



360 West Fourth Street, Truth or Consequences, NM 87901 Email: [sierrahealthcouncil@gmail.com](mailto:sierrahealthcouncil@gmail.com)

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## SIERRA HEALTH COUNCIL FACT SHEET

### ***Purpose***

The *Sierra Health Council* has an active membership representing almost all of the federal, state, and local agencies in Sierra County. We facilitate opportunities for communication and collaboration pertaining to health concerns among community organizations, agencies, and individuals. We also serve as a meeting place and clearinghouse for the initiation and dissemination of ideas to improve the health of our community.

### ***Accomplishments & Activities 2010-11***

- Became a 501(c)3 nonprofit charitable organization and elected a Board of Directors in 2011. All work has been performed by membership volunteers.
- Held a Community Forum in partnership with *Health Action New Mexico* presenting updated information about the *Patient Protection & Affordability Act*.
- Conducted a Community Resource Fair in partnership with the local high school focusing on families & adolescent health.
- Initiated a *Community Health Needs Assessment (CHNA)* by facilitating a partnership with our local nonprofit hospital.
- Facilitated monthly membership Round Table discussions to provide opportunities for agency and individual collaboration.
- Provided ongoing communication with membership through website management [www.sierrahealthcouncil.com](http://www.sierrahealthcouncil.com)
- Provided access to county-wide Service Directory in partnership with *My Community NM*
- Participated and collaborated with the *New Mexico Alliance of Health Councils (NMAHC)* and *Region 5 Public Health Office* of Southern New Mexico.
- Partnered with member agencies to provide classes on parenting, basic life skills, financial literacy, and updates to *Medicare*.

### ***Ambitions & Proposals***

- Continue to provide the services and opportunities outlined previously
- Establish a Health Resource Center dedicated to providing a health information library, education, offices, and meeting space for the public at a central location.
- Adjust programs and create new programs to address issues raised by the CHNA.

### ***Summary***

The *Sierra Health Council* has partnered with NMDOH to provide valuable public health services for our community. We are seeking additional funding to maintain our current activities and develop new projects. We need funding for materials and salaried personnel to help organize, facilitate, and manage health council operations.

<http://www.sierrahealthcouncil.com>