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Governor

NEVADA HEALTH AUTHORITY

DIVISION OF MEDICAID

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Stacie Weeks, Director

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CHILDREN'S BEHAVIORAL HEALTH TRANSFORMATION WORKING GROUP

MEETING MINUTES

August 14, 2025

The Nevada Health Authority held a public meeting pursuant to NRS 241.020(3)(a) online and by phone on Thursday, August 14, 2025, beginning at 4:30 PM.

1. INTRODUCTIONS & ROLL CALL

By: Ann Jensen, Administrator, Nevada Division of Medicaid

Ann Jensen confirmed quorum for the working group and invited members to provide their name and affiliation in the chat or verbally for the record.

2. FOLLOW-UPS FROM JULY WORKING GROUP

By: Ann Jensen, Administrator, Nevada Division of Medicaid

Ann Jensen reviewed the Specialty Managed Care Plan naming process and reminded members of the opportunity to vote on the final plan name. She also summarized the public feedback received in May 2025, which will inform plan design.

Details:

- The top three finalists are: Pathways Plan, Silver State Kids Plan, and Nevada W.I.S.H. (Wraparound Intensive Supports for Healing), and voting will be open to all through August 29, 2025.
- Themes from public feedback include support for wraparound and peer support, need for regional flexibility, concerns about provider networks and workforce, calls for accountability and transparency, and emphasis on cross-sector coordination.

Specialty Managed Care Feedback and Timeline

By: Ann Jensen, Administrator, Nevada Division of Medicaid

Ann Jensen outlined the Specialty Managed Care Plan development timeline, explaining the sequence of public comment, review of feedback, the upcoming Youth and Family Summit, and the anticipated bidders conference and RFP publication.

Timeline:

- May 2025: Public comment closed.
- June through August 2025: Feedback reviewed and integrated.
- September 2025: Youth and Family Summit to focus on care coordination.
- October through November 2025: Bidders conference and RFP publication.

3. PRESENTATION & DISCUSSION: CARE COORDINATION

Background on Care Coordination Requirements and Models

Presenters:

- Matt Burdick, Policy Consultant, Nevada Division of Medicaid
- Deborah Harburger, Director of Policy and Financing, Innovations Institute, UConn School of Social Work

Matt Burdick, Policy Consultant, Nevada Division of Medicaid, described the requirements for care coordination under the terms of the State's settlement agreement with the USDOJ. He explained that all children and families in the Focus Population must be offered Wraparound Facilitation, and if declined, Intensive Care Coordination (ICC) must be offered. He clarified that Care Management Entities (CMEs) will provide these services, while the Specialty Managed Care Plan will coordinate for children who do not engage with a CME as well as support care coordination for needs beyond behavioral health.

Deborah Harburger, Director of Policy and Financing at the Innovations Institute, UConn School of Social Work, presented an overview of the continuum of care management. She distinguished between navigation services, Intensive Care Coordination, and Wraparound, emphasizing Wraparound as the only evidence-based, high-fidelity model. She also explained the importance of fidelity to the Wraparound model and outlined its four phases: engagement, plan creation, implementation, and transition.

Upcoming Youth & Family Summit on Care Coordination

Presenters:

- Jessica Goicoechea (Co-Chair), Washoe County Human Services Coordinator
- Carley Murray (Family Lead), Nevada PEP Statewide Family Network Director
- Brenna Hardtner (Youth Lead), YouthMOVE Nevada

Jessica Goicoechea, Human Services Coordinator at Washoe County and Co-Chair of the working group, described the upcoming Youth and Family Summit. She explained that the summit will take place virtually on September 16, 2025, as a three-hour facilitated session with structured discussion, visuals, and live note capture. The purpose of the summit is to ensure that youth and family lived experience guides the design of Nevada's care coordination model under the Specialty Managed Care Plan.

Jessica introduced Brenna Hardtner of Youth MOVE Nevada as the youth lead and Carley Murray of Nevada PEP as the family lead for the summit. Both will play key roles in gathering input in advance and co-facilitating during the event so that youth and family perspectives are central in shaping Nevada's approach.

