

**CLARK REGIONAL BEHAVIORAL HEALTH POLICY BOARD  
DRAFT MEETING MINUTES  
05/16/2022  
1:00 p.m. to Adjournment**

1. **Call to order/roll call** *Chair Char Frost, Vice Chair Jaimie Ross*

The meeting was called to order at 1:01 p.m.

**Present:**

Char Frost  
Jamie Ross  
Dr. Lesley Dickson  
Michelle Guerra  
Jacqueline Harris  
Justine Perez  
Jose Melendrez  
Ariana Saunders,  
Captain Nita Schmidt  
Michelle Bennett  
Dan Musgrove  
Dorothy Edwards

**Members Absent:**

Senator Fabian Donate

**Staff/Guests Present:**

Dr. Helen Hunt, Assistant Dean of Behavioral Health  
Sciences Director, University Nevada Las Vegas Mental/Behavioral Health  
Training Coalition  
Mr. Jay Kolbet-Clausell, MSW, Program Manager

2. **Public comment:**

There was no public comment.

3. **For possible action:** Review and approval of minutes from April 06, 2022

The motion passed unanimously.

4. **Informational:** Presentation by U.N.L.V. Mental/Behavioral Health Training  
Coalition, a model of mental health workforce development and education. Dr.  
Helen Hunt, Assistant Dean of Behavioral Health Sciences Director, U.N.L.V.  
Mental Behavioral Health Training Coalition.

Dr. Hunt offers presentation. Please see recording.  
Opens for questions.

Dr. Dickson states that Psychiatry is not getting credit for the improvement it has

made in last 10 years. It takes a lot of money to train residents. Any resident is paid somewhere in the \$60,000. per month range. Whoever sets this resident must pay this plus benefits. The state did put in place money for training. Psychiatry was one of these specialties, which allowed U.N.L.V. 6 to 10 residents per year and University Nevada Reno 4 to 6 Residents per year. This shows that having an advocate in the Legislature can make a dent.

Dr. Dickson asked how this could be translated to get the psychiatry social workers that we need into the school system.

Dr. Hunt stated that after residents finish their course work, one year before graduation they must do a pre-doctoral internship plus salary. Where they do their residency, they tend to stay there. There is not enough of those in Nevada. Gaps exists because there are not enough supervisors, especially in rural areas. Hopefully those gaps can be filled.

Dr. Dickson asked regarding at the university level, could the problem be solved if the supervision problem is solved.

Dr. Hunt explained that issues at the academic level, take multiple steps and levels of approval. Dr. Hunt believes if there was a better connection after graduate work, there would be the capability to take on more cohorts.

Chair Frost raised the concern regarding the Surgeon General's call to action for children's mental health, if it is decided to move forward with this model then all the population of mental health needs be considered. Chair Frost believes children and adolescents suffer more negative effects from the lock down than adults.

Mr. Melendrez asked if the funding sources for all those areas it will be private sponsorships or state funded.

Dr. Hunt explained that the Nebraska model started with money from their states general fund. This funding gets more consistent every year with a core grant writing team. Illinois also started with funds from the state plus the Illinois Board of Higher Education.

Ms. Perez stated that she has been working with the School of Social Work at U.N.L.V. and they held a practicum fair. There are not a lot of practicum sites that can accommodate social work students. With the MSW graduation, it takes time to submit the application to become a certified social worker intern.

Dr. Dickson stated there is a problem bringing people in from other states. Dr. Dickson wanted to know when a social worker moves to Nevada, if they must repeat some of this supervision.

Ms. Perez couldn't confirm this but stated that it is a very slow process.

Vice Chair Ross inquired if getting qualified professionals who want to move to Nevada is still an issue.

Dr. Hunt answered there have been improvements in how licensing boards are processing applications. Nevada did was approved to join CYPACT. Many states are part of this. This means as a psychologist in Nevada, a patient can be treated in another state that is part of this interstate compact. The Civil Protective Custody are also exploring an interstate compact. It has been considered for social workers.

Dr. Hunt went on to explain, at the federal level, there wasn't much interest but that could be changing. Another impact with this public health emergency, there has been loosening of the requirements for out of state mental health clinicians.

