

# BEHAVIORAL HEALTH INITIATIVE

*Improving outcomes  
in our community*

Filling the Gaps in the ABQ/BC  
Behavioral Health System  
Continuum



# BUILDING THE SYSTEM

- IDENTIFIED NEEDS, GAPS & LINKAGES
  - Considered Studies Back to 2002
  - 2014 Creating Community Solutions
  - 2014 City/County Task Force
  - 2015 CPI Report
- IDENTIFIED PRIORITY POPULATION
  - High utilizers of the system

*Those who experience frequent mental health related emergency room visits in a 12-month period and/or have experienced frequent encounters with law enforcement and the criminal justice system.*



# **BHI LEVERAGES RESOURCES**



**NAVIGATING SYSTEM IMPROVEMENTS  
AND LINKING SERVICE ENHANCEMENTS**

# APPROACH

- COLLABORATION
  - Bernalillo County
  - City of Albuquerque
  - University of NM Hospital
  - Community Partners
- FOCUS ON IDENTIFIED 4 PRIORITY AREAS
  - Supportive Housing
  - Crisis Services
  - Community Supports
  - Prevention, Intervention and Harm Reduction



## Committee Goal:

*Improve response to an individual in behavioral health crisis and link them to appropriate stabilization and recovery services while minimizing involvement with the criminal justice system.*





## How

- *Insure individuals and families experiencing a behavioral health crisis can access immediate care.*
- *Reduce use of hospital emergency rooms for behavioral health crisis.*
- *Divert individuals who experience a behavioral health crisis from incarceration to appropriate treatment.*

# Existing Crisis Services

- **Crisis Call Center:** *New Mexico Crisis and Access Line*
  - Bernalillo County Emergency Communications currently collaborating with NMCAL to route appropriate calls.
  - Bernalillo County Fire and Bernalillo County Sheriffs Departments connecting community members on scene with NMCAL and providing resources to those in need.
  - Department of Addiction Treatment Services currently connecting appropriate clients with NMCAL in addition to existing protocols.
  - COA Emergency Communications currently exploring NMCAL Collaboration and referral.
- **Crisis Intervention Units:** *APD and BCSO*
  - Crisis Intervention Training
- **Mental Health First Aid**



## PROJECTS

APPROVED TO DATE

- ***Mobile Crisis Teams***

- Clinician/ Law Enforcement Model
- APD/ BCSO/ DPS

- ***Transition Planning, Resource and Re-entry Center***

- Transition planning begins at MDC following clients through release
- Creates a front door into a network of services





## PROJECTS

### IN REVIEW

- **Crisis Respite Services/ Intermediate Levels of Care**
  - *Step down services for individuals who need continued behavioral health stabilization*

### PROPOSED

- **Crisis Stabilization Center**
  - *Request for Information*





## OUTCOMES

### ○ SHORT-TERM

- Connect community with most appropriate crisis intervention resource for immediate care
- Provide resources for clients and family

### ○ LONG-TERM

- Increased utilization of non-crisis resources
- Increased referral and connectivity to behavioral health continuum and services
- Reduced Involvement with the Criminal Justice System
- Reduced Reliance on Emergency Medical and Behavioral Health Services



**Questions?**