

Full Spectrum Mental Health Services for New Mexico's Older Adults

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"Getting old is like climbing a mountain; you get a little out of breath, but the view is much better!"
- Ingrid Bergman

There is a broad spectrum of networking of the medical, social work and case management staff of the UNM Geriatric Psychiatric Program both in the local community as well as the farthest outlying areas of the state that exists for the provision of psychiatric treatment to individuals needing outpatient evaluation, evaluation while in a nursing home, or emergency evaluation and hospitalization. It is anticipated that these networking and collaborative efforts will continue to further expand and develop resources to meet the psychiatric needs of the geriatric population of New Mexico.

To date, New Mexico communities served UNM Geriatric Psychiatry Program:

1. Albuquerque
2. Belen
3. Los Lunas
4. Grants
5. Gallup
6. Farmington
7. Aztec
8. Bloomfield
9. Santa Fe
10. Los Alamos
11. Espanola
12. Taos
13. Raton
14. Roswell
15. Artesia
16. Carlsbad
17. Hobbs
18. Alamogordo
19. Las Cruces
20. Deming
21. Lordsburg
22. Fort Sumner
23. Clovis
24. Socorro
25. Truth or Consequences
26. Fort Bayard
27. Silver City
28. Reserve
29. Isleta Pueblo
30. Navajo Nation
31. Laguna Pueblo
32. Ohkay Owingeh Pueblo
33. Santa Ana Pueblo
34. Sandia Pueblo
35. Jemez Pueblo
36. Acoma Pueblo
37. Zuni Pueblo
38. Taos Pueblo

Inpatient & Emergency Stabilization

The Geriatric Inpatient Psychiatric Unit social workers have numerous partnership/collaborative relationships through out the state of New Mexico. These relationships have developed over the years through the need for inpatient services in the immediate local area as well as the outlying communities of the state. Additionally, when the patient's are stabilized there is collaboration with facilities and providers to ensure safe and appropriate discharge living arrangements and follow up treatment. Relationships have been established with hospitals, nursing homes, assisted living facilities, outpatient primary care providers, outpatient psychiatric providers, home health and hospice service providers as well as non medical home care service providers.

In the process of treating and stabilizing our patients, we interface with a broad spectrum of organizations and agencies. Adult Protective Services and the Department of Long term Care and Aging are often involved in a collaboration to ensure patient safety that can include having a patient admitted for treatment and a safe and appropriate discharge living arrangement with supportive services in place as identified. Adult day programs that focus on a patient being in the least restrictive setting include the PACE Program, also known as Total Community Care, Share Your Care and Cornucopia. Additionally, there are numerous home health and hospice providers and non medical home care providers that we have worked with to also provide patients and their families with these support services to enhance the patient's quality of life. The medical staff of the Geriatric Unit has strong working relationships with outpatient psychiatric and medical providers as well as nursing homes and frequently collaborates regarding patient treatment needs and possible hospitalizations.

Outpatient Evaluation & Management

Our multidisciplinary outpatient team currently accepts referrals for psychiatric evaluation from all UNM providers and community providers throughout Bernalillo County and the surrounding counties, providing both consultative assessment treatment planning in some cases and side-by-side care with the primary care team in other cases. Our outpatient geropsychiatry providers coordinate with our inpatient team and our nursing home team to insure patient safety and quality of life maximization

In the future, increased telepsychiatry with mental health primary care providers throughout the New Mexico along with broadening of the our relationship with our referral sources both within UNM and throughout the region is expected.

