

Joe Lombardo
Governor

Richard Whitley, MS
Director



DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

DIVISION OF CHILD AND FAMILY SERVICES
Helping people. It's who we are and what we do.



Marla McDade
Williams, MPA
Administrator

COMMISSION ON BEHAVIORAL HEALTH WITH DIVISION OF CHILD AND FAMILY SERVICES

NOVEMBER 2, 2023

MEETING MINUTES

This meeting used Microsoft TEAMS technology for video and audio capability.

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT:

1. Arvin Operario
2. Braden Schrag
3. Dan Ficalora
4. Jasmine Cooper
5. Lisa Durette
6. Lisa Ruiz Lee

COMMISSIONERS NOT PRESENT

7. Gregory Giron
8. Natasha Mosby

STAFF AND GUESTS

1. Alejandro Ruiz
2. Amna Khawaja
3. Autumn Blattman
4. Beverly Burton
5. Carin Hennessey
6. Charlene Frost
7. Dianna DeBisschop
8. Don Butterfield
9. Elizabeth Scott
10. Elyse Monroy-Marsala
11. Gwendolyn Greene
12. JayDee Porras-Grant
13. Jennifer Spencer
14. John Etzell
15. Karen Taycher
16. Kary Wilder
17. Kathryn Martin
18. Kelli Knutzon
19. Khalileah Daniels
20. Kristen Rivas

21. Marcel Brown
22. Marla McDade-Williams
23. McKay Treanor
24. Mignon Hoover
25. Nicole Mara
26. Nhoree Heath
27. Sandra Lowery
28. Sarah Dearborn
29. Shannon Hill
30. Stacey Lance
31. William Wyss
32. Yeni Medina
33. 775-393-2200
34. 916-761-5267

1. **Call to Order and Introductions.** *Braden Schrag, Chairman, Commission on Behavioral Health with DCFS*, called the meeting to order at 9:06 am. *Kathryn Martin, Division of Child and Family Services (DCFS)*, conducted roll call and quorum was established.

2. **Public Comment and Discussion.**

None

3. **For Possible Action.** Approval of September 14, 2023 Meeting Minutes – *Braden Schrag, Chairman*

MOTION: Lisa Durette made a motion to approve the September 14, 2023 Meeting Minutes.

SECOND: Jasmine Cooper

VOTE: Unanimous with no opposition or abstention

4. **For Information Only.** Update on research of the Nevada Revised Statutes (NRS) requirements and facility reminder letters for submitting Seclusion and Restraint reports – *Kristen Rivas, Clinical Program Planner II, Planning and Evaluation Unit, Division of Child and Family Services (DCFS)*

Kristen Rivas announced completion of Nevada Regulatory Statute (NRS) research which determined the Commission does have purview to review Seclusion and Restraint reports from both public and private Nevada youth psychiatric facilities. Ms. Rivas reported completion of an updated Nevada youth psychiatric facility list and a revised Seclusion and Restraint form. Reminder letters were sent to each facility asking them to submit Seclusion and Restraint forms to the Commission for review per NRS. Jennifer Spencer noted that the legal authority that allows Commissioners to review forms is located under NRS 433.534. NRS 433.145 provides the definition of a consumer which is public or private facilities.

Ms. Rivas reported the form will be revised again with a new Federally required mandate on collecting information on patient population categories. A request was received from one facility interested in submitting forms electronically, which is currently not available. Commissioners

are looking forward to receiving reports in the future as facilities have not been submitting their forms. The goal is to get a more accurate representation and oversight of what is actually going on in the community related to compliance and youth safety.

5. For Possible Action. Update on inviting youth residential psychiatric facilities to present updates at future meetings – *Kathryn Martin, Clinical Program Planner II, Planning and Evaluation Unit, Division of Child and Family Services*

Commissioners requested Ms. Martin invite two facilities to present at the January 11, 2024 meeting and then continue invitations down the facility list for future meeting presentations on an ongoing, rotating basis. Two facilities will be invited to each meeting.

6. For Information Only. Aurora Youth Healing Center presentation – *McKaye Treanor, Owner, Aurora Youth Healing Center and JayDee Porras-Grant, Executive Director, Aurora Youth Healing Center*

McKay Treanor shared a PowerPoint Presentation providing an introduction and overview of the Aurora Youth Center, a 60-bed psychiatric residential treatment center located in Mineral County, Nevada. The Center provides developmentally aware trauma responsive care for teens ages 12-17 and specializes in working with students in need of sub-acute care. Ms. Treanor described the type of student diagnosis and common maladaptive coping skills treated at the facility and provided descriptions of program offerings (student amenities and specific services). The Aurora Center utilizes a Phase system approach (Orientation, New Beginning, Preparation, Action, Transition) as well as a PACT Treatment approach (Practice, Apologize, Commit, and Take Responsibility).

