



DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES  
AGING AND DISABILITY SERVICES  
3416 Goni Road, Suite D-132  
Carson City, NV, 89706  
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<http://adsd.nv.gov>

### **MEETING NOTICE AND AGENDA**

Name of Organization: Nevada Commission on Autism Spectrum Disorders  
Funding and Insurance Subcommittee

Date and Time of Meeting: October 31, 2017  
3:00 PM

Carson City: Aging and Disability Services Division  
3427 Goni Rd., #103  
Carson City, NV 89706

Call-In Information: AT&T Teleconference Number: (866)434-5269  
Access Code: 1201263  
(Please MUTE your phone unless providing public comment.)

Meeting Materials Available At: <http://adsd.nv.gov/Boards/Autism/Agendas/>

### **Minutes**

Members: Diane Thorkildson, Gwynne Partos, Brook Adie, Shirley Gaw  
Guests: Carol Reitz, Steven Cohen  
Staff: Desiree Bennett

- I. Call to Order/Roll Call  
Diane Thorkildson, Subcommittee Chairperson
- II. Public Comment  
(No action may be taken upon a matter raised under public comment period unless the matter itself has been specifically included on an agenda as an action item. Public comment at the beginning and end of the agenda may be limited to three minutes per person at the discretion of the chairperson. Members of the public may comment on matters not appearing

on this agenda or may offer comment on specific agenda items. Comments may be discussed by the Board but no action may be taken. This matter may be placed on a future agenda for action.)

No comments were made.

**III. Approval of the Minutes from the February 27, 2017 Meeting (For Possible Action)**

Diane Thorkildson, Subcommittee Chairperson

Ms. Partos made a motion to approve the minutes from February 27, 2017. Ms. Gaw seconded the motion. Motion passed.

**IV. Discussion and Possible Recommendations on Setting Priorities for the Subcommittee. (For Possible Action)**

Diane Thorkildson, Subcommittee Chairperson

Ms. Thorkildson would like to establish priorities for the subcommittee and gain a better understanding of the recent ADSD Administration and policy changes for the ATAP program.

Ms. Adie explained, at the last full Autism Commission meeting on October 19<sup>th</sup>, ATAP presented on any upcoming changes to the program, including rate change proposals and structural modifications. Previously services were provided on a tiered system and are transitioning to an hour for hour system. There have been alternate pathways to certification for BCBAs, BCaBAs and RBTs for ATAP funded only children so providers can receive their practical experience and hours. The division received input from the community and providers at a previous meeting this month. The Autism Commission voted in full support of the proposals from ATAP. Ms. Partos commended ATAP for the attention paid and work put in to ensure availability of appropriate rural providers. ATAP is committed to transparency and continued communication with consumers and providers. ATAP has not made any changes to insurance plan types. The program helps to fund copays and deductibles and gap coverage. ATAP fully funds many rural families because of the lack of providers in network in those areas.

Autism therapy and diagnosis are covered by state employee insurance. The importance for the subcommittee is to focus on legislation and potential matters happening on a national level. The state of Nevada has determined the minimum services state insurance companies must provide. Autism services was one of those standards. Possible changes to the Affordable Care Act could possibly affect those standards. The committee can focus on educating families and spreading awareness around the changes on a federal level. The Association for Behavioral Analysis International (ABAI) is a resource for information regarding national issues.

Established subcommittee priorities:

- Federal decision making on ACA matters
- Recommendations for self-funded insurance programs in Nevada
- Eventually bring recommendations to the full commission and to the Governor's office.
- Dr. Gaspar De Alba is currently working on the Governor's report due in December.

Ms. Partos made a motion to develop the top priorities as recommendations to the Governor's Report related to the coverage of ABA and the requirement of self-funded plans to cover ABA. Ms. Adie seconded the motion. Motion passed.

Ms. Thorkildson has agreed to research "Autism Speaks" and draft talking points and policy statements for the Subcommittee's next meeting.

Ms. Partos will research the different advocacy groups she is in association with and present information at the next meeting.

