

Behavioral Health Initiative

Improving behavioral health outcomes in our community

January 31, 2017

Overview

Bernalillo County and the City of Albuquerque are committed to improving behavioral health outcomes. Through the efforts of a joint governing structure, called the **Albuquerque Bernalillo County Government Commission (ABCGC)**, the county and the city are strategically making decisions to leverage resources with recommendations that include community and stakeholder input.

To further manage the effort, the county will soon have in place a **Behavioral Health Director** and is in process of realigning internal staff resources to assist in behavioral health efforts and to identify any additional needs.

Additionally, an RFP has been issued for a behavioral health advisor to help put structure in place, train and mentor staff, work on future goals/direction, and braiding funding and resources.

Following is a description of the structure including the governing body of the city-county effort and the role and membership makeup of each group that comprise the structure.

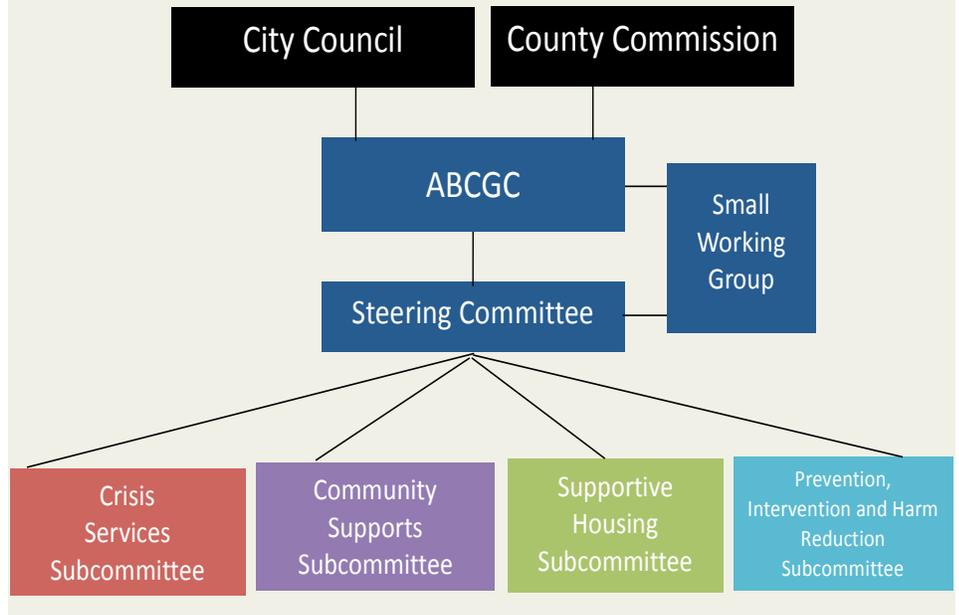
Structure

The diagram in Figure 1 portrays the oversight commission and committee structure of the joint City of Albuquerque/Bernalillo County Behavioral Health Initiative. Following are descriptions of each working advisory group.

ABCGC

The joint city-county commission overseeing the Behavioral Health Initiative is called the **Albuquerque Bernalillo County Government Commission**. ABCGC membership includes City Council and County Commissioner representation and addresses matters that impact both municipalities. The ABCGC is where proposed project recommendations are vetted for approval consideration by the Commission and/or Council.

Figure 1



Small Working Group

The Small Working Group guides implementation of the Behavioral Health Initiative including coordinating project assignments to the Subcommittees; staffing the Subcommittees; coordinating Steering Committee meetings; and coordinating project proposals and recommendations for consideration by the ABCGC. Membership includes city, county, provider and project consultant representatives.

Steering Committee

The Steering Committee shares project information across the Subcommittees to enhance communications and ensure a unified and inclusive process in developing proposal recommendations for consideration by the ABCGC. Steering Committee membership includes the Small Working Group and Subcommittee chairs and co-chairs.

Subcommittees

Using studies that go back to 2002 and recent community dialogues that prioritize proposed projects and target audiences, the following priority areas and working subcommittees were identified: (1) **Crisis Services**; (2) **Community Supports**; (3) **Supportive Housing**; (4) **Prevention, Intervention and Harm Reduction**. The membership consists of voting members representing the community, technical advisors and staff who are members of the Small Working Group.

