



SUBSTANCE ABUSE PREVENTION AND TREATMENT AGENCY ADVISORY BOARD BIMONTHLY MEETING MINUTES

DATE: April 13, 2022 TIME: 9 a.m. to Adjournment

Members Present: Jolene Dalluhn, Quest Counseling; Jamie Ross, PACT Coalition; David Robeck, Bridge Counseling, Kasey Chu, New Frontier; Michelle Berry, Mark Disselkoen, Center for the Application of Substance Abuse Technologies (CASAT); Kay Velardo, Community Counseling Center of Southern Nevada; Tammie Shemenski, Churchill Community Coalition; Anne-Elizabeth Northan, Join Together Norther Nevada; Peter Ott, Bristlecone; Mari Hutchinson, Step 2; Leo Magridician, WestCare; Wendy Nelson, Frontier Community Coalition; Ester Quilici, Vitality Unlimited; Gina Flores-O'Toole, Ridge House; Jasmine Troop, HELP of Southern Nevada;

Members Absent:

Staff and Guest Present: Laura Oslund, Sofia Cano-Allison, Kailey Lambert, Michelle Padden, Tray Abney, Abigail Hatefi, Alyssa O'Hair, Trey DeLap, Lea Tauchen, Carol Hollis, Wendy Madsen, Dawn Yohey, Linda Anderson, Linda Lang, Mary Duff, Elyse Monroy, Alex Tanchek, Denys Williams, Jennie Bear, Kadie Zeller, Stephanie Woodard

1. Roll Call and Announcement

2. Public Comment:

Ms. Quilici would like to bring attention to the urgency in Nevada, of making the licensing of behavioral health professionals and possibly SUD (substance use disorder) professionals quicker, more efficient and less discouraging.

Mr. Robeck would like to echo most of what Ms. Quilici was saying, we have a major workforce crisis in the state of Nevada, and it is not up to the clinics to try and fix that for us.

We are going without people; we are competing with online services who are willing to pay a ton of money out there to get people signed up.

We put in an application, out of the box, because they requested one to support and expand workforce locally, and they said we didn't make enough points in whatever it is, I have no idea what the points are, there were no points,

and considering it was out of the box, what points did you even consider?

Ms. Quilici would like to tag on a remark to David about putting these applications in and being told that CCBHC's, they don't want us to supplant services, we tell them it's an enhancement, they say you're a CCBHC. So, it's not always rosy to be a CCBHC, we have lots we do and when we try to add on, that's what were told that we may be supplanting services

Mr. Disselkoen states that from the SAPTA Certification standpoint we are very careful of outside organizations like outside of the state wanting to telehealth services, we are requiring SAPTA certified within the states, and we are trying to deal with some of that on that level, and of that only for programs that are required to be SAPTA certified which are providers receiving any state funding for SUD.

Ms. Oslund: I want Esther, David, and Mark to know, that the coalitions fully support the reciprocity being simplified to bring resources into our communities and we speak at statewide meetings, and we speak to funders, and we speak in our own coalition meetings regarding that, there is full support of the coalitions and the state of Nevada with the realization from counselors to Psychologists *muted* Behavioral Health workforce needs, so we are speaking out and we are supporting to the best of our abilities, but unfortunately we being heard at maybe the same level that you guys are.

Ms. Anderson: nothing makes me prouder as a former Deputy Attorney General (DAG) to hear going for the open meeting law to bring this discussion in, I am now with the Nevada Public Health Foundation, so I want to be clear, and put our prior discussion on the record, I appreciate Jamie that you had some concern about how the agenda was written for the coalition criteria, I just want to create a record that that was part of our goal in creating that criteria is to make sure we remove any stigmatizing language, and to be culturally competent, so if that is part of what this group is looking at, we would be supportive of that as being part of your review, if you decide to go forward today after consulting with your real DAG's.

3. Approval of Minutes from the Bimonthly Meeting on Feb 09, 2022

Ms. Quilici made motion to approve with correction on record, David seconded the motion, motion passed with Ms. Ross abstaining

4. Mr. Disselkoen explains how NAC 458.188 is used to adopt division criteria and how the process works. Per DAG interpretation the process is:

- Presentation to the SAB (Substance Abuse Bureau) board for review and approval

- If approved submit to division administrator for review and approval
- Published in administrative manual of the division and posted on the internet on the DPBH.nv.gov website
- And, mailed to each certified alcohol and drug use program that operates in the state for the prevention and treatment of substance related disorders.

In the past we have utilized division criteria to adopt ASAM (American Society of Addiction Medicine) criteria and enhance residential treatment services as well civil protective custody. Any questions before I go into prevention?

No questions were heard.

