

**MINUTES**  
*of the*  
**Behavioral Health Planning & Advisory Council**  
**Quarterly Meeting**  
*meeting on*  
**July 17, 2014**

Videoconference Meeting Locations:

*held at*

Sierra Regional Center (SRC)  
605 South 21<sup>st</sup> Street, Sparks, Nevada

AND

State of Nevada Division of Public & Behavioral Health  
4126 Technology Way, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor, Conference Room 201, Carson City, Nevada

AND

Desert Regional Center (DRC)  
1391 S. Jones Blvd., Las Vegas, Nevada

**1. CALL TO ORDER, ROLL CALL, AND INTRODUCTIONS –  
RENE NORRIS**

A quorum was determined by roll call. The Chair turned the meeting over to the Vice Chair and Rene called the meeting to order at 9:09 a.m. Diane completed the sign-in sheet.

**MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Alyce Thomas, BHPAC Chair – Consumer (Las Vegas) – Teleconference  
Rene Norris, BHPAC Vice Chair – Family Member (Las Vegas) – Teleconference  
Judy Bousquet – Co-occurring Consumer (Las Vegas) – Teleconference  
Elizabeth Burcio – Consumer (Yerington) – Teleconference  
Dave Caloiaro – DPBH / Adult Planner – Mental Health (Carson City) – Sparks  
Barbara Jackson – Consumer (Sparks) – Teleconference  
Bill Kirby – SAPTA (Carson City) – Carson City  
Cynthia Matteson – Consumer (Mesquite) – Teleconference  
Susan Maunder – Consumer (Las Vegas) – Las Vegas  
Mechelle Merrill – DETR Bureau Chief (Carson City) – Carson City  
Debra Parra – Department of Housing (Carson City) – Carson City  
La June Primous – Family Member (Las Vegas) – Las Vegas  
Dawn Walker – Family Member/Consumer/Provider (Henderson) – Las Vegas  
Sharon Wilson – Department of Corrections (Carson City) – Sparks

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Marion Scott – Consumer (Las Vegas)  
Coleen Lawrence – DHCFP/Medicaid  
Ann Polakowski – DCFS (Las Vegas)

STAFF AND GUESTS ATTENDING:

Julie Slabaugh, Deputy Attorney General (Carson City) – Sparks  
Susanne Sliwa, Deputy Attorney General (Las Vegas) – Las Vegas  
Viki Kinnikin, Chair-Commission on Behavioral Health – Las Vegas  
Luana Ritch – DPBH (Carson City) – Teleconference  
Bob Volk – Member of the Public & Pending Council Member – Teleconference  
Leslie Nielsen – DOE (Las Vegas) – Teleconference  
Diane Dempsey – DPBH/BHPAC Administrative Support (Carson City) – Sparks

**2. PUBLIC COMMENT**

Dave commented that Ted Johnson with the Center for Human Potential, a company under contract with SAMHSA and the Centers for Mental Health Services, was requested to give technical support to the Planning Council at this meeting from West Virginia, via videoconference. He could not join today due to firewall issues, but it is hoped he will be able to attend the quarterly meeting in either October 2014, or January 2015.

**3. REVIEW AND VOTE TO APPROVE THE MINUTES FROM THE COUNCIL’S QUARTERLY MEETING ON JANUARY 16, 2014 “For Possible Action”**

Diane advised, per Susanne Sliwa, Deputy Attorney General, that Mike Willden’s name was misspelled and recommended changing “motioned” to “moved” throughout the minutes.

MOTION: Judy moved to accept the minutes as written with the stated corrections. Barbara seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

**4. REVIEW AND VOTE TO APPROVE THE MINUTES FROM THE COUNCIL’S SPECIAL MEETING ON JULY 3, 2014 “For Possible Action”**

MOTION: Sharon moved to approve the minutes as written. Alyce seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

**5. UPDATE ON THE NEVADA COMMISSION ON BEHAVIORAL HEALTH – VIKI KINNIKIN, COMMISSION CHAIR “*For Possible Action*”**

Viki reported that the Commission is meeting tomorrow on the Division of Child and Family Services (DCFS) side, and they are working on the logic model to see how that can be brought to better encompass the whole state for children’s mental health. They are also looking at mobile crisis and everything the Governor’s Council on Behavioral Health has recommended for mental health. Viki said the Commission is pleased to have a voice in the Children’s Subcommittee, which is a subcommittee for the Governor’s Council. On the adult side, the Commission did not meet last month. The current primary focus is looking for members, such as a consumer and representatives from the community and SAPTA. Further, the adult side of the Commission is looking at public awareness and Peer-To-Peer Program agencies. Viki concluded that the Commission is starting to work on the letter to the Governor, due in January, and invited Council members to add their thoughts and concerns by: as soon as possible.

