

ACQ Policy and Quality Subcommittee Meeting Summary

4/8/2026, 1:00 – 3:00 PM

Co-Chairs: Elana Gonzales, Winton Wood

Attendees: Johanna Armendariz (CNRAG), Jim Copeland (ADDCP), Valerie Dewbre (ENMRSH, Inc.), Cassandra DeCamp (UNM CDD), Sarah Marsh (Parents Reaching Out), Kate Nash (BCBSNM), Shoshana Perry (Project Shield), Tracy Perry (Direct Therapy Services), Angelique Tafoya (Alta Mira NM), Frank Villegas (GRU Inc.)

AGENDA ITEMS

1. Introduction – Elana Gonzales, Winton Wood

- Co-chair and attendee introductions
- Statement of Purpose:
 - The Policy and Quality Subcommittee of the Advisory Council on Quality (ACQ) serves as an advisory group focused on improving policies and service quality for individuals with Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities (IDD). This subcommittee:
 - Reviews and recommends DDS policies to the full Advisory Council.
 - Focuses on quality improvement in service delivery systems.
 - Incorporates input from external and internal stakeholders.
 - Meets regularly (bi-monthly) to address ongoing policy and quality initiatives.
 - It contributes to DDS's broader commitment to service quality, performance measurement, and collaboration with providers through efforts including service standards, clinical initiatives, and quality assurance activities.
 - The attending group should be balanced and include self-advocates, families, provider agencies, advocacy agencies and other interested parties. Attendance is not limited to ACQ members.

- Overview of Agenda

- Update from prior meeting:

- Policy Development & Implementation Process Finalized

2. Training Compliance Policy - Elana Gonzales

- Training Compliance Policy draft overview.
- Feedback due to elana.gonzales@hca.nm.gov by April 15, 2026.
- Discussion, Q & A:
 - A question was raised about the wording that for employee to be a

considered “qualified”, they need to complete training. It was suggested that the term “qualified” should be changed to “training compliant” in order to avoid confusion.

- It was asked who would be contacted if someone is out of compliance with training and who is responsible for follow-up.
- It was discussed whether or not the Employer of Record (EOR) should get access to the training hub to monitor compliance. While some discussion was in favor, a point was raised about the EOR position being unpaid, making it less appropriate to add additional responsibility to the role.
- A question was raised regarding employees completing training during the unpaid period before work begins.
- A question was asked about duplications in the Training Hub and relevant technical guidance. For example, individuals who have more than one entry in the Training Hub due to multiple legal names or because they are providing services for multiple agencies.
- It was suggested that DDS should contact Mi Via vendor agencies (In-Home Living Supports agencies, specifically), or even specific staff members directly about non-compliance in addition to EOR’s and consultants.

3. Wrap-Up- Elana Gonzales

- Suggestion of topics for DDS/ next meeting.
- Future meetings will continue with the usual schedule (bi-monthly, 2nd Wednesday of the month from 1:00-3:00 pm). Interim meetings can be called when needed.
- The next sub-committee meeting will take place on Wednesday, June 10th, 2026 from 1:00-3:00 pm.