

# Bernalillo County Behavioral Health Initiative: Mobile Crisis Teams Calls For Service February 2018 thru July 2019

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### Introduction

Mobile Crisis Teams (MCT) in Bernalillo County, New Mexico are designed to improve the outcomes of 911 police calls for service (CFS) in which an individual is having a behavioral health crisis by having both an officer and licensed clinician respond to the crisis.

The following reviews CFS data between February 2018 and July 2019 from the Bernalillo County Sheriff's Office (BCSO) and the Albuquerque Police Department (APD). Within this time period Bernalillo County and the City of Albuquerque have funded six MCTs which have been dispatched to a total of 3,514 CFS.

Because the data has been provided separately by BCSO and APD, the data by department contains slightly different information, and the data has varied slightly over the time period by department. As such, the following tables may report on different subsets of the calls for service. This will be noted when it occurs. We are working with each department to more completely standardize the information.

There were 3,308 unique CFS dispatched, and 2,556 CFS with an arrival on scene time. The unique CFS excludes 206 calls for which two MCTs were dispatched. We believe the majority of these calls were CFS during which one team was training with another team. When more than one team was dispatched to a call, we included the team with the earlier on scene arrival time.

Approximately 77% of the unique calls for service with an MCT dispatched had an MCT arrival on scene time. Currently we have a limited understanding of why approximately 23% of all unique dispatched CFS do not have an on scene time. One reason is because the call is cancelled before they become enroute to the scene (5.4%). We have also been told there are issues in reporting on scene times when MCTs are working across agencies and some calls are cancelled enroute due to developing situations on scene or if the time until the arrival of an MCT is too long for the first responding officers to wait.

| Table 1 Calls for Service          |                             |  |  |  |
|------------------------------------|-----------------------------|--|--|--|
| Dispatched<br>Calls for<br>Service | Unique Calls<br>for Service | Unique Calls for Service<br>with an MCT On Scene<br>Time |  |  |
| 3,514                              | 3,308                       | 2,556  |  |  |

APD has four MCTs (MCT 2, MCT 4, MCT 5, and MCT 6) and BCSO has two MCTs (MCT 1 and MCT 3). These teams came online at different times during the reporting period and have different work schedules. Table 2 reports the work schedule for each team at the time of this report including the time and days of the week they work from February 2018 to July 2019. Both BCSO teams started in February 2018 while APD's MCT 2 started a month later in March 2018, MCT 4 began work in May 2018, and MCT 5 and 6 began officially working in June 2019. There are at least two teams working each day and teams typically begin work in the late morning to the early afternoon and work into the evening hours.

| Table 2 Working Times by MCT |            |                 |                |                      |  |  |
|------------------------------|------------|-----------------|----------------|----------------------|--|--|
| Team                         | Department | Beginning Month | Shift          | Days of the Week     |  |  |
| MCT 1                        | BCSO       | February 2018   | 10 a.m 8 p.m.  | Monday - Thursday    |  |  |
| MCT 3                        | BCSO       | February 2018   | 1 p.m 11p.m.   | Wednesday - Saturday |  |  |
| MCT 2                        | APD        | March 2018      | 11 a.m 9 p.m.  | Monday - Thursday    |  |  |
| MCT 4                        | APD        | May 2018        | 12 p.m 10 p.m. | Thursday - Sunday    |  |  |
| MCT 5                        | APD        | June 2018       | 10 a.m 8 p.m.  | Wednesday – Saturday |  |  |
| MCT 6                        | APD        | June 2018       | 10 a.m 8 p.m.  | Sunday - Wednesday   |  |  |

Table 3 reports additional detail on the days of the week each MCT team works. MCTs typically work four days a week on ten-hour shifts. Days worked is indicated by the table cell being gray. MCT 1 and MCT 2 work on the same days (Monday – Thursday), MCT 3 works Wednesday through Saturday, MCT 4 works Thursday through Sunday, MCT 5 works Wednesday through Saturday, and MCT 6 works Sunday through Wednesday. Most teams work on Wednesday and Thursday (5), and Saturday and Sunday have the least teams working (2)

| Table 3 W | Table 3 Working Days of the Week by MCT |        |        |         |           |          |        |          |
|-----------|---|--------|--------|---------|-----------|----------|--------|----------|
| Team      | Department                              | Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
| MCT 1     | BCSO                                    |        |        |         |           |          |        |          |
| MCT 3     | BCSO                                    |        |        |         |           |          |        |          |
| MCT 2     | APD                                     |        |        |         |           |          |        |          |
| MCT 4     | APD                                     |        |        |         |           |          |        |          |
| MCT 5     | APD                                     |        |        |         |           |          |        |          |
| MCT 6     | APD                                     |        |        |         |           |          |        |          |