Working Group Discussion: Feedback and Comments on Care Coordination

Wraparound in Nevada (WIN) Program and Tiered Care Coordination

- Ashley Greenwald, Nevada PBIS, asked how the Specialty Managed Care Plan Wraparound and Intensive Care Coordination will differ from WIN, how to integrate schools, and referral pathway criteria.
- Beverly Hart, asked if tiered care coordination is new to Nevada, noting WIN and Magellan already provide High Fidelity Wraparound and Intensive Care Coordination.
- Kathryn Rosaschi, *affiliation not stated*, clarified that WIN also offers FOCUS as a lower-intensity option.

School Integration and Scheduling

- Ashley Greenwald, Nevada PBIS, reported families face difficulty scheduling with schools and asked about integration strategies.
- Britt Young, Nevada PEP, emphasized need for flexibility with family schedules.

Referral Pathways and Eligibility

- Ashley Greenwald, Nevada PBIS, asked if educational diagnoses qualify for Wraparound and Intensive Care Coordination access.
- Karen Taycher, Nevada PEP, asked about definition of 'At-risk' and available coordination levels.

Hospital and Crisis Coordination

- Cherylyn Rahr-Wood, Northern Regional Behavioral Health Coordinator, asked about coordinating with hospitals during crises.

Workforce and Provider Participation

- Cherylyn Rahr-Wood, Northern Regional Behavioral Health Coordinator, raised rural and frontier staffing concerns.
- Azraella Gravelle, Medicaid Advisory Council, asked about provider feedback on Fee-for-Service rates.
- Megan Freeman, Creative Solutions and Boys & Girls Clubs, stated low reimbursement forces use of students or uncompensated work.

Service Availability

- Carley Murray, Nevada PEP, stated lack of services is a major barrier.
- Karen Taycher, Nevada PEP, noted that there are few services to coordinate.

Disabilities and Complex Needs

- Grace Larkins, Nevada Center for Excellence in Disabilities, asked how youth with IDD, complex medical needs, or nonverbal status will be supported.

Family Experience and Continuity

- Britt Young, Nevada PEP, highlighted issues with provider follow-up and turnover.

Values and Principles

- Beverly Hart, affiliation not stated, recommended System of Care values and principles guide the program.

Juvenile Justice and Child Welfare Populations

- Meambi Newbern-Johnson, Clark County Clinical and Community Services, requested flexibility for large, formal teams and suggested inviting aged-out youth to the summit.
- Brenna Hardtner, Youth MOVE Nevada, agreed on importance of underrepresented youth voices.

Rural Staffing Ratios

- Cherylyn Rahr-Wood, Northern Regional Behavioral Health Coordinator, questioned feasibility of 1:8 to 1:12 staffing ratios in rural and frontier areas.

4. CLOSING UPDATES

By: Ann Jensen, Administrator, Nevada Division of Medicaid

Administrator Jensen reminded working group members to submit their votes on a final name for the Specialty Managed Care Plan by August 29, 2025, in addition to sending feedback to inform the Youth and Family Summit by September 6. She noted that the next full working group meeting is scheduled for October 9, 2025.

Dates and Deadlines Summary:

- August 29, 2025: Specialty Managed Care Plan naming vote deadline.
- September 6, 2025: Youth and Family Summit pre-feedback due.
- September 16, 2025: Youth and Family Summit.
- October 9, 2025: Next Children's Behavioral Health Transformation Working Group meeting.

5. PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

By: Ann Jensen, Administrator, Nevada Division of Medicaid

- Cherylyn Rahr-Wood, Northern Regional Behavioral Health Coordinator: Suggested exploring legislative action for children's behavioral health in the next session.

6. ADJOURNMENT

By: Ann Jensen, Administrator, Nevada Division of Medicaid

Administrator Jensen thanked all working group representatives and attendees for participating in the Medicaid Benefits Working Group and encouraged continued engagement at the next monthly meeting scheduled for October 9, 2025. The August working group meeting adjourned at 5:30 PM.

For more information on the Medicaid Benefits Working Group and Nevada's Children's Behavioral Health Transformation visit nvha.nv.gov/kidsBH or contact the Nevada Medicaid CBHT team at: childrensbh@nvha.nv.gov.

