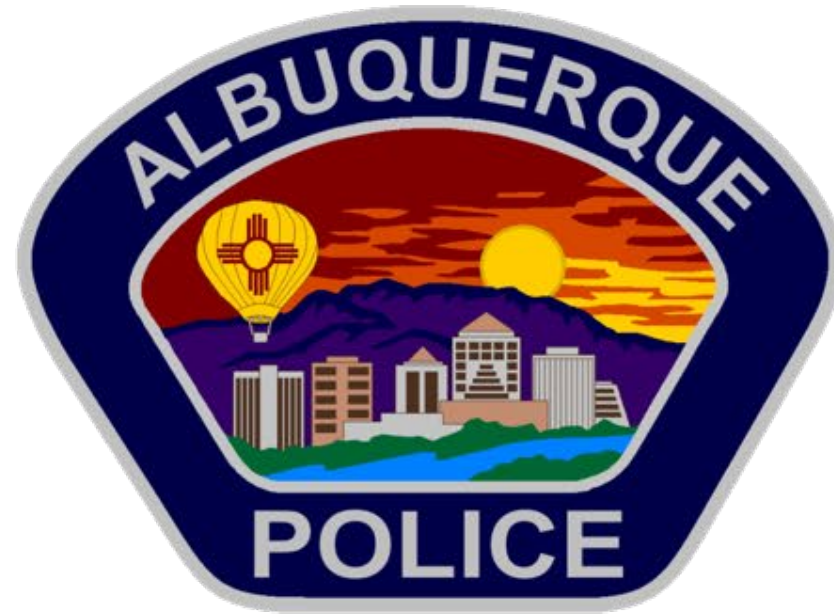


THE RIGHT RESPONSE
AT THE RIGHT TIME



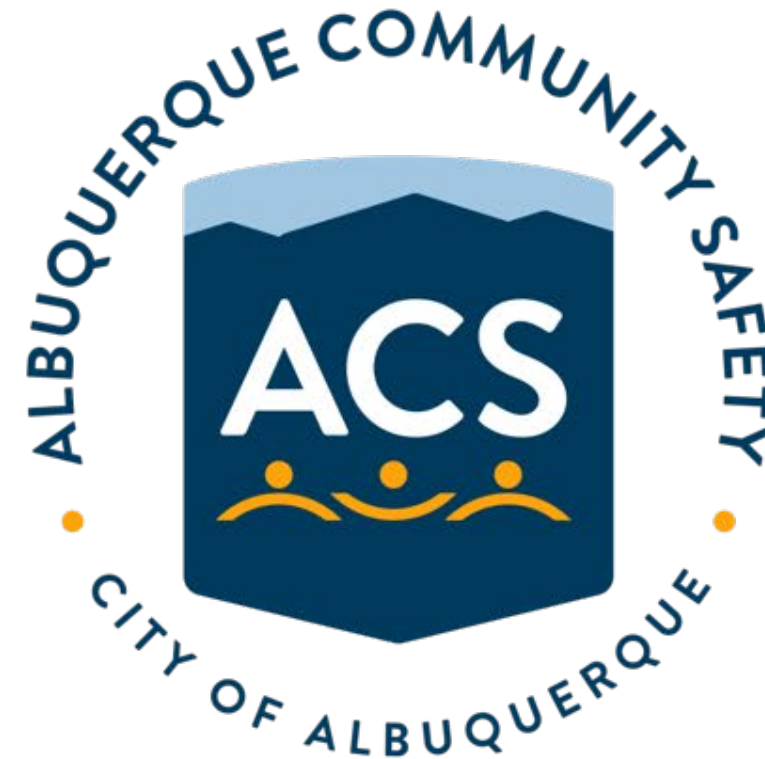
Albuquerque's First Responder System

EST. 1880



Law enforcement and violent/life-threatening situations

EST. 2021



Mental health, substance use, homelessness, and other non-criminal/non-medical issues

EST. 1900



Fires and emergency medical needs



OUR VALUES



WELL-BEING & SAFETY

EMPATHY

COMMUNITY AT THE CENTER

ACCOUNTABILITY

RESPECT & DIGNITY

EQUITY

Our values guide the decisions we make as individuals and as a team.



