HEALTH CARE AUTHORITY

Michelle Lujan Grisham, Governor
Kari Armijo, Secretary
Alex Castillo Smith, Deputy Secretary
Kathy Slater Huff, Deputy Secretary
Niki Kozlowski, Acting Deputy Secretary
Alanna Dancis, Acting Medicaid Director

Native American Technical Advisory Committee (NATAC) Quarterly Meeting Minutes

Date: Monday, June 15, 2026, 9:00 a.m.- 11:30 a.m., virtual on Teams

NATAC Members
Leonard Montoya (Ohkay Owingeh Pueblo); Patrick Aragon (Acoma); Anthony Yepa, Lena Gachupin (Santo Doming Pueblo); Emily Haozous (Picuris Pueblo); Iris Reano (Zia Pueblo); Michele Morris (Navajo Nation)
HCA Agencies Members
Pharon, Morgan, HCA; Heidi, Capriotti, HCA; Trisstin Maroney, HCA; Amy Alexander, HCA; La Don, Woodson, HCA; Nick Boukas, HCA; Zachary, Larry, HCA; Kristen A, Borderswood, HCA; Aguilar, Cynthia, HCA; Chastity, Sandoval, HCA; Vanessa, Skrehot, HCA; Tamara, Espinoza, IAD; IAD; Jeanelle, Romero, C, HCA; Amy, Alexander, HCA; Elena Sanchez, HCA; Janet, Johnson, DOH; Christopher, Bartsch, HCA; Michelle Velarde, DWS
Indian Health Services/Tribal 638 Members
None
MCO Members
Sharilyn Roanhorse-Aguilar, Sharon Notah (Molina), Shelly Begay (BCBS)
Artificial Intelligent (AI)
Michelle Notetaker
Agenda

• 9 a.m.- Meeting called order • Opening prayer- Leonard Montoya • Land acknowledgement	• Agenda Read over • Welcome newest NATAC membership

Summary

Native American Enrollment Data in New Mexico: Pharon Morgan, MAD Tribal Liaison

- Native American population in New Mexico has shown steady and consistent growth over the last five years, increasing from just over 241,000 in 2020 in 2020 to nearly 245,000 in 2024.
- Highest Native American population by county: McKinley, Cibola, San Juan, Rio Arriba and Sandoval counties
- Smallest Native American population by county: Mora, Sierra, Hidalgo, Harding and De Baca
- 60% adults aged 18 to 64
- MCO enrollment data: April 2026, more than 125,000 Native American individuals enrolled across New Mexico programs in New Mexico
    - FFS and Presbyterian Health Plan largest enrollment group

- The data reflects a growing population with strong enrollment participation, concentrated in key counties, and support by a wide range of Medicaid eligibility

10 Things to Know about Medicaid in New Mexico: Heidi Capriotti, Communications and Innovations

- Medicaid covers about 38% of the state population
- Approx. 70% of newly born (under 1 year old) residents qualify for Medicaid.
- American Indian/Alaska Native member are not required to participated in managed care and may use fee-for-service
- Significant federal changes begin as early as October; Lawfully present non-citizens will lose Medicaid coverage starting October 1 unless the state provides special funding. New Mexico legislature appropriated funds to continue coverage for eligible enrollees.
- A webpage for HR1 updates is available and update frequently. Keep Your Benefits NM – New Mexico Health Care Authority

NO QUESTION FROM PARTICIPANTS

Director Dancis 2026 Priorities: Heidi Capriotti, Communications and Innovations

- Director's 2026 priorities
  - Implement HR1 with minimal disruption to members;
  - Strengthen program integrity and reduce fraud, waste, and abuse.
  - Complete open projects while managing HR1 implementation
- NATAC membership: 12-13 tribes currently participate; Voice and representation are critical for shaping Medicaid
- Ordering and Referring Provider requirement extended to October 1

NO QUESTION FROM PARTICIPANTS

Primary Care Payment Reform Value-Based Payment (PCPR-VBP): Trisstin Maroney, Interagency Primary Care Lead

- PCPR is part of broader state payment reform
- Goal: Support high-quality, equitable primary care with incentive payments
- Based on State-directed payments for primary care providers
- Eligibility: Medicaid-certified, have MCO agreements, submit required data
- Currently required measures include next-available appointment, patient experience, and structural measures (e.g., SBRIT, quality improvement)
- Payments are made as a uniform percentage increase on eligible Medicaid claims

Question: Anthony Yepa: Referred to the Value based program under the MCO. Hard idea to sell to tribes. How will the OMB rate be affected with this program? This may be a

major issue to address because of data sharing, private equity companies, duplication, and so forth.

Rural Transformation Program (RHTP): Elisa Wrede, Acting Rural Health Director

- Five-year federal initiative; New Mexico received over 211 million dollars in year one.
- Expected total around 1 billion dollars over five years (pending performance).
- Focus areas: access, workforce, sustainability, data, and community designed solutions.
- Community feedback shaped five initiatives:
  1. Healthy Horizons: expand specialty, maternal, chronic care, digital access.
  2. Rooted in New Mexico: rural workforce pipeline.
  3. Rural Health Innovation Fund: community-driven solutions; applications opening soon.
  4. Bridge to Resilience: technical assistance for financial stability of rural clinics/hospitals.
  5. Rural Health Data Hub: shared analytics and predictive planning.
- Applications for various components rolling out June–July.
- Strong need for marketing and outreach to tribes to ensure awareness.
- TA support will be provided; tribes encouraged to sign up for email updates.

Question: Ask the NATAC members: How can we pass the word about RHTP?

- Anthony Yepa: I have a list of community members who are interested and will share the information. Tribes need technical assistance on grant writing and navigating application processes.
- Iris Reano: Request for technical assistance on grant processing; will help tribes to apply for grants in the future. Applications need to be sent to tribal programs, CHR, social services, behavioral health departments, not just sent to governors' officers.
- Anthony Yepa: Governor of Acoma will be opening an Adolescent inpatient treatment center and social detox facilities; may the funding be assisted?
- Elise Wrede: Funding of RHTP can be used for the program; We can provide support to your question per federal funding mechanism.

Department of Workforce Solutions: Michelle Velarde, DSW

- Mission to educate, empower, employ, and enforce.
- 24 America's Job Centers across New Mexico.
- Services free: computers, fax, space, job search assistance.
- Quarterly Native American workforce partnership meetings.
- Federal programs: rapid response, reemployment services, WOTC, job training.
- State initiatives: Step Up, Gateway homelessness support, SNAP/Medicaid work requirement assistance.
- Mobile units (Be Pro Be Proud trailer and Little Hercules) available for career outreach in communities.
- Pre-apprenticeship program for ages 16–24; several placements with Pueblos.
- Support for veterans including priority of service and stand-down events.
- Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) training dollars available.
- Tribal liaison: Rosina Espinoza.
- Transportation and outreach challenges noted by tribal participants.

NO QUESTION FROM PARTICIPANTS

- Next NATAC meeting: September 21, 2026 (9am-11am)
- Survey and in person meeting

Closing Prayer: Leonard

Meeting Adjournment: 11:11 a.m.