

MATERNAL AND CHILD HEALTH ADVISORY BOARD

DATE: December 6, 2024, TIME: 9:00 AM

The meeting will be held via teleconference only. Members of the public who wish to attend and participate remotely are strongly encouraged to do so by utilizing the following meeting link or call-in number:

Join on your computer, mobile app or room device

Microsoft Teams [Need help?](#)

[Join the meeting now](#)

Meeting ID: 231 815 156 373

Passcode: EF6m3gN7

Dial in by phone

[+1 775-321-6111,241051250#](#) United States, Reno [Find a local number](#)

Phone conference ID: 241 051 250#

ATTENDANCE:

Members Present:

- Marsha Matsunaga Kirgan, MD
- Fatima Taylor, M.Ed., CPM
- Roshanda Clemons, MD, FAAP
- Elika Nematian, MPH

Members Absent:

- Keith Brill, MD, Chair
- Mario Gaspar de Alba, MD,
- Melinda Hoskins, MS, Vice Chair

Non-Voting Legislative Members Absent

- Senator Rochelle Nguyen
- Assemblywoman Tracy Brown May

Member Reappointment Packet Pending Present

- Lora Redmon, BSN, RNC-OB, C-FMC

Staff Present:

- Vickie Ives, MA, Bureau Chief, Child, Family, and Community Wellness (CFCW)
- Tami Conn, MPH, Deputy Bureau Chief, CFCW
- Tamera Brower, Administrative Assistant IV, CFCW
- Barbara Bessol, Administrative Assistant III, Maternal, Child, and Adolescent Health (MCAH)
- Ghasi Phillips-Bell, PhD, Epidemiology Assignee, MCAH
- Jordan Lancaster, Applied Epidemiology Fellow, MCAH
- Robyn Cunnally, RN, Maternal Mortality Review Committee Nurse Abstractor, MCAH
- Max Moscowitz, MPH, State Systems Development Initiative Program Manager, MCAH
- Rachel Marchetti, MBA, Nevada Home Visiting (NHV) Program Manager, MCAH
- Helina Ashagrie, NHV Program Coordinator, MCAH

- Perry Smith, Early Hearing Detection and Intervention (EHDI) Program Manager, MCAH
- Iain Dover, MPH, EHDI Data Analyst, MCAH
- Chayna Corpuz, MPH, Rape Prevention Education Program Coordinator, MCAH
- Colleen Barrett, MPH, Maternal and Child Health (MCH) Epidemiologist, MCAH
- Cassius Adams, MS, Children and Youth with Special Health Care Needs Program Coordinator, MCAH
- Ryan Spencer, MPH, Sexual Risk Avoidance Education Program Coordinator, MCAH
- Jazmin Stafford, Personal Responsibility Education Program Coordinator, MCAH
- Teresa Jarrett, Grants and Projects Analyst I, MCAH
- Tom Fletcher, Management Analyst II, MCAH

Guests:

- Dr. John Menezes, MD, University of Nevada Las Vegas (UNLV)
- Senator Marilyn Dondero Loop
- Sabrina Schnur, Belz and Case Government Affairs
- Jeanne Freeman, PhD, CHES, Carson City Health and Human Services
- Kelly Verling, RN Northern Nevada Public Health
- Linda Anderson, Nevada Public Health Foundation

Agenda Item 1

1.Call to order/roll call – Keith Brill, MD – Chair

The meeting was called to order at 9:18 am by the meeting facilitator, Dr. Matsunaga Kirgan.

Agenda Item 2

First Public Comment Period

No public comments were made during this period.

Agenda Item 3

FOR POSSIBLE ACTION: Approval of draft minutes from the Maternal and Child Health Advisory Board (MCHAB) meeting on August 4, 2024, Dr. Matsunaga Kirgan – Meeting Facilitator

A motion to approve meeting minutes was made by Dr. Roshanda Clemons and was seconded by Fatima Taylor. The motion was unanimously approved. There was no public comment.

Agenda Item 4

FOR POSSIBLE ACTION: Updates and possible recommendations regarding Nevada's Craniofacial Clinic – Dr. John Menezes, University of Nevada Las Vegas (UNLV)

Dr. Menezes updated the members on Nevada's Craniofacial Clinic which was introduced in the previous board meeting. He states the UNLV Dental School received state funding to

renovate the Nevada Craniofacial Clinic, but the funding was appropriated elsewhere without reason, resulting in his decision to no longer work with the dean to establish it at the dental school. Dr. Menezes began working with the Kirk Kerkorian School of Medicine to establish his own team and space. He has secured a new clinic space near Mountainview Hospital and has requested one half day per month starting in the spring on a Tuesday and has tentatively been given approval for that day. He is currently working on Memorandums of Understanding (MOUs) as they were not completed by the dental school as originally planned in the last year and a half. The school of medicine is now working to establish these MOUs with different entities across the system that would be contributing services to the clinic.

Dr. Menezes outlined two (2) alternatives for consideration for funding for this clinic and for all children with special needs: 1) reestablish funding to service children with special needs from ages 0 – 17 years, 2) reestablish funding through Nevada Early Intervention Services (NEIS) at a level that NEIS would consider enough to support the clinic.

Dr. Matsunaga-Kirgan thanked Dr. Menezes for his efforts towards getting this set up and asked if there is anyway the MCHAB can be of assistance.