ALBUQUERQUE COMMUNITY SAFETY

DIVISIONS

FIELD SERVICES

Direct field responders, from behavioral health response to street outreach



ADMINISTRATIVE SUPPORT

Administrative staff supporting the training, quality assurance, policy development, and more for the Department.



VIOLENCE INTERVENTION

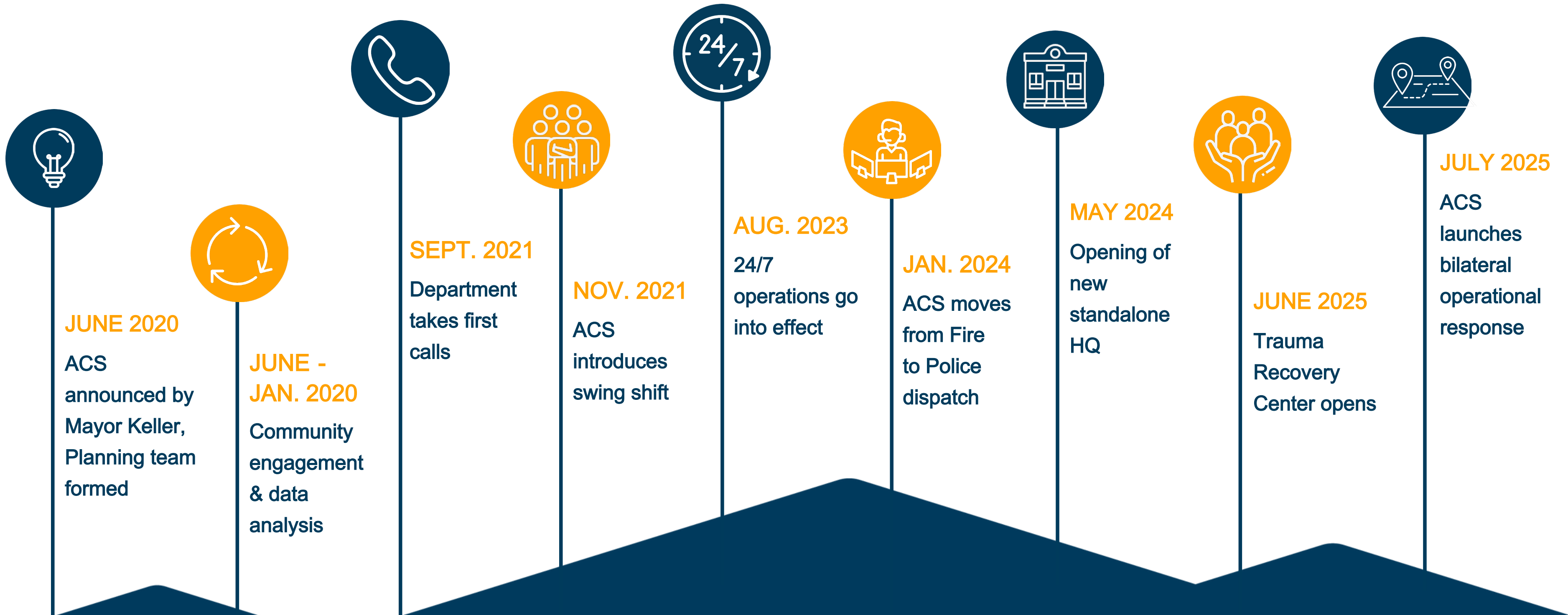
Responders and peer support workers interrupting cycles of violence and addiction.

