

Administrative Office of the Courts

Supreme Court of New Mexico

Karl W. Reifsteck, Director
Sarah Jacobs, Deputy Director



202 East Marcy Street
Santa Fe, NM 87501
(505) 827-4800

November 3, 2025

Senator George Munoz
Senator Linda Lopez
Senator Joseph Cervantes

Representative Nathan Small
Representative Liz Thomson
Representative Christine Chandler

Director Charles Sallee
Legislative Finance Committee
325 Don Gaspar Ste 101
Santa Fe, NM 87501

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

via email

**Re: November 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,

It has been four months since the Administrative Office of the Courts (AOC) began SB3 implementation efforts, and the focus remains on establishing the groundwork for sustainable, community-led behavioral health planning and the responsible investment of the Behavioral Health Trust Fund. We continue to prioritize direct engagement with regional, county, and tribal partners to strengthen shared understanding of the Behavioral Health Reform and Investment Act—its purpose, available funding pathways, and long-term goals for regional system improvement. The following report summarizes major activities and accomplishments over the past month and provides recommendations for consideration by the Executive Committee, the Health Care Authority (HCA), and the Legislature.

Key Activities and Progress

1. Regional Accountable Entities (AE) Identified

A funding announcement was issued by AOC to the 13 Behavioral Health Regions on August 19, 2025. Counties were directed to work together within their region to identify a government or quasi-government entity responsible for engaging with their local stakeholders to create a Regional Stakeholder Planning Committee and organize a Regional Planning Workshop. There are 13 Behavioral Health Regions and as of October 31, 2025, 11 Accountable Entities have been identified. AOC anticipates formally designating the remaining two regions prior to the end of November.

Each Accountable entity will receive \$60,000 from the AOC for the regional planning efforts.

See Attachment A for a list of Accountable Entities, Application Status and Regional Planning Workshop Dates.

2. Regional Planning Workshops Scheduled

Applications for designation as an Accountable Entity (AE) were due on September 30. Throughout October, the AOC worked to finalize Intergovernmental Agreements with each approved AE. Once designated within their respective Behavioral Health Region, many AEs promptly began scheduling their Regional Planning Workshops.

These two- to three-day workshops serve as the foundation for each region's planning process. During the sessions, participants conduct an Enhanced Sequential Intercept Model (E-SIM) mapping to analyze their local behavioral health systems and identify five key funding priorities.

Each AE is also responsible for convening a Regional Stakeholder Planning Committee, tasked with drafting the region's formal Behavioral Health Plan. The completed plans must be submitted to the Executive Committee for review and approval before June 30, 2026.

3. Statewide Engagement and Presentations

- Presented at the New Mexico Hospital Association Annual Conference, providing an overview of SB 3 implementation progress, regional planning milestones, and opportunities to strengthen hospital partnerships in behavioral health infrastructure.
- Presented to the Commission on Mental Health and Competency, sharing updates on the SB 3 regional planning process, coordination with counties and tribal partners, and upcoming workshop schedule.
- Delivered regional presentations to Local Collaborative 8 and Healthcare Region 4, highlighting planning strategies and next steps for regional engagement.

4. Local Collaborative and Regional Coordination

- Attended the Local Collaborative 2 monthly meeting, providing updates on regional behavioral health planning, upcoming workshop timelines, and strategies for ensuring broad community representation.
- Continued regular coordination with counties, regional leads, and local collaboratives to support application completion, data readiness, and workshop preparation.

5. Workshop and Application Progress

- AOC will provide direct technical assistance and logistical support to regions as they prepare for their workshops, ensuring readiness and consistency across all planning sessions.

6. Coordination with State and System Partners

- Maintained collaboration with HCA, the Children, Youth and Families Department, Department of Health and other interagency partners to align data resources, technical assistance, and workshop materials.
- Provided recommendations to HCA on the 'Early Access Funds'
- Worked with agency teams to refine regional data profiles, finalize workshop toolkits, and establish clear timelines for reporting and feedback collection.

Completed Next Steps from October 2025 Report

- ✓ Schedule Mapping Workshops – 9 Regional Planning Workshops Scheduled.
- ✓ Support Health Council and Local Collaborative engagement in the regional planning process and encourage collaboration with the Accountable Entities.
- ✓ Maintain ongoing coordination with tribal, county, and local partners to ensure inclusive representation in BHRIA planning.
- Release regional planning tools and guidance.

Next Steps

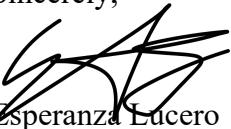
- Finalize scheduling for the remaining four regional workshops.
- Review and accept the final pending regional planning application.
- Begin facilitation of the first series of regional workshops and compile preliminary feedback and themes.
- Continue attending local and statewide stakeholder meetings to ensure coordination and transparency in the SB 3 planning process.
- Prepare a mid-phase progress summary for internal review and alignment with statewide behavioral health initiatives.

Recommendations

- **Executive Committee**
 - Adopt a funding formula and funding structure to inform regional planning efforts
- **Legislature**
 - Check in with your district's local leadership, health councils, or local collaboratives, offer to host an informational meeting, and emphasize the importance of collaborative nature of the work in order to access funding.

Please visit our [BHRIA 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.

Sincerely,



Esperanza Lucero

Behavioral Health Integration and Reform Administrator
Administrative Office of the Courts

ATTACHMENT A

Behavioral Health Region	Accountable Entity Identified	Application Status	Regional Planning Workshop Date	Notes
Region 1	Santa Fe County	Finalized	12/18/2025 – 12/19/2025	Letters of Support received from Pojoaque Pueblo, Nambé Pueblo, and San Ildefonso Pueblo
Region 2	Bernalillo County	Finalized	11/20/2025 - 11/21/2025	Letter of Support received from Pueblo of Isleta
Region 3	Doña Ana County	Finalized	Adult: 12/16/2025 Youth: 2/26/2026 - 2/27/2026	
Region 4	Guadalupe County	Finalized	TBD	
Region 5	Eddy County	Finalized	3/3/2026 - 3/5/2026	
Region 6	Luna County	Finalized	3/24/2026 - 3/26/2026	Letter of Support received from Fort Sill Apache Tribe
Region 7	Socorro County	Finalized	3/18/2026 - 3/20/2026	
Region 8	Taos County	Finalized	3/11/2026 - 3/13/2026	Letter of Support received from Taos Pueblo
Region 9	Curry County	Finalized	12/3/2025 - 12/5/2025	
Region 10	Eastern Plains Council of Governments*	-	TBD	
Region 11	NW NM Council of Governments	Finalized	12/9/2025 - 12/11/2025	Letter of Support received from Zuni Pueblo
Region 12	Lincoln County	Finalized	1/12/2026 - 1/14/2026	Letter of Support received from Mescalero Apache Tribe
Region 13	Cibola County	Partial	TBD	