

1 A MEMORIAL

2 REQUESTING THE NEW MEXICO COALITION AGAINST DOMESTIC VIOLENCE
3 TO STUDY THE FEASIBILITY OF THE CREATION OF TWO PILOT
4 DOMESTIC VIOLENCE COORDINATED COMMUNITY RESPONSE TEAMS.
5

6 WHEREAS, nationally and in New Mexico, over one in three
7 women will experience domestic violence in her lifetime, and
8 one in seven men will experience domestic violence in his
9 lifetime; and

10 WHEREAS, data collected by the New Mexico interpersonal
11 violence data central repository data reveals that adult
12 victims who sought the assistance of service providers in
13 2017 represent thirty percent of domestic violence victims
14 identified by law enforcement; and

15 WHEREAS, offenders who participated in treatment
16 programs in 2017 represent five and five-tenths percent of
17 the domestic violence suspects identified by law enforcement;
18 and

19 WHEREAS, in the 2017 analysis of data from the New
20 Mexico interpersonal violence data central repository, of the
21 twelve thousand one hundred seven cases of domestic violence
22 heard in magistrate courts in 2017, eight percent resulted in
23 a guilty plea or conviction, one percent resulted in an
24 acquittal, seventy-nine percent were dismissed and twelve
25 percent resulted in "other" dispositions; and

1 WHEREAS, according to the same source, of the one
2 thousand nine hundred fifty-six cases of domestic violence
3 heard in district courts in 2017, twenty-nine percent
4 resulted in a guilty plea or conviction, less than one
5 percent resulted in an acquittal, fifty-four percent were
6 dismissed and sixteen percent resulted in "other"
7 dispositions; and

8 WHEREAS, a coordinated community response has been shown
9 to increase referrals to services for victims, increase
10 offender participation in batterers' intervention programs,
11 increase the safety of survivors and victims, increase the
12 number of cases prosecuted, reduce domestic violence
13 dismissal rates and increase abuser accountability; and

14 WHEREAS, the recommendations of the New Mexico intimate
15 partner violence death review team identify many areas of
16 improvement that could be addressed by an effective
17 coordinated community response, including training,
18 cooperation among agencies and law enforcement and community
19 education and outreach; and

20 WHEREAS, in an effective coordinated community response,
21 the safety of the survivors and victims is paramount, and
22 training, protocols, procedures and education among all key
23 stakeholders and service providers should focus on this goal;
24 and

25 WHEREAS, an effective coordinated community response

1 involves extensive interagency, law enforcement, prosecution
2 and judicial cooperation and education; and

3 WHEREAS, the support of major decision makers for
4 coordinated community response efforts enhances
5 effectiveness; and

6 WHEREAS, confidentiality concerns with coordinated
7 community response and multidisciplinary teams must be
8 respected to ensure victim safety; and

9 WHEREAS, an effective coordinated community response
10 would achieve systemic changes; and

11 WHEREAS, effective coordinated community responses bring
12 together all relevant parties who work together to pursue
13 shared objectives, and membership of teams depends on the
14 local context; and

15 WHEREAS, effective coordinated community responses
16 mobilize the community, outreach education and primary
17 prevention efforts and include sustained local campaigns
18 engaging the media and diverse organizations and sectors of
19 the population to:

20 A. build community understanding and knowledge
21 about domestic violence and resources;

22 B. enable an overall supportive environment for
23 victims and survivors; and

24 C. further policy and legal reforms and secure
25 additional resources; and

1 WHEREAS, data should be constantly collected, and
2 coordinated community response progress toward objectives
3 should be measured to evaluate effectiveness, including the
4 monitoring of perpetrator interventions and efforts to adjust
5 policies and procedures to end perpetrator impunity;

6 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE
7 STATE OF NEW MEXICO that the New Mexico coalition against
8 domestic violence be requested to study the feasibility of
9 the creation of two pilot projects to establish effective
10 coordinated community response teams; and

11 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the proposed pilot projects
12 would place a coordinated community response team in the
13 thirteenth judicial district and in the eleventh judicial
14 district; and

15 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the pilot coordinated
16 community response teams would study methods of coordination,
17 training, monitoring, evaluating and reporting; and

18 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the pilot coordinated
19 community response teams would ascertain the dismissal rate
20 for domestic violence cases in their areas and identify the
21 primary factors affecting the dismissal rates; and

22 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the pilot coordinated
23 community response teams would make recommendations to reduce
24 the dismissal rate and develop an implementation plan; and

25 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the pilot coordinated

1 community response teams would implement use of the Ontario
2 domestic assault risk assessment or a similar risk assessment
3 tool that would be documented in arrest reports, and this
4 information would be accessible to courts, probation
5 officers, batterers' intervention programs and victim
6 services agencies; and

7 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the pilot coordinated
8 community response teams would work toward increasing the
9 rate of referral of victims to domestic violence service
10 providers; and

11 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the pilot coordinated
12 community response teams would explore the Colorado model of
13 batterers' intervention programs; and

14 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the New Mexico coalition
15 against domestic violence be requested to report its findings
16 and recommendations to the appropriate interim legislative
17 committee by October 1, 2019; and

18 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this memorial be
19 transmitted to the president of the New Mexico coalition
20 against domestic violence. _____

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