

Board Members:

Danny Whatley
Max Kauffman
Betty Whiton
Rosa Gallegos-Samora
Sarah Alires
Nils Rosenbaum
Laura Kuehn

David Ley
Rob Nelson
Gilbert Ramirez
Robert Salazar
Lea Harrison
Paula Burton

Attendees Captured By Zoom:

Matt Dietzel
Shania Gallegos
DC Eric Garcia
DC Jason Downing
Laura Nguyen
David Saladin
Jeff Jones
Patricia Serna
Mark LeClair
Kimberly Pruett
Michael Meisinger
Mark Landavazo
Sarah Alires
Gary Housepian
Emily Jaramillo
Joe Calkins
AFR EMS BC Christopher Ortiz
Sgt. Diane Dosal
Delfy
Quinn Donnay

Ted Alcorn
Melisha Montano
Dr. Ryan C. Warner
Lindsay Van Meter
Ana Callahansegura
Nathan Lawson
Maxwell Kauffman
Carlene Miller
Gilbert Ramirez
Donna Richter
Brie Sillery
Tanya La Force
Rachel Biggs
D. Soto
Jessie Chambers
Delia Munoz
Xochitl Campos Biggs
Mariela Ruiz-Angel
Nancy Martin
Girard Sanchez

Laura Braun
Mary E Perez
Jeremy Lihte
Estella Swain
Bonnie Briones
Christopher Ortiz
Veronica Chavez Neuman
Laura Kunard
David
Brandi Madrid
Joe Turk
Meat Popsicle
Liz Romero
Lea Harrison
Elizabeth Martinez
Owen Whooley
Mary Chavez
Nathan Lawson

First time Guest

- Dr. Ryan Steve Warner, a Licensed Psychologist. I recently moved here and I wanted to join this group to see how I can get involved.
- Melisha Montano, Program Manager for Office of Peer Recovery and Engagement here in NM. I am CPSW Trainer and we got invited to this meeting by our friend Jeremy Lihte.
- Jeremy Lihte with NM Leaders in Recovery here to have Melisha talk about CPSW that we discussed at the resource committee last week.
- Nathan Watson Training Coordinator with office of peer recovery and engagement

- Jessie Chambers, Nero Scientist. I live in ABQ and did my Doctor work in UNMH. I have lots of educational resources and I am here to find out what you are doing and see where I can help
- Delahey Roach I am with Families ASAP. I am here to learn what your organization does and how we can fit it.
- Tawana Bell I am a licensed Mental Health Councilor. I was on a phone call over the weekend with the NM Black Mental Health Committee and we were talking about helping out clients out there right now and work with our Police Department.
- Patricia Serna, just wanted to say Hello. My purpose in participating in the call tonight is to answer any questions for SOP 2-8 On-Body Recording Devices.

Rick

- On that point, in regard to the agenda, I promised them we were going to put SOP 2-8 due to a soon deadline and we may need to see how we can deal with it.

Danny

- Someone put in the chat box about the Community Safety survey. If you go to the City Website and search for “ACS Community Input”, there is a survey there.
- As we go forward I think MHRAC is going to have a lot of questions because it seems to fall outside the CASA and how the MHRAC is going to be able to continue doing what we’ve done with APD.

SOP 2-8 OBRD

Rick

- The reason we needed to bring it up tonight is because the City has a deadline on it. Patricia, what are your needs and what are you expecting from MHRAC?

Patricia

- With the recent passage with Senate Bill 8 on the Law Enforcement Body Camera’s, APD needed to align its policy (SOP 2-8), so we are working on a short timeline because it must compile with the law that goes into effect September 30. That is why we have asked for an expedited review by the committee before or by August 24.

Rick

- Do we have a plan, Danny?

Danny

- We are pretty familiar with the current policy can you highlight what has changed?

