**Dena Schmidt, Administrator**

**2019 Legislative Session Summary**

The 2019 Legislative Session ended June 4, 2019. This was an exceptionally successful session for the Aging and Disability Services Division.

I wanted to provide a quick summary of some of the accomplishments of our division this session.

ADSD’s final budget included the following items;

* 165 New Positions
* 3 New budget accounts and over 100 PCN transfers

Rate increases for providers in;

* + Supportive Living Arrangement (SLA) services
  + Personal Assistance Services
  + Home delivered meals
  + Congregate meals

Funding to address waitlists for services in;

* + Autism Treatment Assistance Program (ATAP)
  + Home and Community Based Waiver for the Frail Elderly
  + Home and Community Based Waiver for the Physically Disabled
  + Home and Community Based Waiver for Individuals with Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities
  + Respite services

Program Expansion

* + The expansion of our Elder Protective Services (EPS) to Adult Protective Services (APS). The program now accepts and investigates reports of abuse, neglect and exploitation of all vulnerable adults age 18 and over. Prior to this change Nevada was one of only three states not providing this service.

The following bills were passed and will have an impact on ADSD programs or the individuals we serve.

AB122 – Requires the Department to conduct a feasibility study related to establishing and operating an assisted living facility in rural areas that also provides respite care and adult day care.

AB129 – Requires first responders to receive training regarding identifying and interacting with persons with developmental disabilities.

AB130 – Moves all responsibilities for ABLE Savings account program to the Treasurer’s office.

AB228 – Requires certain facilities to post instructions on how to make complaints to the Ombudsman or an advocate.

AB234 – Requires Division of Welfare and Supportive Services (DWSS) to make changes to the reimbursement rates for childcare to include an enhances rate for children with disabilities.

AB362 – Expanded the option to request a court order to maintain certain personal information as confidential to social workers providing child welfare, child protective services or tasks that expose them to comparable dangers.

AB469 – Requires the Department to establish regulation limiting the amount a provider of health care may charge a person who has health insurance for certain medically necessary emergency services provided when the provider is out of network (a.k.a. balanced billing).

AB471 – Clarified the role of Supported Living Arrangement Services and allows for individuals served to have secondary mental health diagnosis.

AB480 – Enacted provision governing supported decision-making agreements. Allowing individuals to seek supported decision-making agreements in lieu of more restrictive option of guardianship.

SB18 – Revised the financial information that a provider of Jobs and Day Training services is required to submit to ADSD to be certified to provide such services.

SB93 – Revised the name and membership of the Nevada Commission for Person who are Deaf, Hard of Hearing or Speech Impaired, created a full-time paid Director position to support the Commission.

SB121 – Creates a power of attorney for health care decisions for person with any form of dementia.

SB174 – Requires the Legislative auditor to conduct an audit of Applied Behavioral Analysis (ABA) services, to include the Autism Treatment Assistance program and the Division of Health Care Financing and Policy (DHCFP) services.

SB202 – Required the Department of Education to provide a report concerning services for children with disabilities. Requires the school district to provide information regarding ADSD services to parents or guardians of each pupil enrolled in the school district or charter school who has an IEP.

SB216 – Creates the Nevada Commission on Autism Spectrum Disorders to review data and information and advise the Governor regarding the needs of persons with autism spectrum disorders and their families, revising requirements concerning the assessment to determine whether a person has an autism spectrum disorder, and plan of treatment for participants.

SB258 – Shifts the responsibility for licensing, registering, and discipline from ADSD to the Applied Behavioral Analysis Board.

SB362 – Requires certain facility for groups to meet certain requirements before accepting or retaining certain residents with Alzheimer’s disease or other severe dementia.

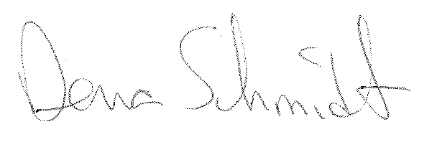
SB370 – Requires Division of Healthcare Financing and Policy to provide Applied Behavioral Analysis benefits for screening and treatment of fetal alcohol spectrum disorder.

SB443 – Increase the reimbursement rate for congregate meals

SB500 – Provides flexibility to ADSD in the use of Funds for Healthy Nevada designated to expand assisted living facilities in Nevada. Unused funds may now be redirected to address Independent Living services waitlists.

SB540 – Expands the Elder Protective Services program to Adult Protective Services.

SB544 – Established the Patient Protection Commission in the Office of the Governor to systematically review issues related to the health needs of Nevadans and the quality, accessibility and affordability of health care in this State.



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Aging and Disability Services Division