Mr. Disselkoen: NAC 458 allows SAPTA to create division criteria instead of writing formal regulations which is a long and complicated process.

NAC 458.188 are the only regulations (muted) Shannon Bennett has used at her other state position. Division criteria must be approved by the SAB and the administrator of the division before going into effect. We are using SB 69 for the content for the criteria.

Any comments or feedback related to the criteria? Just to note, also Tracy Palmer was involved related to the coalition criteria, also the coalitions were involved.

Ms. Anderson stated that what they did in changing it is reference the statutory language specifically, we kept it what the statute had said but we tried to make some adaptations.

Ms. Ross: Any other comments or discussion? Hearing none, is there interest in putting a motion forward?

Ms. Nelson made motion, Ms. Shemenski seconded, motion passes.

5. Mr. Disselkoen explains how recovery housing is not really provided, the closest thing we have is transitional housing. The thought is to develop recovery housing criteria for when funding became available down the road. National Reliance Recovery Residents (NARR) approached the division related to establishing a mechanism to certify recovery housing. We plan on using NARR standards and modifying it to meet Nevada's individual needs.

Ms. Quilici asks if someone can live in a house who is past treatment but wants a sober environment.

Mr. Disselkoen: Yes, that's what the recovery housing would be for.

Ms. Quilici is asking for clarification on NAC 449.

Mr. Disselkoen answered that it can be confusing, but we work closely with Health Care Quality and Compliance (HCQC) to determine if it falls under NAC 449, and sometimes small cities are taken on a case-by-case basis.

Ms. Quilici made motion to adopt Recovery Housing Division Criteria, Mr. Magridician seconded, motion passed.

6. Standing Informational Items

- Co-Chair's Report- Ms. Ross would like to thank David and Lana for running a tight ship for the last four years. If anyone would like to have something added to the agenda or if you feel like we are missing something important, please let us know.

Ms. Dalluhn talks about how treatment has changed since the pandemic; treatment topics have changed, and it poses a challenge to clients and clinicians. Workforce shortage has been a new challenge, along with inflation and demands for higher salaries. Trying to accommodate the sheer number of people seeking treatment has caused clinician burn out across the board.

- SAPTA Updates- Ms. Bennett would like to let everyone know that deep dives into the bureau are being made in attempt to get to the bottom of some of our problems. Ms. Bennett's long-term goal is to be able to have program staff view themselves as a coordinator roll for a statewide behavioral health program and be able to speak to it and support it at that level.

Ms. Quilici is asking what the problem with Request for Reimbursement (RFR's), we are waiting months for this money.

Ms. Bennett states that we had a mass exodus in December of last year, we now have four new fiscal people who inherited a mess. We are building a new process that in the future will make a standardized flow.

Ms. Quilici would like to ask about Detox Certs and how terribly hard it is to get them.

Ms. Bennett: I will follow up on that.

Ms. Dalluhn: Shannon, can you tell us about what you did prior to this position?

Ms. Bennett: I have been with the Division for ten years. I came from the public health side, the last five years I ran the state immunization program, before that I spent time in Chronic Disease, Maternal Child, and Adolescent health, and I also worked in Community Health Nursing. I don't have a ton of background in behavioral health, but what I do bring with me is how the division works and how to get work done.

Ms. Ross: Welcome Shannon, we are excited to have you and see how you will address the challenges.

- The Resilience Project Update – Kendall Holcomb

Ms. Holcomb:

We have some new paid ads that are launching to refresh our campaign. We will be meeting with the Nevada Hospital Association next month to provide some resources to their staff. We will be partnering with Professional Sports Publications (PSP) to have advertisement added to the Golden Knights and Las Vegas Raiders for the season programs. We have submitted a proclamation with the Governor's office to make May our mental health awareness month and it was approved yesterday. We are working on some educational videos to address the process for mental health crisis holds for youth and adolescents in English and Spanish. Reach out to me if you want a copy for yourself.

Ms. Quilici: Does your staff make referrals to CCBHC's, treatment centers, or Openbeds?

Ms. Holcomb: We do share referrals to those that reach out to us, the way the NRP works is that it is up to the client to reach out directly to the provider. We can do warm hand offs, but it's not usually requested. We are open to providers if they would like to talk to our staff or make a presentation. My contact information is: kholcomb@health.nv.gov

Ms. Ross: you mention your resilience ambassadors are being trained as peers in Community Health Workers (CHW's), peers are required to have the lived experience, what training are they getting?

Ms. Berry: the Resilience Ambassadors, it was requested they go through the fundamental peer training, not necessarily certification, as well as Community Health Worker training through Healthy Coalitions.

Ms. Quilici asks if they are Bachelor's level and can they be paid by Medicaid?

