



LEGISLATIVE HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES  
COMMITTEE HEARING – AGENCY UPDATE

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JULY 24, 2019

KATHYLEEN M. KUNKEL, CABINET SECRETARY

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# NMDOH Leadership Team

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- **Kathyleen M. Kunkel**, Cabinet Secretary
- **Dr. Abinash Achrekar**, Deputy Cabinet Secretary
- **Dr. Thomas Massaro**, Chief Medical Officer
- **Chris Burmeister**, Director, Division of Health Improvement
- **Eric Chenier**, Director, Administrative Services Division
- **Jason Cornwell**, Director, Developmental Disabilities and Supports Division
- **Billy Jimenez**, General Counsel
- **Twila Kunde**, Director, Scientific Laboratory Division
- **Dr. Michael Landen**, State Epidemiologist and Director, Epidemiology & Response Division
- **Terry Reusser**, Chief Information Officer
- **Dr. Karin Rhodes**, Director, Public Health Division
- **Aryan Showers**, Director, Office of Policy and Accountability
- **Kenny Vigil**, Director, Medical Cannabis Program



# Department of Health Organization

The New Mexico Department of Health consists of eight Program Areas:

- Public Health
- Epidemiology and Response
- Scientific Laboratory
- DOH Facilities ----->
- Developmental Disabilities Support
- Division of Health Improvement  
(Health Certification, Licensing & Oversight )
- Medical Cannabis
- Administration

Turquoise Lodge Hospital  
Behavioral Health Institute  
New Mexico Rehabilitation Center  
Sequoyah Adolescent Treatment Center  
Fort Bayard Medical Center  
Los Lunas Community Program  
New Mexico State Veterans' Home

# Scientific Laboratory Division (SLD)

- Backlogs-Impaired Driving Alcohol testing backlog corrected as of the end of FY19.
- Backlog- drug facilitated sexual assault testing reduced
- 7 Vacancies in toxicology lab.
- Tested 1254 samples for school lead testing program.
- Completed appropriate salary placement for the scientific staff.

# Division Of Health Improvement (DHI)

- Added 11 FTE: Incident Management Bureau (IMB), Quality Management Bureau (QMB) and (Jackson); Licensed only section (assisted living facility (ALF), boarding home (BH), crisis triage center (CTC), Home Health, Hospice) to address backlogs.
- Draft boarding home rules
- Placed surveyor/investigator job positions appropriately (impacted 80 staff who received a 10% salary increase, on average)

# Developmental Disabilities Supports Division (DDSD)

- Jackson Settlement Agreement implementation.
- 3 Phase plan to address wait list
- Concluding the Rate Study for the DD waiver.
- Transitioning the FIT and Families First programs to ECECD.

# Public Health Division (PHD) - Programs

- Disease Prevention & Control
- Obesity, Nutrition & Physical Activity
- Tobacco Use Prevention & Control
- Family Planning
- Children's medical services
- STI & contact notification/treatment
- Maternal Child Health/WIC (Women, Infants and Children)/ Breast feeding
- Border Health - medical protocols/response
- School-based health centers
- Community Outreach/health education
- Infectious Disease Prevention & Response/Control
- Universal Immunization
- School and Adolescent Health, including Sexual Health and disease prevention education
- Chronic Disease prevention/early detection/care coordination (Diabetes)  
Breast & cervical Cancer screening
- Substance abuse Harm Reduction – Needle Exchange/Overdose Prevention (Naloxone provision)
- Provision or linkage to substance use disorder (SUD) treatment
- Support for Primary Care and Health Systems
- Support for local and tribal health councils/ health planning

# Administrative Services Division (ASD)

- Develop an FY21 budget.
- Develop an initiative on asset and inventory management.
- Conduct an economic feasibility study of the state's healthcare facilities.
- Improve accountability by increasing the number of Accountability in Government Act measures from seven to 17 in the Facilities Management Division.



# Office of the General Counsel (OGC)

- Managing Jackson litigation
- Implementing shaken baby rules
- Implementing boarding home licensure rules
- Implementing vital records rules to allow for change of sex designation on birth certificates (SB20, 2019 Laws, Ch. 89)
- Managing legal issues SB406/Medical Cannabis Program (MCP)
- Improving border health policies for asylum seekers

# Information Technology Services Division (ITSD)

- Collaboration with the state's Medicaid Management Information Systems replacement project ([HHS2020](#)).
- Implementation of a comprehensive [Electronic Healthcare Records](#) system, which will also create a mechanism to collaborate with other state agencies and local public health bodies to procure systems that are interoperable.

