



MINUTES

Name of Organization: Nevada Commission on Autism Spectrum Disorders

Date and Time of Meeting: August 18, 2020 4:00 p.m.

Due to the COVID-19 outbreak, Commission members will be attending telephonically and via Microsoft TEAMS. Members of the public will also participate via teleconference

Call to Order/Roll Call

Ms. Lozano called the meeting for the Nevada Commission on Autism Spectrum Disorders to order at 4:02 pm.

Members Present: Trisha Lozano, Antonina Capurro, Lenise Kryk, Korri Ward, Julie Ostrovsky

A quorum was declared.

Public Comment

Ms. Desiree Wingerter stated that the Collaboration Center Foundation is excited to announce their five-acre Ranch property purchase in the Southwest part of town that will be housing and providing treatments there. As well as therapy, recreation, wrap around services, family events and more for people with all different abilities, including intellectual, physical, and developmental. The Center will be holding a meeting on Monday, September 14th and would love parents and providers to attend. Virtual options will be available for the meeting as well. For those who would like to attend, please send your information to the following email for an invitation: pathways@collabLV.org

Approval of the Minutes from the August 11, 2020 Meeting (For Possible Action)

Ms. Kryk made a motion to approve the minutes. Ms. Capurro seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Presentation on Early Intervention Services Management Analyst Team – Early Intervention

Ms. Randi Humes, Management Analyst with NEIS, presented data from Fiscal year 20. The 4-page report was shared on TEAMS during the meeting and is now posted on the ASD website to reference to.

Ms. Ostrovsky asked what services meant when stating it in the presentation. She is wondering what specific services they are receiving.

Ms. Humes answered it means being part of the Early Intervention system and receiving services through that system. Ms. Humes stated that more specific information can be gathered and presented in a later meeting.

Ms. Shannon Sprout clarified - Individual family service plan, which can include services that range from service coordination, specialize description, physical therapy, educational therapy, speech. Service units will vary off each individual family needs and is outlined in the family service plan.

Ms. Ostrovsky still would like to find out the averages.

Ms. Kryk asks for future meetings if they can provide the average of what kids are getting today of the listed required part C services and if ABA is part of that.

Ms. Sprout answered that Autism services are listed under "other" and not one of the required services. It gets listed as intensive behavioral support not ABA therapy necessarily. Ms. Sprout stated that they can provide data they provide for part C and ICC. Ms. Sprout did mention that the data is limited and are not only diagnosis driven, so they will do their best to evaluate in their data sets and establish a timeline for when they can meet and push it back out to Ms. Abbie to share with the Commission.

Presentation by Division of Health Care Financing and Policy regarding Applied Behavior Analysis (ABA) School District Services and ABA Medicaid Billing Codes

Ms. Gladys Cook updated all with what is happening with Medicaid school health services: In October 2019 CMS approved removing the language for individualized education program limitations to align with CMS. After this approval, they did a huge revision to their chapter 2800. They took this to the public hearing back in May and it was approved. This means, several services have been added for children are Medicaid eligible and are in school setting can receive services.

Ms. Lori Follet, from DHCFP, Policy Development, pulled information on current provider enrollments; 74 ABA groups enrolled, 185 BCBA's, 8 psychologists, 22 BCaBA's and 759 RBT's.

Ms. Follet stated that they have updated their FA11F form. This form now includes Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorders as a cover diagnosis for ABA services under Medicaid policy. Medicaid also increased the ability to utilize telehealth with ABA individual services with the pandemic.

Ms. Ostrovsky asked if the provider enrollment numbers were just who all are registered or if these numbers are the number of providers actively billing/working with Medicaid clients?

Ms. Follet does not have specific numbers at this time but can retrieve them. She will try to gather information from one year ago to now.

Ms. Kryk asked about the 97153 and 97155 codes being billed, RBT and Supervision. Ms. Kryk would like to know who exactly is accessing what and what the averages are.

Ms. Follet asked Ms. Kryk to put in writing what exactly she would like to see, so she can bring it to her data team and there be no confusion.

Ms., Kryk asked about ABA in schools and what things will look like?

Ms. Cook answered that they are currently working with the school districts, where there are 17 counties in Nevada, and currently they are contracted with 7 of the counties. Medicaid does not bring the providers in to the schools, the schools are the ones to choose what providers they would like to work with.

Ms. Kryk thinks we would need to go through possibly someone from the school district to speak about what the services would look like, staff and training requirements, collaboration between home and school, etc.