Table 4 reports the number of calls for service for each team during the reporting period. MCT 2 accounted for the largest number and percent of calls for service at 37.2%. For the remainder of the report MCTs 5 & 6 are combined.

| Table 4 Count of Calls for Service by MCT |            |       |         |  |  |  |
|---|------------|-------|---------|--|--|--|
| Team                                      | Department | Count | Percent |  |  |  |
| MCT 1                                     | BCSO       | 754   | 21.5    |  |  |  |
| MCT 3                                     | BCSO       | 511   | 14.5    |  |  |  |
| MCT 2                                     | APD        | 1,308 | 37.2    |  |  |  |
| MCT 4                                     | APD        | 804   | 22.9    |  |  |  |
| MCT 5/6                                   | APD        | 137   | 3.9     |  |  |  |

Table 5 reports detailed information about the calls dispatched, calls with an on scene MCT, the total number of shifts, the average number of dispatches by shift and average number of calls on scene by shift. APD's MCTs are on average dispatched more per shift and are on scene more per shift than BCSO MCTs.

| Table 5 MCT Calls for Service, On Scene Calls, Shifts, and Averages |             |             |              |            |               |  |  |
|---|-------------|-------------|--------------|------------|---------------|--|--|
|   | Total Calls | Total Calls | Total Shifts | Average    | Average Calls |  |  |
|   | Dispatched  | On Scene    |              | Dispatches | On Scene by   |  |  |
|   |             |             |              | by Shift   | Shift         |  |  |
| MCT 1   | 754         | 380         | 260          | 2.9        | 1.5           |  |  |
| MCT 3   | 511         | 294         | 237          | 2.2        | 1.2           |  |  |
| MCT 2   | 1,308       | 1,190       | 301          | 4.3        | 4.0           |  |  |
| MCT 4   | 804         | 726         | 209          | 3.8        | 3.5           |  |  |
| MCT 5 & 6   | 137         | 120         | 41           | 3.3        | 2.9           |  |  |
| Total   | 3,514       | 2,710       | 1,048        | 3.4        | 2.6           |  |  |

Figure 1 reports MCT total dispatches by team and month. The largest number and percent of MCT CFS occurred in September 2018.

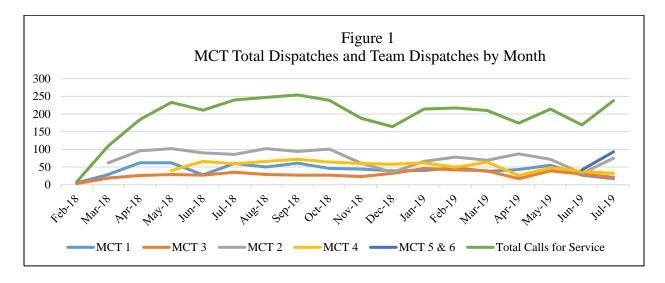


Table 6 reports CFS by MCT and the day of the week. The most CFS occurred on Wednesday followed by Thursday. Because five teams work on both days this is not surprising.

| Table 6 MCT Calls for Service by Team and Day of the Week |       |       |       |       |         |       |         |
|---|-------|-------|-------|-------|---------|-------|---------|
|   | BCSO  |       | APD   |       |         |       |         |
|   | MCT 1 | MCT 3 | MCT 2 | MCT 4 | MCT 5/6 | Total |         |
|   | Count | Count | Count | Count | Count   | Count | Percent |
| Sunday  | 0     | 19    | 1     | 193   | 8       | 221   | 6.3     |
| Monday  | 200   | 313   | 2     | 29    | 41      | 585   | 16.6    |
| Tuesday   | 218   | 303   | 2     | 41    | 34      | 598   | 17.0    |
| Wednesday   | 183   | 320   | 131   | 49    | 34      | 717   | 20.4    |
| Thursday  | 151   | 238   | 108   | 154   | 16      | 667   | 19.0    |
| Friday  | 0     | 58    | 137   | 173   | 3       | 371   | 10.6    |
| Saturday  | 2     | 57    | 130   | 165   | 1       | 355   | 10.1    |
| Total   | 754   | 1,308 | 511   | 804   | 137     | 3,514 | 100     |

