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# DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

DIVISION OF PUBLIC AND BEHAVIORAL HEALTH

*Helping people. It's who we are and what we do.*



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Bureau of Behavioral Health  
Wellness and Prevention  
(BBHWP) Behavioral  
Health Planning and  
Advisory Council (BHPAC)

Meeting Minute  
April 12, 2023  
1:00pm-Adjournment

## *1. Call to Order*

*Ali Jai Faison, BHPAC Chair*

The meeting was called to order at 1:01pm by Chair Faison. Chair Faison requested Mrs. Webster take attendance of members and attendees.

### *BHPAC Members Present:*

Ali Jai Faison, Chair  
Ariana Saunders, Vice Chair  
Gary Coon  
Dr. Pearl Kim  
Dr. Mae Worthey- Thomas  
DeNeese Parker  
Sarah Dearborn  
Dr. Mavis Major  
Krista Hales  
Lori Ann Kearse  
Jeannie Hua  
Jill Fisher  
Misty Shore  
Anna Marie Binder

### *BHPAC Members Absent:*

John Clark  
French Dafinone  
Garrett Hade  
Sean O'Donnell  
Drew Skeen  
Allison Wall

*Guest:*  
Lea Case

*State of Nevada, Division of Public and Behavioral Health Staff Present:*  
Kimberly Garcia, J'Amie Webster-Frederick, Janice Stenson, Makinna Belvoir,  
Michelle Guerra, Tiana Jones, Kate Smith, Jennifer Simeo, Dr. Ruth Condray,  
Shannon Scott.

*2. Public Comment*  
*Ali Jai Faison, Chair*

Chair Faison asked for any public comment. There was no public comment.

*3. Approval of January 11, 2023, BHPAC Meeting Minutes*  
*Ali Jai Faison, BHPAC Chair*

Dr. Mavis Major made a motion to approve the minutes as stated. Mrs. Fisher seconded the motion. Motion passes unanimously.

*4. Bureau of Behavioral Health Wellness and Prevention's Update on Program and Fiscal Activities for Current Mental Health Block Grant (MHBG) and Supplemental Subgrantees*  
*Dr. Ruth Condray, BBHWP Clinical Program Planner*

Dr. Condray presented the audience with a PowerPoint presentation and presented an overview of the BBHWP structure, the Behavioral Health Services funding for FFY23, Behavioral Health System Funding, Crisis Response System Funding, Suicide Prevention Funding, and Problem Gambling Funding.

Dr. Condray mentioned the 5 sections of BBHWP that play a vital role in behavioral health planning and the work they do to support State partners in providing a comprehensive system of community mental health services to Nevada residents. Dr. Condray went into a breakdown of the sections within the Bureau and who is responsible for leading them.

Dr. Condray elaborated on the 2023 Strategic Plan for Behavioral Health Community Integration, stating it will serve as a primary resource, and be used to develop behavioral health program planning for FFY24-25.

Dr. Condray gave an in-depth presentation on MHBG and gave an overview summary of the proportions of funding that are devoted to all categories.

Dr. Condray opened the questions and comments.

Mrs. Shore asked Dr. Condray, "So half of the kids' day is spent at school. I wanted

to know if there's any sort of information that shows that the services for these severely emotional target clients, supported by these funds, how much of those services are available to kids while they're in school, if they have some sort of crisis while they're in school or if they have transitioned from hospitalization or residential care back into school, how much of the dollars are targeted towards the time they spend in the classroom? That half of the day where I know as a parent, when my niece, a very emotionally disturbed child would go to school, it was kind of like my hands were often I couldn't really be involved in his care. So, is there besides the \$120,000 for suicide prevention, is there anything that is specifically targeted for at school any of those vendors?"

Dr. Condray responded, "So, the primary community provider who is providing school-based services, our understanding is that those services are being provided within the school setting by United Citizens Foundation in Clark County."

Mrs. Shore asked "So that's just Clark County. Is that for all counties in Nevada?"

Dr. Condray responded, "Well and I will mention that we are developing a project right now in collaboration with UNLV that has the Psychology department that has an outreach program into Humboldt, Elk and Elko counties and they provide telehealth services for kids within the school setting. So that's a current project in development. So, it hasn't been awarded yet, we are working on a sub award for that".

Mrs. Shore responded, "K. But those are the only ones. So, there's not anything for Washoe County?"

