

DRAFT

SUBJECT TO APPROVAL

MINUTES OF THE
SANTA FE COUNTY
HEALTH POLICY & PLANNING COMMISSION

May 9, 2024

Santa Fe, New Mexico

A. This regular meeting of the Santa Fe County Health Policy & Planning Commission (HPPC) was called to order by past Chair Steven Berkshire at approximately 10:01 a.m. on the above-cited date in the Plaza Conference Room, 100 Catron Street, Santa Fe, New Mexico.

B. The following members were present:

Members Present:

Steven Berkshire, Chair
Craig Schermerhorn
Sandy Dransfield [virtual]
Jane Hajovsky [virtual]

Member(s) Absent:

Antoinette Villamil
Nelsy Dominguez

County Staff Present:

Jennifer Romero, Director, Health Services Division
Rachel O'Connor, Director, Community Services Department
Elizabeth Peterson, engage [virtual]
Alex Dominguez, Behavioral Health Manager [virtual]

Others Present:

Valeria Alarcon, NMAHC Director
Rachel Cooper, DOH Health Promotion
Kenneth Gallegos, Adult Protective Services
Julie Sanchez, City Youth & Family Services Director [virtual]
Jeremy Espinoza, DOH Epidemiologist
Heather Burnham, DOH Health Promotion Coordinator
Kim Horen, DOH, Northeast Region Health Promotions
Kate Field, LPCC [virtual]
Ron Aldridge, UNM
Debra Weiss, Citizen
Alicia Prado, 211 CONNECT Coordinator [virtual]
Abby Bordner, United Way [virtual]

C. Introductions

Members, staff and guests introduced themselves.

D. Approval of Agenda

Mr. Schermerhorn moved to approve the agenda and Ms. Dransfield seconded. The motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

E. Approval of Minutes

Ms. Dransfield moved approve the minutes of January 11, 2024, and Mr. Schermerhorn seconded. The motion carried by unanimous voice vote. Chair Berkshire noted that the minutes are posted on the County website, as are agendas.

New Mexico Alliance of Health Councils

Valeria Alarcon, Director of the New Mexico Alliance of Health Councils representing county and tribal health councils, spoke of House Bill 137, that originally formed the organization per the Maternal Health Act of the 1990. This was amended in 2015 or 2016 to County Tribal Health Councils.

Ms. Alarcon gave the land acknowledgement recognizing the role of tribes and nations in New Mexico.

She noted there are 33 separate organizations in the NMAHC with differing structures, some governmental, some 501(c)(3)s, along with ten tribal health councils. They work closely with their partners at DOH to expand to other entities. She showed a graph depicting how state funding dipped to much lower levels for 13 years. The recent rise in funding has allowed the councils to build capacity.

She said a win was celebrated in the latest legislative session where \$3 million in bridge funding was allocated to serve the various communities.

Ms. Alarcon showed the extensive web of partnerships throughout the state including CHA/CHIP/SHIP with technical assistance from DOH. SHARENM.org directory provides information on 14,000 resources to improve access to primary care and other services.

Regarding advocacy, there are 123 council coordinators and 200 key partners that participate. DOH Secretary Allen is a strong advocate along with many representatives and senators, especially on the Finance side. Tribal governments were also active in lobbying for the appropriation.

NMAHC has launched an awareness campaign through a radio show called To Your Health from which they disseminate and amplify the messages from the council coordinators. Over 53 media partners have been enlisted.

Ms. Alarcon indicated they use a systems advocacy aimed toward health equity. The councils are the voice of the individual communities. The value statement is: Advancing health equity by investing in New Mexico's county and tribal health councils. The strategy is to engage, educate and enlist the support of the Governor and legislators to invest in the health councils. They strive to ensure the message is compelling, clear, and consistent.

Ms. Dransfield said she was impressed and asked for examples of projects the councils undertake that are specific to their areas.

Ms. Alarcon said Guadalupe County worked with the EMT licensing board to create a new license that allows RNs to practice out of ambulances, thereby creating mobile clinics for rural communities. Another example is Lincoln County working in partnership with their school district on substance misuse education and prevention. The work of the councils encompasses awareness, prevention, behavioral health, suicide prevention, domestic violence, homelessness – depending on area needs and priorities.

Ron Aldridge mentioned a potential resource for Guadalupe County as the Anchorum Foundation and Christina Campos, Guadalupe Hospital's CEO, will be joining the board of Anchorum. Ms. Alarcon said they have been working with Anchorum as a strategic partner. Adam Archuleta from Tesuque Pueblo was also spoken of as a potential resource.