**6. ACCESSING MENTAL HEALTH RESOURCE MATERIALS IN COUNTY JAILS – SHARON WILSON “*For Possible Action*”**

Sharon said Elizabeth requested this agenda item because of her concern that rural county jails are not providing mental health resource materials to inmates and their family members. Dave asked Diane to send Elizabeth the Help Resource sheets the Council’s Consumer and Family Member Advocacy Subcommittee worked on last year. Dave also recommended Elizabeth contact Christy McGill from Healthy Connections to see if she could provide any assistance, and further suggested if Lyon County has a public meeting, she could make comment at that meeting as a concerned citizen. Elizabeth thanked Sharon for contacting her and working on this.

**7. UPDATE ON THE PEER SUPPORT PROGRAM – DAVE CALOJARO “*For Possible Action*”**

Dave stated they did their first training for peers as was required from the Federal BRASS TAC Award. They received technical assistance and \$50,000 from the Award and the majority of the money went to training. Training took place in Las Vegas and Reno in May and June. The feedback on the training from the participants was, for the most part, rated very well. Dave said an element they are going to work on is identifying the Medicaid requirements in Chapter 400, Peer Support Services, to make it more clear. The second area they identified is to work on the development of a Peer Leadership Council. They have an Ad Hoc Committee, one in the north and one in the south, to develop the Peer Leadership Council. They will include the addictions and mental health side and make sure there is fair representation for all areas of the state, including rural. The next Ad

Hoc Committee meeting is on August 4, 2014. Once the Council is formed, the Ad Hoc Committee will slowly dissolve and the Council members will then set the bylaws and sample job descriptions to help peers with their workforce capabilities. The composition of the Council is 12 and will be regionally based. There was a recommendation that only peers serve on the Council, with state staff being available just for consultation. Dave added that meeting agendas and minutes of the Peer Leadership Council would be posted in good faith but would not be mandated to the open meeting law. Dave concluded that they are working on the development of Peer Support Recovery Organizations (PSRO). PSRO's could be stand alone agencies or part of a bigger agency that offers many services, like inpatient and outpatient, and the model would be tied into Medicaid. Dave said he did a bill draft request to define a Peer Support Recovery Organization. They are about a year away; and, if approved by the Legislative process, it would be a part of the Nevada Revised Statutes and under Healthcare Quality and Compliance to license Peer Support Recovery Organizations. Alyce commented that this Council would be a peer run Council only, adding some peers may have difficulty serving on a Governor appointed Council due to problems with their background that may have been created due to their illness. Sharon asked if the background checks could also be a problem with the Medicaid licensing process. Dave answered when peers meet the Medicaid qualifications, they enhance their workforce opportunities to be hired by the Peer Support Recovery Organizations; and, even though it is a similar but different process, that too could prevent a Peer Support agency from hiring a peer.

## **8. UPDATE ON THE JOINT BLOCK GRANT BUDGETS – DAVE CALOJARO “For Possible Action”**

Dave reminded members that Nevada's first Joint Block Grant Application, which is the State's Mental Health and Substance Abuse Plan, was submitted last July. They are now preparing for the next submission on July 1, 2015. The Block Grant funding is during the federal fiscal year, October 1 through September 30. For the first time state agencies – NNAMHS, SNAMHS, and Rural Clinics will no longer be funded. Some state agency positions were funded because some of the positions work toward the goals and objectives of the block grant. For the positions that did not, they were able to successfully move them into state funded positions. Dave said that they will be funding the National Alliance for Mental Illness (NAMI). NAMI is doing a lot of community work and that is the focus of what we need to do with the Block Grant at the Federal level. Over time the communities will drive this with the state's help, as opposed to the state being the lead and doing a lot of this work. Dave stated the Block Grant is split with the Division of Child and Family Services (DCFS), so they will continue to get funding in three main areas: Northern Nevada Child and Adolescent Services (NNCAS), Southern Nevada Child and Adolescent Services (SNCAS), and DCFS Administration for positions that oversee the Block Grant work. DCFS is going to use part of the funding to develop fellowships for child and adolescent psychiatrists. They are also continuing to fund the Community Health Worker Program, which is probably the closest thing to peers for what is

done for mental health and addiction, providing mental health first aid. Another group they are reaching out to is Special Populations and, in particular, Native American communities. One of the 12 statewide coalitions is a Native American Coalition and they represent 27 tribes throughout the state and jurisdictions. This year will be a planning year and they will do a Needs Assessment to determine what the needs are in the various Native American communities. In subsequent years they will implement some of those services. Dave said they will be using Block Grant money to create a MOST Team in the south. MOST stands for Mobile Outreach Service Team. Dave explained this is when a mental health professional accompanies law enforcement should they get a call about a person exhibiting signs of mental illness, such as schizophrenia or delusional behavior. It has worked in the north and they are going to help in the south and also provide them with technology to look up a person's background. Dave also informed Alyce and members that he would propose funding Rural Monitoring again this fiscal year, although he could not join as the mental health adult planner due to a heavy workload. Alyce was happy to hear that Rural Monitoring will be returning.

