

DPBH COMMISSION ON BEHAVIORAL HEALTH
MINUTES
September 15, 2017

MEETING LOCATIONS:

Division of Public and Behavioral Health (DPBH)
4150 Technology Way, Room 303
Carson City, NV
Northern Nevada Adult Mental Health Services (NNAMHS)
480 Galletti Way, Bldg. 22, Sparks, NV
Desert Regional Center (DRC)
1391 S. Jones Blvd., Las Vegas, NV

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT:

Pamela Johnson, RN- Carson City, Barbara Jackson, Sparks, Noelle Lefforge, Ph.D., Vice Chair-Las Vegas, Tabitha Johnson, Las Vegas, Lisa Ruiz-Lee, Las Vegas

COMMISSIONERS EXCUSED: Asma Tahir, Valerie Kinnikin, Lisa Durette

Carson City:

Amy Roukie, MBA, Administrator, DPBH, John DiMuro, D.O., Chief Medical Officer, DPBH, Julie Slabaugh, DAG, Kate McCloskey, ADSD, Lisa Sherych, ADSD, Sandra Lowery, Social Work Board, Eddie Ableser, DPBH, Jessica Adams, RRC, Tina Gerber-Winn, Rural Clinics, Kyle Devine, DPBH, Kirsten Coulombe, DPBH

Sparks:

Agata Gawronski, BoE ADGC, Julian Montoya, SRC, Tom Durante, LCC, Dena Schmidt, ADSD, Morgan Alldredge, NBOP, Jack Mayes, NDALC, Jake Wiskerchen, BoE MFT, Paula Berkley, Social Work Board

Las Vegas:

Joanne Malay, SNAMHS, Ellen Richardson-Adams, SNAMHS, Leon Ravin, M.D., SNAMHS, Sharon Dollarhide, Stein, Rose Park

Vice-Chair Lefforge called the meeting to order at 8:35 am. Roll call is reflected above. It was determined that a quorum was present. Introductions were made at all three locations.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

There was no public comment.

Approval of the Minutes May 12, 2017

A motion was made by Ms. Ruiz-Lee, seconded by Ms. T. Johnson and passed to accept the minutes of May 12, 2017.

Ms. Roukie, the new Administrator for the Division of Public and Behavioral Health provided an update on changes to the Department of Health and Human Services. Eddie Ableser is the new Deputy Administrator over Clinical Services for the Division of Public and Behavioral Health. Dena Schmidt is the new Administrator for the Aging and Disability Services Division. Cara Paoli is the new Deputy Administrator for the Division of Child and Family Services.

Agency Directors' Reports

Lake's Crossing Center: A written report was provided. Mr. Durante reported on staff vacancies at LCC. He informed that the Director of Nursing position has been filled. They are still short on forensic specialists and nursing positions. The census has been high. There are no new programs to report. A growing concern is the expense of medical care for individuals who are committed for an extended period. There will be a major electrical project that will take place towards the end of September, beginning of October, which may impact programming.

NNAMHS: A written report was provided. Dr. Ableser reported for NNAMHS. The new hospital administrator is Christina Brooks. NNAMHS still has issues filling the Psychiatric Nurse II positions. The outpatient waitlist is minimal. The Crisis Prevention Institute Model continues to be rolled out. A new change in the Medication Clinic is a designated Service Coordinator who has been assigned to assist with ensuring clients are referred to appropriate services. Housing and Supportive Living services continues to be a challenge.

SNAMHS: A written report was provided. Ms. Malay reported the biggest change in their program inpatient caseload is due to the closure of one of their units. There was a reduction of hours of the Henderson Clinic. Ms. Richardson-Adams reported Mobile Outreach Safety Team (MOST) is in the process of sub-contracting with Las Vegas Fire and Rescue.

Stein Hospital: A written report was provided. Ms. Dollarhide reported this past Legislative Session, the facility received increased funding. Stein struggles with filling vacancies for Forensic Specialists. NPD19's were submitted to the Division recommending a five percent salary increase for Forensic Specialists to be competitive with other law enforcement agencies. Stein continues to focus on seclusion and restraints and verbal de-escalation.

Sierra Regional Center: A written report was provided. There hasn't been many changes. SRC is almost fully staffed. They continue to be a part of AB 307 program. SRC is rolling out a pilot program with the enhanced rate that was received in the last Legislative Session. More details will be provided once it is rolled out.

Rural Regional Center: A written report was provided. Ms. Adams reported Rural Regional Center is almost fully staffed. Rural Regional Center has worked it out with the counties to pay for Respite services. Finding entities that want to provide services in the rural areas continues to be a struggle.

Desert Regional Center: A written report was not provided. Ms. Sherych reported for DRC. Ms. Sherych reported they are conducting interviews next week for the Agency Manager. They continue to recruit for vacancies for community services. Two new providers have been brought on. DRC is also in the process of the provider application approval for an additional provider.

Rural Services: A written report was provided. Ms. Gerber-Winn reported they are working to update their provider agreements. They are working to make community providers available for opportunities of service delivery in the rural areas. Rural Services has partnered with Medicaid by sending a care coordinator to the rural clinics to assist individuals with Medicaid and help coordinate benefits. Rural Clinics in collaboration with Nevada Rural Hospital Partnership is providing behavioral health consultation services in rural emergency rooms. In the next quarter, Dr. Ravin will be going to rural hospitals to give presentations to emergency room physicians regarding psychiatric symptoms and treatment.

