

Administrative Office of the Courts

Supreme Court of New Mexico

Karl W. Reifsteck, Director
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June 2, 2025

Senator George Munoz
Senator Linda Lopez
Senator Joseph Cervantes
Representative Nathan Small
Representative Liz Thomson
Representative Christine Chandler

Director Charles Sallee
New Mexico State Capitol
490 Old Santa Fe Trail
Santa Fe, NM 87501

Secretary Kari Armijo
New Mexico Health Care Authority
P.O. Box 2348
Santa Fe, NM 87504-2348

via email

Re: June 1, 2025 Update on Administrative Office of the Courts Activities Related to Senate Bill 3 – Behavioral Health Reform and Investment Act (BHRIA)

Dear Senators, Representatives, Director Sallee, Secretary Armijo;

I write to you to provide an update on the AOC's activities related to Senate Bill 3, the Behavioral Health Reform and Investment Act (BHRIA). Since our previous update in May, we have continued to make progress in supporting the implementation of this important legislation.

Below are the latest developments:

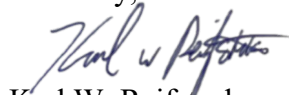
- AOC hired the Behavioral Health Reform and Integration Administrator, Esperanza Lucero who started work on May 12, 2025.

- Ms. Lucero is meeting several times a week with Kristie Brooks, the HCA Director of Behavioral Health Transformation and Innovation to ensure coordination.
- **Survey Distribution (May 27, 2025):** The AOC distributed a survey to tribal, city, and county leaders, legislators, the behavioral health local collaboratives, health councils, and chief judges across the state. The survey solicits feedback on the proposed regional designations, with responses requested by June 13, 2025.
- **Tribal Region Designations:** The AOC is in need of assistance to ensure appropriate Government to Government collaboration in order to receive meaningful input from our Tribes, Nations and Pueblos regarding their preference for regional designations. The AOC has been in contact with Secretary Josett Monette and other IAD staff, the HCA Tribal Liaison, the All Pueblo Council of Governors, the Tribal State Judicial Consortium, New Mexico Tribal ICWA Workers, and the American Indian Chamber of Commerce of New Mexico and is still actively seeking ways to receive input. Any assistance the Legislature or Executive can offer would be greatly appreciated.
 - An introductory letter from the Judiciary and regional designation survey was sent to Indian Affairs Department for distribution, currently pending approval by the Cabinet Secretary, this was also shared with the Tribal State Judicial Consortium, New Mexico Tribal ICWA workers, and the Tribal Local Behavioral Health Collaboratives. As of this date, we have not yet received any tribal feedback.
- **Juvenile Behavioral Health**
 - While juvenile upstream mapping is a different process than SIM mapping adults, AOC recognizes the imminent need for juvenile regions, mapping, and regional planning to address the many concerns throughout the state.
 - **Collaboration with CYFD (May 30, 2025):** The AOC met with the Children, Youth and Families Department (CYFD) to discuss approaches to juvenile Sequential Intercept Mapping (SIM) and explore collaborative strategies for quickly mapping and regional planning. AOC intends to work closely with CYFD to ensure a full continuum of care is considered in mapping and regional plan development. CYFD staff have committed to assisting and providing subject matter expertise throughout the entire process.
- **MOU with UNM Hospital:** The AOC is formalizing a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the University of New Mexico Hospital to support the completion of remaining regional SIM workshops and assist in facilitation of regional planning efforts.
- **Executive Meeting Scheduled:** The first BHRIA Executive Committee Meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, June 24, 2025, from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m., at the State Capitol, Room 322 (Senate Finance Committee Room).
- **Selection of Executive Committee Members:** The AOC has completed the selection of the three behavioral health experts who will serve on the Executive Committee as outlined in the BHRIA.

- Former state Senator Gerald “Jerry” Ortiz y Pino
 - Dr. Stacy Cox, of Silver City, is the chief executive officer of the Center for Health Innovation-New Mexico Public Health Institute
 - Dr. Violette Cloud - senior project associate with Policy Research Associates, Inc and Navajo Nation member
- **Scheduled SIM Mapping in June**
 - San Miguel, Guadalupe, and Mora County – June 10th -11th at the 4th Judicial District Courthouse
 - Los Alamos County – June 23rd - 24th Location TBD.
- **Behavioral Health Service Standards:** On May 30, 2025, the HCA provided the AOC with the following materials:
 - *Behavioral Health Service Standards*
 - *Appendix I – Behavioral Health Specialty Program Overview*
- **Evaluation Guidelines:** On May 30, 2025, the HCA, in collaboration with the LFC, submitted the following materials to the AOC:
 - *Evaluation Guidelines*
 - *Evaluation Guidelines Supplement*
 - *Appendix I – Sample Evaluation Form for BHSD-Funded Training*
 - *Attachment I – BHSD Metrics for Program Inventory*

We appreciate your continued support and engagement as we move forward in implementing this transformational legislation. Please don’t hesitate to reach out should you have questions or require additional information.

Sincerely,



Karl W. Reifsieck

Director

Administrative Office of the Courts

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