Dave asked if there were any comments.

Bob said he is a volunteer at St. Vincents in their Emergency Assistance area in Northern Nevada, and he sees a great many homeless people who are mentally ill and have problems with substance abuse. They always ask where they can go for rehab and he doesn't have a lot of places to send them. Dave advised Bob that state agencies are now providing co-occurring services, so if someone has a mental illness or co-occurring disorder, they can be referred to Northern Nevada Adult Mental Health Services (NNAMHS). For persons who have addictions only, there are several Substance Abuse Prevention and Treatment Agency (SAPTA) providers. These can be found in the resource sheet Diane is sending. Dave also recommended Bob contact Project Restart in the north for housing, outreach, and education, or New Frontiers in the rural area. The other contact in the south is Help of Southern Nevada.

Dave asked if there were any other questions.

Susan asked if the MOST Team was available in the south. Dave said staff do work with law enforcement and recommended she contact Myra Schultz at SNAMHS. Susanne interjected that staff do work with law enforcement in the south and law enforcement has typically been very cooperative. LaJune asked Dave if she could access the Joint Block Grant from last year to see the breakdown of what was paid. Dave said the Block Grant Application itself contains a general budget but not the level of detail. That information is maintained by the Fiscal Officer. The Fiscal Department is closing budgets now and when the budgets are all closed, they can give LaJune a good accounting of what they paid for and what was expended. Dave said the DCFS representative is not here today, but Dave can give an update at the next meeting.

MOTION: Dave moved to accept the Joint Block Grant budget as presented. Sharon seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

**9. REPORT ON THE GOVERNOR’S COUNCIL ON BEHAVIORAL HEALTH & WELLNESS – DAVE CALOIARO**  
*“For Possible Action”*

Dave said the Council was appointed to address a number of areas and met six or seven times over the last four or five months. The Council came up with a dedicated focus on what the needs are; and, even though it is a statewide Governor appointed Council, the focus was more on Las Vegas, based on the sheer numbers and some of the issues that came out of it. But, the Council does represent the whole state. The Council will continue to meet quarterly, although they were meeting every month to wrap up recommendations to the Governor by May 30<sup>th</sup>. Dave stated that the Chair was Dr. Joel Dvorskin. Members included several judges and former Director Mike Willden, Richard Whitley, Pat Hickey, Marilyn Kirkpatrick, Debbie Smith, some physicians, the Sheriff of the Las Vegas Metropolitan Police Department, Timothy Birch, Director of Clark County Department of Social Services, Sue Gaines, President of NAMI and President of the Nevada Board of Directors. Dave reviewed and briefly discussed five of the recommendations coming out of the Council on Behavioral Health’s Recommendation Report: (1) Provide targeted early intervention and stabilizing services to a number of the highest users of mental health services. (DHHS will create an intervention team to work with law enforcement on the street and fund additional housing through Mental Health Court); (2) Increase short-term crisis triage services for those with co-occurring disorders. (DHHS will provide the state’s share of funding to increase capacity {to 50 beds} at the Westcare Community Triage Center in Southern Nevada); (3) Allow emergency medical personnel to make triage decisions regarding mental health crisis and stop requiring them to transport people to Emergency Rooms. EMT’s and ambulance personnel could initiate a Legal 2000; (4) Increase the number of psychiatric inpatient beds in Southern Nevada. (DHHS will increase the Medicaid reimbursement rates {to \$944/day} for psychiatric medical care); (5) Expand mobile crisis for children. (DHHS will provide \$1,951,740 in additional resources to address needs of children in crisis). Dave reviewed some of the other recommendations coming out of the Council.

Alyce thanked Dave for this information and said she is happy to hear they are putting so much into peer services.

Bob commented that the Director of Operations at Catholic Charities is not getting back to him concerning assistance with the people he serves at St. Vincent’s. Dave recommended he call Brian Burris, Director of Homeless & Residential Programs, Project Restart, or Rob Jones in Dave’s Office. Rob oversees Housing and Grants.

Sharon commented that in working with persons who are getting out of prison and are mentally ill, she is familiar with NNAMHS process, which is to go through

intake, get on NNAMHS caseload, and work with the service coordinator in order to be eligible for the housing they can provide. The problem becomes compliance on the client's part and some homeless folks are not good in following this process. Bob agreed with Sharon and this was a true statement.

