

McKinley Community Health Alliance

“It is the mission of the McKinley Community Health Alliance to affect and facilitate change in systems that perpetuate health, education, economic and environmental inequities by engaging individuals and agencies to understand and address the underlying “root” causes of poverty/income inequity, institutional racism and multi-generational trauma.”

Health Alliance Monthly Meeting

January 10th, 2024

11:00 a.m.– 1:00 p.m.

Zoom Online Conference

MINUTES

The monthly meeting of the McKinley Community Health Alliance convened on Wednesday, January 10th, 2024, at 11am online via the Zoom online conferencing platform.

The following people/entities were present:

Christopher Hudson (he#him#his)—MCHA Coordinator
Anna Rondon—New Mexico Social Justice Equity Institute/MCHA Core Team
Brent J. Crowe—The Community Pantry- Gallup NM
Camie Nelson—New Mexico Department of Health
Chenoa Bah Jensen-Stillwell—Southwest Indigenous Housing Justice Collaborative
Christina Hernandez—McKinley County SNAPs-SA
Colleen Roan—McKinley County Early Childhood Ed. Coalition
Cynthia Killough #she/ella—UNM Health Sciences
Debra Martinez—Gallup Behavioral Health
Denisse Riffle—McKinley County Community Services
Elvira Amador—Somos Gallup
Gerilynn Antonio—NM Alliance of Health Councils
Janeya Johnson—Youth Shelter & Family Services
Janice Peterson—Somos Gallup/MCHA Core Team
Jayme Yancy—New Mexico Social Justice Equity Institute
Jodie Henderson (she/her)—Youth Shelter Family Services
Maria Calderon-Rose—McKinley County DWI Program
Misti Dickens—BeWellnm
Ray Daw—Community Member/NM DOH contractor
Sean Etsitty—University of New Mexico Comprehensive Cancer Center
Summer Morez—Sexual Assault Services of NW NM
Surphina Oyebi—New Mexico Department of Health
Tierra Johnson—New Mexico Legal Aid
Vicki Casias— New Mexico Department of Health
Winona Gishal—Blue Cross Blue Shield
Zunneh-Bah Jim— New Mexico Social Justice Equity Institute
Christina Morris—New Mexico Department of Health
Meeksee Yatsayte— Navajo Nations Missing Persons Update/Missing & Murdered Dine Relatives
Kimberly Martin— Sexual Assault Services of NW NM
Regina Gonzalez—Blue Cross Blue Shield
Theresa Yazzie— District Injury Prevention Specialist, GIMC/Crownpoint IHS/OEH
Anita Muneta—MCHA Housing Justice Team
Althea Yazzie—Twin Lakes Community/Advocate
Lynn Anner-Bolieu— McKinley Citizen's Recycling Council
Sonlatsa Jim—Shima Learning Center/Navajo Nation

Erica Marquez—NP with McKinley & Cibola Public Health Office
Connie Liu—Community Physician/ McKinley Citizens Health Advocacy Committee

The monthly meeting of the McKinley Community Health Alliance convened this month to allow and present our McKinley Community Legislative Priorities for this years NM Legislative Session. We also held space for our regular partners updates & community announcements, openly made by those present and in the chat log.

Notes by Sean Etsitty, UNM Comprehensive Cancer Center
Thank You! - Ahéhee' - Gracias – Elahkwa

○ McKinley Community legislation Priorities (Jan 16 - Feb 15)