Nursing Home Evaluation & Management

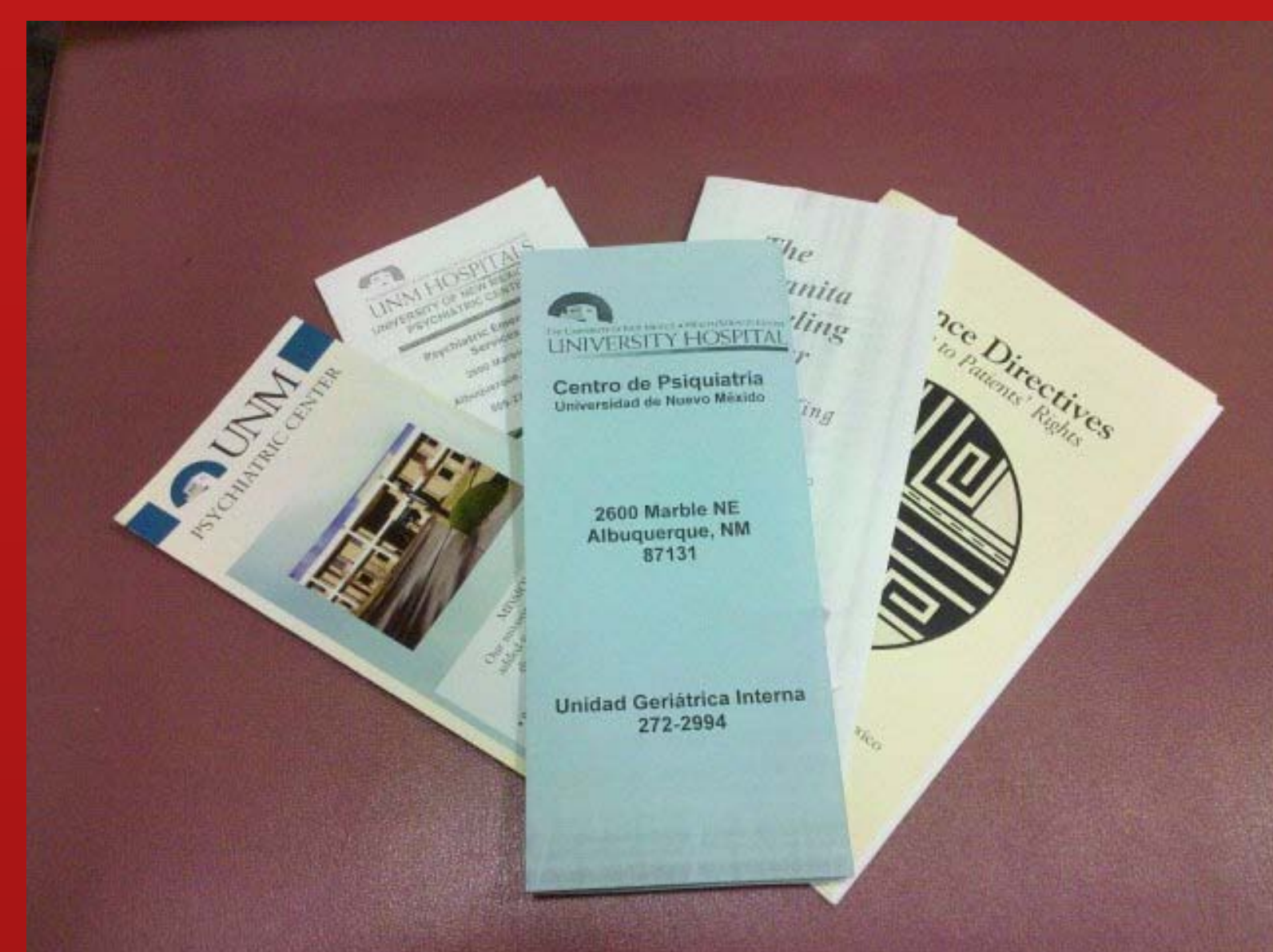
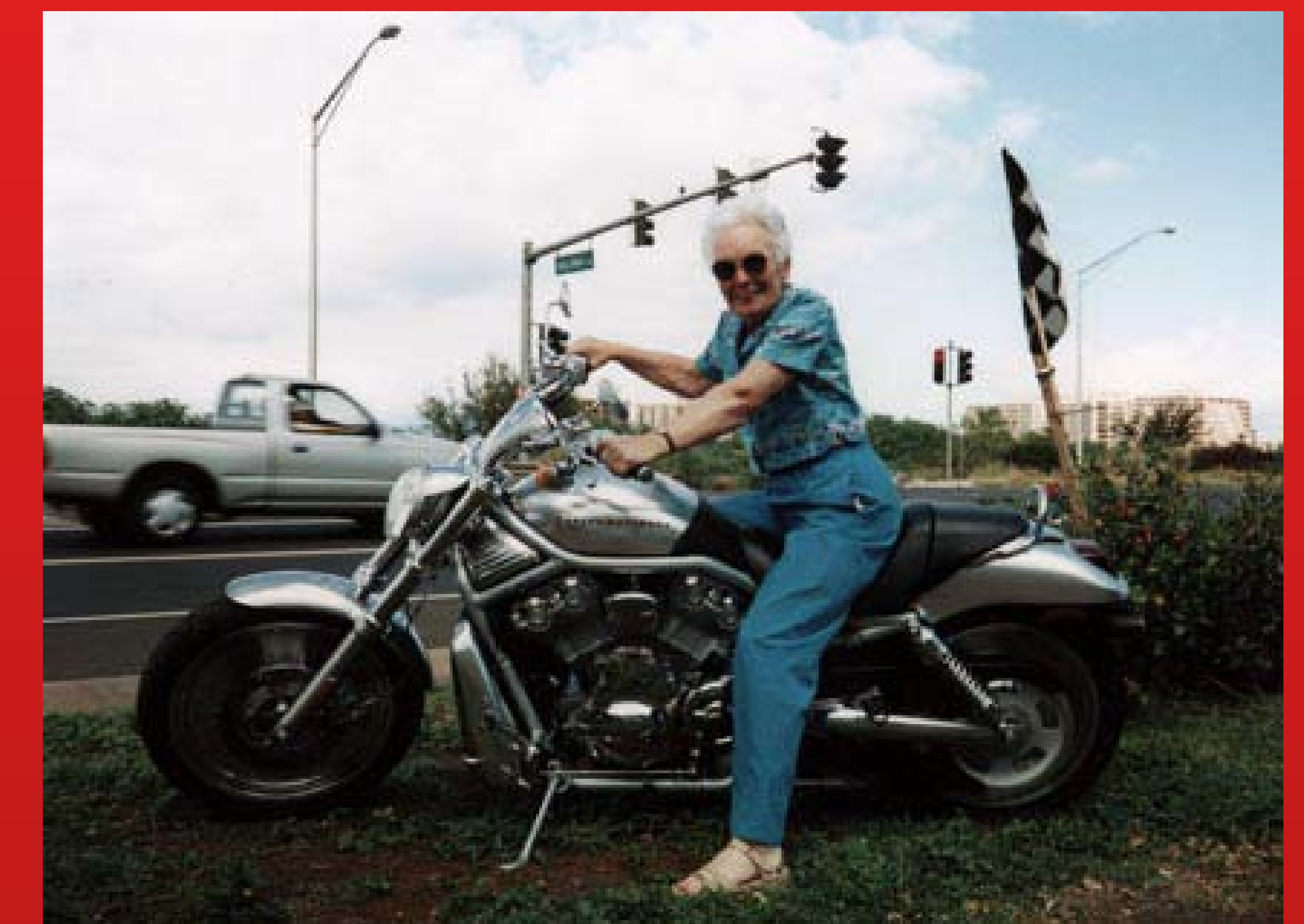
We provide regular consultation and side-by-side management of patients in Mazano Del Sol, one of the largest nursing home and assisted living facilities in the Albuquerque, located just down the road from the University of New Mexico campus. Referrals usually come from the geriatric primary care providers and result in swift evaluation and recommendation for behavioral, psychopharmacologic, or occasionally further evaluation and treatment by our inpatient geropsychiatry team.

In the future we hope to expand our partnership with Manzano Del Sol while increasing utilization of our services by other facilities throughout the Albuquerque area.

Inpatient & Emergency Stabilization

Nursing Home Evaluation and Management

Outpatient Evaluation and Management



"Old age has its pleasures, which, though different, are not less than the pleasures of youth."
- W. Somerset Maugham