# Epidemiology & Response Division (ERD)

- Reduce deaths of despair [suicide, drug overdoses, alcohol-related death]
- Investigate and control outbreaks
- Develop climate adaptation plan
- Implement All Payer Claims Database (APCD)
- Move vital records into new building

# Medical Cannabis Program (MCP)

- 6 new qualifying conditions, including opioid use disorder.
- Implementing SB 406
- Increased plant count
- Addressing support needs in the MCP program secondary to program growth.

# Office of the Tribal Liaison (OTL)

- Compliance with the State Tribal Collaboration Act.
- Convening regional meetings to receive review and comment for the State Health Improvement Plan
- Collaborating with off-reservation population tribal serving organizations

# Office of Policy and Accountability (OPA)

- Legislative Requests, Jr. Bill appropriations, tracking implementation of NMDOH laws and rules
- Non-budget legislative proposals
- Performance measure negotiations with Legislative Finance Committee
- Health Equity
- Reaccreditation

# Public Health Reaccreditation

- In November 2015, NMDOH was awarded public health accreditation by the Public Health Accreditation Board (PHAB)
- Reaccreditation due 2020.
- Best practice components NMDOH must demonstrate, include:
  - State Health Assessment
  - State Health Improvement
  - Strategic Planning
  - Performance Management
  - Quality Improvement
  - Workforce Development
  - Emergency Preparedness
- The reaccreditation expectations are broad reaching and inform and influence many of NMDOH's efforts for FY20 and beyond

# Behavioral Health Collaborative-Effectively Address Substance Use Disorder

- Expand access to substance abuse treatment (including medication-assisted treatment (MAT)) service lines at Turquoise Lodge Hospital.
- Expand medical assisted treatment in primary care
- Mapping all existing treatment locations, including tribal locations-identifying gaps.
- Partnering with the Behavioral Health Services Division (BHSD) to evaluate existing programs.
- Seeking partnerships with Counties and UNM
- Identify strategies to address alcohol and meth



# Travels around the State:

- Clovis- PFAS update for community
- Deming – met with City of Deming and Luna County officials to define NMDOH role at asylee shelter
- Las Cruces - Organized Asylum Health Care Effort. Key note at New Mexico Public Health Association (NMPHA) conference
- Lordsburg - listened to community concerns with Border crossings
- T or C – Vets Home and Childrens’ services
- Ruidoso – Key note speech at Promotores conference
- Las Vegas – Boarding Home site visits
- Ft Bayard – Medical Center Site visit
- El Paso – US Customs and Border Protection meeting
- Farmington – Public Health Clinic site visit
- Roswell – New Mexico Rehabilitation Center site visit
- Cloudcroft
- Picuris Pueblo
- Navajo Nation – The Secretary and Tribal Liaison met with tribal leaders in Albuquerque

# Key Issues to Address

- Jackson dismissal
- Developmental Disability Waiver (DDW) wait list
- Medical cannabis changes/adult use task force
- Rate increases for developmental disability (DD) providers
- Eliminate backlogs in:
  - Division of Health Improvement
  - Scientific Laboratory Division
- Safe site injection disease control
- Appropriate placement and retention of critical staff
- Green House Project
- Behavioral Health Collaborative (BHC): substance use disorder (SUD) prevention, treatment, recovery systems and services

# NMDOH Strategic Plan

- Increased NMDOH Accountability in Government Act (AGA) performance measures from 41 in FY20 to 73 in FY21's proposal
- Drafted NMDOH Interim FY20 Strategic Plan, which is focused on agency-wide goals, objectives and activities
- Scheduled a strategic planning retreat with NMDOH Senior Leadership for Sept. 6<sup>th</sup>, formulate the long-range Departmental goals

# State Health Improvement Plan (SHIP)

- The NMDOH Strategic Plan has a different role and purpose than the State Health Improvement Plan (SHIP):
  - The NMDOH Strategic Plan establishes the Department's direction and plan of action, for things like making organizational practice improvements and assuring a competent public health workforce, whereas;
  - The State Health Improvement Plan determines and addresses the state's health priorities and how, in partnership with key partners, NMDOH can positively and collectively impact the significant health issues of the state.

# Thank you!

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