○ NM County & Tribal Health Council Funding - House Bill 67

- Our role through Alliance since 10-11' - Provide training/coordination and opportunities for funding
- Advocacy efforts
 - Increase funding for traditional DOH funds received
- Changes
 - Past 3 years Kellogs/CDC provided an additional \$50,000 to each Health Council
 - Asking legislators for \$6.6 million (on average each council would get \$142,000)
 - For staffing/admin costs/operational costs
 - Where at?
 - Bill has been filled (House Bill 67)
 - Representative Allison, Thompson, Linda-Johnson championing that
 - Waiting for bill to be heard on Senate side
 - Call to action
 - One-pager informing people of health council actions
 - Can collect signatures for letter of support
 - <https://www.jotform.com/sign/233527861165056/invite/01hj2hp5kd12855bd79826c5e5>
 - Ask us to reach out to our legislators to inform them about House Bill 67
 - Website:
 - <https://www.nmhealthcouncils.org/advocacy>
 - How supportive are reps?
 - Full endorsement by Indian Affairs Committee, and Health & Human Services Committee. Been engaging legislative finance committee
 - Short session coming up, do have some support but want to build on that

- States with Health Councils?
 - At least 5 or 6 states with Health Councils
 - Tennessee was 1 state to reply to us
 - Had meeting earlier this week. In TN they have funding application process for health councils
 - <https://www.tn.gov/health/health-program-areas/county-health-councils.html>
 - 89 County Health Councils
 - NM does differ in the fact that our healthcare system is decentralized.

- CH - significant experience in seeing how this process takes place
 - Would be good to have Health Council written into the NM budget. Doing so will ensure Council will receive funding
 - This still hasn't been done
 - 1 week from the legislation and Health Councils are still not included in budget
 - This means funding would stay the same
 - Senate of Finance rep is pushing to ensure Health Councils get an increase in funding
 - As of now, DOH and senate are at a standstill. If do know Patrick Allen, need to push for this priority
 - Prior Cabinet secretaries of DOH have left under Governor's tenure
 - Only way to access Patrick Allen is through Governor

- NM Health Council Advocacy:
 - <https://www.nmhealthcouncils.org/advocacy>
 - gerilyn@nmhealthcouncils.org
 - Happy to hop on a call or provide further context 🎉

○ Increasing Funds for Alcohol Harms Alleviation (AHA)

- Headed by Internal Medicine MD in Gallup (I.H.S)
 - NM has highest rates of alcohol-related deaths in US

- 80/100,000 in NM, 335/100,000 in McKinley County
 - NM has led US States in alcohol-related deaths (ARDs) since 1997
 - In 2021, 2,274 ARDs
- Cost of Excessive Alcohol Consumption
 - \$2.2 billion (with inflation \$3.1 billion in 2023)
 - Despite this, no increase in funding to implement proven methods to address this
 - NM's excise tax per drink hasn't changed since 1993
 - Highest recommendation is to increase alcohol taxes
- Alcohol Excise Taxes
 - Given hasn't increased in 30 years, want to make sure it keeps up with inflation
 - \$225.615 million extra income if increase \$.25/drink
- Question regarding root cause of situation in McKinley County
 - Would there be room to discuss systemic racism?
 - 'Termination by appropriation'
 - In McKinley County, highest rates of ARDs, but not highest rates of consumption
 - Would be nice to have a discussion with McKinley County Health Officials because there are downwind effects like lack of housing as a result of alcohol consumption. Would be good to let the County know what the community priorities are
 - Every family is affected by their family's addiction.
 - Sad when gas stations would rather serve liquor than gasoline.
 - Hard to see parents going through this, and bringing their children into the cycle of wandering through Gallup.
 - Need place where people have access to stay at a place where they are not turned away or forced out early in the morning
 - If go to walk-in at detox, can leave in the morning if needed
 - Alcohol lobbyists are always there because they are PAID to be there. So we are fighting a giant

