County

Witness My Hand And Seal Of Office Valerie Espinoza