

Joe Lombardo
Governor



Richard Whitley,
MS
Director

**DEPARTMENT OF
HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES**

 **NEVADA DIVISION of PUBLIC
and BEHAVIORAL HEALTH**



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*Chief Medical
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Bureau of Behavioral Health Wellness and Prevention (BBHWP)
Behavioral Health Planning and Advisory Council (BHPAC)
Meeting Minutes
Monday, November 4, 2024
10:00 a.m. PST until adjournment

This meeting was held using remote technology in compliance with Nevada Revised Statute 241.023.

1. Call to Order
Ariana Saunders, BHPAC Chair

Jennifer Simeo took roll call. Members present included:

1. Anna Binder
2. French Dafinone
3. Sarah Dearborn
4. Dr. Krista Hales
5. Lori Kearse
6. Ariana Saunders
7. Misty Shore
8. Drew Skeen
9. Allison Wall

Members absent included:

1. Dr. Pearl Kim
2. Dr. Mae Worthey-Thomas

A quorum was met.

2. Public Comment

There were no public comments.

3. For Possible Action-Approval of October 7, 2024, BHPAC Meeting Minutes
Ariana Saunders, BHPAC Chair

This agenda item was skipped. It will be considered at the next BHPAC meeting.

4. Informational Only-Presentation from Social Entrepreneurs, Inc. on new BHPAC Best Practices Project and opportunity for member input on project

Kim Hopkinson, PhD, Social Entrepreneurs, Inc.

Kim Hopkinson from Social Entrepreneurs, Inc. provided BHPAC members with a presentation on a best practices study now underway. Ms. Hopkinson went over the project's objectives, expected outcomes, project approach, timelines, key deliverables, and the project team. She discussed how this study will seek to understand the current environment including assets and gaps associated with the current functioning of the BHPAC, will gather information from BHPAC members, state representatives, and the best practices of advisory councils from around the country, and will provide recommendations and implementation strategies to enhance operational practices. The full presentation can be found here: [Behavioral Health Planning and Advisory Council \(BHPAC\) Best Practices Study](#).

5. For Possible Action-Possible nominations for formation of Nominating Subcommittee to identify and refer potential new BHPAC members to Governor's Office
Ariana Saunders, BHPAC Chair

Members discussed forming a Nominations Subcommittee to help fill multiple vacancies on the council. Members discussed that this subcommittee would convene only as needed, to make appointment recommendations to the Governor's Office. BHPAC members Dr. Hales, Ms. Shore, and Ms. Kearse volunteered for the subcommittee. Chair Saunders stated herself and Vice Chair Binder would automatically be added to this subcommittee. Ms. Wall motioned that this subcommittee be formed with the members above. Ms. Binder seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

6. For Possible Action-Approval of flyer to solicit potential new BHPAC members
Ariana Saunders, BHPAC Chair

Members reviewed a proposed flyer which could be distributed to members of the community to let them know about appointment opportunities available on the BHPAC. Ms. Binder made a motion to approve the flyer to recruit new members. Ms. Shore seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously. The flyer can be found here: [BHPAC Join Us Flyer](#)

7. Informational Only-Updates from Chairs of Rural, Legislative, and Promotions Subcommittees on latest and upcoming meetings and subcommittee work
Ariana Saunders, BHPAC Chair

Chair Saunders informed members that Dr. Mavis Major, Chair of the Promotions Subcommittee, was no longer on the council as her term expired, and a new Chair would need to be established.

Ms. Wall, Chair of the Rural Subcommittee, stated she would speak with Ms. Binder, the Subcommittee Vice Chair, about scheduling a new meeting.

Ms. Binder, Chair of the Legislative Subcommittee, stated she has started to review BDRs, and hopes a January meeting will be held to discuss letters of support for legislation. Ms. Binder stated that the Solutions on Sunset tour in Alamo will need to be rescheduled.

8. Public Comment

Ms. Dearborn stated that the Division of Health Care Financing and Policy, known as Nevada Medicaid, will be hosting a Fall Provider Public Workshop today at 2:30 pm. She stated the workshop will provide updates on the projects the Division is working on, specifically regarding FY23 legislation.

9. Adjournment
Ariana Saunders, BHPAC Chair

The meeting was adjourned at 10:40am.

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