Mr. Musgrove asked if there is an indication of how many have been gotten and how many we can be kept.

Dr. Hunt claims that Dr. Woodard has put out a survey of those who have taken advantage of the temporary license which will have data when completed.

5. **Informational:** Presentation by Nevada Community Health Workers Association, technical information about potential effects of adding behavioral health providers to the Medicaid Community Health Worker Program. Jay Kolbet-Clausell, MSW, Program Manager

6.

Mr. Kolbet-Clausell presented; please see recording.

Mr. Melendrez asked how difficult it is to be a training center for Certified Health Workers.

Mr. Kolbet-Clausell commented that there is an increase in interest in C.H.W. work. Opening a training center is a bit of work. His team is looking into how they can do a behavioral health endorsement for C.H.W. The Nevada Certification Board may need more staff to handle the influx.

Mr. Melendrez asked if there enough sites for placement after C.H.W.s graduate.

Mr. Kolbet-Clausell stated that there are different levels of placement. Placements can be found in communities and schools which offers 80 hrs. It is not a requirement for C.H.W. 1 to do a field placement. The C.H.W. II position will need 500 hours. For the Health Resources and Services Administration funding, there must be an apprenticeship. The team is partnering with the Federally Qualified Health Center because of the administrative capability.

Chair Frost raised the concern C.H.W.s would be utilized to sweep floors and asked how this will be prevented from happening.

Mr. Kolbet-Clausell said that his next meeting with Foundations for Recovery will be working on how to put that in a diagram. There is an overlap between Peers and C.H.W.s. The job descriptions are the key factor in designing the job correctly. The C.H.W.s report monthly and they must be doing front line work. The difference between CHW's and Peers, is that CHW's do not have that lived experience that Peers requires. CHW's don't write care plans as per the Nevada Revised Statutes. They do write an action plan. Peers is more a one-on-one relationship working with the counseling team. The job description should define this.

7. **For possible action:** Discussion and vote to explore possible ideas and research topics for Clark Regional Behavioral Health Policy Board bill draft request (BDR) due in September 2022. (Board members)

Chair Frost asked if the board if it would like to explore the latest presentations as a jumping off spot?

Mr. Melendrez asked if there could be access to a summary to the BDRs to make recommendations for a later meeting.

Chair Frost stated that each one will pitch their idea to the group.

Ms. Harris inquired if they need to readdress Telehealth.

Ms. Guerra stated that possible barriers have been eliminated regarding Telehealth.

Chair Frost believes insurance companies see the importance of Telehealth.

Vice Chair Ross states that the way the good Samaritan law is, it has been expanded that some folks are not prosecuted. There is now discrepancy in these laws that may need clarity.

Ms. Saunders voiced that a priority should be strategic in housing, workforce, or crisis services.

Chair Frost stated this board does not want to replicate what other boards are doing.

Ms. Bennett said that the other boards are fine tuning what direction they are going. Maybe we need an equal opportunity to submit ideas and data.

Ms. Edwards confirmed that the last 2 bills were passed around the crisis response. The Washoe Regional Board is looking at workforce development.

Mr. Melendrez inquired if every board has a submittal.  
Chair Frost confirmed.

Ms. Bennett reported that Rural Regional is looking at workforce development as well.

Chair Frost asked members to think about what their dream bill would be. The board does not want to submit anything that will be a huge fiscal note. The board will be looking at that next month at meeting.

Mr. Musgrove added they are looking at a lot of the ARPA dollars.

Chair directed the board to narrow their proposals down by next meeting.

8. **Informational:** Update Clark County Children's Mental Health Consortium -Dan Musgrove, Board Member

Mr. Musgrove reported they have had a couple of meetings since last time the board meet. Issues for schools regarding mental health, bullying and violence has been catastrophic for kids. Kids are afraid to go to school and going back to virtual learning. A core group has been focused on mental health for children. Parents who have been lost in the system because there are inadequate services for them.

Mr. Musgrove continued that next June and August at the Interim Finance Committee, there will be a request focused on mental health, crisis stabilization, wraparound, care coordination, in home family stabilization services, and carving out the respite for the IDD ASD population, better triage, and money going into children's mental health. The results will generate cost savings in future.