- Rather than blaming individuals with addictions, we should prioritize advocacy to increase funding for the best treatment for individuals
- <https://www.ahacoalition.org>
 - Alcohol and processed food lobbyists make the argument for increased taxes difficult
 - Calling local legislation can have a big impact
 - Sports Page closed BECAUSE of the DUIs and alcohol-related incidences at the hospital
- **Other Priority Community/Public Health Legislation (Paid Family Medical Leave Act)**
 - Beginning to gather businesses to testify for the group
 - This morning at a state wide press conference the SJEI group released an advocacy group
 - At least 8 people from SWWLG will offer support at January 22nd legislation
 - Janice Peterson - Went to AZ and they already do have signs up about PMLA
 - Essential to continue advocacy, because PMLA should be a priority for employees within NM
 - Be there on January 22nd to support legislation.
 - If transportation needed, reach out to program reps to identify stipends dedicated for advocacy.
 - February 12th Public Health Day, February 13th is annual meeting
 - CORE Team meeting will be Tuesday instead of Monday
 - St. Paul's Mission is having food drive and Hygiene/Care Kit sorting out to distribute this Saturday.
 - Can let Chris know
- **Updates (No updates due to Time)**
 - Gallup Behavioral health Updates
 - McKinley Collaborative for Health Equity
 - NW NM Campaign Against Racism/NMDOH
 - McKinley Community Health Alliance - Chris Hudson

Zoom Chat Log

11:08:06 From Anna Rondon to Everyone:
Good morning, Happy New Year everyone, Anna Rondon, NM Social Justice & Equity Institute and McKinley Collaborative for Health Equity

11:08:10 From Anna Rondon to Everyone:
Yay

11:09:28 From Winona Gishal to Everyone:
Happy New Year! Winona Gishal, Blue Cross and Blue Shield of New Mexico, Community Outreach Specialist.

11:10:04 From Debra Martinez to Everyone:
Dr. Wei will sign on around 1130

11:16:18 From Meskee Yatsayte to Everyone:
Good morning everyone

Meskee Tsotaddle-Yatsayte

Founder of NNMPU
CoFounder MMDR Coalition
Member of the New Mexico MMIWR Task Force
Member of MMDR Task Force.
Victims Witness Advocate for the Zuni prosecutor's office.

NNMPU1@gmail.com

11:16:34 From Zunneh-bah Jim to Everyone:
Zunneh-bah Jim, NMSJEI

11:16:36 From Jayme Yancy to Everyone:
Jayme Yancy, jayme.yancy@gmail.com, NMSJEI

11:16:56 From Denisse Riffle to Everyone:
Denisse Riffle, McKinley County Community Services Department Director

11:17:19 From Cynthia M Killough to Everyone:
Cynthia Killough, Community Engagement Liaison Specialist, UNM Health Sciences CTSC, ckillo@salud.unm.edu

11:17:25 From Gerilyn Antonio NMAHC Tribal Liaison to Everyone:
Gerilyn Antonio, NMAHC Tribal Liaison, gerilyn@nmhealthcouncils.org

11:17:39 From Surphina Oyebi (she/her) to Everyone:
Surphina Oyebi, NMDOH - OSAH School Mental Health Advocate for the NW Region. Email: Surphina.oyebi@doh.nm.gov

11:18:04 From Vicki Casias to Everyone:
Vicki Casias, BSN, RN vicki.casias@doh.nm.gov NW region School Health Advocate- San Juan, McKinley, Cibola County

11:18:08 From Christina Morris, éi|She|Her to Everyone:
Y'aa't'eeh Abini Everyone! Happy New Year. Christina Morris, Health Promotion Specialist, NW Region (SJC/MCK). Good to be here. Thank you for the invitation

11:18:17 From Janeya Johnson - YSFS (She,Her,Hers) to Everyone:

Janey Johnson, Landlord Liaison - Youth Shelter & Family Services

jjohnson@youthshelters.org

11:18:30 From Chenoa Bah to Everyone:

Ya'at'eeh and good day greetings~ Chenoa Bah Stilwell-Jensen,
chenoabah@gmail.com, Indigenous Housing Justice Collaborative

11:18:30 From Maria.CalderonRose to Everyone:

Maria Calderon-Rose

11:19:40 From Christina Morris, éi|She|Her to Everyone:

Christina.morris@doh.nm.gov office: 505.566.0504

11:19:44 From Christina.Hernandez to Everyone:

Christina Hernandez, McKinley County SNAPs SA Coordinator/Coalition

11:20:12 From Ray Daw (Diné) to Everyone:

Ray Daw, Behavioral Health consultant
#native988

11:20:52 From Maria.CalderonRose to Everyone:

Replying to "Maria Calderon-Rose"

Maria Calderon-Rose Prevention Specialist McKinley County DWI program

11:21:35 From Colleen Roan to Everyone:

Colleen Roan, Coordinator, McKinley County Early Childhood Coalition -
mceccgroup21@gmail.com - 505.517.2592

11:21:50 From Tierra Johnson to Everyone:

Tierra Johnson- Community Justice Worker- NMLA. tierraj@nmlegalaid.org

11:23:21 From Misti Dickens|beWellnm to Everyone:

Misti Dickens, beWellnm, mdickens@nmhix.com

11:23:45 From ELVIRA AMADOR GALLUP,NM to Everyone:

GOOD MORNING EVERYONE

11:26:22 From ELVIRA AMADOR GALLUP,NM to Everyone:

ELVIRA AMADOR COMMUNITY ORGANIZER FOR WORKER RIGHTS .
elvyama123@gmail.com

11:29:00 From Sean Etsitty to Everyone:

Good morning everyone! Sean Etsitty with UNM's Comprehensive Cancer Center. I
am the Community Outreach & Engagement Specialist, SeEtsitty@salud.unm.edu, (505) 360-
9872

11:29:53 From Summer Morez to Everyone:

Summer Morez, Victim advocate, Sexual Assault Services of NWNM-Gallup office.
summerm@sasnwm.org, 505-399-5940

11:30:09 From R Gonzales to Everyone:

Regina Gonzales, LCSW with Blue Cross Blue shield of NM.
regina_gonzales@bcbsnm.com. 505-816-3166. I also would love to hear from any social
workers since I am on the board of NASW-NM. Please reach out if you are a social worker in
the state of NM. Thank you.

11:31:40 From Camie Nelson to Everyone:

Camie Nelson, Health Promotion Program Manager for McKinley, Cibola, and San
Juan counties for the NM Department of Health. Camie.Nelson@doh.nm.gov and phone cell
open to text or call (505) 263-4584

11:32:10 From Camie Nelson to Everyone:
Erica Marquez NP for McKinley Public Health and Cibola Public Health office,
Erica.Marquez@doh.nm.gov

11:32:36 From Camie Nelson to Everyone:
Erica is a provider for McKinley and Cibola and is offering services :)

11:36:22 From Debra Martinez to Everyone:
She will be signing on soon.

11:40:17 From Sonlatsa Jim/ Sunshine to Everyone:
Sonlatsa Jim "Sunshine"
sonlatsa2022@gmail.com
505-567-0398 cell/text

11:41:06 From Christopher Hudson (he, him, his) to Everyone:
Sign onto our support letter for Health Council Funding

11:41:07 From Christopher Hudson (he, him, his) to Everyone:
<https://www.jotform.com/sign/233527861165056/invite/01hj2hp5kd12855bd79826c5e5>

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11:43:32 From Christopher Hudson (he, him, his) to Everyone:
NM AHC advocacy website - <https://www.nmhealthcouncils.org/advocacy>

11:45:28 From Connie Liu (she/her) to Everyone:
How supportive are our reps

11:46:11 From Anna Rondon to Everyone:
Excellent information and promotional materials!

11:47:24 From Connie Liu (she/her) to Everyone:
If you have other info about the specific reps out here then let us know and that may help us to figure out what education or advocacy we need to do with our folks. =>

11:47:41 From Connie Liu (she/her) to Everyone:
Thank you =>

11:49:34 From TAYazzie to Everyone:
Theresa Yazzie, District Injury Prevention Specialist, Theresa.yazzie2@ihs.gov

11:50:42 From Cynthia M Killough to Everyone:
Thank you!