Table 7 reports the MCT CFS by team and the time of day. The largest number of CFS start times occurred between 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. followed by 7 p.m. to 11 p.m.

| Table 7 MCT Calls for Service by Team and Time of Day |       |       |       |       |         |       |         |
|---|-------|-------|-------|-------|---------|-------|---------|
|   | BCSO  |       | APD   |       |         |       |         |
|   | MCT 1 | MCT 3 | MCT 2 | MCT 4 | MCT 5/6 | Total |         |
|   | Count | Count | Count | Count | Count   | Count | Percent |
| 3 a.m 7 a.m.  | 0     | 2     | 13    | 5     | 2       | 22    | 0.6     |
| 7 a.m 11 a.m.   | 150   | 5     | 185   | 70    | 32      | 442   | 12.6    |
| 11 a.m 3 p.m.   | 316   | 111   | 569   | 292   | 72      | 1,360 | 38.7    |
| 3 p.m 7 p.m.  | 263   | 243   | 454   | 315   | 28      | 1,303 | 37.1    |
| 7 p.m 11 p.m.   | 24    | 148   | 86    | 122   | 3       | 383   | 10.9    |
| 11 p.m 3 a.m.   | 1     | 2     | 1     | 0     | 0       | 4     | 0.1     |
| Total   | 754   | 511   | 1,308 | 804   | 137     | 3,514 | 100.0   |

Figure 2 reports MCT calls for service by day of week and time of day. Five MCTs work on Thursday and Wednesday, three work on Monday, Tuesday, Friday, and Saturday, and two work on Sundays. The number of calls for service appears to partly related to the number of teams working on the day with Wednesday and Thursday experiencing the most calls for service and Sunday the fewest. Monday, Tuesday, Friday and Saturday each have three teams working and Friday and Saturday each account for approximately 50% fewer calls for service compared to Monday and Tuesday. This difference deserves further study.

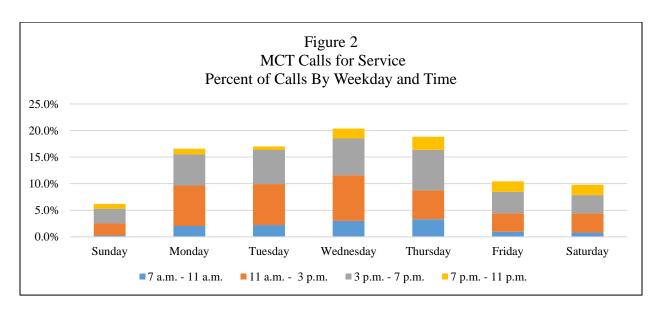


Table 8 combines BCSO and APD calls for service call types and reports calls for service by type of calls. Because the call types differed by agency the following table is the best approximation of combining the two code systems. One example of the differences between the call systems is for suicide calls, for BCSO suicide calls are given 3 code numbers 10-43-1, 10-43-1T, and 10-43-1A and APD lists suicide has a single code number 10-43-1. For a full list of how the code types have been combined see Appendix A. Suicide and behavioral health calls made up 49% of all MCTs CFS. This was followed by welfare check calls (11.2%), other calls (13.1%), and property crime calls (9.9%). These five call types accounted for 83.2% of all calls for service.

