

2021 Cities Thrive Mental Health Coalition Monthly Call Series

Tuesday, January 26th

2:45-3:45pm/Eastern Time

The Pandemic's Evolving Mental Health Toll: Supporting COVID-19 Patients & Survivors

LOGISTICS INFORMATION

Call-In: 347-719-7789 (No Pin)

AGENDA

2:45-2:50pm: Call Topic Framing

2:50-2:55pm: First Lady McCray provides opening remarks

2:55-3:10pm: New York City Presentation

3:10-3:15pm: New York City Q&A

3:15-3:20pm: Introduction and Albuquerque, NM Presentation

3:20-3:35pm: Albuquerque, NM Q&A

3:35-3:40pm: Closing Remarks

PROGRAMMING

City of New York City, NY – COVID-19 Centers of Excellence

Presenter: Dr. Ted Long, Senior Vice President, Ambulatory Care, NYC Health + Hospitals, and Executive Director, COVID-19 Test & Trace Corps

Description: New York City's COVID-19 Centers of Excellence are innovative, state-of-the-art, brand new facilities that provide short- and long-term follow-up care for those recovering from COVID-19. In terms of the Mental Health support offered across the three planned sites and once fully hired and staffed, our behavioral health services will come from an array of providers, including licensed clinical social workers, psychologists, and psychiatrists. The behavioral health team will be attuned for post-COVID impact on existing behavioral health diagnoses and for new diagnoses among survivors. Additionally, our teams will pay attention to acute and ongoing grief for patients who lost loved ones. Our Gotham Health/Tremont site is open now and seeing patients, and two additional sites will open before Spring 2021.

City of Albuquerque/Bernalillo County, NM – Homelessness System of Care during COVID-19

Presenters: County Manager Julie Morgas Baca, Bernalillo County Manager; Gilbert Ramirez, Deputy Director of Behavioral Health & Wellness Programs, Mayor's Office City of Albuquerque; Margarita Chavez-Sanchez, Director for the Department of Behavioral Health Services, Bernalillo County.

Description: The City of Albuquerque operates the largest homeless shelter in the Bernalillo County area. During the COVID-19 crisis, a rapid and strategic response was necessary to manage and support the roughly 400 clients utilizing the shelter. Through a coordinated response, the City, County, University of New Mexico and State Department of Health worked together to enact the creation of a system of care to mitigate the impacts of the virus for those experiencing homelessness. As access to vital behavioral health services moved to primarily

virtual platforms, partners came together to ensure a continuum of physical and behavioral health care for those most vulnerable in our community. This work resulted in the establishment of three wellness hotels, two quarantine hotels and a standard operating procedure for all the local area hospitals to direct COVID-19 positive clients experiencing homelessness into a system of shelter that supported isolation, treatment, or respite care. Currently, the system is supporting over 750 men, women and children experiencing homelessness. In addition to addressing shelter needs, the City and County have worked to address expanded behavioral health need during the pandemic.