



**BRIAN SANDOVAL**  
Governor

**STATE OF NEVADA**  
**BEHAVIORAL HEALTH PLANNING & ADVISORY COUNCIL**

4126 Technology Way, Suite 201  
Carson City, Nevada 89706  
Phone (775) 684-4295 • Fax (775) 684-5966

**RENE NORRIS**  
Chair

**ALI JAI FAISON**  
Vice Chair

**Behavioral Health Planning & Advisory Council**  
**Quarterly Meeting Minutes**  
**September 9, 2016**

**Division of Public & Behavioral Health**

4126 Technology Way  
Second Floor Conference Room  
Carson City, Nevada 89706

**Desert Regional Center**

1391 S. Jones Blvd  
Las Vegas, Nevada 89146

**1. Call to Order, Roll Call, and Introductions**

Ms. Norris, as chair, called the meeting to order at 9:12 a.m.

**MEMBERS PRESENT**

Ali Jai Faison, Vice Chair	Dawn Walker	Mechelle Merrill
Alyce Thomas	Denise Everett	Rene Norris, Chair
Anis Abi-Karam	Elizabeth Burcio	Sharon Wilson
Christi Hines-Coates	Katherine Mayhew	William Kirby

**MEMBERS ABSENT**

Barbara Jackson	LaJune Primous	Susan Maunder
Cynthia Matteson	Marion Scott	Susan Orton
Debra Parra	Robert Volk	

**STAFF & GUESTS**

Barry Lovgren, Private Citizen  
Dale Hansen, Nevada Housing  
Jessica Hoff, SAPTA  
Kendra Furlong, SAPTA  
Ramona Derby-Brinson, UNLV  
Susanne Sliwa, Senior Deputy Attorney General  
Vanessa Pickles, SAPTA

**2. Public Comment**

Mr. Lovgren provided a handout containing his public comment submitted on the Block Grant mini application which is attached to these minutes as exhibit "A." Mr. Lovgren said the application for the 2017 Mental Health/Substance Abuse Prevention and Treatment Block Grant was submitted on August 30 without the Council having an opportunity to review and submit recommendations to the State. Mr. Lovgren suggested the Council place a review and discussion on recommendations to present to the State for the Block Grant.

Ms. Norris said the attempted BHPAC Orientation scheduled for September 8, 2016, was cancelled due to lack of quorum and reminded the Council it is extremely important everyone attends scheduled meetings.

3. **Review and Approve Minutes of April 21, 2016**

Ms. Thomas moved to approve the minutes. Ms. Wilson seconded, and the motion carried.

4. **Review of Block Grant planning**

Ms. Furlong began her presentation with the fiscal year 2016 planned expenditure dollar amounts for the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Block Grant. She said the mini application was submitted on August 30, 2016, with no substantial changes made to the State Plan, so per the Mental Health State Project Officer, the mini application did not meet the criteria needed to be opened for public comment. Ms. Furlong also said a request is pending with the Treatment State Project Officer for the application to be opened to add meeting minutes from a previous BHPAC meeting with intended updates to Table 1 which can be updated on an annual basis. Next, Ms. Furlong mentioned in 2015 the BHPAC identified five top behavioral health priorities to be addressed in 2016-2018. These priorities include:

- Increase the number and quality of behavioral health professionals in Nevada
- Improve screening, assessment, and referral services for at-risk populations
- Support earlier access to prevention and early intervention services
- Increase community-based services across the system of care
- Provide community-based intervention and support services to address trauma and prevent incarceration

Ms. Furlong highlighted which programs were funded by the Block Grant in the previous year which included behavioral health coordinators, jail diversion, children's behavioral health, NAMI [National Alliance on Mental Illness] and workforce development. Next, Ms. Furlong addressed the projects and funding for the upcoming year. She said the State will be changing the way the treatment programs are funded to offer more flexibility to support program innovation and growth within communities. She added most special projects will be paid through State General Fund dollars, and the Substance Abuse Block Grant will fund Fee-For-Service, which supports all the direct treatment services. The projects to be funded by the Mental Health Block Grant are: building community capacity to provide psychiatric crisis services and suicide prevention for veterans as well as Washoe County senior services. Prevention funding will support prevention activities on prescription drug abuse, marijuana, marijuana dispensaries, reduce binge drinking, underage drinking, and use of e-cigarettes. It will also support Community Health Worker models, target substance abuse in Native American Communities, at risk youth, women of childbearing years and women who are currently pregnant. Ms. Furlong added these activities are just some of the highlights for the upcoming year, not an exclusive list on the activities that will be funded. Next, Ms. Furlong led the Workgroup through the 2017 Block Grant application timeline as follows:

- January 2016 – November 2016
  - Collect SABG [Substance Abuse Block Grant] and MH [Mental Health] Data
  - Support Epi Profile Draft
- December 2016
  - Annual Report Due December 1, 2016
- January 2017
  - Final Epi Profile Due

- March 2017
  - Needs Assessment Complete
- March 2017 – April 2017
  - Public Workshops in Northern, Southern and Rural Areas for State Plan Input
- May 2017
  - Draft State Plan released 5/15/17 for 30 days public comment
- July 2017 – August 2017
  - Final Plan and proposed expenditures to BHPAC for Public Hearing and Approval
- August 2017
  - Final Plan/Application for Administrative Approval
- September 2017
  - Submission to SAMHSA [Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration] NO LATER THAN September 1, 2017

Ms. Furlong said the State would like to have the Block Grant presentation added as a re-occurring agenda item for BHPAC meetings and emphasized the importance of meeting quorum so frequent updates can be communicated and advised on a routine basis. Ms. Furlong also asked the Council what information would be helpful for the State to report on an ongoing basis and stated the end goal is sufficient planning, input and communication on the 2017 integrated Substance Abuse and Mental Health Block Grant Application.

Ms. Furlong’s Block Grant presentation is attached to these minutes under exhibit “B.”

Ms. Mayhew asked Ms. Furlong who the Mental Health State Project Officer and the Treatment State Project Officer are for Nevada. Ms. Furlong said the Treatment State Project Officer is Theresa Hampton-Mitchell, and stated she would follow-up with the Council with the name of the Mental Health State Project Officer.

Mr. Faison asked Ms. Furlong how the public would be notified of the workshops mentioned in the timeline and also what population is to be targeted to participate. Ms. Furlong stated she would follow-up with Stephanie Woodard to find out what the State’s plans are regarding the workshops and bring the information back to the Council.

Ms. Wilson asked Ms. Furlong to define “Epi Profile.” Ms. Furlong said the Epi Profile is the data collection and review by the Statewide Epidemiologist which communicates data trends and analysis.

Ms. Norris asked Ms. Furlong if the State would present certain parts of the grant at each meeting on which the Council can give input. Ms. Furlong stated the intention is to place it on the agenda as an action item so recommendations and feedback can be given by the Council and taken into consideration for modification, change or addition to the Block Grant application.

Ms. Furlong asked the Council what information would be helpful to present at future meetings regarding the Block Grant.

Ms. Everett said it would be helpful to hear a comparison of this year to last year including who is seeking and receiving treatment, if there are any waiting lists, who is benefiting from the Block Grant funding, etc.

Ms. Norris said it would also be helpful to list the BHPAC goals and objectives on the needs assessment for the Block Grant.

Ms. Mayhew said she would like to know how many people are being served by First Episode Psychosis and what the outcomes are.

Ms. Norris said the Council would like to see a budget with a breakdown of where the funding will be allocated.

5. **Update on New Member Orientation Planning and Technical Assistance for Planning Councils**

Ms. Sliwa said although the meeting scheduled on September 8, 2016, was an orientation and training, pursuant to Nevada's Open Meeting Law (OML), when a public body such as the BHPAC meets and discusses council business that is considered a meeting. All OML requirements must be followed including agendaizing the meeting, posting for the public notice as well meeting quorum. The Governor's Executive Order for the BHPAC mandates 23 positions on the Council, so to meet quorum (half plus one) there needs to be 12 BHPAC members present in order to proceed with the meeting. There were 10 Council members in attendance so Ms. Sliwa advised the group not to proceed due to the OML. Ms. Sliwa said she would work with the State when drafting future agendas to ensure the type of action that may be taken is more specific in hopes of preventing future issues. Ms. Sliwa said although she is here to advise the Council on the OML for every meeting, her office also does investigate and enforce the OML. Ms. Sliwa said she is always available to answer questions concerning the OML and Council members should direct them to the Division to relay to her office.

Ms. Sliwa said it is important these meetings be made a priority so quorum is met and the Council is able to conduct business and fulfill its mission.

