



Laguna Healthcare Corporation
2929 Coors Blvd. NW Suite 306A
Albuquerque, NM 87120

Date: October 22, 2025

To: Cibola County

Subject: Letter of Support – Region 13 Behavioral Health Collaborative Planning

Dear Cibola County Leadership,

On behalf of Laguna Healthcare Corporation (LHC), we are pleased to submit this Letter of Support for the Region 13 Behavioral Health Collaborative Planning process and to confirm our organization's willingness to participate in and support Cibola County as the lead coordinating entity for Region 13.

We recognize the importance of this collaborative effort across Cibola, Valencia, and Sandoval counties, including the tribal nations and pueblos within the region. We support Cibola County's role as the accountable entity under the State's Behavioral Health Reinvestment Initiative, which requires identifying a lead partner, convening a stakeholder group, and establishing five regional behavioral health priorities to guide funding and services.

LHC is eager to participate in this process, contribute insight from our experience in behavioral health and community engagement, and help shape a plan that ensures accessible, coordinated, and effective care. We understand Region 13 has the opportunity to access:

- \$45,000 in planning funds for regional convenings and needs assessments through the University of New Mexico's ESIM model, and
- Approximately \$2 million in immediate funds to address urgent behavioral health needs, including crisis care, residential treatment, MAT, and prenatal substance use disorder services.

While LHC fully supports Cibola County's leadership, our participation does not preclude pursuing direct funding or additional partnership opportunities.

We appreciate the opportunity to collaborate with Cibola County and regional partners and look forward to contributing to a shared vision for behavioral health in Region 13.

Sincerely,

Stephen McKernan

Stephen McKernan
Board Chairman
Laguna Healthcare Corporation
cgonzalez@lagunahealthcare.org

2025 10.22 Letter of Support Cibola County Health Council

Final Audit Report

2025-10-23

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