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

This publication is produced by the City of Albuquerque/Bernalillo County Behavioral Health Initiative collaboration to explain the structure and progress made to date to enhance our system and address identified service gaps. In addition to the structure overview presented on the cover page, the following additional information is included inside this issue:

<i>Bernalillo County GRT Allocations to Date</i>	2
<i>Subcommittee Goals & Projects</i>	2
<i>Approved Projects: Descriptions & Funding Allocations</i>	3
<i>Current Members of the Behavioral Health Initiative</i>	4

QUESTIONS & ANSWERS

Q: *From the GRT income, what projects have been approved and what costs have committed thus far?*

A: Figures 2 and 3 portray the approved projects funded through the GRT, with approximately \$10 million committed annually by County Commission thus far.

Q: *How have the proposed projects been identified?*

A: The projects listed in Figure 4 have been identified from studies that date back to 2002 and more recent reports that prioritize gaps in services, including the *CPI Report (2015)* and through findings cited in the *City/County Task Force (2014)* and the Albuquerque-sponsored *Creating Community Solutions Dialogues on Mental Health (2014)*.

Priority audiences defined for the first phase of implementation are *high utilizers of the system* -- including those who experience frequent mental health related emergency room visits in a 12-month period and/or have experienced frequent encounters with law enforcement and the criminal justice system.

Subcommittee Goals and Projects

All completed and projected projects listed in Figure 4 are identified by recent studies and community input that prioritize gaps in services. Completed projects are shown in bold.

PROJECTS & FUNDING

Figure 2

APPROVED PROJECTS BY COMMITTEE	ANNUAL FUNDING
SUPPORTIVE HOUSING	
<i>Community Connections Jail Re-entry Diversion</i>	\$1,300,000 – BC
<i>Youth Transitional Living</i>	\$650,000 – BC
<i>Community Connections Scattered Supportive Housing</i>	\$1,200,000 – BC
PREVENTION/HARM REDUCTION	
<i>Reduction of Adverse Childhood Experiences</i>	\$3,000,000 – BC
<i>Community Engagement Teams</i>	\$1,000,000 – BC
CRISIS SERVICES	
<i>Mobile Crisis Teams</i>	\$1,000,000 – BC \$340,000 – CABQ
<i>Transition Planning and Re-entry Resource Center</i>	\$1,341,188 – BC
STEERING COMMITTEE	
<i>UNM ISR Contract</i>	\$246,553 – BC
<i>Behavioral Health Advisor Contract</i>	\$140,000 – BC

Bernalillo County GRT Allocations

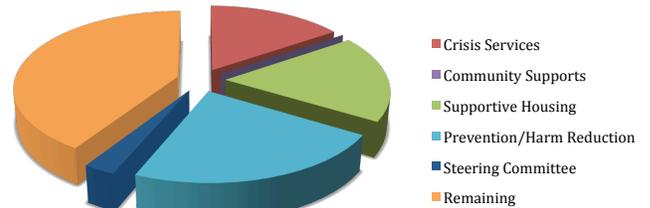


Figure 3

Rev. 12/2016

Figure 4

Crisis Services Subcommittee	Community Supports Subcommittee	Supportive Housing Subcommittee	Prevention, Intervention and Harm Reduction Subcommittee
<p>Improve response to an individual in behavioral health crisis and link them to appropriate stabilization and recovery services while minimizing involvement of the criminal justice system.</p> <p>Projects</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Crisis Call Center Mobile Crisis Teams Crisis Transportations Crisis Stabilization and Response Center Law Enforcement Response Triage, including CIT trained unit Transition Planning and Re-entry and Resource Center 	<p>Improve services in the community that will stabilize individuals and prevent crisis.</p> <p>Projects</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Crisis Respite Services Intermediate Levels of Care Intensive Case Management (i.e. Forensic Assertive Community Treatment) Courts and Criminal Justice Improvements Medicaid Accessibility and Outreach Substance Abuse Outpatient Treatment Services Peer Support/Drop-in Services 	<p>Ensure individuals with behavioral health needs are stably housed.</p> <p>Projects</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>Community Connections Jail Re-entry Diversion</i> <i>Community Connections Scattered Site Permanent Supportive Housing (PSH)</i> <i>Youth Transitional Living Single PSH</i> <i>Single Site PSH</i> 	<p>Prevent substance abuse and severe psychiatric distress through early identification and treatment.</p> <p>Projects</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Community Engagement Teams (CET) School-based Substance Abuse Intervention Prevention & Intervention (0-18 years) Mitigating Adverse Childhood Experiences Law Enforcement Assisted Diversion (LEAD) Medicaid Accessibility Mental Health Awareness, Education and Training

APPROVED PROJECTS

To date, the city and county have approved \$10,720,816 on Behavioral Health Initiative projects that resulted from recommendations by the subcommittees. Following are brief descriptions and committed annual funding of each of the projects approved thus far.

