

Nevada Commission on Autism Spectrum Disorders
Early Childhood Subcommittee
Committee Discussions & Interviews Synopsis as of 9/24/14

- 1). All children will be screened for ASD at the earliest age possible utilizing screening tools that are shown to be effective in the most current peer-reviewed research.
- 2). Educate childcare workers to screen all children and require them to give a copy of the screening results to parents and refer the child to their pediatrician for a treatment prescription.
- 3). Nevada Medicaid will reimburse more for ASD screenings to allow pediatricians to take the time to do a thorough screening at the youngest possible age and if a failed screening results, to educate parents as recommended by the AAP guidelines.
- 4). All children will be immediately referred for a diagnosis after a failed ASD screening.
- 5). All children will begin receiving treatment within 30 days after a failed ASD screening.
- 6). Rural children will receive services through monthly pop-up clinics where hands on screening, diagnosis, and supervision can supplement tele-med services.
- 7). All children will have access to Speech and Language, Occupational, and Physical therapies at medically necessary levels for children with ASD.
- 8). All children will have access to Applied Behavior Analysis provided at levels defined by the Behavior Analyst Certification Board and prescribed as medically necessary.
- 9). Nevada Universities will develop and teach coursework for all providers who will work with children with ASD, so Nevada has a competent and adequate work force.
- 10). Nevada Medicaid will fund a competitive rate structure and allow ample supervision hours to attract providers to Nevada.
- 11). Pediatricians will receive more education about screening, best practices for treatment, local providers, where to send parents for more information, and funding sources, etc.
- 12). All professions that deliver services to children (like child care workers, teachers, teacher's aids, etc.) will receive more ASD specific training.
- 13). Parents will be educated so they do not fear the diagnosis (remove stigma), understand early, intensive treatment is necessary, and can access funding help, like Katie Beckett, etc.
- 14). Community Awareness programs will deliver information about what autism is, its prevalence, screening at the earliest age, best practices for treatment, etc.
- 15). Nevada law will be changed so ASD services covered by private insurance will align with Affordable Care Act. (remove \$36,000 annual cap, etc)