



MINUTES

Name of Organization: Nevada Commission on Autism Spectrum Disorders

Date and Time of Meeting: September 28, 2021 3:30 p.m.

Location of Meeting: Aging and Disability Services Division

Teleconference:

Microsoft Teams Meeting

OR

Physical Location:

3811 W. Charleston Blvd.
Suite 209
Las Vegas, NV 89108

Call to Order/Roll Call

The meeting for the Nevada Commission on Autism Spectrum Disorders was called to order at 3:38 pm.

Members Present: Trisha Lozano, Julie Ostrovsky, Lenise Kryk, Korri Ward, Ritzie Gratrix

A quorum was declared.

Public Comment

There was no public comment.

Approval of the Minutes from the September 14, 2021 (For Possible Action)

Ms. Ostrovsky made a motion to approve the minutes from September 14, 2021. Ms. Kryk seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Autism Treatment Assistance Program (ATAP) Updates (For Possible Action)

Due to the two-week notice, Ms. Jayme did not have a presentation for the commission but will have one for them at the October meeting.

Discuss and Decide on Commission Objectives as it Relates to ATAP Budget Planning (For Possible Action)

Ms. Kryk would like to finalize what the commission's objectives and goals are to move forward.

Ms. Kryk reminded the commission members that when she met with ATAP previously, she brainstormed some ideas and asked ATAP what is needed from the commission. ATAP is currently working on their budget, so Ms. Kryk suggested to work with them sooner than later. ATAP will submit their final budget early next year, but Ms. Kryk stated that commission cannot wait until then.

One of the things they will need support on is SB96, which the rates will change significantly in January, which will impact the ATAP budget significantly. Ms. Kryk believes the commission can help with getting the exact information from Medicaid to help ATAP factor this into their budget. With this rate being higher, there will hopefully be more providers, which means more kids getting services, which then means more caseloads for their staff.

With all that, Ms. Kryk stated that it would be helpful for the commission to get legislation to make sure ATAP is going to be getting some of that budget stuff addressed.

Ms. Kryk stated that the supervision amount for straight ATAP plans has a lot of work that needs to be done. For Comprehensive plans, kids get 18 hours a week of services funded. The standard recommendation is to get 2 hours of supervision per every 10 hours a week, which would put it at about 2-3 hours of supervision a week. This is something Ms. Kryk would love to work with ATAP on, the more appropriate supervision ratio to treatment. Ms. Kryk said that the Extensive plan you can't even provide any appropriate supervision at all.

Ms. Kryk continued, another thing is the Insurance Assistance Plan and how it is distributed, doesn't allow families to access the full amount of funding that is "available" for Insurance Assistance Plan. Ms. Kryk does have a visual of this that she created in the past that she can share with the commission if they are interested. Ms. Kryk would just need to plug in current numbers.

Ms. Ostrovsky would like to see this visual with the updated numbers.

Ms. Kryk will get her visual updated with current numbers and send it over to Ms. Chalupnik within the next couple of days, to have it emailed out to the commissioners.

Ms. Kryk believes the commission can help with getting the word autism into legislator's brains, so when ATAP does need funding, they've already heard the word autism a lot.

Ms. Kryk also mentioned how the commission mentions adult services frequently, so Ms. Kryk has brought up to ATAP about potentially supporting young adults with

another plan type of some sort that would focus on vocational skills or just whatever they need. Ms. Kryk thinks it may be a good idea to focus on the young adult/adult services that are in place right now and how the commission can make them more efficient, then from there, talk with ATAP about additional support. Ms. Kryk thinks it may be a good idea to have the Regional Centers present again and/or Voc. Rehab and focus on specific items this time around.

Ms. Lozano agrees and to have them go over their intake process, how they recommend this gets done, how information gets out to parents and schools, things in that sort. Ms. Lozano oversees the transition for Washoe County School District, and they are partnering with Voc. Rehab and Sierra Regional Center in her area and there are a lot of services.

Ms. Lozano stated that Voc. Rehab has presented to the Washoe County School District already and Sierra Regional will be presenting for them soon, so she knows the opportunity to find out this information can be there and believes this will be a great place to start.

Ms. Ward thinks one of the things that needs to be changed in the systems are the numbers of adults with autism. How many the Regional Centers are serving and Voc. Rehab. Maybe even some exit numbers from the school districts can possibly help.

Ms. Ostrovsky stated that she has been going rounds with Voc. Rehab because their process is not set for ones with autism. Ms. Ostrovsky did hear that Voc. Rehab was given a mandate to contact kids that are 14 years old and set up by age 16, that's as of this year. She thinks that exit numbers would be great.

For now, Ms. Kryk said two things the commission can help ATAP with is getting Medicaid to present with exact information and getting legislators educated. The commission members would like more information from Ms. Kryk about the supervision ratio.

If Medicaid can present what they will present to interim finance and what some of the deadlines are, Ms. Ostrovsky thinks it may be easier, because last year it was apples to oranges.

Ms. Kryk made a motion to focus on the following three objectives to support ATAP; Insurance Assistance Plan distribution, policy on supervision regarding straight ATAP plans and SB96 and how it is going to impact ATAP's budget. Ms. Ward seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Review and Discuss the Proposed Rate Models for Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities Waiver Services Prepared for Nevada Department of Health and Human Services and Decide on Drafting a Position of Commission Letter (For Possible Action)

Ms. Ward emailed the letter that she drafted to Ms. Chalupnik to share with the commission members. Ms. Chalupnik shared the letter on her screen and Ms. Ward read it. This letter can be found on the ADSD website.