Dr. Condray responded, "I do know that there's our school-based initiatives that are being developed through the educational setting for the Department of Education. And so, I do know that for example in Lyon County there are services that are being funded but it's through mechanisms that are funded through the Department of Education. But I do know that psychiatry and psychiatry fellows from UNR Med School have been involved with those kinds of projects, but they are not funded by the Mental Health Block Grant. They are being funded by a different division of State Government".

Mrs. Shore responded, "OK, so for the severely emotionally disturbed kids, the Mental Health Block Grant is only targeting when they're outside of school predominantly?"

Dr. Condray responded, "No, that's not completely correct. I just mentioned the project that we're developing for the rural outreach from Clark County and then the United Citizens Foundation also in Clark County which is school based setting. I want to mention that the Division of Child and Family Services provides services for young children who are experiencing STD. Whether that's school based, I will have to get back to you on that, I can check on that information. OK. I can tell you historically it is not school based unless they are like preschool but thank you".

Chair Faison asked specifically to Mrs. Garcia, "In Problem Gambling, who is getting the money and how effective that money is being used and how did you come up with the number on participants?"

Mrs. Garcia responded to say Problem Gambling funding is state general funds in the amount of \$2.1 million allocated dollars. She explained that this is not enough funding to run a comprehensive program. She stated there have been many challenges stemming from lack of Federal and State funding. To answer how funding is being spent, Mrs. Garcia stated, "the dollars go to a comprehensive program for prevention and public awareness, research, workforce development, treatment, information management and evaluation, and funding for Administrator of the program. Services provided through 17 awards". Mrs. Garcia responded to who was benefiting from the funding as "approximately 500 clients per year". Mrs. Garcia mentioned the public awareness campaign at the Projectworthnv.org website that lists all the services that are available and the 1-800-gambler Hotline and Nevada Council as well, for services for Nevada.

Mrs. Webster- Frederick stated the next question is coming from Lori Kearse.

Mrs. Kearse asked, "I just would like to follow up on Misty's comment. I'm originally from the state of Pennsylvania and back in the 80s we were doing that. We had the wrap around in the school, home, and community. So, a child, regardless of their age, was assigned what was called a BST worker and they went to the school with the child. They were in the school with the child all day based on the needs of the child. So, if it was sitting in the classroom or it was escorting them to the cafeteria if that's where they were having the most struggles or wherever the need was. And so, this is not a new concept of what you're talking about. This was funded and paid for through Medicaid because it's a diagnosis. It's a child with a need. So, this is not a new concept. We know that it works. We know that this helps to keep children at home and helps to keep children out of the hospital. And so, I'm hoping that this State takes a harder look at this concept of wrap around services where it's home, school, and community where the child needs these services to maintain the child's well-being regardless of the age, whether it's preschool or up to high school. We had kids that had their advocate with them to help them with that additional support that they needed and secondly, I would just like to know if Dr. Condray is getting the names of these agencies that have been awarded these grants. I too would like to be able to refer individuals for services in the Community. And so, a lot of this money that's been awarded to different providers in the Community, I have no idea where to send someone who perhaps doesn't have insurance. They don't have the resources for either gambling or substance abuse. Substance abuse is difficult simply because for a lot of people, if they have Medicaid, they can't get services unless the agency is SAPTA credentialed and I understand some agencies do not want to get SAPTA certified because of the Medicaid reimbursement is so low, it will cost them money to be certified. So where would we, or where could an individual refer somebody in the Community for substance abuse treatment at a level 1 or level 2.1 for treatment according to ASAM?"

Dr. Condray referred that question to Mrs. Webster-Frederick but asked Chair Faison to provide the group with information on the most recent resource referral services.

Chair Faison stated “It’s called the Mental Health Consortium, it lists many of the providers in the State of Nevada by name, address, and what services they provide. It is also available online for people to download. Jacqueline Reagan made a presentation to this group a couple of meetings ago”.

Mr. Coon, who is employed by the Department of Behavioral Health, offered information on a program that does screening for individuals for all residents of Nevada, with or without insurance. He stated services have been available for 3 years.

Mrs. Binder to Dr. Condray, in reference to the comment from Mrs. Shore, mentioned a program that is utilized in Washoe County Schools called Communities in Schools funded by state Legislature and Boys Town, Clark County, which is a program directly on the campus of a middle school where she volunteers. Both are in place and offer service referrals as needed.

Dr. Condray stated that a project being developed in partnership with UNLV, Psychology Practice Clinics, will help close the gap between the release of school to the start of a new year.

Mrs. Kearse added that the Youth Advocate Program in Las Vegas also offers services for the summer months as well.

