



Psychiatric Medical Association of New Mexico

A District Branch of The American Psychiatric Association

"Physicians Specializing in Psychiatry"

Newsletter APRIL 2024

There's A lot Going on at PMANM

Please join us at the upcoming virtual events!

Oklahoma Psychiatric Physicians Association MOC Journal Club May 21st. We will discuss two articles by Zoom. If you are interested, email Christine Cotter, psychiatricnm@pmanm.org, to get the 2 articles and Zoom link. I am the Executive Director for OPPA as well as PMANM and we want to partner.

PMANM members can take advantage of two webinars by UHS on Resident and Fellow Career Planning, on May 14th from 6-8pm central time. These two, one hour webinars are free to ALL MEMBERS.

1. Contracts and Negotiations
2. Mistakes to Avoid During the Hiring Process



Foto/CATA Centroamérica

2024 Annual University of New Mexico Rural Psychiatry Spring Conference (Virtual)

Focusing on the Strengths of
Our Culture: The Mental
Health of Our Children and
Youth Beyond Borders

REGISTER EARLY!



No Cost

The University of New Mexico (UNM) School of Medicine Department of Psychiatry has held an annual spring conference for several years. The New Mexico Behavioral Health Services Division (BHSD), Psychiatric Medical Association of New Mexico (PMANM) and the Executive Secretary of the Council of Ministers of Health of Central America and Dominican Republic (SE-COMISCA) have partnered and will assist in coordination of our spring 2024 annual conference.

The main objective of this conference is to share good practices among Mental Health professionals serving rural communities and minority groups. For the second year in a row, this spring event will be entirely in Spanish (English subtitles).

SAVE THE DATE

Friday, May 31, 2024

8:00 am - 1:00 pm

MDT/CST

(Central America)

100% Spanish Speaking

(English Subtitles)

[CLICK FOR MORE INFORMATION](#)



What's New at the APA

Join colleagues May 4-8 for five days of sessions, courses, & more! Choose from the in-person experience in vibrant New York City or the virtual-only experience. I plan to be in New York for the APA meetings. If you are attending and would like to meet for coffee, give me a call 240-888-9355.

Legislative Update

The Governor signed the following bills into law:

- Legislation aiming to **prevent service member and veteran suicide**: [HB0298 \(nmlegis.gov\)](https://www.nmlegis.gov/bills/200-299/HB0298)
- **Prescription drug transparency** legislation [HB0033AFS \(nmlegis.gov\)](https://www.nmlegis.gov/bills/200-299/HB0333)
- Legislation to **limit step therapy**: [SBO135PAS \(nmlegis.gov\)](https://www.nmlegis.gov/bills/200-299/SB0135)
- **Psychologist prescribing scope expansion** (SB 127):
 - Grant prescribing psychologists the authority to prescribe for side effects directly resulting from prescribing of psychotropic medications
 - Notify and discuss with clinician who oversees patient's care within 20 days of issuance of prescription
 - After four years' experience allow prescribing psychologists to supervise other prescribing psychologists (NP's and clinical nurse specialist already have this authority).
 - Prescribing psychologists may prescribe and administer psychotropic medication injections after board certified training.
 - Committee comprised of two prescribing psychologist and two members of the medical board will investigate complaints and make recommendations to both boards.

The state legislature passed legislation requesting the Department of Health to study the efficacy of using psilocybin mushrooms for therapeutic treatments and the establishment of a program for psilocybin mushrooms to be used for therapeutic medical treatments. It did not need to be signed by Governor as it is a "memorial" bill requesting an agency take action. We will check what the Gov's position is on psilocybin and if she will back it up.

Amanda Chesley Blecha, Esq.

Senior Regional Field Director - State Government Affairs, Central | Division of Advocacy, Policy, and Practice Management, American Psychiatric Association, www.psychiatry.org.

PMANM Council

Our council meetings are conducted via Zoom. All members are welcome. However, if you'd like to participate, please send me an email at PsychiatricNM@pmanm.org, and I'll send you the link. The next meeting will be on Thursday, June 20th, 2024 from 5:30-6:30PM Mountain Time.

We are also looking for volunteers to assume Officer positions, including President. Please email me if you are interested.

-Christine Cotter