Crisis intervention team members include former law enforcement, juvenile program and military officers whose purpose is to prevent major incidents and restraints from occurring and keep the campus safe from student self-harm and aggression. The team receives crisis intervention training and facilitates student use of coping skills to help manage behaviors. Self-reflection and sensory rooms provide safe and secure spaces for children. The Center crisis restraint reduction goals prevent the need for restraint by utilizing green, yellow and red codes to quickly meet student needs and verbally de-escalate without safety holds. Restraint protocols detail requirements for Handle with Care safety holds as always the last option in student care and outlines other requirements for the safety and care of students, as well as requirements for incident reporting, assessment and debriefing. Ms. Treanor reported reductions in restraint interventions May – November 2023 showed an 85% decrease in self-harm, 90% decrease in Elopement, 67% decrease in safety holds, and 77% increase in daily academic assignment completion. Staff employment satisfaction increased from 76% to 91% in a quarterly survey. The complete presentation is available on the DPBH website at: <https://dpbh.nv.gov/Boards/CBH/Meetings/2023/NVCBH2023/>.

Commissioner Durette and Ms. Treanor will coordinate and communicate on discharge planning to clinics in the South and the UNLV Child Psychiatry program,

Commissioner Durette asked about staff background checks in light of recent reports about police involvement at the facility. Ms. Treanor acknowledged the event involved a staff member

who was naked, high, and described how police were immediately called and the individual escorted off campus. The background check and review done on this individual did not flag any issues and the process has since been changed. The Center now runs prospective staff through additional criminal background screening beyond Nevada's requirements, as well as local DNA screening through Mineral County. In May 2023, State government investigations were conducted and four action plans of correction provided in response to the items identified. The plans of correction are available on request. Ms. Trainer said the Center welcomes feedback and involvement as an 11-month-old program with the goal of improving their care, services, and treatment of Nevada youth and their families. Chair Schrag encouraged Ms. Treanor to provide updates to the Commission at a future date.

7. For Information Only. Presentation, discussion, and approval of the draft Division of Child and Family Services Integrated Discharge and Documentation Policies – *Kristen Rivas, Clinical Program Planner II, Planning and Evaluation Unit, DCFS*

- a. Division of Child and Family Services, Desert Willow Treatment Center - AMA (Against Medical Advice) and Administrative Patient Discharge
- b. Division of Child and Family Services, Desert Willow Treatment Center - Individualized Treatment, Discharge, and Aftercare Planning.
- c. Division of Child and Family Services, Outpatient Services - Individualized Treatment, Discharge and Aftercare Planning

Kristen Rivas shared a PowerPoint presentation providing the Commission the opportunity to review, provide feedback, and/or approve three update DCFS Inpatient and/or Residential Treatment Facilities Discharge Policies. The policies were updated with family-friendly language to reflect a DCFS mission to be all-inclusive of a Statewide System of Care. Additional updates were made to each policy per recommendations made by the individual policy work teams consisting of representation across disciplines.

MOTION: Lisa Durette made a motion to approve the updated Division of Child and Family Services Discharge Policies as presented.

SECOND: Jasmine Cooper

VOTE: Unanimous with no opposition or abstention

8. For Information Only. Aging and Disability Services Division (ADSD) update – *Yeni Medina, Autism Treatment Assistance Program (ATAP) and Dazzreal Kirby, Nevada Early Intervention Services (NEIS)*

- a. Autism Treatment Assistance Program: Yeni Medina shared a PowerPoint presentation providing updates on caseloads and waitlist statistics. 113 New applications were received in September. The largest group of children currently served are between the ages of 6 and 10. A detailed breakdown of services provided by type of program and child ages was included. The complete presentation is available on the DPBH website at: <https://dpbh.nv.gov/Boards/CBH/Meetings/2023/NVCBH2023/>. Commissioner Durette announced that the Pediatric Access Line program (run out of the statewide child psychiatry access program in Las Vegas) will be able to do clinical diagnosis of Autism within two weeks.

b. Nevada Early Intervention Services: Khalileah Daniels reported NEIS continues to develop and implement data system updates to combine information on referrals, eligibility services, and case notes. Community outreach is being done in Las Vegas, Mesquite, and surrounding areas. Playgroups continue for families to help them practice communication.