Expansion of the County's Community Connections Supportive Housing Program – not to exceed \$1 million

This expansion will focus on individuals with behavioral health issues residing in the community who are homeless or precariously housed and is estimated to provide a minimum of 55 housing vouchers with case management service.

Community Connections Re-entry Supportive Housing – \$1.3 million from Bernalillo County; \$503,000 from City of ABQ

This project provides intensive case management and services linked with scattered site housing to a target population of homeless or precariously housed persons with mental illness or co-occurring disorders or other disabilities and whose lack of community based services have resulted in criminal justice system involvement. The program provides high quality intensive wrap-around services and housing subsidies to support the individual's successful reintegration and long-term stability in the community after incarceration. Providing comprehensive intensive services linked with housing creates community stability and reduces recidivism and is life changing.

Community Engagement Team – not to exceed \$1 million

Community Engagement Teams (CET) help people and their families voluntarily cope with the effects of mental illness and substance abuse disorders (whether individual or co-occurring) in the comfort and familiarity of their homes and communities. The CET helps individuals avoid the criminal justice system and emergency mental health systems whenever possible. The CET in Bernalillo County requires an individualized, recovery-focused approach that promotes wellness, self-management, personal recovery, natural supports, coping skills, self-advocacy and the development of independent living skills. CETs can be considered part of a continuum of services rendered outside institution walls that include assertive community treatment, the crisis intervention unit, crisis outreach and support team, public inebriate intervention, and law enforcement response.

Mobile Crisis Teams – \$1 million BC/\$340,000 ABQ

The creation for this pilot project is a city/county collaboration. The mobile crisis teams will respond to individuals experiencing a nonviolent behavioral health crisis that necessitates a 911-response. There will be three teams formed, one by Bernalillo County and two by the City of Albuquerque. Each team will consist of a crisis intervention unit deputy paired with a masters' level, behavioral health clinician.

Youth Transitional Living Proposal – not to exceed \$650,000

A new service intended for at-risk youth who are precariously housed or homeless with a mental health or addiction diagnosis. The funding provides youth transitional living services for clients with behavioral health diagnosis who are not currently under any state Children Youth and Families Department, Bernalillo County or other third party-funded program. This funding is available for non-third party reimbursement.

SUMMARIES & ALLOCATIONS

Reduction of Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACES) – not to exceed \$3 million

Bernalillo County wishes to develop a cohesive system that utilizes all available resources to assist children who have been identified as at-risk by using adverse childhood experiences (ACE) scoring methodology. Through program coordination and the procurement and enhancement of services, Bernalillo County wishes to develop a system that maintains a strong collaboration of professionals who work with children across the full continuum of services for at-risk children and families including primary prevention, identification, early intervention, support and treatment, harm reduction, outreach, and services in children's homes and within communities. The funding is to pay for services and family supports not currently reimbursed by Medicaid or third party payers.

Behavioral Health Advisor – up to \$140,000 per year

The behavioral health advisor will provide guidance on the development and implementation of the behavioral health initiative. The behavioral health advisor will provide written standardization of the governance and subcommittee structure, data analysis service evaluations and reports implementation. The behavioral health advisor will provide other services including developing internal staff capacity on understanding behavioral health best practices and targeting and changing new initiatives to continue to meet the needs of Bernalillo County's behavioral health priority populations.

UNM's Institute for Social Research (UNM/ISR) Contract – not to exceed \$246,553 per year

Bernalillo County seeks to implement a behavioral health system that measures the effectiveness of implemented programs and constantly strives to improve the performance of programs. In pursuit of this performance management strategy, data analysis and program evaluation will be critical components of the system. Data analysis and evaluation will happen to inform what services are needed and how those services are performing. Data analysis and evaluation will occur to assess the impact of the entire Behavioral Health Initiative on the entire population of users of behavioral health services, including individual program evaluations of the effectiveness of each contracted and/or directly delivered program.

