



MINUTES
of the meeting of the
Nevada Commission on Autism Spectrum Disorders
February 22, 2022

The Commission on Autism Spectrum Disorders held a public meeting on February 22, 2022, beginning at 3:45 p.m. at the following locations:

3811 W. Charleston Blvd. Suite 209 Las Vegas, Nevada
Teleconference meeting was conducted via Microsoft Teams Meeting

1. Call to Order:

The meeting for the Nevada Commission on Autism Spectrum Disorders was called to order at by Commissioner Lozano at 3:50pm.

2. Roll Call:

Ms. Chalupnik took role. Members Present were Commissioners Trisha Lozano, Ritzie Gratrix, Korri Ward, Julie Ostrovsky, Lenise Kryk

A quorum was declared.

3. Public Comment:

There was no public comment.

4. For Possible Action: Approval of Meeting Minutes from the Previous Meeting held January 18, 2022

On motion by Commissioner Ward, seconded by Commissioner Gratrix, and approved with a unanimous vote, the minutes of the January 18 meeting was approved with minor change of builds to bills.

5. Presentation form Nevada Early Intervention Services on Autism Diagnosis Services, Autism & Modified Checklist for Autism in Toddlers (MCHAT) Data MCHAT Data – Fiscal Year 22; July - December 2021.

Ms. Humes shared and presented two reports with data. These reports are posted and can be found on the ADSD website.

Commissioner Ward asked why behavior services went down by almost 90 percent from September to January?

Ms. Rowe answered that a lot of that is due to the phased in reentry that they have been engaging in it and a lot of those services have just been taken over by Developmental Specialists and other specialists on those teams serving the child. Those services were not done by a BCBA or an RBT, so those kids are getting referred over to ATAP for those intensive services and they're getting the specialized instruction through EI.

Ms. Rowe added that the IBS is no longer being reflected on the IFSP for the program so that is not a data point you should be seeing anymore from the program.

Commissioner Kryk asked how does the education piece work for parents to really understand what would be the most evidence-based treatment and how that should be combined?

Ms. Rowe answered after the ADOS is completed, and if they see an EI Developmental Pediatrician and given the diagnosis, it is the expectation they are referred over to ATAP unless the family has declined that process. The autism teams and their assigned Developmental Specialist are in charge of giving that information and making the referral for the family.

6. Autism Treatment Assistance Program (ATAP) Updates

Before Ms. Jayme presented, she advised that the presentation is not broken down by age but for the next presentation they will include a slide that is broken down by the ages within ATAP. This is something commissioner Kryk requested.

Ms. Jayme clarified some things on the ATAP side that were mentioned in the previous EI agenda item. She stated that as soon as the child gets an autism diagnosis, they will refer to ATAP and they have streamlined that process. ATAP and Early Intervention meet weekly, if not more, to discuss particular cases. ATAP also works together with the Developmental Specialists to help with the packets and getting all the information. But again, ATAP must wait for that diagnosis to accept them into their program. ATAP is working with different providers and usually the young ones are the easiest children to place with a provider because they are typically not in school and have the ability to access daytime hours. ATAP will get this information on their next presentation.

Ms. Jayme stated, another important thing to note is that we are all a part of the same division, Aging and Disability Services, (ATAP, Nevada Early Intervention, Regional Centers) so within that they can co-serve kids and they do co-serve kids. Part of the things they have been doing internally as a division is meeting regularly, discussing those cases, making sure that our Developmental Specialists are speaking to each other to ensure that they are getting those comprehensive services to our children.

Ms. Jayme shared and presented ATAP's data. This presentation is posted and can be found on the ASD website.

Commissioner Ostrovsky asked, for the providers, is it providers who were there and left or are these completely new providers?

Ms. Jayme answered, a little of both. Some providers put it on pause and now are actively taking children that have Medicaid. ATAP has provider liaisons, so Social Service Program Specialist's within ATAP have been setting up meetings in conjunction with Medicaid to go through that enrollment process. If ATAP is seeing Prior Authorization issues or denials, DHCP is available to meet and work through those denials to make sure that they are looking at that system as a whole. Ms. Jayme mentioned how DHCP has been an amazing partner throughout the last couple months and really made it easier for new providers to come on and understand that system. Also, to really look at what these children need and to make sure that they are getting the appropriate services. At least 6 new providers that ATAP has been in touch with within the last couple weeks have gone through that initial enrollment process and they will start being able to take on Medicaid kids soon.