Patricia

- I am by no means an attorney so this is my general understanding of the SOP. No longer are there discretionary recording to generally Law enforcement encounter and

investigative encounters. The SOP before it was update broken it up by mandatory and discretionary, so a lot of the police activities are considered mandatory. There is another element as to an officer is found to have spoiled a recording it can reflect against their certification.

Danny

- One of the concerns was the only requirement recording those with mental health issues or crisis.

Lindsay

- I wanted to clarify that the language requires activation of body worn cameras whenever a peace officer is responding to a call for service or at initiation of other law enforcement or investigative encounter.... It does not forbid discretionary recording and I think we still have some language in there still but we did have to change some of the language.
- I am Lindsay Van Meter, Attorney for COA and my primary case is the CASA.

Danny

- Do you see a huge change from the old policy to the new one?

Lindsay

- The biggest differences are definitions and the change on mandatory recording and not mandatory recording. It required us to change the stop recording so now they have to stop once they are no longer in contact with the individual.

Danny

- Does it change the supervisory roll any?

Lindsay

- They still have to do the same review of videos and ensuring they are using their cameras.

Danny

- Any questions about this policy?

Rick

- Investigative... the concerns we had when someone comes up and they have a mentally ill person and someone answers the door that is not the patient and we are hearing it all has to be recorded, is that correct?

Lindsay

- Any calls for service that have activity with the public. We met with the city clerk on when it can be released.

Danny

- One of the issues we have had in ABQ is the availability of recordings, written report or unless they are investigated or crimes against children, then everything is available to the public.

Max

- Did these changes come directly from the legislation or does it incorporate some of the feedback MHRAC had back in January?

Lindsay

- APD did consider the additional changes....

Danny

- What happens if the monitor says no?

Lindsay

- If that happens he typically provides feedback on the changes but he understands this is required by law.

Rick

- Is Max questions appropriate for the fact that we already put in our thought process and we approved it or do we have to look at the changes?

Danny

- I think we need to look at the changes.

....

- What is the consequence for turning off that camera?

Lt. Dietzel

- For mandatory recording that is a 6 so it starts out at a written reprimand and as far as turning it off in the middle of a call...

Lindsay

- Under 2-8-5 still looks like it is a 6.

Lt. Dietzel

- The punishment gets very bad very quick, so you don't want to violate policy.

Danny

- Any other comments or questions?

Betty

- Does the law specifically say it has to be what the camera is now?

Lindsay

- It does not define the type of camera but has to be body worn.

Danny

- I think because we have been doing it as long as we have, we have worked out those bugs. The Sheriff has talked about using smartphones.

Public Comment

Max

- I wanted to tip my hat to CIU this past week. I incidentally learned the work you do with a number of my clients. The speed, integrity and responding to the needs of my clients when they occur.

Jeremy

- Can you walk us thorough what CPSW (certified peer support workers) does? Matt, can you explain what we are looking at right now, what they are capable of.

Melisha

- We hold a credential as a Certified Peer Support Worker. There is a 40-hour training that consists of two trainers and an observer. At the end of the training you schedule for a test to obtain your credentials. Every two years you renew you credentials and there are different levels you can obtain when doing so. We are 420+ in the State of NM. We are here to help you through it because we have been through it ourselves. We help change lives and hearts. We don't do for, we do with. A CPSW on a ride along would do so much. We have to tools to pass along to people who want what we have. We are walking resources, we have examples and we show up. We want to get our peers trained and we had a big wait list, we have done two cyber training. We are assets, get to tell our stories and help change lives.

....

- In our resource committee, Rob Nelson, Matt and I were talking about the value of CPSW. We are trying to figure out a way for buying those crisis intervention services but we have a serious deficit when it comes to CPSW's. They are trained for Crisis Intervention and without having to have a master degree.

Danny

- We have exhausted our 15 minute for public comment, so let's move forward with the agenda and bring this back on if we have time at the end of the agenda.