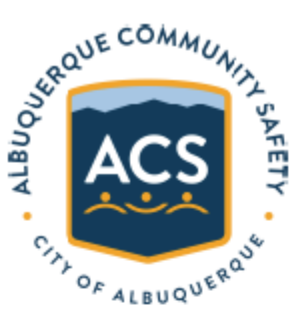


COMMUNITY

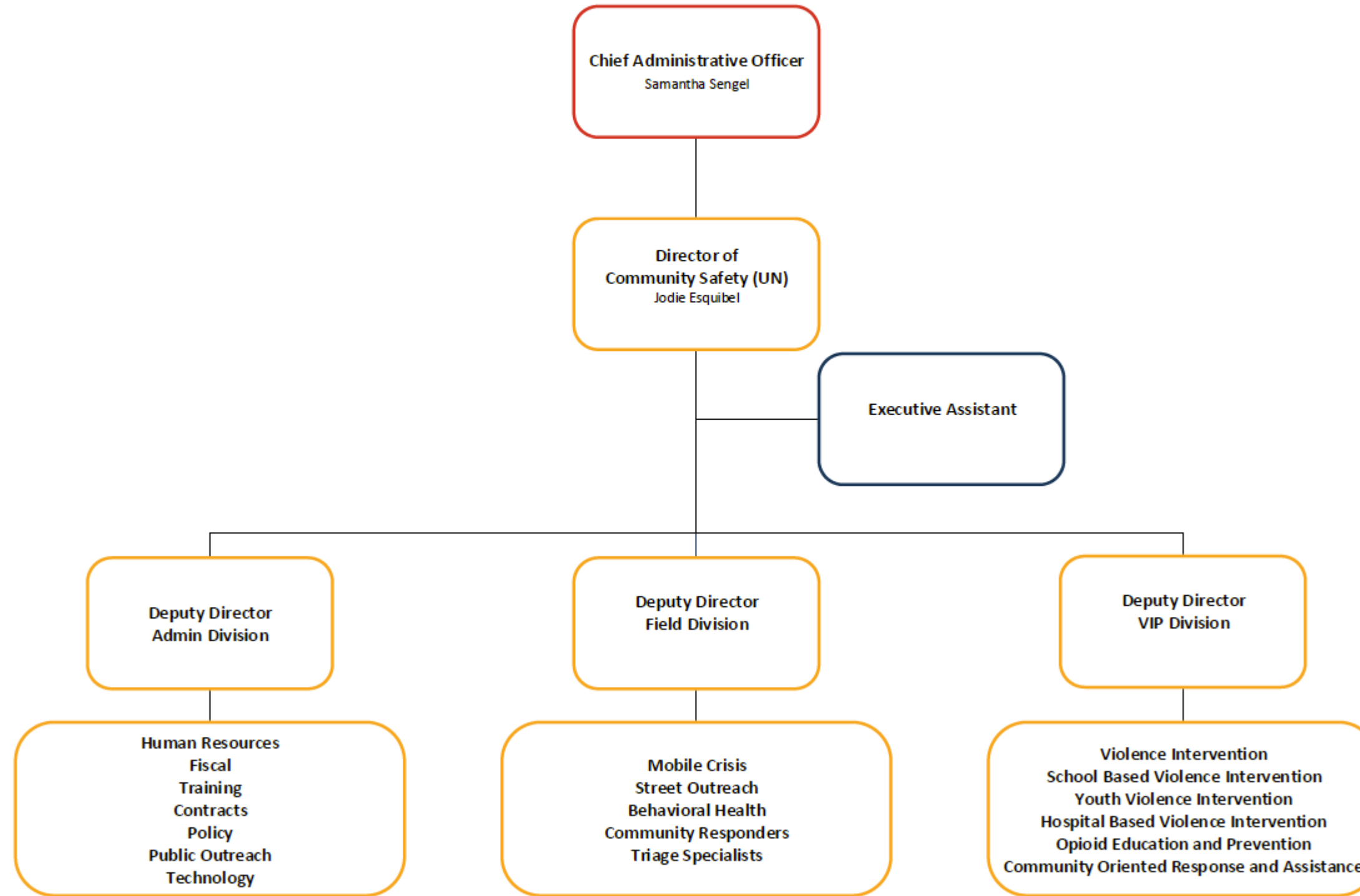
Community is an integral part of ACS, including outreach, the Community Collaborative, and a continuous feedback loop with those we serve.

CREATING A NEW DEPARTMENT





Albuquerque Community Safety Organizational Chart



140 Budgeted Positions

FIELD RESPONSE



Mobile Crisis Team Clinicians

High acuity co-response with APD



Behavioral Health Responders

Mid to low-acuity behavioral health calls



Community Responders

Lower acuity, non-criminal calls for service



Street Outreach Responders

Targeted street outreach to vulnerable populations and encampments



VIOLENCE PREVENTION & INTERVENTION



Violence Intervention Program

Work with police and/or local hospitals (Hospital VIP) to interrupt cycles of violence.



