

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING
BETWEEN
Cochise County Health and Social Services (CCHSS)
1415 Melody Lane Bldg. A
Bisbee, AZ 85603

AND

Bisbee Coalition For the Homeless
509 Romero St.
Bisbee, AZ 85603

SUBJECT: Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) for Cochise County Health and Social Services (CCHSS) Commitment of time-limited space assignment and Employee Assignment

1. Purpose:

This memorandum outlines the time-limited assignment of space to Bisbee Coalition For the Homeless for housing of one (1) Community Health Worker. The space will be available for use until the Cochise County Health Disparities Initiative ends whichever comes first.

2. Background:

The purpose of this memorandum of understanding (MOU) is to leverage partnerships between ADHS, Local Health Departments and Statewide Partners by addressing Covid-19 Health Disparities Among Populations at High-Risk and who are Underserved, Including Racial and Ethnic Minority Populations and Rural Communities. The goal of this initiative is to support the implementation of the four (4) overarching strategies identified in the CDC grant:

1. Expand existing and/or develop new mitigation and prevention resources and services to reduce COVID-19 related disparities among populations at higher risk and that are underserved,
2. Increase/ improve data collection and reporting for populations experiencing a disproportionate burden of COVID-19 infection, severe illness, and death to guide the response to the COVID-19 pandemic,
3. Build, leverage, and expand infrastructure support for COVID-19 prevention and control among populations that are at higher risk and underserved, and
4. Mobilize partners and collaborators to advance health equity and address social determinants of health as they are related to COVID-19 health disparities among populations at higher risk and that are underserved.

One third (33%) of Cochise County residents are Hispanic/Latino. Many are first- or second-generation Mexican Americans, and many are farmworkers from Mexico who are attracted to the area. Douglas and Willcox residents are 74% and 35% Hispanic/Latino respectively. Nearly one third of county residents speak a language other than English at home, meaning that they lack English Language Proficiency. In the Douglas, Willcox and Bisbee/Naco areas, where 14% to 17% of adults has less than a 9th grade education. Unemployment is high across the board, ranging from 30% in Douglas to a low of 11% in Bisbee, which is the county government seat and major source of employment. In Cochise County 37% of COVID-19 cases have been among individuals of Hispanic/Latino origin. This initiative targets rural communities in these four areas of Cochise County but will also improve access in the more urban areas. The initiative will be accomplished through the following activities:

Socially Vulnerable Cochise County Homeless Residents:

CHSS will partner with the Good Neighbor Alliance in Sierra Vista and the Bisbee Coalition for the Homeless to develop and implement the second part of this initiative. The goal of the Initiative is to reduce covid-19 impacts among socially vulnerable Cochise County homeless residents. Two Community Health Workers/CHWs (Promotores de Salud) will be trained to provide education to promote and support members of the target population. The CHWs will each be assigned to work directly with each partner organization. A statewide CHW Association will be contracted to train and mobilize the CHWs to help the homeless to access and understand health information to mitigate covid-19 and its social impacts. SEAHEC will promote understanding and application of the National CLAS Standards through best practice and system/policy change with partner organizations.

3. Shared Goals and Points of Mutual Interest:

The parties have identified the following common goals and shared interests related to the care of individuals who are affected by COVID-19 and among the socially vulnerable of Cochise County homeless, these common goals and shared interests are referred to herein as the “MOU Objectives”:

- Provide office space as needed for Community Health Worker (CHW) that is employed through CCHSS.
- Ensure the CHW, while being provided space and time at Bisbee Coalition For the Homeless, is still complying with CCHSS policies and procedures.
- Allow CHW to participate as a member of a staff team to coordinate services.
- Allow CHW to conduct outreach and/or recruitment to connect community members to services.
- Allow CHW to provide one-on-one education in the community, the home, in clinical settings, and/or virtually via phone or computer to help community members understand health information and where to obtain it.
- Allow CHW to refer the community members to services that could benefit them and follow-up with them to track service access and outcomes.
- Allow CHW to plan, conduct, and/or participate in community workshops and education/outreach events.
- Allow CHW to help design or adapt outreach and education materials tailored to the community served.

- Allow CHW to participate in meetings to plan, coordinate, and assess the collective work of CHWs across the Initiative.
- Allow CHW to document services provided while complying with HIPAA regulations.
- Allow CHW to submit needed reports as required.
- Allow CHW to help apply evaluation results to quality improvement of services.

4. Responsibilities of the Parties:

The parties have determined it is in their best interest to cooperate and collaborate to implement a mutually beneficial process and achieve the MOU Objectives:

- Once MOU is approved and signed, parties will meet at least quarterly and/or as needed basis to ensure the MOU Objectives continue to be met.
- Each party will identify and report to each other any issues that may arise during the processes.
- This MOU is in no way financially binding towards Bisbee Coalition For the Homeless. Cochise County is not requesting compensation from Bisbee Coalition For the Homeless.

Bisbee Coalition For the Homeless and Cochise County Health and Social Services

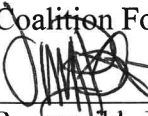
By:
 Name: Tony Bedolla
 Title: Executive Director

Date: 11/12/21

By:
 Name:
 Title:

Date:

I have read this MOU, and understand the obligations placed on me and my organization and other Bisbee Coalition For the Homeless employees under my supervision and agree to be bound by it.



 Responsible Party

 Responsible Party

