

# Administrative Office of the Courts

Supreme Court of New Mexico

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January 12, 2026

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: January 2026 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,

This monthly report provides an update on the implementation of Senate Bill 3 (SB3), including progress toward regional behavioral health planning and implementation and the UNM BTAC Interim Report. Overall implementation during this reporting period is on track.

As of January 2026, five of thirteen workshops will be completed with all 13 workshop dates secured. Each accountable entity is working diligently on planning their workshops, engaging stakeholders, and conducting community listening sessions.

## Regional Milestone Tracking – SB3

Region	Workshop (Status)	Workshop Date	Listening Sessions	Regional Plan Submission (Status)
Region 1	Complete	12/18/2025 - 12/19/2025	Scheduled	Not Started-Pending UNM Report
Region 2	Complete	11/20/2025 - 11/21/2025	In Progress	In Progress
Region 3	Pending Youth E-SIM	2/26/2026 - 2/27/2026	Scheduled	Not Started-Pending UNM Report
Region 4	Scheduled	4/14/2026-4/16/2026	Scheduled	Not Started Pending E-SIM Workshop

Region 5	Scheduled	5/05/2026-5/07/2026	In Progress	Not Started Pending E-SIM Workshop
Region 6	Scheduled	3/24/2026 - 3/26/2026	In Progress	Not Started Pending E-SIM Workshop
Region 7	Scheduled	3/18/2026 - 3/20/2026	Scheduled	Not Started Pending E-SIM Workshop
Region 8	Scheduled	3/11/2026 - 3/13/2026	Scheduled	Not Started Pending E-SIM Workshop
Region 9	Complete	12/02/2025 - 12/04/2025	Complete	In Progress
Region 10	Scheduled	4/21/2026 - 4/23/2026	Not Started	Not Started Pending E-SIM Workshop
Region 11	Complete	12/18/2025 - 12/19/2035	Scheduled	Not Started-Pending UNM Report
Region 12	Scheduled	1/14/2026 - 1/16/2026	Scheduled	Not Started Pending E-SIM Workshop
Region 13	Scheduled	4/8/2026 – 4/10/2026	In Progress	Not Started Pending E-SIM Workshop

\*Visit the Alliance of Health Councils for more information and details on upcoming regional listening sessions-  
<https://www.nmhealthcouncils.org/publichealthevents>

## Workshop Priorities

	Priority Bucket 1:	Priority Bucket 2:	Priority Bucket 3:	Priority Bucket 4:	Priority Bucket 5:
Region 2 (Youth)	Prevention (Access, Engagement, School-Based Supports, Housing, Vocational)	Access to Appropriate Care/Crisis Response	System-Involved Youth (Diversion & Deflection)	Workforce Development & Sustainability	System Reform / Integration / Alignment
Region 9	Crisis, Acute, & Higher-Level Care Infrastructure	Housing & Homeless Services	Community-Based Programs for Youth and Adults	Workforce Development	Youth Prevention Programs & Mentorship
Region 11	Housing, Shelter and Transportation	Diversion, Specialty Courts and Justice System Improvements	Coordination and System Integration	Access and Infrastructure for Behavioral Health Services	Prevention, Community and Cultural Support
Region 1	Workforce and Pipeline Development	Access and Capacity	Prevention, Cultural and Community Spaces	Schools and School Based Supports	Family and Caregiver Support

## **January Events**

- Behavioral Health Executive Committee Meeting – January 20, 2026 (hybrid)
- Region 12's Regional Planning Workshops – January 14-16, 2026 Ruidoso, NM.

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.

**UNM Behavioral Health Technical Assistance Center (UNM BHTAC)**  
**Year 1**  
**Interim report**  
**July 1, 2025 – December 31, 2025**

The Behavioral Health Reform and Investment Act (BHRIA), also known as Senate Bill 3 (SB3), was signed into law on February 27, 2025. This new legislation takes major steps to strengthen and rebuild New Mexico's behavioral health system, including the management of behavioral health and substance use services across 13 counties. The BHRIA focuses on building capacity and regional infrastructure to ensure that community voice and need inform regional behavioral health care. Each region is tasked with identifying up to five behavioral health priorities and request funding to implement a four-year plan. This new structure incorporates all three branches of government and brings stakeholders together, in a variety of ways, to strengthen the state's behavioral health care service system.