9. For Information Only. Pediatric Mental Health Care Access Program Grant (NV PEDS) – *Beverly Burton, Clinical Program Planner I, Training and Technical Assistance, DCFS and Nicole Mara, Education and Information Officer, Nevada Pediatric Psychiatry Solutions, DC*

Nicole Mara announced the program received the HRSA Grant 12-month extension (without funds) which will allow continuation of work in progress and momentum in providing education, information, resources, and professional development opportunities for primary care providers, behavioral health/mental healthcare providers and other entities serving youth across Nevada. Ms. Mara shared program statistics showing over 756 participants were sponsored during the past federal fiscal year through 104 live and self-paced asynchronous training opportunities. Over 25% of those participants represented rural and frontier Nevada communities. Publications over the past year included 10,000 disseminations of 33 educational informational publications (issue briefs, telegrams, and infographics covering topics involving youth mental health). NV PEDS works with affiliates, High Sierra AHEC, UNR and NAMI Nevada on the “This is Me” youth program for young adult interns to become part of an integrated behavioral healthcare team with primary care providers and behavioral healthcare providers. Ms. Mara put her email address in the Chat and encouraged anyone interested in receiving news and publications to contact her. The NV Peds update is available on the DPBH website at: <https://dpbh.nv.gov/Boards/CBH/Meetings/2023/NVCBH2023/>.

Commissioner Durette reported the Las Vegas statewide psychiatry access program will be partnering with NV Peds on an educational and clinical model to help support primary care clinicians through Nevada with getting CMS certification.

10. For Information Only. Medicaid updates and changes – *Sarah Dearborn, Social Services Chief II, Nevada Division of Health and Human Services (DHHS)*

Sarah Dearborn shared a PowerPoint presentation covering general Medicaid updates and news:

- a. State Plan Amendments (SPA) under review
- b. Medicaid Services Manual (MSM) Updates
- c. SUPPORT Act Post Planning Demonstration
- d. New Provider Types and Specialties
- e. 1115 Substance Use Disorder (SUD) Waiver Demonstration
- f. Mobile Crisis Planning Grant and Crisis Services
- g. Legislative Updates
- h. CCBHC Updates
- i. Department of Justice
- j. Summary and Timeline of Projects

Nevada continues settlement negotiations with the Department of Justice (DOJ) until an agreement can be made and there will be more information in the coming months. Chairman Schrag requested Ms. Dearborn bring an update on DOJ/DCFS plans and progress back to the

Commission when available. The presentation also included a timeline and flowchart of Medicaid Behavioral Health and Certified Community Behavioral Health Center (CCBHC) Expansion.

Ms. Dearborn's presentation and notes transcript are available on the DPBH website at: <https://dpbh.nv.gov/Boards/CBH/Meetings/2023/NVCBH2023/>

11. For Information Only. Update on System of Care (SOC) Grant – *William Wyss, SOC Health Program Manager III, DCFS*

Bill Wyss announced receipt of the SOC grant extension for year five which ends in September 2024. A new SOC grant will be submitted in March 2024 and Mr. Wyss will be reaching out to the Commission, Children's Mental Health Consortia and other community stakeholders to identify needs and priorities. Mr. Wyss described potential needs including developing workforce healthcare service providers, transportation network resources, and possibly a statewide school mental health approach to include a youth social emotional learning course and other school enrichment opportunities. Commissioner Ficalora recommended providing increased training, development opportunities, and retention of Nevada's healthcare workforce serving children. Mr. Wyss put his email address in the Chat and encouraged everyone to contact him with ideas and suggestions.

12. For Information Only. Announcements – *Braden Schrag, Chair*

None

13. For Information Only. Discussion and Identification of Future Agenda Items – *Braden Schrag, Chair*

- Invite two youth psychiatric treatment centers to present updates at future Commission meetings on an ongoing, rotating basis.

14. Public Comment.

None

15. Adjournment. – *Braden Schrag, Chair*

The meeting adjourned at 11:16 am.

CHAT TRANSCRIPT

8:31 AM Meeting started

[8:48 AM] Kary Wilder

Welcome to the Commission on Behavioral Health with DCFS November Meeting

This meeting is being recorded.

Please enter your name, title and organization name in the Chat for the record.

