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

April 8th, 2026
11:00 a.m.– 1:00 p.m.
Zoom Online Conference

MINUTES

The monthly meeting of the McKinley Community Health Alliance convened on Wednesday, April 8th, 2026, at 11am online via the Zoom online conferencing platform.

The following people/entities were present:

Christopher Hudson (he#him#his)—MCHA Program Manager/Health Council Coordinator
Brittany Yazzie—MCHA Core Team
Cynthia Killough #she/ella—UNM Health Sciences, UNM SW CACTI
Debra Martinez—Gallup Behavioral Health
Diana Good—New Mexico Department of Health
Eirena Begay—MCHA Housing Justice Community Organizer
Gerilyn Antonio—New Mexico Alliance of Health Councils
Jennelle Mitchell—New Mexico Department of Health, McKinley Health Promotions
Joyce Hudson—NM Social Justice Equity Institute
Kimberly Martin—Sexual Assault Services of NW New Mexico
Kynedi Ben— First Nations Community Health Source
Loxitawny Campbell— MCHA Public & Community Health Intern (Winter 2026)
Mbaember "Bambi" DavidWuam—New Mexico Department of Health, Nicotine Use Prevention And Control (NUPAC) Program
Meskee Tsotaddle-Yatsayte—Four Corners Detox Recover Center, Street Outreach Worker & CCHW/Navajo Nations Missing Persons Update/Missing & Murdered Dine Relatives
Nicole Begay—Gallup Community Health
Savannah Watson—City of Gallup Behavioral Health Department
Sonlatsa 'Sunshine' Jim—McKinley Community Member, Dine Action Plan, Navajo Nation Division for Children & Family Services
Tammy Parker—City of Gallup
Tius James—Gallup Community Health
Zunneh-bah Jim—MCHA Core Team, and Missing & Murdered Dine Relatives Coalition
Colleen Roan—McKinley County Early Childhood Ed. Coalition/MCHA Core Team
Chris Kenny—Gallup/McKinley Community Member
Helen Tso— UNM Health Sciences Center NW Health Extension Regional Office
Michael Henderson— Dine Action Plan, Navajo Nation Division for Children & Family Services
Theresa Yazzie—GIMC/Crownpoint HIS/OEH
Roselinda Claw—Howard Johnson Property Manager

The monthly meeting of the McKinley Community Health Alliance convened this month to welcome Sonlatsa 'Sunshine' Jim to present an update on the Diné Action Plan. We began our

meeting with a Summary/Overview of the recent Gathering of Native Americans Harm Reduction Gathering from Colleen Roan, with the McKinley Early Childhood Education Coalition and MCHA Core Team member. Following the Dine Action Plan update we received a MCHA Public & Community Health Internship Reflection from Loxitawny Campbell. Lastly, we held space for our regular partners updates & community announcements, openly made by those present and in the chat log.

Notes by Cynthia Killough #she/ella—UNM Health Sciences, UNM SW Center for Advancing Clinical & Translational Innovation (CACTI)
Thank You! - Ahéhee'- Gracias – Elahkwa

NOTES:
McKinley Community Health Alliance Meeting Minutes 4.8.26

- We did introductions
    - 26 attendees
- Moment of silence
- Reading of mission statement, meetings agreements and roles
- Gathering of Native Americans Harm Reduction Gathering
    - Presenter/Speaker: Colleen Roan
    - Took place on March 28th, 2026
    - Colleen talked about the event and how they had been waiting to bring this event to Gallup
    - They showed a poster with harm reduction principles; helping one another in the spirit of harm reduction awareness within Native American communities; centering health and well-being with our relatives
- Dine Action Plan (DAP) Update
    - Presenter/Speaker: Sonlatsa (Sunshine) Jim & Michael Henderson
    - Gathering held March 18th & 20th, 2026
    - Sunshine shared slides from the DAP
        - DAP has been around with Navajo Government; legislated over 5 years ago during pandemic; 3 branch action plan to be updated and renewed every 5 years to help address social ills that impact Navajo families on and off reservation; www.ndcfs.org to get brochure
        - DAP focuses on 4 monsters: Violence, Substance & Alcohol Abuse, Suicide Prevention, Missing and Murdered Dine Relatives
            - There's been an advisory council (19 members) to help address these modern-day monsters systemically
        - Brochure was dropped in chat
        - DAP Task Groups- virtual meetings, all encouraged to join!
        - Navajo Wellness Teachings built into DAP- grounded in Dine traditional ways of life
        - Michael Henderson talked about our children getting parenting, cultural identity & development, and how when we don't have these fundamental teachings it