| Table 8 CFS Code Types by MCT |       |       |       |       |         |       |         |
|-------------------------------|-------|-------|-------|-------|---------|-------|---------|
|                               | BCSO  |       | APD   |       |         |       |         |
|                               | MCT 1 | MCT 3 | MCT 2 | MCT 4 | MCT 5/6 | Total |         |
|                               | Count | Count | Count | Count | Count   | Count | Percent |
| Behavioral Health             | 229   | 185   | 154   | 125   | 35      | 728   | 20.7    |
| Contact                       | 32    | 8     | 86    | 62    | 43      | 231   | 6.6     |
| Property                      | 50    | 28    | 170   | 93    | 8       | 349   | 9.9     |
| Suicide                       | 201   | 176   | 351   | 261   | 5       | 994   | 28.3    |
| Suspicious                    | 13    | 3     | 141   | 62    | 10      | 229   | 6.5     |
| Violent                       | 14    | 6     | 58    | 44    | 8       | 130   | 3.7     |
| Welfare Check                 | 76    | 32    | 171   | 104   | 9       | 392   | 11.2    |
| Other                         | 139   | 73    | 177   | 53    | 19      | 461   | 13.1    |
| Total                         | 754   | 511   | 1,308 | 804   | 137     | 3,514 | 100     |

The following set of tables report on the time between call events. The calls for service data include several distinct events listed and described in Table 9 and then reported in the following set of tables in a variety of ways. This includes the average number of minutes for all calls for service by MCT by call event and the average number of minutes for common calls for service such as behavioral health calls, suicide calls for service, and welfare check calls for service by MCT by call event.

| Table 9 Call for Service Events Descriptions |   |  |  |  |
|--|---|--|--|--|
| Event  | Description   |  |  |  |
| Start  | This is the time the call for service is logged as starting by Emergency                |  |  |  |
|  | Communications.   |  |  |  |
| Dispatch                                     | This is the time the MCT unit is requested to go to the scene of the call for service.  |  |  |  |
| Enroute                                      | This is the time the MCT unit leaves to the scene of the call for service.              |  |  |  |
| On scene                                     | This is the time the MCT unit arrives at the scene of the call for service.             |  |  |  |
| Clear  | This is the time the MCT is cleared to leave the scene of the call for service.         |  |  |  |
| Total Time                                   | This is the total time of the call for service and is a sum of the events listed above. |  |  |  |

Table 10 reports the average time in minutes by each of the call events for an MCT CFS. On average, BCSO MCTs (MCT 1 and MCT 3) took 11.4 more minutes to arrive on scene from being enroute compared to APD MCTs (MCT 2, MCT 4, MCT 5, and MCT 6). For a further breakdown of CFS events across the three most frequent call types for MCTs see Appendix B.

| Table 10 Ave | Table 10 Average Time in Minutes by Call Event by MCT |            |            |          |          |             |            |
|--------------|---|------------|------------|----------|----------|-------------|------------|
|              | Call  | Call Start | MCT        | MCT      | MCT      | MCT On      | Total      |
|              | Start   | until MCT  | Dispatch   | Dispatch | Enroute  | Scene until | Dispatches |
|              | until Call  | Dispatch   | until Call | until    | until On | Call        |            |
|              | Clear   |            | Clear      | Enroute  | Scene    | Cleared     |            |
| MCT 1        | 104.9   | 17.7       | 87.2       | 1.5      | 24.9     | 68.9        | 356        |
| MCT 3        | 127.0   | 28.9       | 103.3      | 3.4      | 19.9     | 79.9        | 276        |
| MCT 2        | 108.2   | 26.0       | 82.2       | 0.5      | 10.6     | 71.0        | 1,178      |
| MCT 4        | 115.6   | 25.9       | 89.8       | 0.8      | 13.2     | 75.7        | 716        |
| MCT 5 & 6    | 87.0  | 18.8       | 68.1       | .0       | 6.8      | 61.2        | 117        |
| All          | 110.8   | 24.8       | 86.5       | 1.0      | 14.0     | 72.5        | 2,643      |

Table 11 reports on 2,643 calls for service with an on scene arrival time. On average MCTs spend 86.5 minutes from being dispatched until the call was cleared for calls for service with an on scene arrival time. While MCTs spent similar amounts of time in minutes and as a percent of the total call for service the average number of calls per shift varied considerably by MCT. On average, MCTs arrived on scene to 2.6 calls per shift with MCT 3 responding to the fewest calls on average (1.2) followed by MCT 1 (1.5). MCT 2 responded to the most calls per shift with an average of 4 calls for service per shift.