Ms. Ostrovsky moved to accept the letter Ms. Ward drafted, have Ms. Chalupnik review for any grammar errors and place on commission letterhead, sign it and sent it. Ms. Gratrix seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Ms. Ward thanked the commission for their support.

Review the Goals and Benchmarks of the Current Community Strategic Report. Decide on areas of Achievement and Areas in Need of Ongoing Development (For Possible Action)

Ms. Kryk reviewed her notes from the past meetings: How to organize and look at different goals. Insurance and funding subcommittee will focus on goal #1 and Workforce Development subcommittee would focus on #2 and #3, #4 had a question mark.

The commission members decided to discuss the next agenda item to get more clarity on what needs to be done in the subcommittees.

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 (For Possible Action)

Ms. Kryk stated that she has not met with anyone in the committee because she is unsure about the whole agenda posting and will just need some clarification.

Ms. Chalupnik stated that the subcommittees will need to operate and follow the same Open Meeting Laws as this commission operates: Work with Ms. Chalupnik to develop an agenda, agenda gets approved by DAG, Agenda needs to be posted to the ADSD website at least 3 business days prior to the meeting, then lastly, the meeting takes place.

Ms. Ostrovsky wonders how to recruit or confirm with participants to enhance the subcommittees because before it was a workgroup, which restricted who could participate.

Ms. Chalupnik stated that the commission needs to talk about who to appoint as chair members for these subcommittees and her understanding was that the commission

members were going to take the two weeks to come up with people who could support the objectives and bring forth that information.

Ms. Lozano stated that Ms. Kryk is the chair of Insurance and Funding Subcommittee, and a chair is needed for the Workforce Development Subcommittee. Ms. Lozano sent out more information on the subcommittee to Ms. Chalupnik to share with the commission members to help them in chairing the Workforce Development Subcommittee.

Ms. Kryk does not understand the difference between talking to people and gathering informal information as a community member versus a subcommittee.

Ms. Lozano stated that the subcommittee is a voting committee, which then takes that vote to the commission.

Ms. Kryk asked what if there is no voting being done?

Ms. Lozano answered that the subcommittees are ran the same as this commission, but you're just voting to bring those items to the commission. She gave an example of how this commission does not always have voting agenda items.

Ms. Ostrovsky said in the past for the strategic plan, the subcommittees would get together and go over the goals and targets. The subcommittees then vote on the goals and bring those votes to the commission. Ms. Ostrovsky stated that these are not only working groups, but they are decision-making groups on where the strategic plan goes from here.

Ms. Chalupnik stated that the subcommittees provide another avenue to get some of the heavier work done.

Ms. Kryk stated that her goal for the Insurance and Funding Chair is to get some people to commit to being on the subcommittee and schedule a meeting each month and focus on goal #1 under the current strategic plan.

Ms. Gratrix only received the objective for the Workforce Development Subcommittee, so she still doesn't have a lot of information on this subcommittee. She would love to help but will need a lot of guidance. Ms. Gratrix asked if anyone else is in this subcommittee?

Ms. Lozano answered that she was but is not anymore because she does not have the time.

Ms. Chalupnik reminded the commission members that a subcommittee has two members of the commission, and everything would run through her, just like this commission.

Ms. Ostrovsky stated that subcommittees are allowed three commission members, just not a quorum and the chair and co-chair can communicate and set a meeting date, then email Ms. Chalupnik with the details and meeting agenda.

Ms. Chalupnik needs to get clarification and asked for everything to be ran through her in the meantime to avoid any Open Meeting Law complaints.

Ms. Ostrovsky asked that the commission members vote to get clarification on how many commission members on a subcommittee, as in the past it was three and, the chair and co-chair can communicate. Per Ms. Ostrovsky 's notes, these are the reasons why the commission went to subcommittees rather than Workgroups. Ms. Ostrovsky is happy to step up and help for either subcommittee once clarification with the DAG happens.

Ms. Ward will remain the co-chair for the Insurance and Funding subcommittee and would like clarification on how to communicate with Ms. Kryk.

Ms. Lozano tabled this agenda item until they get clarification.

Workforce Development Subcommittee Updates and Funding and Insurance Subcommittee Updates

No updates.

Discuss and Approve Agenda Items and Discuss Future Commission Meeting Dates (For Possible Action)

Ms. Ostrovsky moved that the next commission meeting will be on October 12, 2021, at 3:30pm. Ms. Gratrix seconded the motion. The motion passed.

The commission members discussed they wanted the following agenda items on the next meetings:

Ms. Kryk would like the following:

- Medicaid present – what they will share with Interim Finance, deadlines, and what the budget increase is going to look like overall (next meeting)
- Presenters for Adult Services – (Voc. Rehab, Regional centers and possibly DETR) – ask about the intake process, and numbers for the adults. (Future meeting)

Ms. Kryk made a motion for the above agenda items. Ms. Ward seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Ms. Ostrovsky would like the following:

- Strategic Plan (next meeting)
- ATAP, for any questions (next meeting)

Ms. Ward would like the following:

- DOE present - what numbers are for students with autism exiting from 2000-2020 (next meeting)
- Rural Regional center – Number of people who applied for wavier services that are not yet receiving wavier services

Ms. Kryk made a motion to accept Ms. Ward's agenda items. Ms. Gratrix seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Public Comment

There was no public comment.

Adjourn

Ms. Ostrovsky motioned to adjourn the meeting. Ms. Ward seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Ms. Lozano adjourned the meeting at 5:05 pm.

DRAFT