



THE UNIVERSITY OF  
NEW MEXICO



## Homeless Coordinating Council

### Virtual Meeting Via Zoom Video Conference

Tuesday, September 15, 2022, 10:00am-11:30am

Chair, Dr. Douglas Ziedonis, The University of New Mexico  
Vice Chair, Robert McKenrick, VA New Mexico Health Care System

Commissioner Debbie O'Malley, Bernalillo County  
County Manager Julie Morgas Baca, Bernalillo County  
President Garnett S. Stokes, The University of New Mexico  
Mayor Tim Keller, City of Albuquerque  
Councilor Pat Davis, City of Albuquerque  
Councilor Isaac Benton, City of Albuquerque

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#### Zoom Information:

Please click the link below to join the webinar:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85239198113?pwd=R0ZZUmUyRG1ZeTFHdXJJTFp5a3pFZz09> **Passcode:** 375460

**Or iPhone one-tap:** US: +13462487799,,85239198113#,,,,\*375460#

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#### Minutes

**1) Call to Order**

Dr. Doug Ziedonis, UNM, called the meeting to order at 10:04a.m.

**2) Approve the September 13, 2022, HCC Meeting Agenda**

No modifications to the agenda.

**3) Introductions and Announcements**

A. Introductions/Designees

Robert McKenrick, Director of New Mexico VA Health Care System, introduced as Vice Chair for the Homeless Coordinating Council – unable to attend

Jill Turner, Assistant Chief, Social Work Service of VA, introduced as the VA New Mexico Health Care representative, introduced by Chair Ziedonis as alternate for Robert McKenrick

**4) Approval of the August 9, 2022 HCC Meeting Minutes**

Carol Pierce: asked for corrections and clarification of contents since she was not at the last meeting

Debbie O'Malley suggested moving the approval of minutes to later in the meeting or at the next meeting

Julie Anne Baca: County reflects minutes verbatim on public comment, it was a short meeting and will review and make changes as necessary; will bring them forward at next meeting, will work with UNM to establish standard for minutes

**5) Public Comment:** See below instructions for submitting written comments and signing up to provide live comments.

Allen Crosby: Thank you for having me. I am ecstatic to be here, I understand I have a minute and a half approximately. And you guys can let me know if I am barking up the wrong tree here or you guys can guide in where to go. I want to be a voice for the voiceless. As I was homeless for 5.5 years, I will tell you the most difficult part of this was that there was no where I was allowed to be legally. I could not be on the sidewalk, that was illegal, that's city property. I could not be on the street, that was illegal, that's state property. I could not be under the bridge, that was county property. There was nowhere that I could be legally. That makes being homeless illegal by the state. I understand you guys don't make the laws and everything. Um, as it is written we shall not make laws to oppress the poor. Now the homeless that were in Coronado park, I noticed they just closed that down. That was a great start. They had a place to stay, a place to lie down, a place to eat, but that even got taken away from them. So now they are again illegal, where ever they are. They're on the street illegally. We have homes, we have cars, we have money they don't have these things. It says for what you do for the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you do for me, sayeth the lord. But if you guys you can give me any more information on how to help or where to go with this, I would greatly appreciate it. Thank you for your time.

Doug Ziedonis in response: Thank you Allen for your comments, very important. I think we will, there are probably committees and other context where your voice could be heard, would be important to do so.

Debbie O'Malley in response: Allen would you please feel free to contact my office. Get on the web, click where my district is and I would like to talk to you further, I am concerned as well.

Allen Crosby asked: How do I get on.

Debbie O'Malley in response: If you get on Bernco.gov, under commissioners and under my name or district. There is contact information and you can contact me.

Brenna Hendricks: I apologize if this is not the right community to ask this to. I grew up in New Mexico I am from Albuquerque, I grew up here. I have seen this issue affect communities and families. I was just curious if the City would ever consider making urban camping illegal? Considering how unsafe it is for homeless population and the communities that the urban campers are moving into, I've seen in my own neighborhood stores get groups of people walk out with merchandise and also the ones living and sleeping on the side of the stores. Also, my kids have seen very unsightly things driving through neighborhoods and I have to explain to them what is happening on the side of the road and do my best to explain that. It is something I was curious about. Its super unsafe for people to urban camp. It's super unsafe. It makes the public spaces that people pay taxes for, it makes them unsafe to go to.

Doug Ziedonis response: Thank you for that comment. Your voice I am sure represents some people's views, so thank you for sharing. I don't know if anybody wants to make a comment to that or we'll note it for our minutes.

