



Derek J. Navarette, Sheriff, Las Animas County
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Las Animas County Detention Center
Medication Assisted Treatment (MAT) Up-date

1. In 2010, as an undersheriff, Sheriff Navarette in recommended specific training to detention officers based upon NCCHC and ACA standards of care. NCCHC is the National Commission on Correctional Health Care and ACA is the American Correctional Association that have the highest standards for accreditation in correctional systems in the country.
2. In 2011, Sheriff Navarette's leadership in bringing quality care training in 2010, resulted in the jail contracting with a non-profit Colorado health care company to bring in an accreditation-based health care system to apply those quality healthcare standards for the jail population.
3. In 2011, Sheriff Navarette also assisted with the implementation of the first telemed and electronic medical health care systems in the jail. This was one of the very first jails in Colorado to ever do so. This was well ahead of COVID and prepared the jail for the COVID pandemic in which so many jails across the country were struggling to deliver health care virtually to their populations.
4. In 2018, Sheriff Navarette led a group of 4 small rural counties in Colorado and New Mexico to be part of a national HRSA grant to develop the first ever advanced technology systems for jail-to-community transition programs in the U.S. This system was developed utilizing an evidence-based tool created through a partnership between the National Institute of Corrections and the Urban Institute which includes a detailed assessment focused on the well-being needs of individuals within a jail system.
5. In 2020, the leadership of Sheriff Navarette with the federal HRSA grant led to national recognition in the national publication of CorrectCare in an article entitled "Using Telehealth to Create a Virtual Safety Net and Ease Community Reentry." This again highlighted the programs that the Sheriff had brought to the jail.
6. In 2020, when the COVID pandemic was at its worst, Sheriff Navarette already had implemented the virtual systems for uninterrupted health care into the jail. Both medical and mental health providers were already established in delivering virtual visits to the jail population for continuity of care.
7. In 2020, Sheriff Navarette was able to secure hundreds of free COVID tests and PPE equipment free of charge through a non-profit organization to address the testing of individuals coming into the jail that may have COVID. In addition, Sheriff Navarette partnered with the local and state health department to ensure that treatment and vaccines were available at no charge to the jail population.

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8. In 2021, Sheriff Navarette contracted with the Colorado Office of Behavioral Health JBBS (Jail-Based Behavioral Health Services) to add more resources and health care services to the jail-to-community transition program in the jail. The Sheriff also was able to obtain \$25,000 of state-of-the-art telemed equipment paid for by the Colorado Office of Behavioral Health.
9. In 2021, Sheriff Navarette was able to acquire donated high- quality bicycles from the Denver Goodwill store to offer to those individuals in the jail to community transition program who did not have transportation upon release.
10. In 2021, Sheriff's Navarette leadership was again sought in being only one of two jails in the state that was selected to doing a special pilot program with the non-profit HIE (Health Information Exchange) program CORHIO and the Office of Behavioral Health. Sheriff was able to demonstrate that data could be exchanged with community providers through the HIE to ensure continuity of care of the jail population upon incarceration and upon release.
11. In 2022, Sheriff Navarette was selected to be a presenter in the national NCCHC Spring Virtual Conference together with the Office of Behavioral Health and CORHIO to talk about the positive impact of the pilot program for continuity of care in electronic data exchange between jail and community health care providers.
12. In the summer of 2022, Sheriff Navarette was one of the first jails in Colorado to implement a virtual Medication Assisted Program (MAT) for those presenting with addiction and substance abuse at the jail and for continuity upon release through the jail to community transition program. This program was being developed by the Sheriff months prior to the mandated Colorado legislation that requires all jails to have a MAT Program in their jails by June of 2023.
13. In 2022, because of the leadership demonstrated by Sheriff Navarette in the jail to community transition program, a private individual donated their motor home to be transformed into a medical mobile unit to continue to provide care to the jail to community transition population and also extend that care into the community. He arranged for a presentation at the Trinidad Chamber of Commerce to showcase the medical mobile unit which is now parked in front of the jail. He feels strongly that continuity of care needs to continue and extend beyond the jail system.
14. In October of 2022, Sheriff Navarette has been asked to present the jail's virtual MAT program at the national NCCHC Conference in Las Vegas, NV, which will highlight and educate other jails in how to put together a MAT program that can be started in the jail and continued into the community.
15. In July of 2022, Sheriff Navarette is again demonstrating his leadership skills in joining with other counties and sheriffs to explore the possibility of a regional jail hub for jails, especially in rural areas, to come together to advance the JBBS jail to community transition program and reintegration programs for individuals in jails to assist in reducing the recidivism rates in jails. Sheriff Navarette has already demonstrated a 40% drop in recidivism in his jail through the various programs, and he wants other jails to realize that this very vulnerable population can be helped to go back to their communities and contribute in a very positive way.
16. In July of 2022, the programs developed at the jail were highlighted in an international conference in Lyons, France where hundreds of participants from throughout the world joined to learn more

about legal and mental health issues facing the correctional health care systems today.

17. In August of 2022, Sheriff Navarette began working together with the new director of EMS and their medical director to partner with the jail in the jail to community transition program to provide assistance while incarcerated and when released back into the community to help prevent unnecessary and costly trips to the ER. He is hoping this can also be extended to others in the community in the future.

18. In summary, Sheriff Navarette has demonstrated years of commitment to providing the best and most innovative programs to the jail population because he really does care about his community and this population. He wants to assist those that are vulnerable in his jail that want to better themselves and be more productive individuals within the Trinidad Community. He has proven his leadership throughout the years of his career on a local, state, national and international level. Does he brag about this – most definitely not. He is a humble and dedicated leader that truly wants to help his community.