

SERVICES

One-on-One Judicial Interaction
Mental Health Evaluation
Mental Health Counseling
DV Counseling
Substance Abuse Counseling
Psychiatric Services
Case Management Services
Intensive Supervision
Education and Skills Training
Housing Assistance
Assistance Obtaining Community
Services

RESULTS

Receiving appropriate services,
participants improve their functional
level of mental health, life skills,
living conditions and are
less likely to re-offend.

*Our community and
public safety is improved.*

COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS

Bernalillo County District Attorney
State of New Mexico Public Defender
Forensic Interagency Consortium
University of New Mexico -
Mental Health Center
Albuquerque Behavioral Health Program
The Veteran's Administration
Other Community Agencies

PROMOTING EMOTIONAL WELLBING AND REDUCING CRIME IN OUR COMMUNITY



ALL METROPOLITAN COURT JUDGES REFER TO THE PROGRAM

Mental Health Court is a Collaborative
Effort of:

**The State of New Mexico
Bernalillo County Metropolitan
Court, District Attorney's Office,
Public Defender's Office, Local
Public and Community Agencies**

**The Honorable Courtney Weaks
Presiding Judge**

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STATE OF NEW MEXICO
BERNALILLO COUNTY
METROPOLITAN COURT

MENTAL HEALTH
COURT

ALBUQUERQUE, NM



**A PROGRAM OF
JUDICIAL
INTERVENTION,
TREATMENT SERVICES
AND SUPERVISION**

THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO - BERNALILLO COUNTY METROPOLITAN COURT

MENTAL HEALTH COURT

PRESIDING PROGRAM JUDGE:

The Honorable Courtney Weaks has been the presiding Judge of the Bernalillo County Metropolitan Mental Health Program since 2017.

As the Presiding Judge, Judge Weaks wears a variety of hats. Based upon the clientele, she is required to be empathetic and understanding, but first and foremost, has a responsibility as a Judge to remain fair and impartial and to ensure public safety.

CRITERIA FOR PARTICIPATION

The Mental Health Court accepts individuals charged with misdemeanor offenses filed in the Bernalillo County Metropolitan Court. Those referred must have a mental health diagnosis, symptoms or be developmentally disabled.

PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS

Attend status hearings with the Mental Health Court Judge as mandated by the court and comply with all court orders.

Follow the assigned treatment plan that may include:

- Physician's medication plan
- Case management services
- Counseling, therapy and support groups
- Alcohol and drug testing
- Comply with all program requirements.

MENTAL HEALTH COURT GOALS

- Provide early Identification of mental health offenders charged with misdemeanor offenses.
- Address the unique needs of the mentally ill offender.
- Closely monitor court ordered treatment and services.
- Provide intensive supervision services through direct contact with offenders, treatment providers, court probation officers and case managers.
- Promote community stability and responsible living.
- Assess the efficacy of the service plan and revise the plan as needed through regular review hearings with the Mental Health Court Judge.
- Reduce the rate of recidivism among the mentally ill population through short and long-term treatment.
- Work collaboratively with local public agencies, private community based groups, and organizations concerned with the mentally ill.

PROGRAM OVERVIEW

Beginning in 2003, the Bernalillo County Metropolitan Court has worked collaboratively with the local mental health community. The court and treatment agencies have struggled with finding the delicate balance of protecting public safety and providing treatment to mentally ill individuals who enter the criminal justice system.

The Bernalillo County Metropolitan Mental Health Court, established in 2003, was implemented to respond to that need.

The primary purpose is to successfully divert mentally ill defendants from further re-entry into the criminal justice system. Services are provided, following medical diagnosis, to address both pre and post adjudication cases.

The court serves as a "single point of contact" where a team of specialists works with mentally ill offenders. The team consists of the program judge, prosecutor, defense attorney, clinician, supervising officers and case managers. The team utilizes their skills and expertise to work with mentally ill offenders to obtain services, provide supervision through the development of appropriate treatment plans.

Additional ancillary services may also include: education, housing, medical, dental, activities of daily living, transportation, community support and food boxes.