

BHI STEERING COMMITTEE

MEETING MINUTES

July 16, 2020 3:00 PM
Teleconference

VOTING MEMBERS

Present:	Robert Baade, James Jones, Rick Miera, Catherine Reeves, Verner Westerberg, Juan (Buck) Sanchez, Esperanza Dodge, Joscylyn Huffmaster,
Absent:	
Quorum?	Yes

OTHERS

Present:	Margarita Chavez-Sanchez, Evan Gonzales, Nancy Sanchez, Reina Martinez, Christine Martinez, Jen Scacco, Amber Salazar, Kashif Muhammad, Amber Bonesteel, Ellen Braden, Sam Howarth, Rodney McNease, Amelia Murphy
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1. Call to Order

- a. The meeting was called to order at 3:08 pm by Robert.

2. Approval of Agenda

- a. Esperanza motioned for approval. James seconded. Motion passed.

3. Approval of Minutes

- a. Verner motioned for approval of the June 18, 2020 meeting minutes. Esperanza seconded. Motion passed.

4. New Business

- a. BCC / ABCGC Updates
 - a. Margarita reported the Behavioral Health Initiative was honored by the National Association of Counties for 4 programs. The team is doing great work and the growth of the department is becoming a national model for many programs.
 - b. The execution of the MOU between UNM, CABQ, and the County is working to establish a homeless advisory council. This council will provide guidance and expertise in navigating the homeless issues in the City and County. The focus of this council will be the Gateway project. The MOU has been approved by the County and is pending signature from UNM Board of Trustees.
 - c. Public notice will be going out regarding the upcoming housing committee special meeting.
- b. Online Submission Review
 - a. No submissions.

5. Old Business

- a. Subcommittee Updates
 - a. Community Supports – no update.
 - b. Crisis – Rick reported how the committee is looking into the use of money for MCT and the implementation of lapel cameras. The committee had an open discussion and recommended a contract amendment, to reflect the committee's decision on lapel camera requirement. Amber Salazar will bring this item to the steering committee, once it has been written.

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- c. Prevention – James reported how the committee has requested the data and reports on the racial equality of BHI providers, and to review their cultural competencies and policies. Jennifer Scacco will provide at the September 2020 steering committee.
- d. Housing – Robert reported the presentation the committee received from HopeWorks. They went over the design and layout of the facility and outlined how it will serve 42 clients with kitchen space, and meeting space.
- b. BHI Project Status Update
 - a. Housing – the single site supportive housing project is moving along with the City of Albuquerque. They are currently working on permits. The County has allocated \$8 million for a multi-family unit serving the veteran population.
 - b. Community Connections is operating at a high rate. Lynette and Betty reported the program is almost at full capacity. There are only 30 vouchers left and over 200 individuals on the waiting list. The funding for this project is almost capped-out. Future discussion will need to take place to look at the data, and look at the length of stay, success of clients, and explore the possibilities of increasing funding.
 - c. Mobile Crisis Team – County Fire and Rescue recently held their graduation ceremony and will officially announce the bid for 2 non-law enforcement mobile crisis teams, through the Fire department. Saint Martins is looking to hire two additional clinicians for this expansion.
 - d. Law Enforcement – the County has officially offered support to CABQ as they develop their new Public Safety Division. The funding of services that are non-law enforcement have been in discussion with Dr. Rosenbaum and APD. We will continue to encourage the use of the model the County has developed – through the use of subcommittees and project vetting.
- c. COVID Update
 - a. Margarita reported that due to the virus, the County has seen a gap in Gross Receipts Sales Tax (GSRT) Income. All BHI projects are funded through the GSRT. The financial team is expecting a 25% decrease in funds, due to the Pandemic. The BHI has spent up to the capacity of the annually recurring dollars. If we are to fund new programs or expansions, \$500,000 would be the maximum dollar amount for expenditure. If the decrease does occur, the \$500,000 will go away, and will need to use reserve dollars, to keep existing programs at their current capacity.
 - b. All of the contracts that were expired, have been renewed. We will get provider updates for the next meeting – Jennifer Scacco can explain how some providers have had difficulty engaging with clients.
 - c. The County received CARES dollars and \$1 million was designated for Behavioral Health providers. The department of behavioral health services will open the application process on July 27, 2020 and it will remain open for 7 days. Limitations apply – see www.bernco.gov/bhcares for full details.

6. Public Comment

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- a. Larry Kronen on behalf of Peter Cubra – McLendon Subclass
 - a. The CJCC was looking to apply to initiate a Forensic Act Team. Urged the committee to take action to request law enforcement to not break-up homeless camps, as it has a major impact with providers tracking client case management.
- 7. Next meeting** – August 20, 2020 at 3:00 pm
- 8. Adjournment**
- A. The meeting was adjourned at 3:51 PM seconded, motion passed.