leads to the issues that we see raised in the DAP; this is a public safety concern with rates of crime
        - June 18-19 next quarterly meeting in Utah
- MCHA Public & Community Health Winter 2026 Intern Reflection Presentation
    - Presenter/Speaker: Loxitawny Campbell
    - Loxitawny talked about her internship and public health convergence; she talked about her experience in education and daily life; she learned about how we prioritize data- quantitative data over qualitative data
    - Chris Hudson shared virtually document from McKinley Health Profile: https://docs.google.com/document/d/1vvCRMejTtk-a_s6HeGehSkkyI-PXOK0O2ZhHTvmG5qM/edit?tab=t.0
- McKinley Collaborative for Health Equity/NM Social Justice & Equity & Institute
    - Anna Rondon was unavailable today
- NM Department of Health, Health Promotion/Gallup Office Updates
    - Updates from Diana Good & Jennelle Mitchell
        - Quarter 3 report due Friday 4/10
        - Diana talked about invoicing and reminders
        - Vital records event coming up- TBD
        - They've been doing outreach events & Health fairs; offered flu shots at Fort Canyon, good attendance from public
        - Medication for opioid use; STI testing and treatment; not primary care but can offer other resources/services
- Gallup Behavioral Health- Savannah Watson
    - Medicine for the Soul- April 22 8am-5pm; providing breakfast and lunch, space is limited; registration form link dropped in chat; April 28th book club discussions; flyers were dropped in chat
- McKinley Community Health Alliance 2026 Updates
    - Regional gathering for nonprofits
    - Tuesday core team virtual meeting 4/14
        - Women rising presentation
    - Monthly Core team work session- NM Social Justice Office, Last Friday 10am-3pm
- Eirena Begay- Housing- story telling listening sessions; has been a journey of working in community; starting a campaign to transform narrative
- Roselinda from Howard Johnson Housing Property has vacancies; they have 17 rooms available for individuals

Zoom Chat Log

2026-04-08 11:10:22 From Kynedi Ben to Everyone:
Kynedi Ben, Program Manager, First Nations Community HealthSource. Good morning and great to be here.

2026-04-08 11:11:47 From Diana Good: She/her to Everyone:
Diana Good with NMDOH: Health Promotion Coordinator for the NW Region, Happy to be hear.

2026-04-08 11:14:19 From Joyce Hudson to Everyone:
thank you chris

2026-04-08 11:14:47 From Mbaember.DavidWuam to Everyone:
Mbaember DavidWuam NMDOH- NW Region Snr Health Educator NUPAC program

2026-04-08 11:15:15 From Kynedi Ben to Everyone:
Sorry my microphone is not working

2026-04-08 11:15:55 From Colleen Roan to Everyone:
Good morning everyone, Colleen Roan with McKinley County Early Childhood Coalition

2026-04-08 11:20:31 From Cynthia M Killough to Everyone:
Cynthia Killough, Senior Community Engagement Liaison & Senior Program Manager, UNM SW CACTI

2026-04-08 11:21:17 From Sonlatsa Jim to Everyone:
Navajo Nation Dine' Action Plan (DAP) contact info:
DAP Brochure 2026.pdf

2026-04-08 11:22:25 From Diana Good: She/her to Everyone:
@Chris Kenny there's nothing "just" about you :)!

2026-04-08 11:22:47 From Sonlatsa Jim to Everyone:
Sonlatsa Jim, Dine' Action Plan (DAP) Co-Chairperson with Navajo Nation Division for Children & Family Services EMAIL Sonlatsa.jim@ndcfs.org or sonlatsa2022@gmail.com TEXT 505-567-0398

2026-04-08 11:24:11 From Eirena Begay to Everyone:
Ya'atééh, shi ei Eirena Begay. I am the housing justice community organizer. You may contact me at eirena.begay@mckinleyhealthalliance.org or by calling (480) 628-5356.

2026-04-08 11:24:47 From McKinley Community Health Alliance to Everyone:
McKinley Community Health Alliance Mission Statement: “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.”

2026-04-08 11:25:19 From Brittany Yazzie to Everyone:
Brittany Yazzie MCHA Core member

2026-04-08 11:33:25 From Eirena Begay to Everyone:

I'm sorry I missed the GONA. But I have parenting duties as two are graduating college and high school while my youngest is also graduating kindergarten. Hopefully, there is more opportunities and I admire the opportunities made by funding for culturally relevant harm reduction initiatives.

2026-04-08 11:36:08 From Chris Kenny to Everyone:
Replying to "@Chris Kenny there's nothing "just" about you :)!":
Thank you, Diana! Have we met somewhere? (I've been in region for 20 years - but my memory is not what it used to be :-)

2026-04-08 11:37:48 From Diana Good: She/her to Everyone:
Replying to "@Chris Kenny there's nothing "just" about you :)!":
Just on this meeting for a few months that I know of...I assure you that my memory is also challenged!