ACS Update

Mariela

- I think the last time we left off, we finalized the survey and it really doesn't need to have too much context. It is gaging around what you personally feel comfortable with who we send out. It takes an average of 8 minutes. About 70% of the surveys have said they are excited for this new department. We had hoped to finish this all by the end of August but the more we dealt with communities we felt like we were rushing this process. I wanted to expand that input process to other organization who respond to these types of calls. We are going to be doing a facilitation with Together for Brothers" and we are looking at multiple groups to do this kind of facilitation with. I will send out an invite to Danny. If you prefer to do your own event, I would be open to that but I would like to schedule something in the month of September. When we start to get into those intense deep dives we can bring some of those discussion back to the community. We have been getting tons of calls from Cities across the Nation.

Ms. Bell

- I am a licensed Therapist. On these calls that you would go to, would you also still have an officer with you?

Mariela

- That is a question we are having. Some cases I don't think there would be that need but in others we might. ACS might get there and it might be a situation that we needed to walk into so then we would go call APD.

Ms. Bell

- The reason I ask is because I had to send out Police Officers to someone I knew was in a psychotic break. I was able to give the police officers a great deal of information due to my background and when they got to the location they called me and I was able to answer questions for them. I was so moved by the compassion and professionalism of the officers and this happened in one day. The first set didn't communicate with me and the second time I had a different dispatcher and set of officers. I am hoping that being on this call I will figure out a way to bridge that gap with you all and the mental health professionals. Particular interest in the NM black mental health. I am not someone who is speaking on defund the police. That is not on my agenda, I want to figure out a way to assist in developing better relationships. We have a lot of clients who are not on their medication right now.

Mariela

- I agree that you hit on multiple pieces. I am really glad when APD can go out there and help that do a fantastic job. The piece around this dispatch, we are asking, do we need to ask additional questions?

Danny

- We would for you to come and sit around our table and chat with us. Zoom doesn't give that personal connection that we thrive on but I appreciate your comments for sure.

Introduction to the Wellness Check Program

(PowerPoint presentation given by Deputy Chief Jaramillo with AFR and Deputy Chief Downing with Security Division)

- We as a city have been working on what to do with our high number of person down calls, "Down and outs". When working on this project we felt it was not an appropriate way to describe so we renamed it to a wellness check. Wellness check is an unknown service that comes through 911. AFR dispatchers are all EMT or Paramedics who are trained as dispatchers, too.
- There are 33 specific Chief complaint categories. (described in the PowerPoint slide)
- Prior to a couple years ago, we would dispatch APD with us to secure the scene. Sometimes it was someone who was just intoxicated in a public space so we readjusted our resources and now only fire takes them without APD.
- 32 and 23 code (described in the PowerPoint slide)
- When we started looking at this response we determined that we had a huge increase when we took these away from APD and started taking them ourselves, we saw a jump in 32 Bravo's (described in the PowerPoint slide).
- Data (described in the PowerPoint slide).
- This is the kind of work that Metro Security was already doing so AFR has worked with them in the past. They have a proactive way of interacting with our citizens. Metro Security and AFR tried out a collaboration training. We had no funding for this, we were experimenting with this to see how it would work. We provided addition training to Metro Security.

Metro Security

DC Downing

- This division has been around since 1978. Part of what I do when I came on board was to look at the job description these individuals did and the training they had and how they can support the COA and AFR.
- Metro Security job description (described in the PowerPoint slide).
- Our mobiles increase recently when we absorbed Transit Division.
- Over 100 hours of training that they receive (CPR, traffic control, those who are experiencing homelessness, fire control, etc.) Our approach is more of a guardian mentality, we are unarmed and how can we assist.
- The security personnel have been responding to those "down and outs" for decades. As the conversations were started with AFR about this is was simple because we were already doing it, so to me it felt like a great partnership. Since December we are

approaching around 2,000 calls since working with AFR. (visual described in the PowerPoint slide)

- The initial feedback has been good overall. It has been a very lost cost issue and a high impact on being able to take the pressure off of AFR. Our guys appreciate the opportunity to provide support to the city.