Dr. Menezes stated if the state senators on this committee could provide a base level of increased funding to service children zero (0) to seventeen (17). I think that that the board could help out there in terms of working with the senator and helping to draft what is needed. Secondly, if there is any opportunity for the school to work with the board, on matching goals across entities. There are about 35 children annually that need these clinic services. There are many more children with other special health care needs that could utilize NEIS services, orthodontic and oral maxillofacial surgery.

Dr. Menezes calls for present Senators to champion the ELSA Act in Nevada. The Ensuring Lasting Smiles Act (ELSA) would require private insurance to cover oral surgery and other procedures for congenital anomalies, including cleft lip and palate.

Dr. Menezes asked how these comments work towards an action item.

Vickie Ives reminded the committee of their authority to make recommendations to the Administrator of the Division of Public and Behavioral Health.

Dr. Clemons states that she brought this information to the medical benefits department. She shared that Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services updated guidelines allow for comprehensive coverage for all children. Children with special needs who are insured by Nevada Medicaid/Medicare should have their dental needs covered. Dr. Clemons recommends writing a letter to the Division of Public and Behavioral Health (DPBH) and Nevada Medicaid to request support for a potential 1115 waiver to ensure coverage. This would be in addition to getting legislative support.

Dr. Menezes asked Fatima Taylor her thoughts on getting funding to support ages zero (0) to seventeen (17).

Fatima Taylor stated the budgets are already created for this upcoming biennium. She stated the funding would need to be separate, one-shot funding since the budgets were already set. It would not be an expansion of NEIS services, rather a separate specialty clinic.

Dr. Matsunaga-Kirgan opened it for public comment. No public comment made.

Dr. Menezes expresses a desire for the Board make a recommendation in favor of state support for the Craniofacial Clinic.

Dr. Clemons motions for the MCHAB to draft an official letter to DPBH, Medicaid, Part C Nevada Early Intervention Services (NEIS) requesting substantial and sustainable fiscal support for the Craniofacial Clinic Team to be able to cover comprehensive medical needs for children from birth to 21 years, and to request legislative support.

Dr. Matsunaga-Kirgan seconds the motion.

Dr. Matsunaga-Kirgan requests the draft letter include a request for assistance from Dr. Menezes, Dr. Clemons, and Fatima Taylor.

Dr. Matsunaga-Kirgan calls for public comment before the vote.

Vickie Ives suggests the Board form a Subcommittee to draft the letter and bring it back to the full Committee for further action if the contents of the letter cannot be approved today.

Dr. Clemons amends the original motion to include the establishment of a Subcommittee to draft the letter. She states the Subcommittee members will include Dr. Clemons, Dr. Menezes, and any volunteers from the Board.

Dr. Matsunaga-Kirgan seconds the motion.

The motion was unanimously approved. There was no public comment.

Agenda Item 4

INFORMATIONAL: Nevada Early Hearing Detection and Intervention (EHDI) Program Overview – Perry Smith, EHDI Program

Perry Smith presents information about the Nevada EHDI Program including how Nevada's program compares to other states in the nation regarding testing, diagnosis, and intervention rates. All referenced documents are included in the meeting packet.

Dr. Clemons thanked Mr. Smith for his presentation and asked if Mr. Smith can identify who is not receiving hearing screens and if it is connected to the setting in which they are born in.

Mr. Smith responds that we are in line with national averages. The EHDI Program does receive some midwife reported data and does desire to increase the number of midwives reporting their data to the program. Midwives are not required to report on hearing loss and rural communities face difficulty in receiving pediatric audiology services. He states the program is working internally and with statewide partners on solutions.

Dr. Clemons inquiries about gaps in follow-ups after screening.

Mr. Smith replies the EHDI staff includes a follow-up coordinator who contacts the families. Many follow-up attempts are successful but there is room for improvement. The ideal fix would be to have pediatric audiologists in all major communities here in the state. This is also a nationwide issue

Dr. Clemons recognizes there is a lack of workforce and offers solutions for rural residents such as working on transportation from rural communities to audiology centers in Reno or Las Vegas.

Dr. Matsunaga-Kirgan leaves the meeting for clinical obligations, and Dr. Clemmons takes over as acting chair.

Dr. Clemons calls for comments or questions from the Board for Mr. Smith.

Fatima Taylor asks about education and resources regarding unilateral hearing loss.

Mr. Smith responded that yes, there is literature about unilateral hearing loss and that it can cause delays, and they encourage families to see early intervention services to help with that.

Dr. Clemons asked if there is public facing education on that topic that can be distributed.

Mr. Perry Smith stated there is not a public facing flyer, but something can be put together on the literature that exists on that topic.

Dr. Clemons calls for public comment.

There was no public comment.

Dr. Matsunaga-Kirgan left the meeting early, resulting in meeting quorum is lost. No further action may be taken. All agenda items not covered will be moved to the February 7, 2025, meeting agenda.

Adjournment

The meeting is adjourned by Dr. Clemons, meeting facilitator, at 10:12 AM.

Next Meeting

The next meeting is set for February 7, 2025 at 9am.

Minutes were prepared by Barbara Bessol, Administrative Assistant III, Maternal, Child and Adolescent Health Section, Bureau of Child, Family and Community Wellness, Nevada Division of Public and Behavioral Health.