Transition Planning and Re-entry Resource Center – \$1,341,188 in year one; \$1,041,188 annually thereafter

On a daily basis, the Metropolitan Detention Center (MDC) releases individuals back to the community who suffer from a variety of mental illnesses and substance abuse disorders, among other complications. In most cases, the continuity of care provided to these individuals is fragmented, at best, and more often entirely interrupted within the first hours and days following release back to community. The lack of a system for coordinated care as incarcerated individuals transition from jail to community contributes to recidivism and impedes efforts to generate more positive health outcomes for these individuals. The project includes funding transition planners at MDC and creating a Re-entry Resource Center (RRC) for an effective front door into a network of services. The operational cost of the project is divided into the two components, with a one-time renovation cost for the RRC, located at the Public Safety Center (401 Roma NW).

BHI MEMBERS — *THANK YOU*

TOGETHER WE'RE IMPROVING LIVES

ABCGC

The following city-county representatives will serve on the 2017 commission.

Steven Michael Quezada, *Chair*
Commissioner, District 2

Isaac Benton, *Vice Chair*
Councilor, District 2

Ken Sanchez
Councilor, District 1

Klarissa J. Peña
Councilor, District 3

Debbie O'Malley
Commissioner, District 1

Lonnie C. Talbert
Commissioner, District 4

Maggie Hart Stebbins
Commissioner, District 3

Trudy E. Jones
Councilor, District 8

Mayor Richard J. Berry

Small Working Group

Membership includes the following city, county, provider and project consultant representatives, with advisement from Subject Matter Experts as needed.

Katrina Hotrum (BC)

Rodney McNease (UNMH)

Ellen Braden (CABQ)

Nicole Taylor* (City Council)

Margarita Chavez* (BC)

George Schroeder* (BC)

Michael Robertson* (CABQ)

Cathy Imburgia* (CABQ)

Amir Chapel (UNM/ISR)

Nolin Greene (BC)

*Denotes also serves as a Subcommittee staff representative.

Steering Committee

This group includes the above noted Small Working Group members and the following community representatives that also serve as Subcommittee chairs and co-chairs.

Rick Miera, *Chair*
Crisis Services

Jim Ogle, *Vice Chair*
Crisis Services

Dr. Paul Hopkins
Community Supports

Dr. Kathy Finch
Community Supports

Robert Baade
Supportive Housing

Constance Banuelos
Supportive Housing

Heba Atwa-Kramer
Prevention, Intervention ...

Barry Ore
Prevention, Intervention ...

Supportive Housing Subcommittee

VOTING MEMBERS

Robert Baade, *Chair*

Constance Banuelos, *Vice Chair*

Jennifer Sena

Michelle Valencia Stark

Ricki Bloom

Sister Agenes Kaczmarek

Lisa Huval

TECHNICAL ADVISORS

Laine Snow/Karen Meador

Britt Baca Miller

Betty Valdez

Gina Bell

Heidi Jordan

Judge Linda Rogers

Louella Arellano

Community Supports Subcommittee

VOTING MEMBERS

Dr. Paul Hopkins, *Chair*

Dr. Kathy Finch, *Vice Chair*

Nancy Jo Archer

Marcia Harris

Verner Westerber

Melissa Beery

Laura Tuzinowski

Robin Connell

Ann Waldorf

Judge John Schoeppner

TECHNICAL ADVISORS

Mika Tari

Prevention, Intervention and Harm Reduction Subcommittee

VOTING MEMBERS

Heba Atwa-Kramer, *Chair*

Barry Ore, *Vice Chair*

Jennifer Osterling

Barri Roberts

Rosario Romero

Rebecca Leppala

Mark Clark

Mary Jo Picha

Jennifer Kelley

TECHNICAL ADVISORS

Jean M. Klein

Karen Cheman

Crisis Services Subcommittee

VOTING MEMBERS

Rick Miera, *Chair*

Jim Ogle, *Vice Chair*

Jane Keeports

Ann Taylor Trujillo

Kathryn Lynnes

Caroline G. Monie

Betty Whiton

TECHNICAL ADVISORS

Judge Jackie Flores

Richard Pugh

Wayne Lindstrom