

Research & Continuous Improvement Committee (RACI) Meeting Minutes:

Location: Microsoft Teams

Date: 01/09/2026

Time: 9:00 am

Organizers: Johnathan Mouchet, Brenda Martinez, Dominick Zurlo, Katy Freytag, Jorge Gonzales, Cathy Augeri, Dan Jennings (Chair)

Attendees: Ian Dunn, Robert Truckner, Gregory Evans, Brenda Burgard, James Hosobe, Erik Baca, Denali Wilson, Shane McDaniel, Tessa Cappelle, Kate Hawke, Marcus Ryals, James Brown, Dan Huson, Ben Edwards, DezBaa, Meredith McBranch, Debbie Traynor, Catherine Warnock, Aaron Ashe, James Ferreira, Des, Lisa Price, State Senator Jeff Steinborn, Kathleen Bruce

Minute Taker: Carmen Batista

**This meeting was recorded. For specific details pertaining to the meeting, please refer to the recording located on the Medical Psilocybin Advisory Board Website: [Psilocybin Advisory Board](#)*

Agenda items

1. Welcoming Regards

- The meeting was called to order at 9:02 AM by Chair, Dan Jennings. The Chair welcomed participants and noted this meeting served as both an orientation and the first formal meeting of the Research and Continuous Improvement (RACI) Committee.

2. Introductions

- The Chair first asked DOH to introduce who was present. Then the Chair opened the floor for anyone to share their name role and area of expertise, perspective. Each introduction was provided by the individual member.
- DOH Staff Introductions
 - Dominic Zurlo- Director
 - Jorge Gonzales- Program Manager for the Medical Psilocybin Program

- Cathy Augeri- IT Project Manager-support with IT related projects
 - Brenda Martinez-Deputy Director
- Brenda Burgard:
 - On the Advisory Board for Education and Training. Is a LPCC and has been living in NM for many decades, is familiar with the culture. Is a graduate of NMSU, UNM, Southwestern College of SF.
- Dan Huson:
 - Is from Oregon, part of the licensed psilocybin testing laboratory. Present to assist with any questions that may arise regarding the industry.
- Gregory Evans:
 - I am an independent researcher with interests in genetics, analytics, dosage, administration protocols, and harm reduction; focused on research integration, and cross-committee knowledge transfer.
- Kate Hawke:
 - Trauma therapist based in Santa Fe, NM; long-standing MAPS member; experience working on the Navajo Nation; background in harm reduction; trained in ketamine- and psychedelic-assisted therapy; current focus on end-of-life care.
- James Brown:
 - Doctor of Pharmacy (University of New Mexico); trained psilocybin facilitator through Oregon's regulated program; expertise in pharmacology, contraindications, drug-drug interactions, and patient safety; veteran with lived experience representing disabled veteran populations.
- Denali Wilson

- Director of Strategic Support for NM, for the Healing Advocacy Fund, a nonprofit that supports the state for regulated access for psychedelic healing, with a focus on ensuring accessibility, affordability and equity. Based in Las Cruces, here to support the committee.
 - Catherine Warnock:
 - Licensed Professional Counselor in Las Cruces, NM; trained in psychedelic-assisted therapy in Canada; over three years of clinical experience in psychedelic care; utilizes structured assessments to screen for contraindications.
 - James Hosobe:
 - Pharmaceutical scientist with training in biochemistry and medicinal chemistry; background in preclinical and clinical trial research; focus on patient protection, protocol fidelity, psychiatric and medical stratification, and medication interactions.
 - Shane McDaniel
3. Assistant Psychedelic Assistant Therapy Integration Coach, also an amateur Mycologist, has the necessary equipment to do testing.
- DezBaa
 - Part of the Psilocybin Advisory Board. Here to listen and assist if needed.
 - Tessa Capell
 - Introduce via chat- a PhD in experimental psychology, has worked with Larry Lehman on psychedelic research. Here to see if she can contribute to the research committee.
 - Ben Edwards
 - Works with soil mycology, has done soil restoration for three decades. Has a relationship with psilocybin and indigenous ceremonies.
 - Meredith McBranch