Debbie O'Malley response: Mr. Chair, I am happy to make a comment to that. I am very supportive of something called safe outdoor spaces. I've been very clear about it. I've been very public about it. I just want to make that clear and I know a lot of people feel the same way, obviously there are some people that don't.

Carol Pierce response: I just wanted to add in addition to safe outdoor spaces, we do have an encampment policy and it is not allowed to have encampments on sidewalks, or on private property. There's very distinct places where people are not supposed to be erecting structures. So a lot of outreach work is being done by city and the county to makes sure people can be in safe locations. So, while it is not called a ban on urban camping. Tehre are really places where people cannot erect structures that's safe outdoor spaces is one way to address that, where people really can be in safe places.

Doug Ziedonis recognize: Connie Vigil's comment in chat regarding RFA from Bryce Pettinger

## 6) Discussion/Updates/Presentations

### A. Community Solutions Presentation – Rosanne Haggerty, CO of Community Solutions; Mandy Tetzlaff

- Built for Zero – designed to be a container for collective action, collective results
- Initiative – working nationally and internationally; drive to functionally zero homeless, to collaboration with Bernalillo county
- 15-minute power point presentation
- Q&A

### B. HCC Retreat

Doug Ziedonis opened discussion on retreat and requested input for retreat regarding the length of time such as full day and half day, structure or process of how the day would go, dialogue would be better than informational presentations

Adriann Barboa response: full day, 5-6 hours, workshop space, mapping of services overview and include resources

Carol Pierce response: purpose how we are coming together to address unhoused in community, could build upon what have we learned, don't want to start from scratch, discuss what we have done, how do we build from was learned from the past to work through issues

Debbie O'Malley response: asked about how long the council has been around, 3-4hrs, what can do about getting more housing which is critical, we have lack of affordable housing, very little transitional housing, have been talking about pushing it forward and would like to see where we are and what are we working towards, what place are we moving forward it has to be from compassion, would really like to see what it is we are going to be doing

Doug Ziedonis: will have our office to send out a survey to everyone to build on what we just heard, will have pragmatic questions including length, aim for a day, strategies on forward thinking, both on current state and how to move forward, consider community solutions model, will have time to meet and create solutions, appreciate having VA partners included

### C. Housing Crisis in Albuquerque

Doug Ziedonis: introduced staff on behalf of Ike Benton (inaudible) - Elizabeth Othmer & Gray Dechellie

Elizabeth Othmer: Stansbury staffer, supportive of Built for Zero

### D. Committee Updates

- Housing  
Lisa Huval response: continue to meet quarterly, continue to use high impact strategy from Community framework document  
Carol Pierce added: think our retreat needs to build around high impact strategy, consider as a basis for the retreat
- Coordinated Street Outreach  
Lisa Huval response: no longer meeting, take off standing  
Adriann Barboa response: First Nations hired coordinator  
Carol Pierce response: Randy John hired at First Nations to coordinate activity, contracted by City, high impact strategy
- Youth Housing Continuum  
Carol Pierce response: youth shelter was identified and needs assessment done, hired Quinn Donai, 2 years to get this going, have team working on this from family community along with city council
- Gateway Facilities
  1. Gibson Health Hub and Gateway at Gibson Updates  
Cristina Parajon response: committee is no longer meeting; introduced Janice Chino-Acton, community outreach coordinator & Julia Jurado, West Side Emergency Shelter, fully staffed; Gateway updates include still planning in February to opening overnight beds, first responder drop off and engagement center, and the Sobering Center, July of 2023 hopefully will be completed

Carol Pierce added: grateful that county has interest in west-side, appreciate first responder drop off w/UNM

Doug Ziedonis: UNM has interest in VA partnership with space and Art Kaufman's group

- Homeless Service System

Cristina Parajon responded: committee is also stopped meeting; Acton & Jurado introduction

Doug Ziedonis mentioned the Research committee

- Multi-Governmental Legislation

Update provided by County Manager Morgas Baca have been meeting

Criminal Justice Coordinating Council have been inviting legislators and they really appreciate it, they want to help

Adriann Barboa announced: Fentanyl Summit – Oct. 13 at the Convention Center, community forum, full day summit

Doug Ziedonis announced: Health Equity Summit – 1<sup>st</sup> Annual, registration still open, send email to Doug Ziedonis or Cindy Mason for registration help

**7) Announcement of the next HCC Meeting**

A. Tuesday, October 11, 2022 10:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.

**8) Adjourn Meeting** adjourned at 11:25am