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Ph.D., M.D.
Chief Medical
Officer

DIETITIAN ADVISORY GROUP

MEETING MINUTES

DATE: THURSDAY, MAY 9, 2024

3:00 P.M.

Call to order/roll call:

- Laura J. Kruskall, PhD, RDN, CSSD, LD, FACSM, FAND, Director, Dietetic Internship & Nutritional Center, Coordinator, MS Nutrition Sciences, Kinesiology and Nutrition Services, University of Nevada, Las Vegas, Chair
- Pam Wagner, RD, LD, CNSC
- Cheryl A. Kapalka, MPH, RD, LD, CNSC, CSP
- Sachiko Tokunaga de St. Jeor, RD, LD

Quorum was met – Laura Kruskall, Pam Wagner, Cheryl Kapalka, Sachiko Tokunaga in attendance.

- *Under Nevada's open meeting law, Nathan provided the phone number 775-321-6111 and conference ID 150 084 884#.*

HCQC staff:

- Leticia Metherell, RN, CPM, Health Program Manager III
- Keri King, Administrative Assistant III
- Nathan Orme, Education and Information Officer

1. PUBLIC COMMENT

- a. Dillon Martin, Treasurer and Consumer Protection Coordinator for the Nevada Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics, spoke of a proposed dietitian licensure compact agreement. The Department of Defense and the Council of State Governments and the Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics crafted model language for states that wish to join the compact. Using this model language the Nevada Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics is planning to spearhead introduction of a dietitian compact licensure law when the Nevada Legislature reconvenes in 2025. Mr. Martin to follow up this public testimony and send some documents for the Dietary Advisory Group to review, also for the Nevada Department of Public and Behavioral Health Review. Go to dietitianscompact.org to find answers to many questions and see the model language.

- b. Laura Kruskall, Chair of the Dietitian Advisory Group, reiterated on how important licensure compacts are and the reason why it's important working in the advent of telehealth.
 - c. Dawn Matusz, MS, NDTR, president elect of the Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics, stated that this licensure compact the legislation has been introduced in about 10 or 11 States and it has passed one state already.
 - d. Laura Kruskall, Chair of the Dietitian Advisory Group, as licensed dietitians in Nevada, if we're working with a client, we're providing nutrition counseling or any type of nutrition services, and that client threatens to harm themselves, what is the procedure? Is there something in the NRS that requires dietitians to fill out some type of report or form, that at least we know about it and if the procedure is calling 911 and keeping the patient safe.
2. For Possible Action – Approval of meeting minutes from April 14, 2022. – Cheryl Kapalka motion to approve, Sachiko St. Jeor seconded. Motion passed unanimously.
3. For Possible Action – Review of and possible recommendation to Board of Health for appointment of a new member (vacancy for a member of the public) to Dietitian Advisory Group. Four candidates were introduced for the vacant general public position on the board. Members reviewed and discussed four resumes that were submitted and voted to recommend Paul Hamernik.
4. Discussion Item – Dietitian licensing and background processing time – Leticia Metherell – background processing is biggest issue with licensing. Ms. Metherell encouraged DAG to speak with Legislature about removing the background check requirement. Licensing has gone back to an approval process while being able to wait on Department of Public Safety for their eligibility since they are very short staffed.
5. Informational Item –Dietitian Advisory Group meeting next proposed date August 22, 2024, at 3:00 pm.
6. PUBLIC COMMENT – None.
7. Adjournment – Laura motioned to adjourn, Pam Wagner seconded. Motion approved unanimously, with congratulations to Paul Hamernik for coming aboard the DAG.