



Promising Programs

Improving Public Safety & Fostering Economic Development by Addressing Behavioral Health Needs

Behavioral Health Workshop Block I
Santa Fe Community Convention Center
January 16, 2019

San Miguel County Detention Reintegration Pilot Program

In May of 2018, San Miguel County was awarded a 12-month grant to implement an evidence-based Medication Assisted Treatment (MAT) pilot project. The program was developed to provide treatment of eligible individuals incarcerated within San Miguel County Detention Center continuing into the community, post release, through the San Miguel County Detention Center Medication Assisted Treatment (SMCDCMAT) program. Increasing the likelihood of successful recovery while decreasing the likelihood of recidivism was a priority in the planning process. The SMCDCMAT program addresses the needs of inmates with opiate use disorders by initiating treatment to commence naltrexone upon release for enrolled individuals transitioning to the community while developing an inmate's cognitive, behavioral, social, and vocational skills as well as other abilities to address the cause of substance use and related problems. The program was made possible through a grant from the Behavioral Health Services division of the New Mexico Human Services Department in conjunction with Falling Colors Corporation and the Administrative Services Organization of the New Mexico Behavioral Health Purchasing Collaborative.

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McKinley County Adult Detention Center Jail Treatment Program

The McKinley County Adult Detention Center offers a 28-day drug and alcohol/drug treatment program for inmates who struggle with drug and/or alcohol/drug abuse and have been sentenced for at least 30 days. The program is designed to treat substance use and substance induced disorders in a safe, structured, and caring environment. Our program integrates physical, mental, and spiritual health along with social support.

The In-Custody, Drug and Alcohol Treatment Program is based on the Evidence-Based 12-Step Facilitation Model proven to be effective for this type of intervention and is recognized by the National Institute on Drug Abuse as a comprehensive treatment program that uses a scientifically based approach. The program supports long-term recovery, CBT, Community Reinforcement, MET, and Contingency Management along with Systems Treatment using the Project Match Model. Our staff consists of a program manager, case manager, peer support worker, BSW intern, LSAA, two corrections officers, two masters of counseling interns, and two masters of social work interns.

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Behavioral Health Continuum of Care

Moving from a Culture of Despair to a Community of Hope

The Middle Rio Grande Economic Development Association (MRGEDA) has been concerned about the impact of substance abuse on the workforce and economic development for the region. The MRGEDA HealthCare Committee (HCC) is leading a four-county initiative to develop the behavioral health resources needed to address this challenge. The project brings together Catron, Sierra, Socorro, and Valencia Counties. This project, in early development, engages a core group of deeply committed community leaders across the region. HCC brings together behavioral health providers, county managers, law enforcement, schools, faith communities, community health councils, and other groups to work together to identify needs and service gaps, develop strategies, and implement solutions. The HCC chair is Sharon Finarelli; MRGEDA executive director is Kirsten Keller and MRGEDA chair is Sierra County Manager Bruce Swingle.

Needs and services gaps include: (1) lack of access to help for crisis situations; (2) too few services and resources; (3) high rates of substance abuse; (4) overuse of hospital emergency rooms; (5) too many people with behavioral health needs in jail with a high cost to county budgets; and (6) limited job opportunities and high poverty.

An asset-based approach is helping to build a community of hope by tapping into the considerable talents, assets, and passion of the many stakeholders involved in this initiative. Priorities for HCC's work include: (1) crisis response and stabilization; (2) more types of services and providers; (3) medication assisted treatment (MAT); (4) reducing overutilization of hospital ERs; (5) jail diversion and alternative sentencing; and (6) workforce development.

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