MEETING ATTENDANCE

A complete list of Working Group representatives, guests, and Nevada Medicaid staff in attendance at the August 14, 2025, meeting is maintained on file and provided below.

Youth, Family, and Disability Self-Advocate Representatives:

Matt Lehman, BCBA with Foster parent ABA Group - Absent
Leah Skinner, Parent - Absent
LaNesha Battle, Foster Parent, Washoe County School District - Absent
JayDee Porras-Grant, Foster Parent – Absent
Devin Daniels, Black Youth Mental Health Project - Absent
Analicia Cruz, Black Youth Mental Health Project - Absent
Luke Dumaran, Autism Treatment Assistance Program

Behavioral Health Provider Representatives:

Alana Rogne, DNP, PMHNP-BC with Rural Nevada Counseling - Absent
Dave Doyle, Eagle Quest & Family Focused Treatment Association
Megan McGrew, PhD, BCBA, LBA with Impact ABA Services
Megan Freeman PhD with Boys & Girls Clubs of Southern Nevada
Takesha Cooper, MD, MS, FAPA with UNR Med and Renown - Absent
Glenda Cruz Juarez, LCSW with Veridian Wellness
Natalie Sanchez, LMFT with Health Psychology Associates - Absent
Stephanie Brown, Reno Behavioral Health - Absent
Janelle Hoover, MSN, RN with Carson Tahoe Health - Absent

Community Partner Representatives:

Angie Wilson, Reno Sparks Tribal Health Center - Absent
Open Seat, Tribal Health Representative - Open
Gwynneth Smith, PhD, JD with Clark County District Attorney Juvenile Division
Jessica Goicoechea-Parise, MFT with Washoe County Human Services Agency, Children's Mobile Crisis Response Team
Meambi Newbern-Johnson, LCSW, PLLC with Clark County Family Services
Shayla Holmes, MA with Lyon County Human Services
Bre Taylor, MSN with Humboldt County School District – Absent
Karen Taycher, NV PEP
Robin Reedy, NAMI NV - Absent
Jonathan Norman, Esq with NV Coalition of Legal Service Providers - Absent
Santosha Veeramachaneni, American Academy of Pediatrics, Nevada Chapter - Absent

Guests and Observers:

Abraham Meza, Alexis Warnock, Alisa Cadenhead, Amber Wilkins, Amy Miller-Bowman, Angel Beus, Angela Stewart, Antonette Sorrick, Ashley Greenwald, Azraella Gravelle, Beverly Hart, Bree Melvin, Brenna Hardtner, Britt Young, Brittany Llyod, Candance Lewis Vaughn, Carley Murray, Casey Melvin,

Cherylyn Rahr-Wood, Ciarra Havon, Dan Musgrove, Dawnesha Powell, De Yates, Deborah Harburger, Erica Hanna, Esther Badiata, Eva Romero, Eva Velvez, Grace Larkins, Heather Heuke, Islena M Giron, Jana Borden, James Lutz, Jason Drake, Jason Embra, Jennifer Bevacqua, Jennifer Conrad, Jessica McCoy, Jimmy Tran, John P. Etzell, Jolene Zamora, Karen Rogers, Kathryn Rosaschi, Katie Metz, Kimberly Purinton, Kim Taitano, Lee McAllister, Linda Anderson, Lori, Lisa Mariani, Megan Martinez, Michael Flynn, Nicholas Hollister, Philip Ramirez, Ryan Gustafon, Sabrina Schnur, Stacey Lane, Stephanie Diodato, Stephanie Woodward, Suzanne Bierman, Sullen Narducci, Tara Merrill, Tiffanie Fleming, Tim Marshall, Valerie Luevano, Vera Sverdlousky, William Phipps, Yeni

Nevada Medicaid:

Ann Jensen, Cristina Cobeo, Christina Pebbles, Darlene Wolff, Deborah Jordan, Lindsey Bondiek, Marcel Brown, Matt Burdick, Melissa Knight, Melorine Mokri, Minden Hall, Monica Romero, Sarah Dearborn