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**DEPARTMENT OF  
HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES**

**NEVADA DIVISION of PUBLIC  
and BEHAVIORAL HEALTH**



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Bureau of Behavioral Health Wellness and Prevention (BBHWP)  
Behavioral Health Planning and Advisory Council (BHPAC) Rural Subcommittee  
Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, May 15, 2024, 2:00 p.m. PST until adjournment

1. Call to Order – Allison Wall, Rural Subcommittee Chair

Jennifer Simeo took roll call.

Members Present:

Allison Wall  
Anna Binder  
Ariana Saunders

Members Absent:

Dr. Pearl Kim

Quorum was met.

2. Public Comment

There were no public comments.

3. Approval of March 13, 2024, Rural Subcommittee meeting minutes-For Possible Action  
Allison Wall, Rural Subcommittee Chair

This agenda item was postponed.

4. Presentation from Rural Regional Behavioral Health Policy Board Coordinator– Informational Only  
Valerie M.C. Haskin, MA, MPH, Rural Regional Behavioral Health Coordinator

Ms. Haskin provided a PowerPoint presentation. She discussed the Board's priority areas, unmet rural client needs, issues around access to adequate providers, changes to care over the last decade, and potential solutions. A copy of the presentation can be found on the BHPAC webpage here [https://dpbh.nv.gov/Programs/ClinicalBHSP/Meetings/2024/BHPAC\\_2024\\_Meetings/](https://dpbh.nv.gov/Programs/ClinicalBHSP/Meetings/2024/BHPAC_2024_Meetings/).

Ms. Binder asked Ms. Haskin to keep the subcommittee updated on her board's BDRs so the subcommittee could write a letter of support. Ms. Binder asked about barriers regarding crisis and licensures and services being too expensive for providers to offer. Ms. Haskin talked about a transportation carrier specifically and their issues related to taxes, salaries, rental costs, and Medicaid reimbursement rates being lower than the provider's home state. Ms. Haskin discussed a solution done in Oklahoma where they utilized off duty bus drivers to staff non-emergency transportation for behavioral health needs.

5. Discussion on Native Americans sent out of state for behavioral health treatment-Informational Only Allison Wall, Rural Subcommittee Chair and Tami Allen, Solutions on Sunset

Ms. Allen shared what services Solutions on Sunset provides, including behavioral health and substance use treatment. She stated they are in Las Vegas and work with many different providers to collaborate to provide multiple services. They are working on becoming a CCBHC. Ms. Allen talked about their SOS Recovery Ranch, which is in Alamo and serves populations including the Native American population. She stated the ranch has 20 supportive housing cabins and is 100% run by community health workers that are certified in Nevada. Ms. Allen talked about her work with the Native American community and the cultural components she includes in her services. She discussed similar challenges with transportation as was discussed in the previous presentation and the challenges with getting PARs from Medicaid for needed services. She noted knowing about some Native Americans from Nevada being sent to Phoenix for treatment.

Ms. Binder asked Ms. Allen to provide additional information about her programs, including the number of people provided services to, how long she's been providing services, recidivism rates, regions served, and number of staff.

6. Discussion of future agenda items – Informational Only Allison Wall, Rural Subcommittee Chair

Ms. Binder stated that she would like to further discuss the issue of tribal members sent out of state for treatment and following up on doing site visits in person, including to Ms. Allen's programs.

Ms. Saunders liked Ms. Binder's ideas and added that the subcommittee should continue to work with Ms. Haskin and Ms. Allen regarding their programs.

7. Public Comment

There were no public comments.

8. Adjournment - Allison Wall, Rural Subcommittee Chair

Chair Wall adjourned the meeting at 3:11 pm.