Ms. Norris said if anyone does not have the time or does not want to be on the Council they should turn in their resignation so the spots can be filled with those that do have the time to participate.

Ms. Norris said the Council needs to discuss rescheduling the orientation as it is required per the bylaws.

Mr. Faison said John Hudgens, the facilitator of the orientation, wants to meet with the Executive Subcommittee to determine the Council's next steps. He said the matter should be discussed among the entire Council so any questions or concerns may be addressed at that time. Mr. Faison also asked the Council to respond to email communications and calendar invites to help ensure there will be a quorum.

Mr. Faison motioned for the BHPAC Executive Subcommittee to meet with Mr. Hudgens to discuss rescheduling the member orientation, Ms. Everett seconded and the motion carried.

6. **Update on the Nevada Commission on Behavioral Health**  
Tabled.

7. **Update and Discuss the Statewide Peer Leadership Advisory Council**

Ms. Berry said at the Council's last meeting they discussed bylaws, application for reappointment, Senate Bill 489, certification updates as well as the Reno Peer Training, which was held on August 22 through August 25, 2016. Ms. Berry also discussed the Council's application to IC&RC [International Certification & Reciprocity Consortium] in order to move forward with the voluntary certification for peers.

Mr. Faison asked Ms. Berry what the certification process was for and what the peers are participating in (i.e., substance abuse, mental health, behavioral health.) Ms. Berry said the voluntary certification will include mental health and addiction peers.

Mr. Faison asked Ms. Berry if there is equal participation throughout the state on the Council. Ms. Berry said there are members in Las Vegas, in the rural areas as well as in northern Nevada.

8. **Committee Reviews**

➤ **Executive Committee**

Ms. Norris said the Committee will meet and continue to pursue the orientation training with technical support from John Hudgens.

➤ **Nominating Committee – BHPAC Vacancies, Committee Vacancies and Proposed Members**

Ms. Norris said the committee has identified vacancies and they are currently still looking for additional applicants. She asked the committee to encourage people to apply especially those who are family members of persons with mental illness and persons with substance abuse and co-occurring disorders who are receiving (or have received) behavioral health services.

➤ **Behavioral Health Promotion Committee – Ongoing Plans for 2017 Promotion**

Ms. Merrill said the committee has also experienced issues meeting due to quorum, but at their previous meetings the main focus has been on Mental Health Awareness Month. The committee was able to release a PSA [Public Service Announcement] on radio stations which ran for three months.

➤ **Bylaws Ad Hoc Committee**

Ms. Wilson said the latest copy of the bylaws sent to the Council did not include one addition under Article II, Section 4, number 3. The first sentence should read "New BHPAC members must attend Council member orientation within six months of appointment, and refresher training at least every two years thereafter, *if made available.*" The verbiage should also be added to Article III, Section 3, number 7, which contains the same sentence. The latest copy of the bylaws sent before this meeting did not include that amendment, but all other changes were listed.

Ms. Wilson moved to update the bylaws with the previously approved verbiage of "if made available" at the two sections mentioned above, Ms. Thomas seconded and the motion carried.

➤ **Rural Monitoring Committee**

Ms. Norris noted the committee does not have anything to report at this time.

9. **Discuss Date and Proposed Agenda Items for the Council's Next Quarterly Meeting on January 19, 2017**

Agenda items will include:

- DBT [Dialectical Behavior Therapy]
- Rescheduling the orientation with facilitator John Hudgens
- Update from the Commission on Behavioral Health
- Update from the Statewide Peer Leadership Advisory Council
- Standing committee reviews
- Review of block grant planning
- Update on CCBHC [Certified Community Behavioral Health Clinics]
- Postpone Bylaws Subcommittee until further notice

Ms. Wilson moved to accept all proposed agenda items, Ms. Everett seconded and the motion carried.

10. **Public Comment**

Mr. Lovgren referenced Ms. Furlong's Block Grant presentation which states "Per the Mental Health State Project Officer, there were no substantial changes made to the state plan so the mini application did not meet the criteria needed to be opened for public comment." He said the application is, in fact, open for public and Council comment and has been since it was posted on August 30.

Mr. Faison said the Council is working to fill gaps and improve efficiency and does plan to move forward with the Orientation as there are Council members who have not attended one since being appointed.

11. **Adjournment**

Ms. Mayhew motioned to adjourn the meeting, Ms. Thomas seconded and the meeting was adjourned at 10:41 a.m.