



Behavioral Health Competency, AOT and BHRIA Updates

Administrative Office of the Courts

Courts, Corrections & Justice

Thursday, July 23, 2026

Las Vegas, NM

Representative Christine F. Chandler, Chair

Assisted Outpatient Treatment (AOT)

- As legislation changes were happening, AOT programs were piloted in two judicial districts, with an additional judicial district launching in July 2026
 - February 2025: 1st District (Santa Fe, Rio Arriba, Los Alamos)
 - September 2025: 4th District (San Miguel, Guadalupe, Mora)
 - July 2026: 11th District (San Juan County)
- Programs existing prior to 2025:
 - Second Judicial District (Bernalillo County)
 - Third Judicial District (Dona Ana County)

Assisted Outpatient Treatment (AOT) Snapshot

<u>Jurisdiction</u>	<u>Months Operational</u>	<u>Total # of Orders</u>
First (1 st)	14	3
Second (2 nd)	35	54
Third (3 rd)	108	251
Fourth (4 th)	8	0
Eleventh (11 th)	0	0

Assisted Outpatient Treatment (AOT): AOC Next Steps

- Pending MOU with UNM for Qualified Professionals
 - Pro-se petitioners
- Development of statewide AOT guidance materials
- Judicial education
- Continued outreach and education to communities
- Internal Statewide AOT Network Meeting

Assisted Outpatient Treatment (AOT): Implementation Barriers

- Petition process and accessibility/navigation for families
 - petitioning attorney accessibility for families
 - filing fees
 - Qualified Professional (QP) access
- Competency Evaluators
 - participation (and compensation) in civil proceedings
- Statute inconsistency regarding the written proposed treatment plan
- “participating county or municipality”
 - statute requires participation but does define role, contribution etc

Competency Diversion

- Early diversion to treatment: Diverts eligible individuals with severe mental illness into community-based treatment instead of traditional prosecution.
- Better outcomes: Reduces recidivism, improves recovery, and increases justice system efficiency through early intervention.
- Coordinated care: Uses evidence-informed, trauma-informed practices and cross-system collaboration to support participant success and public safety.
- Equitable access: Expands access to culturally responsive behavioral health services and reduces barriers to care.