9. **Informational:** Update Prevention Coalition future updates to board -Jamie Ross, Vice Chair

10.

Vice Chair Ross states the 2020-2021 fentanyl numbers are in and they are catastrophic. There have been multiple middle school overdose deaths. It is the leading cause of death for the 18–25-year-old range. There has been work with schools to address this. Scare tactics do not work. The drug is being distributed

as pressed pills, which look like other distributed pharmaceuticals. It is very dangerous, and one dose can cause death. Two of five doses have a lethal dose.

Vice Chair Ross continues that Fentanyl test strips are now available for anyone who wants them through the Southern Nevada Health District.

Chair Frost asked about the test strips availability, and if anyone get these.

Vice Chair Ross confirmed that a person gets trained to see how to use them. These are free.

Dr. Dickson wanted to know if a medicated approach or non-medicated approach for is preferred?

Vice Chair Ross suggested seeking the research. This would be the consideration for best treatment for opioid addiction.

**11. Informational:** Update Clark Regional Behavioral Health Coordinator Michelle Bennett

Ms. Bennett is anticipating a Clark County Community Connections event. An in-person Clark County behavioral health providers meeting which will give information to our providers given by other providers.

Ms. Bennett referred Nichole Bowmer with Nevada Grant Love, works with some of the board members on developing grants. She is a great resource for grant writing.

Ms. Bennett continued that Crisis Intercept Mapping had a meeting regarding Veteran Suicide. Veterans do not go to VA for treatment but seek private providers. The worry is regarding Veteran cultural competency and how they can be served better.

Ms. Bennett announced that Ms. Saunders is going to chair the task force subcommittee. Date is slated for June 3<sup>rd</sup> and agenda will be out soon.

Boulder City has reached out to have a licensed clinical therapist and Jay Kolbet-Clausell offered a presentation. The team worked with them and looking to put the community health worker into the budget.

**12. For possible action:** Discussion and vote on the 2021 Annual Report and Primary Priorities for the Board 2021-2022 (Board members)

Ms. Bennett informed the board that this report is given to the Behavioral Health Commission and is a summary of our priorities, with updated statistics and needs of the area. Ms. Bennet is seeking approval of this summary. The motion was made

to approve and was passed unanimously.

13. **For possible action:** Discussion and vote to endorse Board membership of Appointments or Reappointments of positions designated by the Administrator: Cory Whitlock-NRS 433.429 7(c) One member who represents providers of emergency medical services or fire services and who has experience providing emergency services to behavioral health patients, which may include, without limitation, a paramedic or physician. (Board members).

Ms. Bennett explained that a letter must be submitted for appointment and requests approval to send that letter. Motion was made that Ms. Bennet send a letter to the administrator asking that Cory Whitlock be appointed. Motion was passed unanimously.

14. **For possible action:** Discussion and vote of Board membership of Appointments and Reappointments of Board Positions:

Ms. Jacqueline Harris-NRS 433.429 8(a) One member who represents the interests of community-based organizations which provide behavioral health services

Ms. Lesley Dickson-NRS 433.429 8(d) One member who is a psychiatrist or a psychologist who holds the degree of Doctor of Psychology, has clinical experience, and is licensed to practice in this State or, if no such person is available, a provider of health care, as defined in NRS 629.031, who has experience working with persons with a mental illness or persons who have an alcohol or other substance use disorder. (Board members)

Chair Frost asked for motion to reappoint both. Motion passed unanimously for 2-year appointments.

15. **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.

Dr. Dickson spoke about Ms. S. Adler who is a new member of the Belz and Case lobby team. Dr. Dickson reads Ms. Adler reminder in chat that the hearing coming up regarding SB 390 and the 988-line establishing sur-charge on phone lines.

Ms. Adler added that SB390 authorizes use of the sur-charge to be placed on communication lines not only to stand up the crisis call system, but also to fund other components of crisis response.

Ms. Adler reminded the board how important it is that many speak up at the May 20<sup>th</sup> hearing to identify the importance of funding for Crisis Stabilization Centers, Mobile Crisis Response Teams as well as the crisis call infrastructure.

Chair Frost asked members to anticipate a meeting in the afternoon on June 22<sup>nd</sup>.

**16. Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned at 3:19 PM

DRAFT