Chair Berkshire asked what role the state council plays. Ms. Alarcon said the councils function on the local level but they partner with various entities at the systems level, for instance on CHA, CHIP and SHIP community health assessment processes. A 15-page overview was written for Senator Campos on all the ways the local councils are collaborating with their many partners with the aim of preserving the current structure rather than moving to a regional model. She offered to provide that overview. Chair Berkshire confirmed that it was a bottom-up approach rather than top-down. Ms. Alarcon said NMAHC is the backbone organization and supports the local groups with training, capacity development, identifying funding, advocacy, etc.

Debra Weiss asked how the councils get established and populated. Ms. Alarcon said through community outreach and engagement, stemming from the assessment efforts.

Director O'Connor commended Ms. Alarcon's work during the legislative session. She asked if each council does its own assessment. Ms. Alarcon said they use the CHA and CHIP process from DOH.

Director O'Connor asked if there was a document recognizing statewide themes, and Ms. Alarcon said there is she can provide the top priorities, such as behavioral and mental

health, which intersect with other needs. There is a map/infographic showing the regional emphases. Regarding the relationship to the Behavioral Health Collaborative, Ms. Alarcon stated they have mobilized to bring the coalitions together to compare deliverables and establish synergies. They meet regularly with 120 participants at the last meeting. She invited everyone to attend the next convening on June 18th.

Mr. Aldridge offered as a slogan, "Si se puede." Ms. Alarcon said they are dedicated to making New Mexico the healthiest state in the nation.

Mr. Schermerhorn ask if there was any relation to the Federal Indian Health Service and Ms. Alarcon said that is outlined in the collaborative report that she will share with the HPPC.

Chair Berkshire asked if Santa Fe County has applied and Ms. Romero said they are working directly with the health councils for the first time in many years.

Ms. Alarcon spoke of the advocacy efforts they are involved in with the legislature, including a summit, June 20-24, to be held virtually. She provided details on their lobbying efforts toward securing additional funding. Their goal is \$150,000 per health council and she will ask for \$12 million in the upcoming session. She will send summit invitations to the HPPC members.

FY24 Health Council Deliverables

Ms. Romero stated they are working with the Department of Health to be able to accept funding as a health council. This entails having the HPPC recognized specifically as qualifying which will require an additional resolution. Getting the membership to full capacity is essential. In addition, other deliverables include:

- Three sets of meeting minutes; this has been done
- Attendance at a local health council gathering. She and Nelsy Dominguez attended a meeting in Española where they were able to see what other councils were doing
- A fact sheet [*Exhibit 1*].
- The completion and adoption of the Health Action Plan. This five-year plan is now posted on the website.

New Membership

Chair Berkshire noted the need to advertise the opening. Ms. Romero said they have received between ten and twelve applications. District 2 still needs a recommendation or applications.

Ms. Dransfield said she might have a prospect from District 2. Ms. Romero said the deadline for applications is May 15th.

Chair Berkshire outlined the process: Once the applications are received a committee will review them and interview candidates. Recommendations will go to the Board of County Commissioners for approval. It is hoped all the vacancies will be filled by the August 8th meeting.

Matters from Staff

Ms. Romero reviewed the calendar. Hybrid meetings will be held August 8th and November 14th from 10:00 to 11:30, all in the Plaza Conference Room.

Potential agenda items include:

- an update from La Familia
- a presentation from the Climate Action Group and Shelley Mann-Lev, relating to health-related issues such as ensuring seniors have adequate cooling.

Chair Berkshire suggested updates on CONNECT and La Sala. There were no objections the La Familia and the Climate Action Group. A tour of La Sala and other partner organizations could be scheduled throughout the year.

Ms. Romero noted the need for a welcome package for new members and she asked for volunteers to put that together. Mr. Schermerhorn and Ms. Hajovsky volunteered to help with the welcome package, along with Chair Berkshire.

Matters from the Commission: None was offered.

Public Comment: None was offered.

Announcements

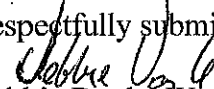
A. Next HPPC meeting Friday, August 8, 2024, 10:00 to 11:30 in the Plaza Conference Room

Adjournment

Upon motion by Mr. Schermerhorn and second by Ms. Hajovsky, this meeting was declared adjourned at approximately 11:07 a.m.