Ms. Cook thinks it would be best to contact the schools directly for those answers.

Ms. Lozano asked how the rate cuts will be affecting things?

Ms. Follet spoke on the 6% provider rate cut. Medicaid held a public hearing workshop last week and received a lot of information about concerned providers, which all of that is currently going through the process of approvals. There is no official statement on that, but Medicaid will be pushing out the information as it comes in.

Ms. Ward asked about the provider list that was listed on the website as she no longer sees it listed on there.

Ms. Follet said all providers can be looked up on www.medicaid.nv.gov website.

Legislative Updates to Include Discussion and Approval of Commission Strategies to Introduce or Propose Legislative Recommendations to Legislators (For Possible Action)

Ms. Ostrovsky thinks this agenda needs to be after the 'Workgroups Updates'.

Ms. Lozano agrees for future agendas and moved to the next agenda item.

Commission members came back to this agenda item.

The members agreed to be mindful of the Medicaid rate cuts for the next session and being very vocal. This needs to be something they address more, and timeframes/ deadlines need to be set so it does not get missed.

Ms. Capurro thanked Ms. Kryk for reading the Medicaid letter at the hearing.

Discussion and Approval of Commission Input into School Reopening Plans (For Possible Action)

Ms. Capurro refreshed everyone on this agenda item. There are concerns on how children with Autism will be affected by online learning and all the changes that come along with this pandemic. As well as getting back in the swing of thing once this all passes.

Ms. Cook offered to reach out to NDE to see if she can gather any information as she has bi-weekly meetings with them.

Ms. Lozano stated that she can give a report on Washoe county School District's reopening plan.

Ms. Capurro made a motion that they have a report that updates on the schools reopening plans for the next meeting and steps being taken to continue services for children diagnosed with Autism.

Ms. Frischmann suggested that the commission be detailed in what they want reported as well as who will be gathering and reporting this information.

Ms. Abbie suggested the Workgroups.

Ms. Lozano and Ms. Capurro think it would be best for the Workforce Workgroup to reach out to representatives from Clark county and including the Ruel areas and Washoe as well for the information we are looking for.

Ms. Ward made the motion to have a workgroup contact the school districts for information on supporting students with autism during the reopening plans. Ms. Kryk seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Workgroup Updates

Ms. Kryk updated everyone that the Funding and Insurance workgroup now has 8 members. The group met as a group over zoom to introduce each other. This group broke up in to three groups, for each to cover an objective. They will be meeting again next week and hoping to have more information at the next commission meeting to share.

Ms. Capurro updated everyone that the Workforce Workgroup met last Monday and there's still 3 members. They discussed a sub-committee that was in existence back in 2017, who had several objectives that were very similar to this workgroup. They will begin to locate providers and identify the number of current licenses, then once

completed, they will review what has been completed by the committee in 2017 and try to pick up those projects. This groups next meeting is Tuesday, the 25th.

Ms. Kryk asked if anyone was able to get ahold of any of the people that were interested in joining a workgroup?

Ms. Capurro did receive Ms. Kryk's email, but only seen one name. She reached out to the one person.

Ms. Kryk will resend the email with 4 or 5 people interested.

Discussion and Approval of Recruitment Strategy (For possible action)

Ms. Kryk asked if the flyer was ever finalized because she would like to get this out ASAP.

Ms. Lozano believes it was finalized, but now they will need to finalize where and how to get it out.

Ms. Frischmann said that all commission members can post the flyer to their personal Facebook/social media pages but cannot present it as if you are speaking on behalf of the commission or representing the commission.

The commission members seem to believe the verbiage for the flyer was approved but was never finalized.

Ms. Capurro made a motion to use the verbiage that was approved on August 4th and put it on the commission letterhead so then it is distributed to the commission to use. Ms. Ostrovsky seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Confirm Dates and Agenda Items for Future Commission Meetings (For Possible Action)

The Committee has their next meeting scheduled for September 1, 2020 at 4:00 p.m. They scheduled two future meetings for September 15, 2020 at 4:00pm and September 29, 2020 at 4:00pm. Ms. Ostrovsky made a motion to accept the dates and times of the next meetings. Ms. Kryk seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Public Comment

Ms. Lozano thanked Ms. Abbie for staying past 5pm and everyone else for their assistance with the Commission and with our children with Autism.

Ms. Lozano adjourned the meeting at 5:26 pm