Ms. Gaw made a motion to amend Ms. Partos motion to include a recommendation researching possibilities for additional therapies that are evidence based, besides ABA, to be funded by ATAP. Ms. Partos amended her original motion to include the research of other therapies. Ms. Gaw seconded the motion. Motion passed.

Ms. Gaw will research other possible behavior based therapies that ATAP funding could be used toward.

V. **Confirm Dates for Future Meetings (For Possible Action)**  
Diane Thorkildson, Subcommittee Chairperson

The next scheduled meeting is November 14<sup>th</sup> at 12:00.

VI. **Public Comment (May Include General Announcements by Subcommittee Members)**

(No action may be taken upon a matter raised under public comment period unless the matter itself has been specifically included on an agenda as an action item. Public comment at the beginning and end of the agenda may be limited to three minutes per person at the discretion of the chairperson. Members of the public may comment on matters not appearing on this agenda or may offer comment on specific agenda items. Comments may be discussed by the Board, but no action may be taken. This matter may be placed on a future agenda for action.)

Nevada Disability Advocacy and Law Center will be discussing and presenting on the NV ABLE Act Wednesday in Reno at 10:30 and Friday in Elko at 10:30.

Mr. Cohen commented that there is a December 31<sup>st</sup> deadline for the Governor's report submission. The Autism Subcommittees will attempt to meet more frequently before the deadline.

VII. **Adjournment**  
Diane Thorkildson, Subcommittee Chairperson

Meeting adjourned at 3:50 pm

**Funding and Insurance Subcommittee Members**

Diane Thorkildson (Chair), Gwynne Partos, Brook Adie, Shirley Gaw, Danielle Stage, Eric Lloyd, Vacant

NOTE: Items may be taken out of order, combined for consideration and/or removed from the agenda at the Chairperson's discretion. The public body may combine two or more agenda items for consideration. The public body may remove an item from the agenda or delay discussion relating to an item on the agenda at any time. The public body may place reasonable restrictions on the time, place, and manner of public comments based on viewpoint

NOTE: We are pleased to make reasonable accommodations for members of the public who have disabilities and wish to attend the meeting. If special arrangements for the meeting are necessary, please notify Carol Reitz at (775) 687-0117 as soon as possible and at least five days in advance of the meeting. If you wish, you may e-mail her at

creitz@adsd.nv.gov. Supporting materials for this meeting are available at: 3416 Goni Rd, D-132, Carson City, NV 89706 or by contacting Carol Reitz at (775) 687-0117 or by email at [creitz@adsd.nv.gov](mailto:creitz@adsd.nv.gov)

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**Agenda Posted at the Following Locations:**

1. Aging and Disability Services Division, Carson City Office, 3416 Goni Road, Suite D-132, Carson City, NV 89706
2. Aging and Disability Services Division, Las Vegas Office, 1860 East Sahara Avenue, Las Vegas, NV 89104
3. Aging and Disability Services Division, Reno Office, 445 Apple Street, Suite 104, Reno, NV 89502
4. Aging and Disability Services Division, Elko Office, 1010 Ruby Vista Drive, Suite 104 Elko, NV 89801
5. State Legislative Building, 401 S. Carson Street, Suite 3138, Carson City, NV 89701
6. Grant Sawyer State Office Building, 555 E. Washington Ave., Suite 4401, Las Vegas, NV 89119
7. Department of Health and Human Services, 4126 Technology Way, Suite 100, Carson City 89706
8. NV State Library and Archives, 100 Stewart Street, Carson City
9. Washoe County Health District (WCHD), 9th and Wells, Reno
10. Southern Nevada Health District (SNHD), 330 S. Valley View, Las Vegas
11. Elko County Library, 720 Court Street, Elko
12. Early Intervention Services, 2667 Enterprise Road, Reno, NV 89512
13. Desert Regional Center, 1391 South Jones Boulevard, Las Vegas, NV 89146
14. Sierra Regional Center, 605 South 21st Street, Reno, NV 89431
15. Rural Regional Center, 1665 Old Hot Springs Road, Carson City, NV 89706

Notice of this meeting was posted on the Internet: <https://adsd.nv.gov> and <https://notice>.