Agenda item #6 was taken out of order and moved to #7

Bureau of Behavioral Health Wellness and Prevention

Mr. Devine reported statutes require to have a comprehensive Strategic Plan. There are five areas of concentration. The priority is to strengthen the infrastructure of the Bureau and requesting staff to develop an operational plan in each of these areas. The operation plan will be presented to this Commission as well as other advisory councils. The block grant application for fiscal years 2018/2019 has been submitted. A site visit by the Mental Health Block Grant Project Officer took place. The Officer indicated that they were pleased with the application.

Seclusion and Restraint Report

Dr. Ableser provided an overview of the seclusion and restraint data for NNAMHS and SNAMHS. The physical restraint numbers haven't substantially changed since the last report. Use of seclusion and restraint are at a low rate. The average length of stay at NNAMHS has fluctuated over the last couple of months. The forensic evaluations have remained the same. The length of stay for the forensic units has increased over the past couple of months.

Ms. McCloskey reported that a written report is not available this time. A written report will be provided for the next meeting.

Local Governing Body Reports

Ms. P. Johnson reported on LGB's for Lake's Crossing and Northern Nevada Adult Mental Health Services. NNAMHS and Lake's Crossing met in August. They were given a demonstration on the use of the restraint chair.

Ms. Malay reported on the LGB for SNAMHS. The restructure, additional beds for forensics, and reduction in days in the outpatient clinic were discussed in the last meeting. There was also discussion regarding changes in the commitments from the jails and what type of treatment will be best for them.

Aging and Disability Services Division Report

Ms. Schmidt announced Rique Robb is the new Deputy Administrator over Children's Services. Their Elder and Disability Rights Attorney was appointed to the Permanent Guardianship Commission. ADSD was awarded a Lifespan Respite Grant. A partner, Nevada Senior Services was awarded an ACL Grant.

Information on AB 457

Ms. Coulombe provided the requirements pertinent to the Commission. There are three main components of the bill that relate to the Commission. The first has to do with regulations. When the four behavioral health boards are adopting regulations, they must provide a copy of the proposed regulations to the Commission. The copy must be provided 30 days before the public hearing. Once Commission members receive the copy, they must make recommendations to the Board. Ms. Coulombe suggested the Commission request, from the Boards the proposed regulations be simultaneously sent to the Commission when they are submitted to LCB to prevent a delay. Second, the Boards can enter into an agreement with DHHS or DPBH to carry out or improve the performance of the Board's duties. Some examples would be assistance in processing applications for renewals, technical assistance, any type of facilitation cooperation with other Boards or licensing entities in Nevada, any recommendations to improve a standardized process used by the Board, and assistance in identifying resources for improving its operation. Third, is appeals the Commission may receive. There is a change to that process of the bill. No later than 30 days of a denial of one of the four behavioral health boards of an application or renewal, an applicant/licensee may now submit the appeal to the Behavioral Commission members. If an appeal is received by the Commission, the Commission must notify the Board no later than 10 days after receiving that appeal and they must investigate the refusal of the Board. The Commission could also potentially receive disciplinary actions. DPBH will be drafting Rules of Practice that will govern this process and will be presented at the next meeting. Ms. Coulombe suggested that the Boards be invited to the next meeting to provide a presentation of what their current practices are related to procedures.

After further discussion amongst members, it was agreed the Commission would request the Boards to present at the next meeting; the process and timelines for regulations and appeals of applications and renewals, volume of regulations and appeals of applications and renewals, and hear their perspective of submitting regulations simultaneously to LCB and the Commission.

Policies

The following policies were presented by Ms. Park:

FS 1.01- Forensic Services Security Camera System
SP 4.49 - Continuum of Care – Inpatient to Community Outpatient Service Program – Mental Health
4.17 - Prescription Drug Donation, Distribution and Dispensing
4.015 - Obtaining, Use and Documentation of Formulary Approved Medication including Clozapine (Clozaril)
SP 3.2 - Medication Procedures Rural Mental Health
CRR 2.6 - Prevention, Management and Reporting Escapes from Forensic Units
CRR 2.1 - Civil Consumer Complaint and Grievance Procedure
CRR 1.8 - Civil Client Rights to Second Opinion
CRR 1.6 - Research Projects Involving Consumer
CRR 1.5 - Management of Inpatient Elopement Episodes
CRR 014 - Risk Management and Reporting Serious Incidents
A 4.1 - Mail Room and Mail Safety
A 4.0 - Emergency Notification
4.077 Recommend for Archive - Reissuance of Certain Prescriptions Returned to Pharmacy
4.055 Recommend for Archive - Reusing Prescription Drugs that are Dispensed to, but not used by a Patient
Seasonal Influenza Vaccine Program

Ms. Park provided an overview of each of the policies.

Action: A motion was made by Ms. T. Johnson, seconded by Ms. Ruiz-Lee and carried to approve the policies presented with the change on policy CRR 1.6- Research Projects Involving Consumer, eliminating University from the IRB and archiving policy 4.077- Reissuance of Certain Prescriptions Returned to Pharmacy and 4.055- Reusing Prescription Drugs that are Dispensed to, but not used by a Patient.

Future Agenda Items

- Reports from the Boards- previously discussed in agenda item #10, Information on AB 457

Public Comment

Paula Berkley, Lobbyist for Social Work Board- Ms. Berkley is suggesting the Boards and staff participate in a meeting to help guide what the legislative intent was, before the next Commission meeting.

Tabitha Johnson- From a licensed perspective, Ms. Johnson would not want the Commission to slow down any processes that would impact her way of living. Ms. Johnson stated she wanted it publicly noted the Commission was not aware of this bill being drafted the way it was with the responsibilities they have.

The DPBH Commission on Behavioral Health meeting was adjourned to the Executive Session at 10:59 a.m.