UNM HSC has brought together the expertise and experience of faculty, students, and staff to create the **Behavioral Health Technical Assistance Center (BHTAC)** to provide seamless support and technical assistance for the planning and implementation of the BHRIA.

**Deliverables BHTAC Has Already Met During Its First Six Months**

The BHTAC has met the following deliverables as defined in the Memorandum of Understanding between the Administrative Office of the Courts, the New Mexico Healthcare Authority and the UNM Health Sciences Center:

- a. Provide behavioral health expertise and consultation to the AOC and HCA as reasonably requested and within the scope of the BHRIA.**

The BHTAC meets with the AOC and HCA on a weekly basis, sometimes more frequently, to achieve this goal. Examples of behavioral health expertise and consultation include the development of multiple potential funding models related to the legislation based on region's population size, percentage of underserved communities, and other factors; assistance with designing a user-friendly format for regions to create and submit their behavioral health plans; and development of E-SIM participant prep materials including a video explaining the interaction between the youth behavioral health and criminal justice systems, as well as multiple templates for E-SIM Workshop agendas, notetaking, and meeting structure and format, as well as scripts to ensure consistency across regional workshops. BHTAC has also created participant packets that include agendas, region-specific data snapshots, an acronym guide, E-SIM models (adapted for New Mexico), and a notetaking sheet for documenting information across each intercept.

- b. Provide a preliminary analysis and timeline for sequential intercept mapping and regional planning by June 30, 2025.**

BHTAC completed research on the sequential intercept model and expanded the model for New Mexico to include prevention services prior to intercepting with the criminal justice system. All 13 regional workshops have been scheduled, with three completed to date, and two more occurring before the end of the 2025. BHTAC meets with each regional accountable entity to plan the workshops and coordinate efforts.

c. **Develop and finalize a SIM mapping template that includes both adults and youth under the age of 18 by August 1, 2025.**

UNM BHTAC worked with the AOC and HCA to adapt the SIM model to better reflect stakeholder concerns and augment each region's capacity to build its behavioral health system infrastructure, resulting in the Enhanced Sequential Intercept Model (E-SIM). The E-SIM is expanded to include a pre-intercept focused on prevention, intercepts that align with the youth system because the traditional SIM only aligns with the adult system, and an added focus on public health.

d. **Provide support to the mapping and regional planning efforts with meeting facilitation and communications and coordination of the regional meetings.**

As of 12/15/25, the BHTAC has met with Regions 2, 9, 11, 3, 1 and 12 to meet this goal. By 12/31/25, the BHTAC will have completed 5 workshops and provided 2 E-SIM Mapping and Prioritization workshop draft reports to the regions. These reports are due 14 business days after the workshops, hence some will be available to regions after the winter holiday season.

e. **Develop an approach to reviewing and refreshing an existing SIM, gap analysis, and regional plans by local communities and behavioral health regions by August 31, 2025.**

BHTAC developed an approach to review and refresh existing SIMs, gap analyses, and regional plans such that regions can include all relevant data in their Regional Plans.

f. **Prior to SIM mapping, develop and distribute 13 regional “snapshot” reports of behavioral health Medicaid and general fund service utilization to include:**

- i. Local utilization of peer support workers;
- ii. Overall behavioral health service system coordination across regions;
- iii. Intensive outpatient services;
- iv. Crisis response;
- v. Emergency department utilization;
- vi. Inpatient services;
- vii. Community-based competency restoration; and
- viii. Such other services as reasonably requested by AOC or the HCA within the scope of the BHRIA.

Medicaid “snapshots” for each region have been completed and BHTAC has distributed snapshots to Regions 2, 9, 11, 3, and 1 for their upcoming Workshops. The main template for these snapshots is consistent across regions. The BHTAC will post the snapshots, along with the region-approved E-SIM reports on its website. In addition, the BHTAC has developed a mortality and demographic data handouts with specific regional data vs. NM data for each workshop. These are sent to each region prior to its workshop and included in the regional workshop participant packets.

g. **Provide an interim status report on assigned activities by December 15, 2025 and a final report by June 30, 2026 to the AOC and HCA.**

In process; this document serves as the interim status report.

