

# Administrative Office of the Courts

Supreme Court of New Mexico

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July 1, 2025

Senator George Munoz  
Senator Linda Lopez  
Senator Joseph Cervantes  
Representative Nathan Small  
Representative Liz Thomson  
Representative Christine Chandler

Director Charles Sallee  
New Mexico State Capitol  
490 Old Santa Fe Trail  
Santa Fe, NM 87501

Secretary Kari Armijo  
New Mexico Health Care Authority  
P.O. Box 2348  
Santa Fe, NM 87504-2348

*via email*

Re: July 1, 2025 Update on Administrative Office of the Courts Activities Related to Senate Bill 3 – Behavioral Health Reform and Investment Act (BHRIA)

Dear Senators, Representatives, Director Sallee, Secretary Armijo

I write in my capacity as the Behavioral Health Integration and Reform Administrator at the Administrative Office of the Courts (AOC) to update you on our ongoing activities related to Senate Bill 3, the Behavioral Health Reform and Investment Act (BHRIA). Since our last update in June, we have continued to make significant progress in supporting the implementation of this important legislation.

Below are the latest developments:

**1. Executive Committee Meeting – June 24, 2025**

The first Executive Committee meeting for SB 3 was successfully held on June 24. The

session provided an overview of the regional planning framework, timelines, and expectations for cross-agency collaboration. Members discussed alignment with Medicaid, capital planning, and the upcoming regional planning process. Two regional frameworks were proposed to the Executive Committee. The Behavioral Health Regions were proposed to mirror the 13 Judicial Districts and the Executive Committee adopted those 13 Behavioral Health Regions.

The secondary framework proposed were – what we’re calling – ‘Integrated Infrastructure Regions.’ These regions would be much larger, 5 for the entire state. These regions would be responsible for larger scale infrastructure work to support the spectrum of behavioral health services. For example: hospitals, inpatient treatment facilities, residential treatment facilities or CCBHC’s. The Executive Committee would then be able to strategically plan and coordinate all the state’s major behavioral health resources. The Legislature could look to the Executive Committee’s approval and plans as the means to know where appropriations should be directed. The Executive Committee Chair assigned a working group to discuss these infrastructure regions and it will be an agenda item at the August 5<sup>th</sup> Executive Committee Meeting.

The August 5<sup>th</sup> Executive Committee Meeting will likely include: 1) a requested fast track option for funding, 2) update on Integrated Infrastructure Regions, 3) LFC presentation on all behavioral health funding from the 2025 Legislative Session, 4) HCA/BHSD current strategic planning work and 5) a draft regional plan rubric from HCA

## **2. Integrated Mapping Structure for Youth/Children and Adults.**

UNM-HSC has taken the lead in developing a mapping structure that would allow regions to complete a mapping process for children as well as adults. All agencies agree many regions may wish to focus on the behavioral health services available to people under 18.

## **3. Legislative Health & Human Services (LHHS) Presentation – June 25, 2025**

AOC presented progress updates to the LHHS Committee, outlining stakeholder engagement strategies, upcoming deliverables, and the central role of local and tribal input in the regional planning process. The major themes from committee members were 1) behavioral health services and regional planning shouldn’t focus solely on justice involved persons (AOC agrees). 2) equitable means to divide resources and 3). The responsible entity within these regions.

## **4. Behavioral Health Planning Council Meeting – June 11, 2025**

A joint presentation was delivered by the AOC and HCA Director Kristie Brooks at the Behavioral Health Planning Council Meeting on June 11. The presentation emphasized the role of subcommittees and reinforced the importance of integrating youth, tribal, and community voices in regional plan development.

## **5. Local Collaborative Engagement – June 12, 2025**

The AOC attended Local Collaborative 4 meeting at Nambe Falls to share updates on SB

3 implementation and promote early engagement of local and tribal partners in regional planning efforts.

**6. New Mexico Tribal Provider Association Conference – Scheduled for June 30, 2025**  
AOC co-presented with HCA Director Kristie Brooks at the New Mexico Tribal Behavioral Health Provider Association Meeting to present the regional planning process and continue strengthening tribal-government collaboration.

**7. Sequential Intercept Mapping (SIM) – June 23–24, 2025**  
Los Alamos County successfully completed its Sequential Intercept Mapping workshop, coordinated by the AOC Behavioral Health Team. The session concluded the team’s initial SIM workshop schedule. Planning is underway for additional SIM workshops in McKinley and San Juan counties as part of the next regional planning phase.

**8. Upcoming Regional Planning Meeting – July 11, 2025**  
The first Regional Planning Committee meeting is scheduled for July 11 from 10:00 AM to 2:00 PM in Albuquerque. Invitations have been extended to representatives from:

- Native American Subcommittee (Behavioral Health Planning Council)
- Child and Adolescent Subcommittee (Behavioral Health Planning Council)
- Children, Youth & Families Department (CYFD)
- University of New Mexico Health Sciences Center (UNMHSC)
- Administrative Office of the Courts (AOC)
- Health Care Authority (HCA)
- Executive Committee Members Jerry Ortiz y Pino and Dr. Violette Cloud

This session will further solidify plans for regional mapping and plan development. It will provide guidance on SIM/PACA tools, regional engagement, and planning expectations.

### **Next Steps**

- Host first Regional Planning Committee meeting on July 11
- Finalize regional engagement materials and onboarding plan
- Coordinate SIM workshops for remaining Behavioral Health Regions
- Facilitate PACA training and support for regional teams
- Continue tribal and agency coordination to ensure inclusive planning

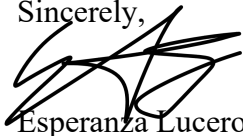
## General Recommendations

1. A fully coordinated behavioral health system may require a deeper dive into all behavioral health funding regardless of whether the appropriation is conditioned on the regional plans.
2. Identifying the “government entity” early in the process could help promote ownership at the regional level, foster early buy-in, and make mapping and regional planning efforts much smoother.
3. Solidification of the funding structure could help guide the regional plan template and help communities know where to focus their energy when engaged in regional planning.

Finally, in early June, AOC launched its’ [BHRIA website](#) where interested parties can access agendas, meeting materials, completed SIM mapping, AOC’s monthly reports, join our mailing list, and easily submit feedback/questions.

Thank you for your continued support and engagement as we move forward with this transformational work. Please feel free to reach out with any questions or if you need additional information.

Sincerely,



Esperanza Lucero  
Behavioral Health Integration and Reform Administrator  
Administrative Office of the Courts