

Administrative Office of the Courts

Supreme Court of New Mexico

Karl W. Reifsteck, Director
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December 1, 2025

Senator George Munoz
Senator Linda Lopez
Senator Joseph Cervantes

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

Representative Nathan Small
Representative Liz Thomson
Representative Christine Chandler

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

via email

**Re: December 1, 2025 Monthly Update on Administrative Office of the Courts Activities
Related to – Behavioral Health Reform and Investment Act (BHRIA)**

Dear Senators, Representatives, Director Sallee, and Secretary Armijo,

AOC is required by the Behavioral Health Reform and Investment Act to provide monthly reports to the relevant interim committees and the HCA Secretary until January of 2026 at which time the required reporting reduces to quarterly. Due to the nature of the work and the importance of the next six months, AOC will continue to send monthly reports until the end of FY26.

As previously reported, each of the state's thirteen behavioral health regions is engaging in a multi-step planning process throughout FY26. This planning process will culminate in each region adopting a behavioral health plan identifying the region-specific state-funded priorities. Each region has an "Accountable Entity" identified to lead the planning process. This report contains the list of Accountable Entities, points of contact, scheduled Regional Planning Workshop dates, and focuses on recommendations to ensure behavioral health regions are successful.

Region	Accountable Entity*	Point of Contact	Workshop Dates	Notes
1st	Santa Fe County	Anne Ryan asryan@santafecountynm.gov	12/18/2025 - 12/19/2025	Santa Fe County BHRIA Website
2nd	Bernalillo County	Dr. Wayne Lindstrom W.Lindstrom@bernco.gov	Completed	BernCo BHRIA Website

3rd	Doña Ana County	Eugenia (Gina) Posada eugeniap@donana.gov	12/16/2025 (Adult) 2/24/2026 - 2/26/2026 (Youth)	
4th	Guadalupe County	JoAnn Velasquez gchc@plateautel.net	TBD	
5th	Eddy County	Debra Hampton dhamptom@co.eddy.nm.us	03/03/2026 - 03/05/2026	
6th	Luna County	Chris Bryce Ea.manager@lunacounty.nm.us	3/24/2026 - 3/26/2026	
7th	Socorro County	Jackie Muncy Jmuncy@socorroschools.org Daniel Monette D.Monette@co.socorro.nm.us	3/18/2026 - 3/20/2026	
8th	Taos County	Sylvia Barela Sylvia.barela@viativa.com	3/11/2026 - 3/13/2026	
9th	Curry County	Kristian Price kprice@currycountynm.gov Lance Pyle lpyle@currycountynm.gov	12/02/2025 - 12/04/2025	
10th	Eastern Plains Council of Governments	Celia Kirkland ckirkland@epcog.org	TBD	
11th	NW Council of Governments	Evan Williams ewilliams@nwnmcog.org	12/09/2025 - 12/11/2025	NWCOG BHRIA Website
12th	Lincoln County	Ross Coleman rcoleman@lincolncountynm.gov	01/14/2026 - 01/16/2026	
13th	Cibola County	Marcie Chavez Marcie@workwithzia.co	TBD	

*Accountable entities participate in a monthly learning collaborative hosted by [UNM's Technical Assistance Center](#) through Project Echo and UNM maintains an [updated list of resources](#) for stakeholders and the Accountable Entities.

Key Recommendations

As AOC continues to engage in its organizational responsibilities under BHRIA, we receive regular feedback from Accountable Entities and other community stakeholders. We offer the following observations and recommendations based on this feedback to support implementation and advance the Act's intended goals.

➤ Health Care Authority

- **Proactively provide non-Medicaid behavioral health deidentified utilization data** to all regions prior to Regional Plan development.
- **Clarify whether “Early Access Regional Plan Funding” reduces future allocations**, ensuring regions understand the true size of their eligible funding pool.

- **Share a clear overview of the Behavioral Health Assessment and Feasibility Study** and coordinate with Accountable Entities to align with the listening sessions regions are already conducting—avoiding duplicative or conflicting engagement.
- **Legislature**
 - **Provide targeted funding for each Behavioral Health Region**
 - Current expectations for data analysis, stakeholder engagement, and plan development exceed the administrative capacity of many regions.
 - Strategic investments in regional staffing, technical assistance, and data support will ensure all 13 Behavioral Health Regions can produce high-quality plans, effectively implement the plans, report to the Executive Committee and Legislature on their work, and continue to update the plans and receive ongoing appropriations.
- **The Executive Committee**
 - **Adopt a transparent funding formula with clear guardrails** to signal to regions:
 - The realistic level of funding available—for example, minimum and maximum funding thresholds for services based on regional readiness.
 - How many priorities can be meaningfully advanced within those parameters.
 - That major cuts can be avoided, because regions will tailor their plans to fit within defined expectations from the outset.
 - Consider placing one or more Accountable Entities on the next meeting agenda to report their progress and share their experiences to date with the planning process.
 - Discuss the process of identifying a permanent Government Entity – responsible for implementation, outcomes and reporting progress as required by the BHRIA.

Regional Planning Workshop Takeaways

Bernalillo County was the first region to complete their Regional Planning Workshop November 21-22 and focused on youth. Overall feedback was positive, over 80 people attended including representatives from Isleta Pueblo.

December Events

- Tribal Consultation 12/2/2025
- 3rd, 9th and 11th Regions will complete their Regional Planning Workshops

Please visit our [New Mexico Courts website](#) where interested parties can access agendas, meeting materials, completed SIM mapping, AOC's monthly reports, join our mailing list, and easily submit feedback/questions.