Ms. Berry answers that they could be bachelor's level or grandfathered in and they can be paid by Medicaid.

- SAPTA Updates pertaining to Notice of Funding Opportunities –Tracy Palmer

Ms. Palmer would like to update everyone that Ben Trevino is now the HPS I for Substance Abuse State General Fund. Dr. Jennifer Tongol has taken over the Forensic Assessment Service Triage Team / Mobile Outreach Safety Team (FASTT/MOST), and the 8th Judicial sub awards. Abigail Hatefi is taking over Women's Services. Denys Williams is now handling State General Fund sub awardees. Lawanda Jones will be taking over certifications, we hope to have them up to date soon. Jerrie Manning is our new AA III.

As of April 7th, Shannon and I have been working on taking over the NOFO project from Sheila Lambert and Dawn Yohey. We are finalizing any remaining eligible applicant sub awardees that need to be addressed. There was discussion to develop a focus group to work on provider standards, please let us know if you would like to take part or give input. The treatment NOFO is the COVID 19 supplemental dollars, and then there is the rescue act dollars from the Governor. Dawn sent out an email with the list of funded treatment agencies, but I cannot announce yet because I don't have the final list.

Update on the Synar retail violation penalty for the State of Nevada, during COVID, Nevada had started putting actions into place to change the violation rate, so the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) has gone back to our grant project officer to appeal and drop the penalty.

Every three years we have to conduct a Synar coverage study verifying availability of tobacco access to youth, Jenni Bear is over this program, so she is working on getting this complete by June.

Due to the pandemic, we have not been able to conduct the fiscal monitors, we are doing those now, so thank you for working with us, we know they are cumbersome.

Also, we have been sending out subaward and subrecipient questionnaire templates for state general fund dollars.

Robust Conversation about SAMHSA penalty regarding tobacco sales to minors, and what we plan on doing to ensure that this doesn't happen again including bringing on a Synar coordinator.

- Center for the Application of Substance Abuse Technologies (CASAT) Report
 - Openbeds- Elyse Monroy
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In March there were 337 referrals sent through the network. As of March 1st, Northern Nevada Adult Mental Health now only receives referrals through Openbeds. In March we also noticed an uptick in declined referrals mostly for insurance reasons. We will be working on making sure our insurance records are up to date. We are also working with the vendor to reduce the number of multiple agencies competing for the same referral. I now sit on the Advisory Committee for a Resilient Nevada (ACRN) committee which will put together recommendations through a needs assessment process on how the state will subaward out Opioid Settlement dollars. I recommend looking at Senate Bill 390 which lays this all out.

- CASAT- Michelle Berry/ Mark Disselkoen

Ms. Berry spoke about Naloxone distribution across the state, the Southern Nevada Health District will provide Naloxone to Clark County and to all of the partners. Southern Nevada Health District goes through about 1,500 – 2,000 units a month, we have been trying to meet the demand, but it has been difficult due to funding.

Once we get a new project officer for SOR we should be able to get them to where they need to be with supplies.

Fentanyl test strips are distributed by Southern Nevada Health District which has the Overdose Data to Action (OD2A) project and SOR has the project that will distribute to the rest of the state. SOR launched in March 2022, to date we have distributed 3,000 Fentanyl strips, with Southern Nevada Health District launched December 2021, and as of February they have distributed 2,400 test strips.

7. Ms. O'hare talks on how the MPAC uses the information gathered by the SEOW. Using the 2019 Epi report data we were able to narrow down what the priorities were, then when the 2020 data came out the MPAC was able to narrow down the set of priorities even further
 - 8 Discuss and Recommend Agenda Items for the Next Meeting
 - Conversation around certification of behavioral health professionals
 - Upcoming legislative session, reaching out to overcome barriers
 - MPAC priorities approval
 - 9 Public Comment (*Action may not be taken on any matter brought up under this agenda item until scheduled on an agenda for a later meeting.*)
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Ms. Holcomb would like to announce the Advisory Committee on Resilient Nevada will be having a meeting next Wednesday, April 20th at 9:00am and will be going over the drafted needs assessment for SB 390 and will be accepting all public comment.

Ms. Monroy announced that the OD2A program has partnered with the UNR Recovery Community to hold a screening of “Road to Recovery” tonight, this is an anti-stigma documentary that the OD2A grant supported this year, so the screening of the twenty minute documentary and then a panel discussion, so if you are in Reno and looking for something inspiring and great to do, I would encourage you to come by campus tonight at 5:30, we have parking codes because parking can be a challenge, so we can send you a parking code.

Ms. Quilici asked if the documentary could be sent out?

Ms. Monroy stated that she could send it out to the SPATA staff to send out via SAPTA Listserv

10 Adjournment at 11:02am