## **10. COMMITTEE UPDATES “*For Possible Action*”**

### Executive Committee – Alyce

The Committee met on June 12, 2014, and moved to set the Council's Quarterly Meeting agenda, as well as set the meeting for the Special Council on July 3, 2014.

### Behavioral Health Promotion Subcommittee – Dave

Dave reported that we had a very successful NAMI Walk for Mental Health Month in May at Idlewild Park. This NAMI event, which has become an annual tradition, is held along the Truckee River in Reno, where participants walk to support and promote awareness and compassion for persons with mental health. There were several speakers, music, raffles, and the El Dorado Hotel once again provided box lunches. It was a great community event. Dave also added that Public Service Announcements “PSA's” were run throughout the month of May and beyond on recovery, reducing stigma, prevention on substance and alcohol abuse during pregnancy, and mental illness and gun safety. And, thanks to the Executive Director from the Nevada Broadcasters Association, the PSA on Pregnant Women and Children was produced in Spanish, at no cost, and it is currently being played on several Spanish speaking radio stations. The Committee will meet again to gear up for SAMHSA's 25<sup>th</sup> Annual National Recovery Month in Spetember 2014, with a proclamation, events, and a PSA.

Judy was happy to report that the Spring Fling at SNAMHS for Mental Health Month in May was the best Spring Fling to date. Approximately 400 people in attendance enjoyed entertainment, lots of good food, and artwork. Various representatives from every aspect of the mental health community were also in attendance. Judy said she shared two long tables with NAMI and complimented staff on sending updated, interesting, and provocative tear sheets and information to distribute at this event. People really seemed to be interested in the information. Judy was happy to be a part of the Spring Fling and thanked everyone involved, especially Council member Susan who volunteered her time again this year.

Dave asked Luana if she had anything to add about the proclamation and PSA for Recovery Month in September. Luana said the proclamation looks great and we should get it in. The PSA is going to be produced exclusively by Nevada Broadcasters, so we do not have to find people to do the recordings. Judy quickly added that Myra is talking about doing something similar in September. Dave said he will reach out to NNAMHS to see if they are planning any events in September, as well.

Consumer & Family Member Advocacy Subcommittee – Dave

Dave advised this Committee has not met for a while but the key work that came from this Committee was the production of the resource materials mentioned several times in this meeting.

Nominating Committee – Dave

Dave thanked the Council members on behalf of the Nominating Committee for attending the Special Meeting to vote on the four membership applicants: Bob Volk, Denise Everett, Susan Orton, and Ali Jai Faison. Dave said we are getting close to filling our membership of 23 and will be doing more recruitments for family members with children who have serious emotional disturbances as well as a state representative from the Department of Education. Dave stressed the importance of everyone's attendance because a quorum is met by more than one-half of the amount of the total membership. Diane stated that three of the four applicants have sent in the Governor's Application to her and they have been forwarded to the Governor's liaison. Rene informed Bob that when he receives his letter from the Governor, and if he is interested in serving on a Council subcommittee, to please let Diane know. The same goes for any sitting member who is not currently serving on a subcommittee.

**11. PUBLIC COMMENT “*For Possible Action*”**

Alyce wanted to publicly thank Dave for everything he does to help and how is always willing to step in. She really appreciates it. Judy said she seconds that. Elizabeth added, as a consumer, she is overwhelmed in hearing all the things that are in the works and what the Commission is doing and the plans for people's mental health. Dave thanked everyone.

**12. SET DATE FOR THE COUNCIL'S NEXT QUARTERLY MEETING AND OPEN DISCUSSION ON PROPOSED AGENDA ITEMS “*For Possible Action*”**

Rene proposed adding the reinstatement of the Rural Monitoring Subcommittee to the next agenda and open up for people to be members. Dave also suggested Dr. Linning be reset on the upcoming agenda to present on Dialect Behavioral Therapy. Diane has already sent her an invitation. Dave asked Ms. Kinnikin if she could give another update on the Commission in October. Viki said she will try to be available. Dave did not think it would be necessary to give an update on the Governor's Council in October, but perhaps in January. Dave suggested keeping an update on the Peer Support Program to discuss the Peer Leadership Council. If anyone would like to add an agenda item, please let Diane know within the next 30 days for discussion at the Executive Committee. There was lengthy discussion on when the



Council would have their next Orientation/Refresher training and face-to-face meeting, which is usually set in October. Following discussion, Rene called for a motion.

MOTION: Alyce moved to set the face-to-face Council meeting and Orientation in January 2015. Susan seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

Rene called for a motion for the meeting in October.

MOTION: LaJune moved to set the next Quarterly Meeting on October 16, 2014. Judy seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

**14. ADJOURNMENT “*For Possible Action*”**

MOTION: Sharon moved to adjourn the meeting at 11:12 a.m. Judy seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

Diane Dempsey  
Recording Secretary