

**WASHOE REGIONAL BEHAVIORAL HEALTH POLICY BOARD
MEETING AGENDA
March 14, 2022
3:00 p.m. to Adjournment**

The meeting was held using remote technology in compliance with *Nevada Revised Statutes (NRS) 241.023.*

1. Roll Call, Introductions, Announcements
The meeting was called to order at 3:03 p.m. A quorum was present.
Members Present: Julia Ratti (Chair), Sandy Stamates, Dr. Kristen Davis-Coelho, Dr. Traci Biondi, Steve Shell (Vice Chair), Lt. Wade Clark, Frankie Lemus
Members Absent: Assemblywoman Sarah Peters (excused), Char Buehrle (excused), Cindy Green (excused), Henry Sotelo (excused)
Staff/Guests Present: Abigail Bailey; Abigail Hatefi; Anne-Elizabeth Northan; Ben Savelli; Brandon Cassinelli; Brianna Oki; Caroline Jacobo; Christie Ackmann; Connie Wray-Gaudard; Edward Spaulding; Ethan; Gina Flores-O'Toole, Ridge House; Jennifer Tongol; Jennifer Witten; Kelly; Lea Tauchen, Abney Tauchen Group; L Hatzidopavlakis; Linda Anderson; Lordenn Kline; Lt. Ben Russell; Lucas; Maurice Cloutier, Silver Summit Health Plan; Misty Vaughan Allen; Sara Hunt; Sychiah Johnson; Tracey; Trey Delap; Tyler Shaw, Ferrari Reeder Public Affairs; Valerie Baden; Ben Trevino, Nick Christie, DPBH
2. Presentation of New Board Member: Peter Ott, Executive Director, Bristlecone Recovery Center
Chair Ratti and Dorothy Edwards introduced Peter Ott as the new Washoe Regional Behavioral Health Policy Board member who represents the interests of administrators or counselors who are employed at facilities for the treatment of alcohol or other substance use disorders, following the board's recommendation and approval at the previous meeting. Ms. Edwards received a confirmation letter of Mr. Ott's appointment from DPBH Administrator Lisa Sherych on February 25th 2022. Mr. Ott thanked the committee and spoke about his work at Bristlecone Recovery Center and his own personal history in management and recovery for over 25 years.
3. Public comment
There was no public comment.
4. Approval of Minutes for February 2022 Policy Board Meeting
Dr. Biondi moved to approve the minutes. Ms. Stamates seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

5. Annual Report and Legislative Recommendation

Jacquelyn Kleinedler, Department Director for the Children's Cabinet, shared information on the [Children's Mental Health Consortium website](#), including available resources and frequently asked questions for parents and healthcare providers.

Ms. Kleinedler presented the 2021 Annual Report. She described the three goals of the 2020-2029 long-term plan:

- Increase access to compassionate care in the least restrictive environment. (An example of the 14 accomplishments so far towards this goal is the creation of a Dynamic Resource Directory for agencies to share information on the services they provide.)
- Decrease and/or buffer children and youth's exposure to toxic stress. (An example of the 4 accomplishments so far is a Letter of Request sent to urge the Nevada Department of Education to do what they could to allow Washoe County schools to promote mental health and wellbeing over any other requirements that NDE might have for students.)
- Increase child, youth, and family access to positive community-based experiences. (an example of the 4 accomplishments so far is the creation and distribution of a digital mental health newsletter.)

In listening to family voices during monthly Consortium meetings, the report has identified five themes presenting challenges to youth mental health:

- Education
- Bullying
- Youth Suicide
- Substance Use
- Overall Health & Access to Compassionate Care

The report outlined the following legislative recommendations:

- Commit funding, infrastructure, and legislative support to maintain and expand existing programs and services that benefit youth and families in Washoe County. This includes access to 24/7 in-person mobile crisis response teams.
- Promote innovative programs to respond effectively to the ongoing and increasing youth mental health crisis in Washoe County. An example would be a concept of in-home crisis stabilization for youth, rather than emergency rooms.

Of the Consortium's 17 planned activities for 2022, which are representative of the work of multiple community partners, examples include:

- Monitor data reports provided by The Children's Cabinet and Washoe County School District from the Signs of Suicide screenings of 7th grade students and discuss implications and additional supports.
- Continue to curate and expand the Dynamic Resource Directory housed on the Consortium website.

Sandy Stamates asked for more information on the proposal for the in-home crisis

stabilization support system. Ms. Kleinedler responded that this proposal is still very much in its early inception, and described models already in place in other states, e.g. Maryland.

Chair Ratti asked if the ten specific legislative recommendations outlined in the report already have momentum to move forward. Ms. Kleinedler responded that the chairs of the four children's mental health consortia throughout the state met with the Division of Child & Family Services to discuss prioritization of the policy recommendations, and will be presenting to the Joint Interim Health & Human Services Committee on these policy focuses.

Dr. Biondi asked if The Children's Cabinet works collaboratively with Willow Springs. Ms. Kleinedler said there is no direct collaboration, but a representative of Willow Springs serves on the Consortium.

6. Washoe County Crisis Response System Implementation Plan Update

Chair Ratti provided information on the implementation plan, which is on track to be published by May; the only aspect to be confirmed is which providers will be responsible for each action step. Realistically, the mobile crisis response team will likely not be up and running by July 2022, but progress continues.

Dorothy Edwards and Steve Shell thanked the community leaders and partners for their work and contribution to this ongoing effort.

7. Washoe Regional Behavioral Health Policy Board Annual Report Approval

Dorothy Edwards gave a recap of the purpose of this board's annual report, which was discussed in detail during the previous meeting.

Chair Ratti entertained a motion to accept the Washoe Regional Behavioral Health Policy Board Annual Report. Dr. Kristen Davis-Coelho moved to approve the report. Frankie Lemus seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

8. Discussion/Approval of Future Agenda Items

Chair Ratti shared that the next meeting would involve presentations from Dr. Cindy Pitlock, Administrator of the Division Of Child and Family Services, and Dr. Nicole Jacobs, Associate Dean of Diversity, and Inclusion University of Nevada Reno, School of Medicine.

Mr. Shell asked if there might still be a plan to invite Dr. Packham from University of Nevada Reno to present to the board on workforce data. Ms. Edwards offered to reconnect with Dr. Packham to schedule a future invitation.

9. Public Comment

There was no public comment.

10. Reminder of Next Meeting Date

Chair Ratti confirmed the next board meeting is on April 11, 2022.

There was discussion around the format of future meetings, whether they should remain virtual, return to in-person, or adopt a hybrid format. Dr. Davis-Coelho

suggested a quarterly in-person meeting, with the other scheduled meetings remaining virtual. Chair Ratti indicated she would explore the May and August meetings as being in-person, with April, June and July remaining virtual.

11. Adjourn

Chair Ratti adjourned the meeting at 4:05 pm.