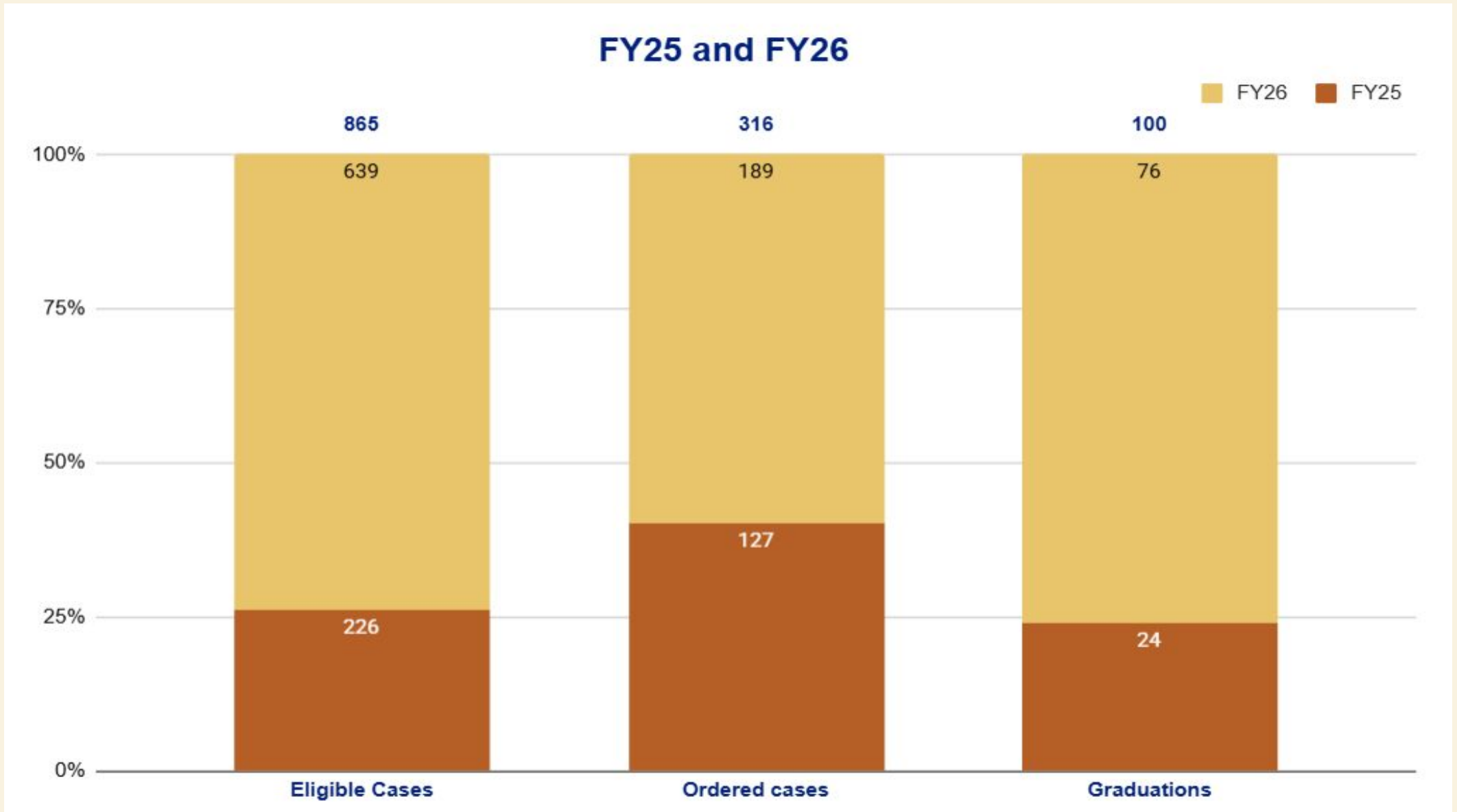
Competency Diversion: Funding

<u>Fiscal Year</u>	<u>Appropriation</u>
FY24	\$4 mil special appropriation (shared)
FY25	\$3 mil special appropriation for AOT and Comp Diversion
FY26	\$3 mil special appropriation extended
FY27	\$1.2 mil special appropriation for FY27

Competency Diversion: Sites

<u>Judicial District</u>	<u>Implementation Date</u>
Third	May 2024
Twelfth	September 2024
Fourth	August 2024
First	March 2025
Metropolitan Court	January 2026

Competency Diversion: Cases



Competency Diversion Program Evaluation Preliminary Findings

Early Recidivism Evidence Positive

- participants who successfully completed the CD program have **significantly lower odds** of New Criminal Activity (NCA) compared to participants who did not
- **diverting individuals with competency histories to the CD program is associated with a reduction in re-arrest, and or, potentially, delays it.**
- this finding should be read as encouraging rather than conclusive. Some recidivism research recommends a longer 2- to 3-year follow-up window

Competency Diversion: Next Steps

- Sustainability
 - Funding - Requesting permanent funding for FY28
 - Standardization across sites
- Expansion of site(s)
 - Capacity
 - Feasibility
- Eligibility Expansion
 - Broaden beyond strictly competency history
- Ongoing Program evaluation
 - Recidivism
 - Impact on competency evaluation timelines

