

## **Rural Regional Behavioral Health Policy Board Meeting, February 3, 2023**

**Supporting Materials for Agenda Item 8:** (Informational) Updates regarding the activities, resources, challenges, and other work of the Rural Regional Behavioral Health Coordinator (Rural RBHC).

### **Rural RBHC Activities “At-a-Glance”**

Presentations for AB 37 since January meeting:

Past:

- Statewide Independent Living Council – January 11<sup>th</sup>
- Northern Regional Behavioral Health Policy Board – February 2<sup>nd</sup>

Upcoming:

- Commission on Behavioral Health – February 9<sup>th</sup>
- Statewide Workforce Development Workgroup (Healthcare, Public Health, and Behavioral Health focused) – February 9<sup>th</sup>
- Rural Children’s Mental Health Consortium – March 8<sup>th</sup>
- Behavioral Health Planning and Advisory Council – TBD, rescheduled from January 11<sup>th</sup>

Other Presentations

- Upcoming: SAPTA Advisory Board – February 8<sup>th</sup>, regarding Rural RBHC activities, funding, and the Board’s 2023 Priorities

Task Forces

Humboldt County: January meeting canceled. Next Meeting – February 9<sup>th</sup> @ 1pm

Elko County: Continuation of previous work; scored possible solutions to gaps based on feasibility and impact. Setting the strategies into quartiles based on these scores to visualize the low-hanging fruit, and longer-term initiatives with high impact. Will be putting sample scores together for remaining solutions and reviewing these at the next meeting, where the group will identify their top priority objectives. From there, the group will create a workplan. Next meeting scheduled for February 14<sup>th</sup> @ 8:30am.

Travel and Training

- Co-facilitated SafeTALK in Elko @ GBC Campus on January 13, 2023. All 30 participants completed; mostly GBC staff, some school district staff, and a couple members of the public. Great Basin College showing interest in expanding SafeTALK trainings across all or most sites.
- Traveled to Las Vegas January 18-19 to both attend and present at the DPBH behavioral health summit.
  - Participated on panel describing the potential positive impacts of the updated Behavioral Health Community Integration (BHCI) Plan.

- Attended mixed-track sessions, largely focusing on successful diversion and re-entry programs from other states and Nevada examples.

#### Other Updates:

##### School Crisis/Traumatic Event Response Discussion

- Concept: a specialized team to show up and help rural school district staff coordinate response and postvention activities in the wake of a school-related or school-adjacent suicide or another traumatic event. The team would not be imbedded within the rural school district itself, as these communities are small, and likely all school district staff may be affected by the traumatic event or loss.
- Stakeholders at the table currently include: Department of Ed, Department of Emergency Management, DPBH Crisis programs including the Nevada Resilience Project; Trauma Intervention Team (TIP) of Northern Nevada. Have invited known interested school district contacts from across region, but need more insight.

##### Central Nevada Health District formally launched at end of 2022.

- Will serve Pershing, Churchill, Mineral, and eventually Eureka (interlocal agreement for now; will need legislative fix to allow non-adjointing counties to enter a shared health district).
- Attended Pershing County meeting on January 26<sup>th</sup>. I re-iterated the importance of partnerships between public health authorities and non-profits such as Frontier Community Coalition and PACE Coalition, as it expands the types of programming and grants that can be made available.
- Primary “public health” concerns of most counties included are or are related to behavioral health.
- May offer opportunities for partnership with the Policy Boards and the Prevention Coalitions for county-wide initiatives regarding behavioral health.

##### Governor’s State-of-the-State Address, Proposed Budget, and Executive Orders

- Governor Lombardo’s State-of-the-State Address outlined the need for expanded forensic facilities, which can be seen under the “capital improvements” section of the budget summary.
  - Expansion of current state forensic hospitals and new construction
- Executive Order 2023-004: “Order Directing All Nevada Occupational and Professional Licensing Boards to Suspend the Issuance of Any New Regulations, Show Cause for All Occupational Licensing Requirements and to Provide a Recommended Pathway for Facilitating Licensure Reciprocity” (accessed at [https://gov.nv.gov/Newsroom/ExecOrders/2023/Executive\\_Order\\_2023-004/](https://gov.nv.gov/Newsroom/ExecOrders/2023/Executive_Order_2023-004/))
  - Section 1: “...shall suspend the creation of any new regulations that limit or otherwise impact the ability persons to enter any occupation or profession in Nevada”
  - Section 2: by April 1, 2023, each occupational licensing board must produce and submit a report to the Governor and the Legislative Counsel Bureau (LCB) outlining their requirements and fees for licensure, and then provide evidence

defending those requirements and fees. The licensing boards must then produce solutions as to how their processes could be expedited, and what interstate compacts could be entered by that licensing board, a justification as to why the licensing board is not currently a part of an interstate compact, and accompanied by an action plan for the board to move on those changes.

- Section 3: if a licensure type required in Nevada is not required in the majority of states (26 or more), it will be deemed unnecessary, and the licensure type must be phased out by July 1, 2023.
- Section 4: “To the extent an occupation or profession that is currently licensed in Nevada allows for licensing reciprocity in the majority of states (26 or more), reciprocity shall be presumed to be possible and appropriate, and the board shall provide a recommendation for implementing a program for reciprocity participation by July 1, 2023.”
- Section 5: “Failure for any board to fully comply with the provisions of this order shall trigger an immediate operational and financial audit of the board by the Division of Internal Audits as well as recommendation to the Legislature that the board be subject to sanctions.”

#### Gaps and Challenges

No *\*new\** gaps or challenges identified.

#### Opportunities and Suggestions

- Evaluate the ability for rural criminal justice systems to launch Forensic Assessment Services Triage Team (FASTT) programs across the region to assist eligible detainees with successful re-entry and stabilization.
- There’s been more discussion regarding Assertive Community Treatment (ACT) and Assisted Outpatient Treatment (AOT – involuntary outpatient treatment with wrap-around services) programs at state and local levels; this might be a good time to start thinking about ways to advocate for funding and resources to increase capacity for these programs.
- Many opportunities might come forward from Governor Lombardo’s current priorities; we’ll need to keep a look out for how the Board’s Priorities align and opportunities for advocacy.