- Psychology Student interested in pursuing a graduate degree in clinical psychology

4. Review of scopes and responsibilities

- RACI purpose
 - The Chair outlined the objectives of the Committee, including explaining the Committee's authority, scope, and responsibilities, ensuring that provider preparation and research activities, harm reduction and program evaluation. Services are rounded in the scientific evidence, ethical standards, and continuous quality improvement principles.
 - Data gathered from patients and providers
 - Outcome monitoring
 - Harm reduction
 - Quality improvement
 - Emergency preparedness and crisis response
 - Attendance was clarified as voluntary and did not obligate service.

5. Best Practices and Resources

- The Chair briefly discussed formalizing a structure of bylaws for this committee. The Chair opened discussion for thoughts of core norms.
- Does anyone have anything to contribute to the norms of the group?
- How we might be able to interact?
- Some norms
 - Committee Voting
 - Qualifications of who can make those votes- Resident of NM
 - All members involved have a vote
- The Chair is taking notes as "homework" for follow up regarding questions and comments.

- Share any links, tools, research
- DOH contact information: Way of sharing information between meetings
 - In email: medical.psilocybin@doh.nm.gov RE: Committee name so it gets directed appropriately.
- Agenda published 24 hours ahead, task priorities and backlog tracking
- Presentations and research materials will be posted by DOH
- Chair provided information from other states like Colorado, and Oregon; even from Canada- some of the regulation, tools and code of ethics, awaiting permission since these have utilized psilocybin.
- Questions to consider:
 - Was it physiological?
 - Was it psychological?
 - Was it behavioral?
 - Rating scale on severity?
 - Was this a verbal de-escalation or did it require EMS transport?

6. Public Comment/Questions

- James Brown- Meeting timeline every two weeks
- Dan Huson- has research posted that can be useful for committee or community
- Gregory Evan- How are we going to decide the work that needs to be done? Who does the work? How do we track that and bring it back to the committee for reporting? To the community? Peer Review?
 - RACI as acronym for this committee
- Kate Hawke- Have certain people as committee members. To identify who votes.
- Catherine Warnock- Do you feel it is important for NM folks to make the final decision?

- James Hosobe- One external resource the committee may find useful is Drug Science, an independent evidence-based organization founded by Dr. David Nutt. <https://www.drugscience.org.uk/>
- Gregory Evans- Do we have any conversation developing around Grant funded or private research programs that could emerge in the state? Is there a type involved in this committee?
- Shane McDaniel- Looking at the dosing, the minimums and maximums?
- Dan Huson- On Dosing? With the active ingredients, and products- highly recommend reaching out to Oregon since they are making changes to their regulations.

7. Dominic Zurlo- clarification when discussing psilocybin, it does include the active metabolite psilocin. The definitions are within the statute

- James-What about including dosage forms?
- Gregory Evans- How or what guidance can we provide to the regulatory process for analytics and reporting?
- Shane McDaniel- Re: integration- is there a forum? Where are they going to discuss integration specifically?
- James Brown- Who is in charge besides DOH with the committee? Can the committee be part of that type of S bar/root cause analysis? Do we have or can we produce resources for communities?
- Gregory Evans- Is there anything not covered that you would like to see from us prepared prior to the next meeting?

8. Next/ Future meeting date

- The next Committee meetings were suggested for every two weeks. The next tentative being for Friday January 23, 2026 at 9:00 am.
- No objections recorded.
- **The Chair confirms the next committee meeting for Friday, January 23, 2026 at 9:00 AM.**

9. Adjournment

- The meeting was adjourned by Chair Dan Jennings on Friday Jan 9, 2026, at 10:52 am.

Minutes submitted by: Carmen Batista, Health Educator NMDOH MCPP