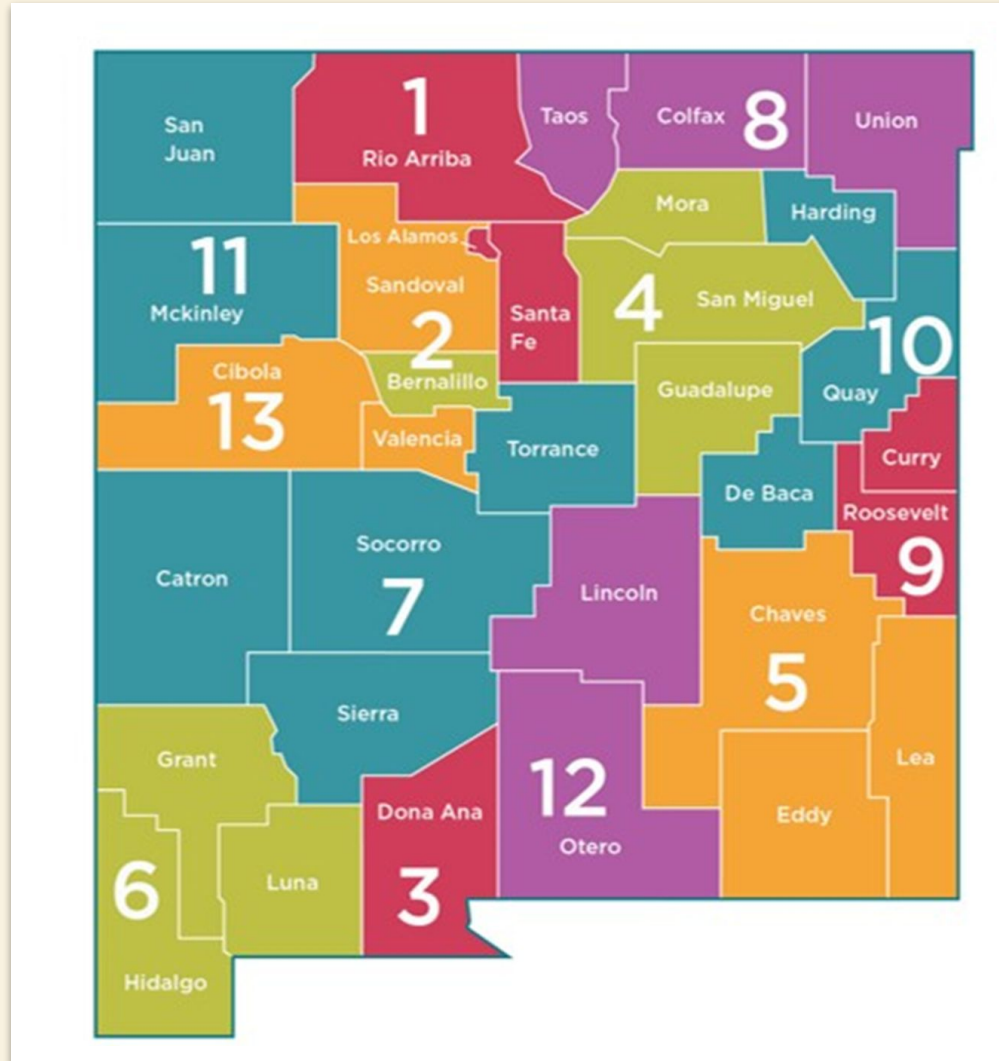
AOT and Competency in Regional Plans

Category	Region	Priority	Status / Notes
Assisted Outpatient Treatment	2	Social Drivers of Health	Provide a safe housing continuum to include supportive housing, recovery housing, transitional housing, housing dedicated to individuals with felony convictions upon reentry, and housing dedicated to Assisted Outpatient Treatment (AOT) for individuals with severe mental illness
	5	Justice System Service and Supports	Implementing the AOT/ACT/LEAD triad provides law enforcement and the judiciary with alternative diversion pathways that direct individuals into intensive community care rather than incarceration across Chaves, Eddy, and Lea counties to break the cycle of repeated incarceration for high acuity individuals.
	10	Justice, Diversion & Courts	Justice-system stakeholders described repeated returns to custody driven by the gap in support after release and limited medication monitoring, along with thin behavioral health access inside detention and a probation system stretched across the entire district. The plan funds an Assisted Outpatient Treatment (AOT) coordinator;
Competency Diversion	11	Diversion, Specialty Courts, and Justice System Improvements	Expand Assisted Outpatient Treatment and competency diversion programs.

AOC's Statutory Role in BHRIA (SB3)

Statutory Section	Statutory Language
Section 24A-10-4(A)	The administrative office of the courts shall coordinate regional meetings, complete sequential intercept mapping, and coordinate the development of regional plans.
Section 24A-4-10(E)	The administrative office of the courts shall distribute each regional plan to the legislature and the appropriate state agencies.
Section 24A-10-4(H)	Starting May 1, 2025, and continuing through December 31, 2025, the administrative office of the courts shall provide the appropriate interim legislative committees and the health care authority with a monthly update on the status of sequential intercept mapping and regional planning After January 1, 2026, the administrative office of the courts shall provide quarterly updates on the status of sequential intercept mapping and regional planning to the legislature and the health care authority.

Workshop Timeline



2025

Curry County – Region 9 12/02/2025 - 12/04/2025	Bernalillo County (Youth) – Region 2 11/20/2025 - 11/21/2025
	San Juan/McKinley – Region 11 12/9/2025- 12/11/2025
Dona Ana County (Adult) – Region 3 12/16/2025	Santa Fe County (Youth) – Region 1 12/18/2025 - 12/19/2025
2026	
Lincoln County – Region 12 1/14/2026 - 1/16/2026	Dona Ana County (Youth) – Region 3 2/26/2026 - 2/27/2026
Taos County – Region 8 3/11/2026 - 3/13/2026	Socorro County – Region 7 3/18/2026 - 3/20/2026
Luna County – Region 6 3/24/2026 - 3/26/2026	Guadalupe County – Region 4 4/14/2026-4/16/2026
Cibola County – Region 13 4/8/2026 – 4/10/2026	Eastern Plain COG - Region 10 4/21/2026 - 4/23/2026
Eddy County – Region 5 5/05/2026-5/07/2026	

Target Date for all Regional Plans
6/30/2026

Behavioral Health Regional Priorities - Thematic Grouping

Matrix below shows which of the 13 regions named each thematic priority among their top 5. A checkmark indicates the region listed a priority falling under that theme (regardless of rank).