Commissioner Ostrovsky asked if any more Spanish speaking providers are coming on?

Ms. Jayme answered, yes and ATAP is continuing to pay for those translation services as well if they are not. ATAP also has staff that are bilingual, especially within our intake process, to help support that as they move forward.

7. For Information: Discuss ATAP Budget and the Commissions Objectives as it Relates to Insurance Assistance Distribution, Policy on Supervision, and Impacts of SB96, – (An Act Relating to Disability Services; Requiring the Department of Health and Human Services to Seek an Increase to Certain Reimbursement Rates Under the Medicaid Program and the Autism Treatment Assistance Program (ATAP) for a Registered Behavior Technician (RBT); and Providing Other Matters Properly Relating Thereto), to the ATAP Budget

Commissioner Kryk shared some of the collaborations already started with ATAP regarding some of the commissions approved objectives. One of them being the ratio of supervision hours. She has met with ATAP and going to try to see how to create a service delivery system that goes along with the guidelines of ABA when it comes to supervision.

For the Insurance Assistance objective, this was one that was not talked much about only because Ms. Kryk thinks it is important for commissioners to review first to have some input questions.

Ms. Kryk stated that the impact on SB96 on ATAP, everything has been going forward with the \$52.04 rate.

The commissioners have not yet reviewed the information Ms. Kryk provided about the Insurance Assistance, so Ms. Chalupnik is resending this for all commissioners to review.

The remaining of this agenda item was tabled.

8. For Possible Action: Approve Subcommittee Roles and Responsibilities as it Relates to the Current Community Strategic Plan, Including Approval of Public Entities and/or Members to be Contacted to Participate in Each Subcommittee, in Preparation for Upcoming Strategic Report

This agenda item was tabled.

9. For Possible Action: Workforce Development Subcommittee Updates and Funding and Insurance Subcommittee Updates and Discussion and Possible Approval of a Letter to Current Legislators

Commissioner Kryk said that the Subcommittee was able to meet and discussed some of those objectives for ATAP, as talked about previously. One of the things they are looking at is in preparation for the session. There has been feedback that they need to be ahead of the game and how they lost a lot of legislators that were big autism advocates, so the subcommittee is wanting to make sure to start that process and want to make sure that legislators are available as legislation starts to happen, to be able to support things for the community. Some suggestions and ideas as a subcommittee is to put together a list of legislators to contact, figuring out the new legislators and how to collaborate and develop kind of relationships with them. The document that Ms. Kryk sent over to Ms. Chalupnik is a very rough draft as she did not know what route to go. At least to send something to legislators, saying hey, there is an Autism Commission.

Ms. Chalupnik shared the document for everyone to see and review.

All commissioners liked the document and agreed to revisit it in April to finalize and get it ready for June.

On motion by Commissioner Kryk, seconded by Commissioner Ward, and approved with a unanimous vote, this document will be revisited in April's meeting to finalize.

Commissioner Kryk asked if there was an update for the Workforce Development Subcommittee?

Ms. Chalupnik clarified that Gwen Johnson as the chair, and she was not in attendance today.

Ms. Chalupnik will reach out to Ms. Johnson and Ms. Gratrix to try and get a Workforce Subcommittee meeting scheduled.

Commissioner Ward asked if agenda items for subcommittees need to be approved by the commission prior to the subcommittee meetings?

Ms. Frischmann answered no, the subcommittee can agendize whatever they'd like. The subcommittees cannot take any action on it as it must go back to the Commission to then take action.

10. For Possible Action: Discuss and Approve Agenda Items and Discuss Future Commission Meeting Dates

On motion by Commissioner Ward, seconded by Commissioner Gratrix, and approved with a unanimous vote, the next meetings will be March 15th, 2022, at 3:45pm and April 19th at 3:45pm, with the following agenda items:

- DCFS and/or DAAY court down in Las Vegas to present and get some numbers together for kids that are wrapped up in the juvenile justice system and what services are available.

11. Public Comment:

There was no public comment.

12. Adjourn

Adjournment was unanimously approved at 5:10 p.m.

DRAFT