11:54:45 From Althea Yazzie to Everyone:
Althea Yazzie, Social Justice Equity/ altheyazzie6@gmail.com

11:57:11 From Gerilyn Antonio NMAHC Tribal Liaison to Everyone:
Tennessee County HCs: <https://www.tn.gov/health/health-program-areas/county-health-councils.html>

11:57:46 From Gerilyn Antonio NMAHC Tribal Liaison to Everyone:
County HCs: <https://www.tn.gov/health/health-program-areas/tennessee-vital-signs/redirect-tennessee-vital-signs/county-health-assessment.html>

11:59:04 From Cynthia M Killough to Everyone:
Thank you, Gerilyn! This is really helpful.

11:59:24 From Gerilyn Antonio NMAHC Tribal Liaison to Everyone:
Replying to "Thank you, Gerilyn! ..."

 absolutely! We hope to share more when we know more!

12:00:01 From Cynthia M Killough to Everyone:

Replying to "Thank you, Gerilyn! ..."



12:02:15 From Janice Peterson to Everyone:

Hi Janice Peter son, email janicejeanpeterson@gmail.com an my phone 505-413-3030.

12:03:38 From Cynthia M Killough to Everyone:

I have to hop off for another meeting! Happy new year everyone.

12:04:17 From Tierra Johnson to Everyone:

12:00

12:05:07 From Gerilyn Antonio NMAHC Tribal Liaison to Everyone:

Your right, we are engaging governor, house appropriations, and senate finance

12:05:33 From Gerilyn Antonio NMAHC Tribal Liaison to Everyone:

We are focusing on advocacy outreach to those listed above Anna ❤️

12:06:33 From Anna Rondon to Everyone:

Thank you Gerilyn!

12:07:41 From Chenoa Bah to Everyone:

Secretary of Health email: Patrick.allen@doh.nm.us

12:08:12 From Gerilyn Antonio NMAHC Tribal Liaison to Everyone:

HC funding talking points + the ask is available if you need for outreach:

<https://www.nmhealthcouncils.org/advocacy>

12:09:26 From Gerilyn Antonio NMAHC Tribal Liaison to Everyone:

If you need any information or support, please reach out to me at gerilyn@nmhealthcouncils.org. Happy to hop on a call or provide further context 📞

12:10:35 From Gerilyn Antonio NMAHC Tribal Liaison to Everyone:

Thank you all, I have another meeting! Aheehee ❤️

12:13:13 From Ray Daw (Diné) to Everyone:

A copy of the report will be available?

12:13:51 From Christopher Hudson (he, him, his) to Everyone:

Replying to "Secretary of Health ..."

Thank you Chenoa

12:14:35 From Camie Nelson to Everyone:

Hi all, I am hoping off to attend my next meeting. Please feel free to reach out to me with any questions. Thank you and have a good day.

12:15:07 From Gina Roanhorse to Everyone:

Big lobby from liquor world to kill efforts over the years, just fyi

12:17:06 From Christopher Hudson (he, him, his) to Everyone:

Alcohol Harm Alleviation Funding - Revenues proposed by HSD DOH—

https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/12c3Jy6xnRWci1_eQjyahbNpGP6B3SB3ULMmdd0dqJQ/edit?usp=sharing

12:17:58 From Gina Roanhorse to Everyone:

Add tribal Drug courts

12:21:32 From Colleen Roan to Everyone:

Rehab for families that allow mothers to bring young child(ren). Lack of child care is a huge issue in McKinley County

12:22:11 From Gina Roanhorse to Everyone:

create a Native American Healing to Wellness Court (drug court) in McKinley County.
because they use a multi disciplinary approach....

12:22:12 From Anna Rondon to Everyone:
Some instances are worst since Syndemic.