Mrs. Garcia also reminded everyone of 211 resources.

Dr. Major asked about a timeline regarding RFP funding.

Dr. Condray stated that all information is posted on LISTSERV. Dr. Condray also mentioned that there is no additional funding at this time, but that there will be in May 2023.

Dr. Major asked if the board has jurisdiction in this process to review the possibility of the awardees.

Dr. Condray referred to the Integration Plan that was released January of 2023 which will be used as a primary resource in funding of the MHBG.

Chair Faison added that the master holder of the grant chooses their sub grantees and decides where the funding goes. BHPAC is not a participant in the selection process. He added that normally the grant is reviewed by this committee.

Dr. Condray stated that the next meeting is on July 12, 2023, where she will report on the outcome of this process.

Mrs. Kearse mentioned her concern about lack of service in the juvenile justice area,

suggesting more support for prevention rather than intervention.

Mrs. Binder added she felt a gap predominantly in Black students and in special education students.

Chair Faison asked if there were any more questions or comments. There were none.

*5. Bureau of Behavioral Health Wellness and Prevention's Update on the 988 Program Implementation*

*Shannon Scott, BBHWP Health Program Manager*

Mrs. Scott presented information regarding 988 program implementation which begins collection fees on June 7th and first payments will be received by the 15th. She stated that a lot of this depends upon SB237.

Mrs. Scott stated that RFI is now live and can be found on EPro. Mrs. Scott stated that the RFP is set to be released in the Fall. Mrs. Scott gave an update on 988 calls, which have increased, and 20,000 calls have been answered. She stated CSV rates increased by 9%. Mrs. Scott presented a slide on Virtual Crisis Care with data from November 2022- March 2023. She stated calls were received in various counties across rural Nevada and covered a variety of reasons for calls and services provided to residents ranging between ages 13 to 65 and older. Mrs. Scott presented information on Crisis Stabilization Centers including that the north center at Renown is in the final review of a subgrant. She stated south services are still in discussion for Clark Counties opportunities. She stated rural services is in discussion with Nevada Health Partners and Central Health District.

Mrs. Scott opened for questions.

Chair Faison asked Mrs. Scott regarding 988, if the calls were contracted out to another state.

Mrs. Scott said the CSV call center is in Nevada and answered by Nevadans but with a 73% average, state call rates above that get routed to a national line through Vibrant.

Dr. Major mentioned the Kaiser report and asked for clarity regarding calls received and why they are answered by Vibrant.

Mrs. Scott stated that calls not answered within 120 seconds are rerouted to the national call center. Mrs. Scott also stated that staffing is low in this area.

Mrs. Kearse asked if reporting could include calls made by residents who are under the influence of drugs or alcohol.

Mrs. Scott stated she would be willing to get this report updated to accommodate the requested information.

Vice Chair Saunders asked Mrs. Scott if housing status was being obtained through these calls.

Mrs. Scott stated that this program follows SAMSHA requirements for reporting.

Chair Faison asked if there were any more questions for Mrs. Scott. There were none.

*6. Discuss and Vote on Future Agenda Items - For Possible Action*  
*Ali Jai Faison, BHPAC Chair*

*1. Dr. Condray presentation and information for Subgrantees and critical data.*

Mrs. Binder moved the motion. Mrs. Fisher second the motion.  
All were in favor, the motion to add agenda item 1 passed unanimously.

*2. Discussion on Juvenile justice Services*

Mrs. Kearse motioned. Mr. Coon second the motion. Mrs. Fisher abstained.  
Motion carried with majority of vote to add Agenda item 2.

*3. Presentation by Regional Behavioral Health Coordinators*

Vice Chair Saunders motioned. Mrs. Kearse second the motion.  
Motion to add Agenda item 3 passed unanimously.

*4. Discussion on Children's mental health*

Mrs. Parker motioned to add. Mrs. Binder seconded.  
Motion to add agenda item 4 passed unanimously.

*5. Presentation by the legislation committee*

Mrs. Binder moved the motion. Mrs. Fisher seconded.  
Motion to add agenda item 5 passed unanimously.

*7. Public Comment*  
*Al Jai Faison, BHPAC Chair*

Dr. Thomas introduces herself as a new member of the board. Dr. Thomas represents Housing.

Mr. Coon represents Mental Health.

*8. Adjournment*  
*Al Jai Faison, BHPAC Chair*

April 12, 2023, at 3:24pm, the meeting was adjourned.