School -Based & Youth VIP

Work with at-risk students who may get involved in violence. Currently in high schools.



Community -Oriented Response & Assistance (CORA)

Community healing after traumatic events



Opioid Education & Prevention

Offer resources, including Narcan, to individuals caught in the cycles of opioid abuse



SCHOOL-BASED VIOLENCE INTERVENTION PROGRAM (SBVIP)



What is it?

SBVIP is a trauma-informed mentor-led violence reduction initiative that focuses on youth at the highest risk for engaging in cycles of violence, including gun violence. ACS's SBVIP Intervention Specialist is placed full-time in the school. SBVIP can focus on the whole child, even working outside of school.

Referrals are made from:

- APS early warning indicator system & threat assessment
- community & partners
- parents
- APD & juvenile probation entities

Services include:

- educational support
- resource navigation
- elective class credit
- peer support
- family assistance
- education assistance



“ Positive Youth Development is an intentional, pro-social approach that engages youth within communities, schools, organizations, peer groups, and families in a manner that is productive and constructive; recognizes, utilizes, and enhances youths’ strengths; and promotes positive outcomes for young people by providing opportunities, fostering positive relationships, and furnishing the support needed to build on their leadership strengths.”²⁰

— The Federal Interagency Working Group of Youth Programs

SCHOOL-BASED VIOLENCE INTERVENTION PROGRAM (SBVIP)



Why is it necessary?

11/13 APS schools had guns brought on campus in the recent school years.

Our high-school aged students are the most at-risk for firearm injury and need holistic support. Participants identified the following factors that contribute to youth violence:-

- Accessibility of guns
- Influence of others
- Personal challenges
- Gang involvement
- Nationally, juvenile homicides **increased 65%** between 2016 and 2022.
- Firearm involvement in juvenile offenses **rose 21%** during that same period.
- About 1 in 9 youth aged 16–24 in Albuquerque are not in school or employed, and **nearly 40% are only loosely connected** to education or the workforce.

“ They’re taking on a big burden, you know, lights, food, whatever they might need at home. So we can also provide those resources for them at home... That helps a little bit with the burden on them so they actually can focus on school and just being a kid, not having to grow up so quick. ”

— Intervention Specialist



SCHOOL-BASED VIOLENCE INTERVENTION PROGRAM (SBVIP)



Why is it necessary?

- Nationally, juvenile homicides **increased 65%** between 2016 and 2022.
- Firearm involvement in juvenile offenses **rose 21%** during that same period
- About 1 in 9 youth aged 16–24 in Albuquerque are not in school or employed, and **nearly 40% are only loosely connected** to education or the workforce.

2023 Youth Risk and Resilience Survey: High Schoolers in NM self-reported...

- In a physical fight **19.5%**
- Carried a gun (not for sport or hunting) **5.1%**
- Skipped school because of safety concerns **13.7%**
- Bullied on school property **17.5%**
- Electronically bullied **13.9%**

“ They’re taking on a big burden, you know, lights, food, whatever they might need at home. So we can also provide those resources for them at home... That helps a little bit with the burden on them so they actually can focus on school and just being a kid, not having to grow up so quick. ”

— Intervention Specialist



SCHOOL-BASED VIOLENCE INTERVENTION PROGRAM (SBVIP)



Program Summary

SBVIP has been in operation at West Mesa High School since November 2022 and has expanded to RFK Charter School, Atrisco Heritage High School, & Del Norte High School. SBVIP Specialists have worked with over 170 students since the beginning of the program.

Personnel

- Coordinator – Oversee program, community collaborations, and evaluation process.
- Intervention Specialists - Assertive outreach and case management approach.