12:24:21 From Chenoa Bah to Everyone:
Replying to "create a Native Amer..."



12:25:03 From Gina Roanhorse to Everyone:
Judge Begay in McKinley County needs help

12:25:07 From Chenoa Bah to Everyone:
Judge Renee Torres and team from ABC Metro Court's Native Healing and Wellness Court for mentoring McKinley County to learn how to begin their urban court

12:25:12 From Anna Rondon to Everyone:
More hotels for housing first.

12:25:15 From Gina Roanhorse to Everyone:
She's trying to get it going

12:26:11 From Chenoa Bah to Everyone:
Site visit to and from Native Connections in Phoenix to share about their model program for supporting treatment and safe housing for mothers and children

12:26:44 From Gina Roanhorse to Everyone:
The state uses our data to write grants....!

12:26:48 From Chenoa Bah to Everyone:
Replying to "Judge Renee Torres a..."

Abq/Albuquerque Metro Court

12:27:54 From Chenoa Bah to Everyone:
Replying to "More hotels for hous..."



12:28:49 From Chenoa Bah to Everyone:
Judge Renee Torres, 505-841-8225

12:29:14 From Gina Roanhorse to Everyone:
State writes grants for prevention etc and then they don't award it to us in tribal areas

12:30:11 From Debra Martinez to Everyone:
New Mexico Tribal Behavioral Health Provider's Association-all Tribes, Pueblos and Nations is participating and involved.

12:33:45 From Gina Roanhorse to Everyone:
Replying to "New Mexico Tribal Be..."

How much money goes to tribal programs? do you know? yearly? esp in McKinley county. just wondering

12:33:57 From Tierra Johnson to Everyone:
12:30

12:34:48 From R Gonzales to Everyone:

Need to log off. I appreciate all the work each of you do. See you in the next meeting.
Any social workers please reach out to me reginagonzalesnaswnm@gmail.com

12:34:50 From Christopher Hudson (he, him, his) to Everyone:
Replying to "12:30"

Thank You Tierra

12:42:01 From janice peterson to Everyone:

This Janice Peterson, I think to do best is started reach out to our Legis. Let them know bad Alcohol Abuse are related to Death.

12:45:16 From Jennie Wei (she/her) to Everyone:
<https://www.ahacoalition.org/>

12:45:34 From Anna Rondon to Everyone:
Much needed conversation. Thank you

12:47:07 From Debra Martinez to Everyone:
12 places that sold alcohol have closed since 2020

12:47:12 From Debra Martinez to Everyone:
sell

12:49:53 From Debra Martinez to Everyone:
One of the AHA Coalition members did a report on who receives funding from Alcohol industry.

12:51:06 From Christopher Hudson (he, him, his) to Everyone:
Paid Family Medical Leave (PFML) Act o <https://nmpfml.org/>

12:54:39 From Sonlatsa Jim/ Sunshine to Everyone:
Join us on Monday, January 22nd

12:54:50 From ELVIRA AMADOR GALLUP,NM to Everyone:
will be there in Santa Fe 22 for a really workers day and then in Capitol

12:55:03 From Christina Morris, éi|She|Her to Everyone:
Thank you for the meeting! I have to get going now. Have a great rest of your week.

12:55:24 From Anna Rondon to Everyone:
Bye Christina

12:59:42 From Chenoa Bah to Everyone:
Thank you for a great meeting - take care

13:03:04 From Janeya Johnson - YSFS (She,Her,Hers) to Everyone:
Thank you !

13:03:07 From Jayme Yancy to Everyone:
Thank you everyone, have a great day

13:03:32 From Jennie Wei (she/her) to Everyone:
FYI we do have this listed in our Alcohol Harms Revenue:HSD Provide recurring funding to support facilitation of unifying regional behavioral efforts and voices between Local Collaboratives, Health Councils, coalitions, and alliances. \$1,500,000