DC Jaramillo

- I think going into this program, I had misconception about what the team does.

David

- Has there been any discussion on taking this to another level and pulling wellness checks away from law enforcement and more as the ACS role.

DC Downing

- For us we are not under APD. Our training is completely separate from their training. We are in more direct communication with the AFR dispatch team.

DC Jaramillo

- We are calling our down and outs, wellness checks and I think you are referring to the welfare checks?

David

- Exactly. I wonder would it be like to involve dispatch and using your resources for these types of deployments instead of law enforcement. The reason I say is that many welfare checks can be exacerbated by the presence of armed officers.

DC Jaramillo

- I am working on the sub-committee with ACS and that is one of the things we flagged to look into a little deeper.

Danny

- It sounds like the ACS doesn't need to reinvent the wheel since there is already a process in place.

Gary

- I am wondering the amount of critical thinking you are able to analyze and deal with the wild card in the whole thing?

DC Jaramillo

- This is something that in the AFR department they have those critical thinking skills on how this route this call. We have to determine if this is a life threatening emergency.

.....Missed conversation between Danny and Lindsay

Gateway Center Update

Quinn

- The Gateway Center came to be to respond to the homelessness crisis here in ABQ. The general election passed a bond for 14 million dollars to create the said center. During that time there was a lot of feedback from the community about having a 300 bed shelter. this is no longer a 300 bed mega shelter. The COA went through a long site evaluation on where this will go and it was narrowed down two nature locations. Former Gibson Lovelace center and we are looking into the Coronado park area. We have seen this need for the folks experiencing homelessness and they are fragile and don't fit the criteria to go into assisted living or the hospital so we are focusing on that.....keeping in mind with the pandemic and if there is another one, we want to think about space. What has come from the talks around homelessness and the gateway concept..... there was recently an MOU between COA, Bern Co and UNM to hash out some of the ideas and situations happening in ABQ.

Leah

- I didn't hear too much about having anyone with some psych backgrounds, so how will that be addressed?

Quinn

- I would assume there would be but we are not totally there yet in terms of staffing. We are still working on the levels we need. I am not an expert but I am listening closely and helping figure out the needs.

Leah

- We have such an overwhelming population of individuals living homelessness so we are all looking at the gateway as respite of our own. Those individuals need that type of help too.

Reports

Nils

- We have a Behavioral Sciences wellness SOP that we are starting to run through the process. it is going to have yearly check in for all sworn officers and have a triage response for traumatic responds and officer may make.
- COAST is working on a small grant to help with services.
- We had CIT training recently in person and it went very well.

Rob

- There is not much of change from last month. we are still reassigned with FCS to help at the hotel with the families being tested for COVID.

David

- I think training is on schedule to meet next month. We continue to make positive process.

Lt. Dietzel

- The policy sub-committee met last Tuesday. We talked a lot about the certified peer support workers. A big thing coming up is a review of the bi-laws.

Betty

- NAMI was called in when DOJ came in to give a presentation to train Law Enforcement. In 2015 we did our first panel. We have two peers, with two family members and talking about their interaction with mental illness. The DOJ provided a large grant to take the program and turn it into a NAMI signature program. NM and APD were a part of the pilot and development of this program. As of this week it is called, "Sharing Your Story with Law Enforcement". This is now a signature program in 50 states and thousands of members will be able to be trained and do what we are doing in ABQ.

Last Minute Business

Danny

- CPSW will be placed on the agenda for next month.

David

- Do we need to do a formal plan to look at the 2-8 SOP?

Danny

- I am not sure with COVID how we are going to do that.

David

- I know the policy got sent out to the committee, so maybe we give the members until the end of Friday to make comments and response? I think we can do electronic motions by email.

Lt. Dietzel

- We need to vote on the minutes.

Meeting Minutes

Danny

- I will receive a motion to accept the minutes.

David

- I motion to approve.

Betty

- I second the motion.