2026-04-08 11:38:53 From Chris Kenny to Everyone:
Replying to "@Chris Kenny there's nothing "just" about you :)!":
@Diana Good: She/her Well - good to meet you - and good luck to both of us with that :-)

2026-04-08 11:39:17 From Diana Good: She/her to Everyone:
Replying to "@Chris Kenny there's nothing "just" about you :)!":
I have a reaction every time I hear that word "just". Wanted to honor your role in community as very valuable!

2026-04-08 11:39:39 From McKinley Community Health Alliance to Everyone:
NA_Harm Reduction Principles.png

2026-04-08 11:40:13 From Chris Kenny to Everyone:
Replying to "@Chris Kenny there's nothing "just" about you :)!":
Thanks - I understand very well that reaction - and feel the same about everyone.

2026-04-08 11:43:57 From McKinley Community Health Alliance to Everyone:
Harm Reduction Principles

2026-04-08 12:01:00 From Diana Good: She/her to Everyone:
brb

2026-04-08 12:12:12 From McKinley Community Health Alliance to Everyone:
~10mins with some time for ?s after

2026-04-08 12:17:11 From Joyce Hudson to Everyone:
joiningofthewaters@yahoo.com please send notes to this email address. Thank you.

2026-04-08 12:22:22 From Eirena Begay to Everyone:
It does take all of us to work together. Thank you Sunshine.

2026-04-08 12:22:41 From Gerilyn, NMAHC Tribal Liaison to Everyone:
Amazing work 💔

2026-04-08 12:23:23 From Michael Henderson to Everyone:
Thank you for allowing us to speak on out DAP. Pleasant day.

2026-04-08 12:27:42 From McKinley Community Health Alliance to Everyone:
McKinley Health Profile Google Word Documents (Raw)

2026-04-08 12:27:46 From McKinley Community Health Alliance to Everyone:
https://docs.google.com/document/d/1ZpUtJbVlrA0BQsRaVLcEMDjnSTAQyobnKOPrGk-WfKI/edit?usp=sharing

2026-04-08 12:30:52 From McKinley Community Health Alliance to Everyone:
https://docs.google.com/document/d/1vvCRMejTtk-a_s6HeGehSkkyI-PXOK0O2ZhHTvmG5qM/edit?usp=sharing

2026-04-08 12:33:48 From Cynthia M Killough to Everyone:
Great job Loxitawny!!!

2026-04-08 12:34:05 From Zunneh-bah Jim to Everyone:
Great job Loxitawny! 👏 thank you 😊

2026-04-08 12:34:12 From McKinley Community Health Alliance to Everyone:
https://docs.google.com/document/d/1489e5e04_z-F4xLi4WEJ_D-QfQcMMATwpHssgaloRvw/edit?usp=sharing

2026-04-08 12:34:37 From Eirena Begay to Everyone:
Amazing, Loxitawny! You are doing wonderful work in the community.

2026-04-08 12:44:28 From McKinley Community Health Alliance to Everyone:
https://www.nmhealth.org/location/public/#McKinley

2026-04-08 12:47:13 From Savannah Watson to Everyone:
https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSe-TMjOYOtAa6Gy4MkTWUwFYiaMCmhjyC4XdcWhkh6jEbpG_g/viewform?usp=header

2026-04-08 12:47:38 From Savannah Watson to Everyone:
Behavioral Health Wellness Summit

2026-04-08 12:48:35 From Savannah Watson to Everyone:
Self Care Day Save the date Flyer (1).pdf

2026-04-08 12:49:17 From Savannah Watson to Everyone:

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSflLF6jtX7a5KJloSph8r_xQQz8hD6tI3Mv9vldDqcr7lCjcA/viewform?pli=1

2026-04-08 12:49:34 From Savannah Watson to Everyone:
Book Club Registration

2026-04-08 12:50:08 From Savannah Watson to Everyone:
April May 2026 We READ, We TALK Book Club (8x11) (1) (1).pdf

2026-04-08 12:50:09 From Savannah Watson to Everyone:
APRIL 2026 Acudetox Stress Reduction Clinics (8.5x11) (3).pdf

2026-04-08 12:58:53 From Eirena Begay to Everyone:
Thank you everyone. Take care and let's keep planting for growth.

2026-04-08 12:59:01 From McKinley Community Health Alliance to Everyone:
healthalliance@mckinleyhealthalliance.org

2026-04-08 12:59:12 From McKinley Community Health Alliance to Everyone:
for alliance wide emails