**h. Develop and deliver trainings in consultation with HCA to recipients defined by HCA.**

**i. Ten Trainings on Evidence-Based Practices related to SUD, such as Integrated Dual Disorder Treatment, Twelve Step Facilitation, Matrix Model to be developed and/or implemented in collaboration with HCA/ Behavioral Health Services Division (BHSD)**

In process: BHTAC's partner, the Center on Alcohol, Substance use, and Addictions (CASAA), has met with HCA and outlined the topics and dates for these workshops to be completed by 6/30/26.

**ii. Consultation and support with fidelity assessment for Assertive Community Treatment, Forensic Assertive Community Treatment, and Assisted Outpatient Treatment**

The BHTAC forensic psychology team provided ongoing expert consultation related to Assisted Outpatient Treatment evaluation and competency exams. The BHTAC forensic psychology team has identified evidence based screening instruments that can be used for risk stratification and eligibility for Forensic Assertive Community Treatment. The team also developed a two-day training on the Foundations of Assertive Community Treatment which can be used statewide to orient new ACT teams and new ACT staff. The team is also working closely with the HCA ACT team coordinator to develop a strategy for site visits and ACT fidelity assessments.

**iii. Training & consultation on implementation of outpatient competency restoration**

The BHTAC forensic psychology team identified elements of an outpatient competency restoration program that can be piloted in Bernalillo County and can serve as a model for other regions across the state. The forensic psychology team has also presented information to the Legislative Health and Human Services Committee on potential adaptations to competency assessments to support transition to competency restoration efforts.

## **BHTAC Partners for Year 1**

The Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences, Division of Community Behavioral Health (CBH) is the lead coordinator for the Center. In Year 1, our partners at UNM each have important roles related to delivering services to further implementation of the BHRIA. Collectively, CBH and the following partners form the BHTAC:

- Center on Alcohol, Substance use, And Addictions (CASAA): CASAA is tasked with providing 10 trainings on evidence-based practices related to substance use disorders, such as Integrated Dual Disorder Treatment, Twelve Step Facilitation, Matrix Model. These trainings are to be developed and/or implemented in collaboration with HCA/ BHSD
- Office for Community Health (OCH): OCH is tasked with Providing additional facilitators and notetakers for the Enhanced Sequential Intercept Mapping (E-SIM) and Prioritization

Workshops. OCH HEROs will also assist in identifying and engaging community stakeholders throughout the planning, execution, and completion of the workshops.

- UNM Center for Health Policy: Tasked with providing 13 regional snapshots on behavioral health Medicaid and general fund service utilization data.

UNM BHTAC has also collaborated with Project ECHO to organize and stand up learning collaboratives focused on planning support for the 13 regions involved in this behavioral health planning process. The BHTAC assisted in recruiting some members for this initiative's hub team. The BHTAC senior program manager attends the bi-weekly learning collaborative meetings to ensure alignment across UNM HSC and, with an eye to future efforts, by learning more about the challenges and concerns the regions face in developing their behavioral health plans.

Project ECHO also provided space and on-site AV assistance for the BHRIA Kickoff Regional Planning Meeting (7/11/25) and for an E-SIM Mapping and Prioritization Facilitator/Notetaker training with OCH partners.

## **Selected Details Relating to Deliverables**

### **The Legislatively-Mandated SIM Workshops**

During its first year, the UNM BHTAC's main responsibility is to organize and facilitate E-SIM and Prioritization Workshops in each of the 13 behavioral health regions established by the BHRIA Executive Committee during its first meeting (6/24/25). The SIM was specified in the legislation as a required initial framework to facilitate stakeholder input into regional behavioral health plans. The SIM was developed for the adult population with six intercepts where people with serious mental illness, substance use challenges, or serious emotional disturbances interact with the justice system or penetrating further into that system.

### **BHTAC's Responsiveness to Public Input**

Extensive public response to the SIM at the BHRIA Executive Committee meetings as well as other venues, made it clear that the model needed to be adapted for New Mexico's needs. Based on that input, the UNM BHTAC worked with the AOC and HCA to better reflect stakeholder concerns and augment each region's capacity to build its behavioral health system infrastructure, resulting in the development of the Enhanced SIM (E-SIM).