On average APD MCTs responded to more calls for service per shift and spent a greater number of total minutes and percent of their available time per shift on calls for service. It would be useful to better understand MCTs workload.

| Table 11 Average Time in Minutes by Call for Service and the Percent of Shift |                |            |               |          |             |  |
|---|----------------|------------|---------------|----------|-------------|--|
| Team  | Average        | Average    | Average       | Total    | Percent of  |  |
|   | Minutes        | Dispatches | Minutes Spent | Shift in | Total Shift |  |
|   | Between MCT    | with an On | per Shift on  | Minutes  | in Minutes  |  |
|   | Dispatch until | Scene Time | CFS with an   |          | on a CFS    |  |
|   | Call Cleared   | per Shift  | On Scene Time |          |             |  |
| MCT 1   | 87.2           | 1.5        | 130.8         | 600      | 21.8        |  |
| MCT 3   | 103.3          | 1.2        | 123.4         | 600      | 20.6        |  |
| MCT 2   | 82.2           | 4.0        | 328.8         | 600      | 54.8        |  |
| MCT 4   | 89.8           | 3.5        | 314.3         | 600      | 52.4        |  |
| MCT 5/6   | 68.1           | 2.9        | 197.5         | 600      | 32.9        |  |
| All   | 86.5           | 2.6        | 224.9         | 600      | 37.5        |  |

Table 12 reports the dispositions of CFS with an on scene arrival time Very few MCT CFS resulted in an arrest (2.6 %) and 35.3% of CFS resulted in the client being transported to a hospital. In the future, we hope to be able to compare these results to a comparison group of calls that did not involve an MCT.

| Table 12 Disposition of CFS with Arrest having Highest Priority |       |         |  |  |  |
|---|-------|---------|--|--|--|
| Description   | Count | Percent |  |  |  |
| Arrest  | 66    | 2.6     |  |  |  |
| Hospital  | 909   | 35.3    |  |  |  |
| Clear   | 1,590 | 61.8    |  |  |  |
| Unknown   | 9     | 0.4     |  |  |  |
| Total   | 2,574 | 100     |  |  |  |

## **Conclusion and Summary**

In the future, we plan on reviewing police reports associated with MCT calls for services, the addition of more months of data and more detailed data (i.e. disposition of calls and location of calls), a comparison to similar calls to which a MCT was not dispatched, an updated review of data maintained by the contracted Hope Works clinicians, and the combined reporting of CFS data, police report data, and data maintained by the contracted clinicians.

The first MCT team began taking calls in February 2018, the fourth team became operational in early May 2018, and the two most recent teams became operational in June 2019. Between February 2018 and July 2019, the six MCTs have been dispatched to 3,514 calls for service. The six teams together work

every day of the week and the teams work between 10 a.m. and 11 p.m. Currently five teams work on Thursday and Wednesday, and Sunday is the only day with two teams. BCSO MCTs on average have been dispatched 2.5 times per shift and APD MCTs have been dispatched on average 4.1 times per shift. This difference in dispatches between the groups deserves further study. As noted in Table 9 three types of calls for service accounted for 60.2% of the calls for service. These calls for service are suicide calls (28.3%), behavioral health calls (20.7%) and welfare check calls (11.2%). Other calls (13.2%), and property crime calls (9.9%) accounted for another 23.1% of all calls for service. These five call types accounted for 83.3% of all calls for service. On average, 86.5 minutes elapses from the time an MCT is dispatched until the time a CFS is cleared. On average it takes 72.5 minutes from the time an MCT arrives on scene until a CFS is cleared. Of the three most frequent types of CFS to which MCTs respond, behavioral health CFS on average take the most time at 87.4 minutes from arrival on scene to clear. The majority of CFS have not resulted in an arrest or hospital transport (62.1%).