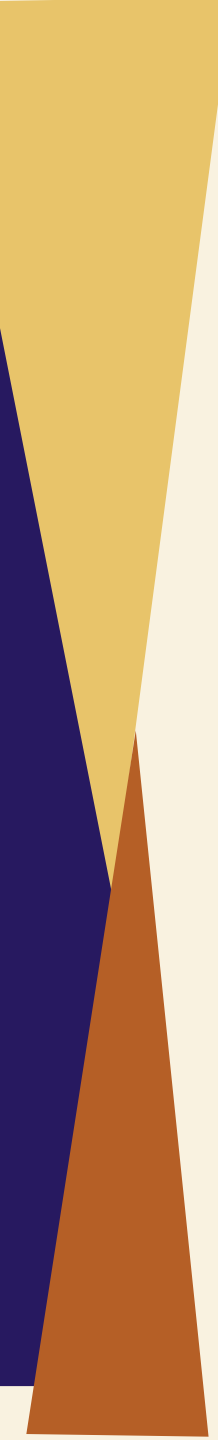
Theme	R1	R2	R3	R4	R5	R6	R7	R8	R9	R10	R11	R12	R13
Housing, Transportation & Basic Needs			✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓
Crisis Services & Stabilization				✓		✓			✓	✓		✓	✓
Justice System, Diversion & Courts			✓	✓	✓					✓	✓	✓	
Treatment, Recovery & Clinical Access	✓	✓			✓	✓	✓			✓	✓	✓	✓
Workforce Development & Provider Support	✓	✓		✓		✓	✓	✓	✓				✓
Youth, Family & Caregiver Supports	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	
Prevention, Wellness, Trauma & Cultural Support	✓				✓		✓			✓	✓		
School-Based Supports	✓		✓					✓					
Care Coordination & System Integration			✓	✓				✓			✓		✓
Policy & Social Drivers of Health		✓											

Regional Milestone Tracking

Region	Workshop (Status)	Workshop Date	Listening Sessions	Regional Plan Submission (Status)
Region 1	Complete	December 2025	Complete	Approved by BHEC 7/9/26
Region 2	Complete	November 2025	Complete	Approved by BHEC 4/23/26
Region 3	Complete	February 2026	Complete	Pending BHEC final approval
Region 4	Complete	April 2026	Complete	In Progress, 45-day extension
Region 5	Complete	May 2026	Complete	Pending BHEC final approval
Region 6	Complete	March 2026	Complete	Pending BHEC final approval
Region 7	Complete	March 2026	Complete	Pending BHEC final approval
Region 8	Complete	March 2026	Complete	Pending BHEC final approval
Region 9	Complete	December 2025	Complete	Pending BHEC final approval
Region 10	Complete	April 2026	Complete	Pending BHEC final approval
Region 11	Complete	December 2025	Complete	Pending BHEC final approval
Region 12	Complete	January 2026	Complete	In Progress; 60-day extension
Region 13	Complete	April 2026	Complete	Pending BHEC final approval

AOC BHRIA Appropriations

Appropriation	Funding Source	Expiration	Status
\$1,700.0	2025 Special Appropriation	6/30/2029	\$780,000: \$60,000 to each region, all expended by 9/30/2026 \$360,000: for contracted experts to assist regions in plan development \$560,000: allocated for AOC staffing Total Spent to Date: \$1,133,959.03
\$2,333.0	2025 GRO Appropriation	6/30/2029	For court related programming consistent with regional plans. All districts are submitting proposed programming to AOC which will be evaluated and awarded once regional plans are approved by the Executive Committee
\$2,333.0	2025 GRO Appropriation	6/30/2029	
\$2,333.0	2025 GRO Appropriation	6/30/2029	



Issue	Impact
BHRIA provides no regional governance structure	Regional structures vary greatly, having negative impact on governance, planning, and timeliness
Local government entities struggle with infrastructure to support BHRIA	Local gov't entity staff have varying responsibilities, particularly in rural areas of the state, causing delays
Local government procurement processes	Regional procurement of behavioral health services will take several months after regional plan approval and funding awards