The E-SIM includes:

- The Addition of a Pre-Intercept: Community Prevention Services
  - Not all individuals with mental illness (MI) and/or substance use disorders (SUD) encounter the justice system. Therefore, when mapping services within the community, it is important to assess the availability and gaps related to Community Prevention Services. The Pre-Intercept was added to identify services and gaps related to prevention, aimed at supporting individuals who may never have justice system involvement.
- The Addition of a Process to Support Mapping of the Youth System

- It is essential to understand the availability of and gaps in services for youth who are at risk or living with MI and/or SUDs. Mapping these services helps ensure early identification and support. It also meets the legislative requirement that regional behavioral health plans focus across the lifespan. Thus, intercepts were developed to address the youth service delivery system.
- A Focus on Prevention and Early Intervention
  - Using a public health framework, the E-SIM focuses on improving the health and well-being of all New Mexicans by identifying opportunities and gaps for intervention that could prevent initial involvement or deeper penetration into the healthcare or justice system.

The primary goal of the E-SIM Mapping and Prioritization Workshops is to take a systems approach, using a specific framework (E-SIM), to inform regional behavioral health planning. It is not the only way that regions will gain community input, as regions are also conducting listening sessions and surveys for diverse stakeholder groups. Collectively, this information will help in the development, writing, and submission of regional behavioral health plans.

The UNM BHTAC has actively followed AOC and HCA guidance in developing and planning these workshops. The legislation emphasizes that the regions should lead the process in their own geographic areas. In order to respect and honor this approach, the UNM BHTAC works with each region individually to meet that region's goals for the workshop, assist with logistics including scheduling dates and location, and aid with other organizational matters to ensure successful and meaningful events.

The UNM BHTAC teams conducting these workshops include faculty, faculty clinicians, highly trained staff, and students from the Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences' Division of Community Behavioral Health and the UNM Office of Community Health.

### **Planning, Scheduling, and Conducting the E-SIM Mapping and Prioritization Workshops**

There has been tremendous variability in the capacity for different regions to organize and schedule their E-SIM Mapping and Prioritization Workshops. The UNM BHTAC role, in concert with the AOC and HCA, is to assist this process while always honoring each region's expectation and desire to shape the event. This includes:

- Developing individualized agendas since some regions want:
  - to start at 9 am while others start at 8 am
  - to have 2-day or 3-day events
  - to focus more on particular intercepts or populations
  - to include dignitaries/speakers from their communities
  - to present their own research or other information

The UNM BHTAC has met these different approaches as well as the many last-minute changes that regions request up to, and during, the actual days of the workshops.

Regional workshops conducted prior to 12/31/25

- Region 2 (youth) 11/20-21/2025 Albuquerque, NM
- Region 9 (youth/adult) 12/2-4/2025 Clovis, NM

- Region 11 (youth/adult) 12/9-11/2025 Gallup, NM
- Region 3 (adult) 12/16/2025 Las Cruces, NM  
(1/2 day adult, pre-intercept/intercept 0)
- Region 1 12/18-19/2025 Santa Fe, NM

#### Upcoming scheduled workshops

- Region 12 1/14-16/2026 Mescalero, NM
- Region 3 2/26-27/2026 Las Cruces, NM
- Region 5 3/3-5/2026 Carlsbad, NM
- Region 8 3/11-13/2026 Location TBD
- Region 7 3/18-20/2026 Location TBD
- Region 6 3/24-26/2026 Deming, NM
- Region 13 4/8-4/10/2026 Location TBD
- Region 4 4/14-16/2026 Santa Rosa, NM
- Region 10 4/21-4/23/2026 Location TBD

#### Continuous Quality Improvement

The UNM BHTAC strives to continually learn using input from its state partners, regions, and workshop participants, collected informally and through an evaluation survey provided at each event. This has resulted in numerous improvements to the framework for the workshop agendas, BHTAC processes during the workshops, and development of documents for presentation or distribution in participant packets. The same can be said for preparing the BHTAC teams for their work on-site around the state. For example, during its first six months the BHTAC has:

- Developed and honed E-SIM and Prioritization processes to ensure usefulness of information collected
- Designed notetaking and other templates
- Designed formal protocols and other processes for facilitators, notetakers and scribes
- Created a training manual for facilitators/notetakers