# **Appendix A. Calls for Service Categorized**

| Calls for Service Categories by Code Type |                          |                        |  |  |
|---|--------------------------|------------------------|--|--|
| Codes Reported                            | APD                      | BCSO                   |  |  |
| Behavioral Health                         | 10-40                    | 10-40,10-40F           |  |  |
| Contact                                   | 10-25                    | 10-25:10-25T           |  |  |
| Property                                  | 27-5:27-7, 38-39S        | 27-5A:27-7R, 10-38:39  |  |  |
| Suicide                                   | 10-43-1                  | 10-43-1, 43-1A:43-1TO  |  |  |
| Suspicious                                | 10-31:31S                | 10-31:31V              |  |  |
| Violent                                   | 27-1:27-4,27-8,27-9,27-U | 27-1:27-4P, 27-8-27-9O |  |  |
| Welfare Check                             | 10-10-0                  | 10-10                  |  |  |
| Other                                     | All Other Code Types     | All Other Code Types   |  |  |

### Appendix B.

Tables B.1 through B.3 are breakdowns of the three most frequently occurring MCT call types, as was done in table 10. Table B.1 reports on call events for behavioral health calls by team (504 calls for service). MCT 4 on average had the longest time from when a behavioral health call started until when they were dispatched. MCT 4 on average spent the most time on scene until cleared.

| Table B.1 Average Time in Minutes of Behavioral Health Calls by Call Event by MCT |                  |               |                |              |            |
|---|------------------|---------------|----------------|--------------|------------|
|   | Call Start until | MCT Dispatch  | MCT Enroute    | MCT On       | Total      |
|   | MCT Dispatch     | until Enroute | until On Scene | Scene until  | Dispatches |
|   |                  |               |                | Call Cleared | Based On   |
| MCT 1   | 13.9             | 2.2           | 33.1           | 77.26        | 100        |
| MCT 3   | 18.0             | 2.4           | 20.8           | 86.6         | 106        |
| MCT 2   | 41.5             | 0.5           | 11.9           | 89.5         | 146        |
| MCT 4   | 52.7             | 0.5           | 12.3           | 94.7         | 118        |
| MCT 5 & 6   | 32.4             | 0.0           | 6.6            | 84.9         | 34         |
| All   | 33.1             | 1.2           | 17.7           | 87.4         | 504        |

Table B.2 reports on call events for suicide calls by MCT (749 calls for service). MCT 3 on average had the longest time from when a suicide CFS started until when they were dispatched. MCT 4 on average spent the most time on scene until cleared.

| Table B.2 Average Time in Minutes of Suicide Calls by Call Event by MCT |                  |               |                |              |            |
|---|------------------|---------------|----------------|--------------|------------|
|   | Call Start until | MCT Dispatch  | MCT Enroute    | MCT On       | Total      |
|   | MCT Dispatch     | until Enroute | until On Scene | Scene until  | Dispatches |
|   |                  |               |                | Call Cleared | Based On   |
|   |                  |               |                |              |            |
| MCT 1   | 8.8              | 1.1           | 31.7           | 63.5         | 93         |
| MCT 3   | 23.2             | 4.6           | 19.0           | 89.1         | 88         |
| MCT 2   | 8.7              | 0.4           | 12.7           | 82.1         | 325        |
| MCT 4   | 7.1              | 0.6           | 14.6           | 96.1         | 238        |
| MCT 5 & 6   | 9                | 0             | 16.6           | 40.8         | 5          |
| All   | 10.4             | 1.9           | 14.9           | 78.3         | 749        |

Table B.3 reports on call events for welfare check calls by team (326 calls for service). MCT 2 on average had the longest time from when a welfare check CFS started until when they were dispatched. MCTs 5 & 6 on combined average spent the most time on scene until cleared.

| Table B.3 Average Time in Minutes of Welfare Check Calls by Call Event by MCT |                  |               |                |              |            |
|---|------------------|---------------|----------------|--------------|------------|
|   | Call Start until | MCT Dispatch  | MCT Enroute    | MCT On Scene | Total      |
|   | MCT Dispatch     | until Enroute | until On Scene | until Call   | Dispatches |
|   |                  |               |                | Cleared      | Based On   |
| MCT 1   | 19.8             | 0.4           | 14.4           | 42.6         | 46         |
| MCT 3   | 17.4             | 5.5           | 26.0           | 63.7         | 21         |
| MCT 2   | 41.8             | 0.5           | 12.8           | 43.1         | 154        |
| MCT 4   | 29.0             | 1.7           | 16.4           | 54.6         | 97         |
| MCT 5 & 6   | 32.6             | 0             | 18.6           | 83.2         | 8          |
| All   | 33.1             | 1.2           | 15.1           | 48.7         | 326        |