Approved by:

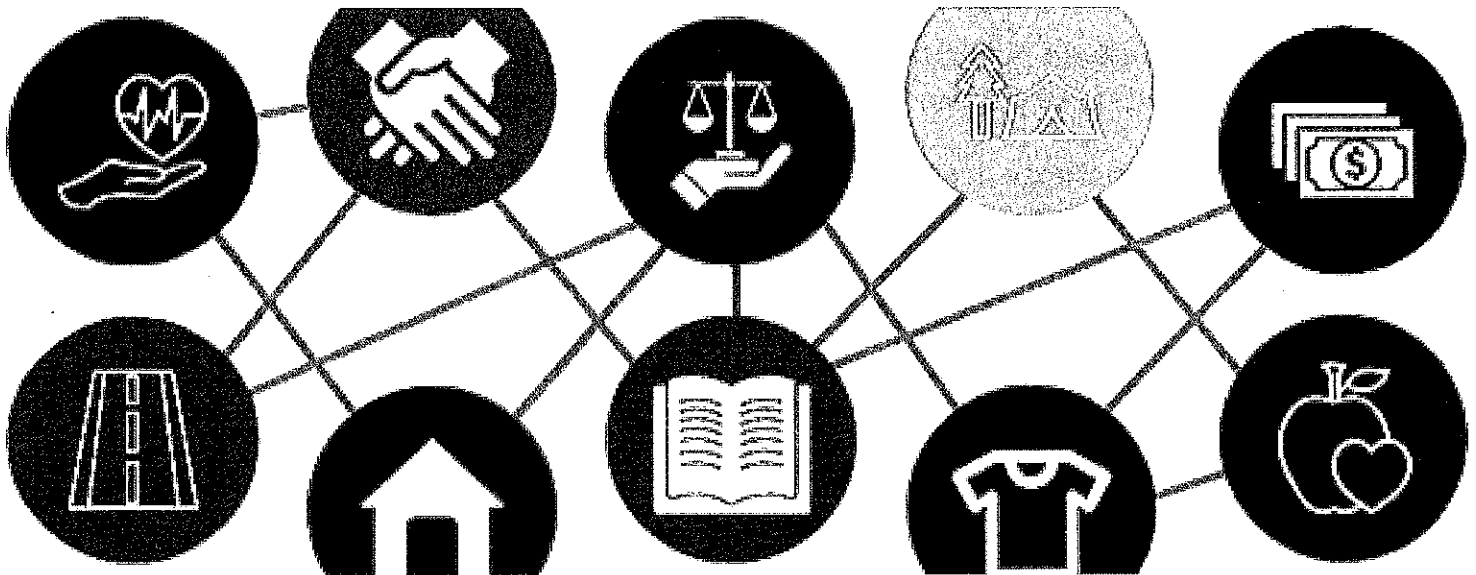
Steven Berkshire, Chair
Health Policy & Planning Commission

Respectfully submitted by:

Debbie Doyle, Wordswork

Santa Fe County Health Policy & Planning Commission

Established by Resolution 2010-240, Creating the Santa Fe County Health Policy and Planning Commission (HPPC)

The Santa Fe County Health Policy and Planning Commission (HPPC) is charged by the Santa Fe County Board of County Commissioners (BCC) to recommend health policies, conduct an assessment of the health care needs of County residents, and prepare a health action plan. In 2014, the HPPC developed the first plan entitled Santa Fe County Health Action Plan FY 2015-2017.



Goals and Function of the HPPC

- Provide recommendations on policies or procedures related to the Santa Fe County Health Care Assistance and/or Safety Net Care Pool funding and/or services.
- Based on the needs assessment and plan, make recommendations to the Community Services Department (CSD) and the BCC regarding the County's role in the development and/or expansion of county funded health care services, as well as other policies, services, or activities that would improve the health of county residents.

- Study and provide regular updates and advice to CSD on the impact of local, state and national health issues on county-funded health care services.
- Study and/or perform research on issues as assigned by the BCC, rendering an opinion or recommendation if requested.

Role of the HPPC in the Health Needs Assessment and Health Action Plan for Santa Fe County

- Collaborate and gather input from local hospitals, health care providers, advocates and the community, to develop a county health needs assessment and a health action plan for Santa Fe County.
- Conduct a regular review of the plan, using the plan to guide priorities and progress.
- Report progress and/or updates of the needs assessment and plan to the Board of County Commissioners.
- Recommend to CSD potential resources and/or funding for county-based services, as prioritized in the plan.

HPPC FY24 Accomplishment

Santa Fe County Health Action Plan FY24-29

The HPPC identified seven high-priority health goals for the County as well as the community as a whole to pursue from January 2024 through December 2029:

- Increase access to social determinant of health support
- Reduce substance use related harms in Santa Fe County
- Increase behavioral health services across the age spectrum
 - Develop immediate humanitarian response network
- Increase awareness of public health harms due to climate change
 - Diversify funding for Santa Fe County health programs
 - Program evaluation and transparency

Priorities included in the Health Action Plan are embedded in the larger Santa Fe County Strategic Plan, available online at santafecountynm.gov.

The plan was adopted by the Board of County Commission April 30, 2024.

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