#### Medicaid snapshots

The BHTAC CBH data team partnered with the College of Population Health's Center for Health Policy to develop comprehensive Medicaid Snapshots. The Center for Health Policy analyzed Medicaid claims data to develop useful information for individualized regional planning while also ensuring that the data was clear and easily understood. The result is a consistent set of metrics for all of the snapshots that is available in a Prezi format for engaging live presentations at the workshops; a Power Point format if the Prezi doesn't work due to internet connectivity issues (which can pose a problem either due to the rural nature of some sites or the firewalls at some government locations); and as a pdf included in all participant packets. The Center for Health Policy and the BHTAC CBH data team worked together to respond to requests from HCA and AOC to identify options for funding formulas and publicly available datasets for consideration.

#### E-SIM Mapping and Prioritization Reports (E-SIM Report)

BHTAC is on track to meet the deadline of 14 business days post-workshop to complete and distribute a unique regional *E-SIM and Prioritization Workshop Report* to each region for edits/approval. Rather than the 60+ page reports often associated with these workshops, the state requested that the BHTAC reports be more succinct with relevant information easily accessible to aid in the regional planning process. To meet this request, BHTAC developed a template with a narrative that is substantially shorter and more reader friendly. In addition, the BHTAC is maintaining a dossier of all the notes and other ancillary documents related to each workshop, for distribution to regions as requested.

## **BHTAC Activity Highlights During the First Six Months**

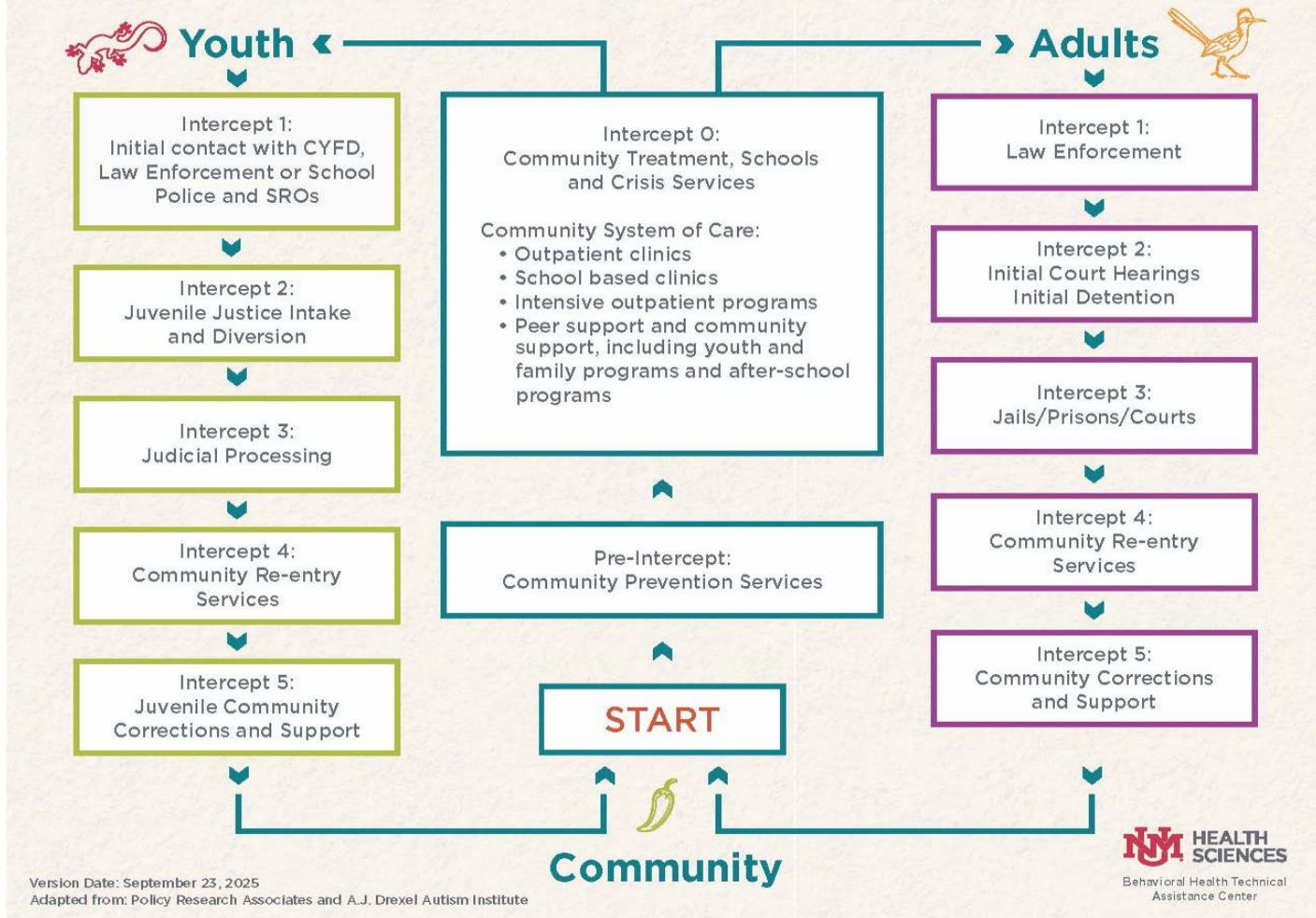
The BHTAC has:

- Prepared draft of Behavioral Health Standards
- Prepared draft of Evaluation Guidelines
- Attended weekly meetings with AOC, HCA, Dept of Corrections, Project ECHO, and CYFD to ensure transparent and rapid communication and to align efforts related to SB3 implementation
- Organized and attended bi-weekly UNM leadership meetings to support alignment of resources across the institution
- Signed MOUs with the Office of Community Health, CASAA, and AOC-HCA to ensure collaboration and coordination
- Developed BHTAC infrastructure and teams for maximum responsiveness and flexibility to meet state and regional requests
- Developed and adapted original SIM model for New Mexico BHRIA efforts: E-SIM and the model into Spanish for use with bilingual and/or monolingual stakeholders
- Facilitated, organized content, and provided multiple presentations, in partnership with AOC, HCA, and Project ECHO, for the BHRIA Kickoff Regional Planning Meeting at Project ECHO on July 11,2025
- Created and implemented two E-SIM Mapping and Prioritization Workshop facilitator/notetaker trainings
  - Pilot training on 8/22 (16 attendees)
  - Conducted second training with entire team and state partners on 9/12 (approx.40 attendees; ECHO, HCA, AOC, NM Leg., OCH, UNM CBH)
- Redesigned the prioritization process in response to state and participant input to ensure effectiveness
- Developed multiple E-SIM Mapping and Prioritization workshop agendas, in partnership with regions, to facilitate planning with individual regions
- Developed templates for consistent notetaking during the E-SIM Mapping and Prioritization activities
- Developed multiple documents for participant packets (packets produced are region-specific and numerous: before 12/31/25 will have exceeded 300 packets distributed)
- Developed, maintained, and updated UNM BHTAC website
- Developed participant pre-work materials for workshops in English and Spanish
- Developed UNM BHTAC dashboard and draft integrated timeline for internal, as well as, state deadlines related to SB3 implementation
- Collaborated with HCA data team to create format for provider directory that aligns with Behavioral Health Standards, state system of care and data tracking tools
- Conducted internal weekly meetings of CBH team (added OCH facilitator/notetakers in October, 2025 for bi-weekly meetings)
- UNM BHTAC representatives attended all BHRIA Executive Committee meetings