Current Funding & Timeline

- Funding from Department of Justice Byrne Grant (\$2,050,000)
 - **Ends September 2026**
- Will also utilize funding from NM Department of Health Violence Intervention Grant
 - **Ends June 2026**



SCHOOL-BASED VIOLENCE INTERVENTION PROGRAM (SBVIP)



PROGRAM OUTCOMES:

150

current students engaged in program across 4 schools

208% increase in participants from 12/2024-5/2025

28% increase in avg overall GPA

83% graduation rate amongst SBVIP seniors



“ The Intervention Specialists are really good people. Very patient, welcoming, helpful, relatable. Very welcoming to those who may not be ready. ”

— SBVIP Youth Participant

“ They’re taking on a big burden, you know, lights, food, whatever they might need at home. So we can also provide those resources for them at home.... That helps a little bit with the burden on them so they actually can focus on school and just being a kid, not having to grow up so quick. ”

— Intervention Specialist

“ You have to want to be here in order to benefit yourself. If you have to force someone, it feels demeaning. ”

— SBVIP Youth Participant

SCHOOL-BASED VIOLENCE INTERVENTION PROGRAM (SBVIP)



OUTCOMES FOR PARTICIPANTS

83% reduction in major offenses

84% reduction in minor offenses

“ I feel accomplished. I’ve come a pretty long way from where I used to be. I used to have failing grades and now I have straight A’s across the table. ”

— SBVIP Youth Participant



SUCCESS STORIES

“ My son has changed his outlook on life and his mental health has improved significantly. The fact that my son feels comfortable enough with the staff members of the VIP team speaks volumes because my son is very reserved. His grades have improved significantly as well, went from D’s and F’s to Straight A’s and B’s and has improved at home as well. Definitely more respectful and mindful. This program has saved my son from being stuck in his dark thoughts. ”

— SBVIP Youth Parent

One SBVIP participant described that they are currently nine months sober from everything (alcohol and other drugs), have distanced themselves from a group that engaged in unlawful activities, have obtained a job, are working to graduate early, and are mentoring other young people that are on a path similar to the one they were on previously.

Another SBVIP participant was the first graduate of the program in the spring of 2024. Before engaging with the program, this participant had a particularly challenging history with violence on campus, including carrying weapons, fighting, and being arrested. They also had a GPA of 0.5 before joining the program. By graduation, they had passed all their classes successfully and almost met the honor roll requirements. SBVIP is continuing to support this participant in finding employment after graduation.

Four of the 2024-2025 SBVIP graduates are now in college or job training programs!

SCHOOL-BASED VIOLENCE INTERVENTION PROGRAM (SBVIP)



Evaluation

To ensure program efficacy, ACS will continue to monitor, evaluate, and improve the program.

SBVIP is currently:

- Creating a guidebook to ensure consistent implementation
- Developing curriculum
- Educating APS staff on benefits of program
- Ensuring continuous training for staff and quality improvement of program

SBVIP Expansion:

- Tailor approach to school:
 - Build trust with school staff and educate them on youth violence
 - Make staff placement decisions carefully
 - Consider neighborhood and school-level data when making decisions about expansion



SCHOOL-BASED VIOLENCE INTERVENTION PROGRAM (SBVIP)

Looking Forward:

Immediate Needs


1st Priority: Funding to sustain operations

Current federal and state funding funding ending,

that need will begin in July & October of 2026.

- **2nd Priority:** Expansion to all high schools.
 - SBVIP model to all 13 Albuquerque high schools and three schools of choice - providing trauma-informed support to our highest risk students and breaking cycles of violence The total program staffing cost would be **\$3,337,152** for the upcoming school year.
 - The intention is to seek full funding from the legislature in the upcoming legislative session.
 - “The expansion of SBVIP is overwhelmingly supported by all interest holders that we spoke with for this evaluation.”
 - From the Apex Evaluation


ANNUAL BUDGET (Upcoming School Year)			
Description	Person (Salary+Benefits)	# Of People	Total
SBVIP Specialist	\$96,876.00	32 (16 Teams)	\$3,100,032.00
SBVIP Coordinator	\$118,560.00	2 (total)	\$237,120.00
TOTAL	\$3,337,152.00		



\$209K

investment per school for staffing costs

- 2 Specialists per school
- 2 Coordinators to manage all Intervention Teams
- \$3.4M total cost each to CABQ for staffing



500

at-risk students that could be supported

- Caseload of ~30 per team
- Model is adaptable to meet each school's need
- 8:1 supervisory ratio for teams to ensure proper oversight



QUESTIONS?