Thank you

[8:49 AM] Kary Wilder

Meeting materials: <https://dpcbh.nv.gov/Boards/CBH/Meetings/2023/NVCBH2023/>

[8:51 AM] Kary Wilder

Kary Wilder, DCFS/PEU, Admin support for this meeting. kwilder@dcfs.nv.gov

[8:53 AM] Kristen Rivas

Kristen Rivas DCFS, PEU

[8:54 AM] Nicole Mara

Nicole Mara, Education and Information Officer - DCFS/NVPeds

[8:56 AM] Autumn Blattman

Autumn Blattman

Regional Coordinator- Washoe County

State of NV Aging and Disability Services Division

[8:57 AM] Nhoree Heath

Nhoree Heath

[8:58 AM] Nhoree Heath

Sorry Nhoree Heath-ADSD ATAP SW Practicum Student

[9:01 AM] Gwendolyn Greene

Dr. Gwen Greene-DCFS-DWTC Hospital Administrator

[9:01 AM] Alejandro Ruiz

Alejandro Ruiz - DCFS, PEU Manager

[9:02 AM] Beverly Burton

Bev Burton, DCFS bburton@dcfs.nv.gov

[9:02 AM] Lisa Durette MD (Guest)

Lisa Durette MD, Commissioner, UNLV: lisa.durette@unlv.edu

[9:02 AM] Karen Taycher

Karen Taycher, Nevada PEP

[9:02 AM] Don (Guest)

Don Butterfield, Reno Behavioral Healthcare Hospital

[9:02 AM] Elyse Monroy-Marsala

Elyse Monroy- Marsala Belz & Case Government affairs emm@belzcase.com

[9:03 AM] Khalileah Daniels

Khalileah Daniels, Psychological Development Counselor NEIS

[9:03 AM] Arvin Operario

Arvin Operario, Commissioner arvin.operario1@gmail.com

[9:03 AM] Lance, Stacey M.

Stacey Lance, WCHSA-Clinical Services Team. slance@washoecounty.gov

[9:03 AM] Elizabeth Scott

Beth Scott, NV Medicaid escott@dhcfs.nv.gov

[9:03 AM] Sarah Dearborn

Sarah Dearborn, Nevada Medicaid, sdearborn@dhcfs.nv.gov

[9:04 AM] Carin Hennessey

Carin Fox Hennessey, Nevada Medicaid

[10:00 AM] Frost, Char

What kind of background checks are done on staff? There have been reports of staff with criminal histories as well as police responding due to a staff person who was naked and high.

[10:00 AM] Frost, Char

Also, what kind of credentials are required for staff who are working with youth ?

[10:02 AM] Frost, Char

Does the program have comprehensive procedures and policies and are those available to the public? To families?

[10:04 AM] Shannon Hill

Shannon Hill, DCFS - shannon.hill@dcfs.nv.gov

[10:11 AM] Frost, Char

Have there been any corrective action requests from government entities across the state?.

[10:23 AM] Arvin O

My apologies my connection is having issue

[10:35 AM] Elyse Monroy-Marsala

What is the difference between ATAP funding and Katie Beckett? How do the two programs function together, if at all?

[10:35 AM] Lisa Durette MD (Guest)

<https://nvpal.org>

[10:37 AM] Elyse Monroy-Marsala

Thank you, Commissioner Cooper!

[10:39 AM] Khalileah Daniels

Hi, Khalileah Daniels from NEIS for item 8, I had a few updates to share for our agency

[10:41 AM] b8384s (Guest)

Thanks! I'll bring us back. my apology, I didn't see your name.

[10:41 AM] b8384s (Guest)

I'll bring it back:)

[10:42 AM] Khalileah Daniels

Not a problem, I am filling in for Dazzarael Kirby

[10:42 AM] b8384s (Guest)

great

[10:50 AM] Nicole Mara

If you are not already on the NVPeds Listserv but would like to receive our publications and be notified of upcoming trainings, resources, and professional development opportunities, please email NVPeds@dcfs.nv.gov Thank you!

[11:13 AM] William Wyss

wwyss@dcfs.nv.gov

[11:14 AM] Beverly Burton

bburton@dcfs.nv.gov

[11:16 AM] Nicole Mara

High Sierra AHEC works to connect youth to education and careers in healthcare and is looking to expand to mental and behavioral health. As a member of the NVPeds expansion project, "This is ME", they have been exploring this specialty in terms of integrated healthcare service delivery. <https://www.highsierraahcec.org/>

High Sierra AHEC | Healthcare Workforce Pipeline Development | Reno

High Sierra AHEC | Connecting Students to Careers, Professionals to Communities, and Communities to Better Health

[11:18 AM] Meeting ended