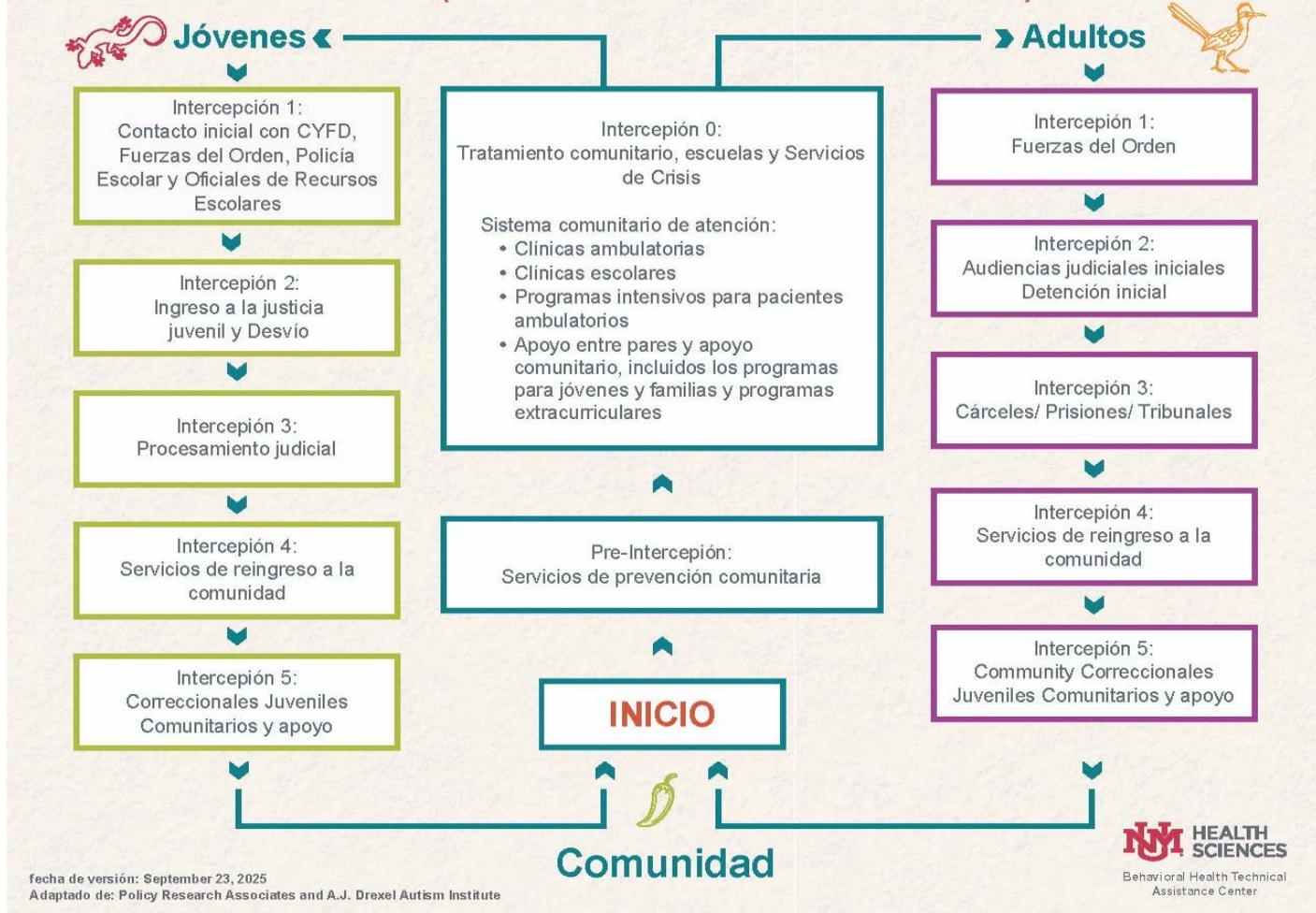
- presented E-SIM template 8/5/25
- presented E-SIM workshop process 9/30/25
- will be presenting progress to date on 1/20/26
- Attended AOC mini-planning grant webinars with potential regional accountable entities: 8/29/25 and 9/3/25
- Responded to community and regional questions related to E-SIM mapping and Prioritization workshops and process for regional planning
- Organized E-SIM and Prioritization Workshops based on multiple meetings with individual regional accountable entities
- Developed region-specific Medicaid “snapshots”
- Developed a Regional Plan Template
- Developed of multiple models for regional funding formulas for consideration by HCA
- Attended regional mini-grant webinars related to developing mechanisms for regional planning
- Attended regional listening sessions when scheduled

Thus, with six months into the process, BHTAC is fully prepared to facilitate workshops, has completed all deliverables to date, and has scheduled all workshops such that all regions will have time to complete their planning process prior to the June 30, 2026 deadline.

## New Mexico Enhanced Sequential Intercept Model (E-SIM)



## MODELO DE INTERCEPCIÓN SECUENCIAL MEJORADO DE NUEVO MÉXICO (E-SIM POR SUS SIGLAS EN INGLÉS)



fecha de versión: September 23, 2025

Adaptado de: Policy Research Associates and A.J. Drexel Autism Institute

**NM** HEALTH SCIENCES  
Behavioral Health Technical Assistance Center