



Joe Lombardo  
Governor

Richard Whitley, MS  
Director

# DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

AGING AND DISABILITY SERVICES DIVISION  
*Helping people. It's who we are and what we do.*



Dena Schmidt  
Administrator

## NEVADA COMMISSION ON AUTISM SPECTRUM DISORDERS MEETING

**Date and Time of Meeting:** August 30, 2024, 3:30 PM

**Location of Meeting:** Hybrid (Virtual, Telephonic)

Virtual Microsoft Teams Meeting at  
<http://Teams.Microsoft.com>

**TEAMS Meeting ID:** 277 341 929 05 / **Passcode:** 4ntHuM

**Phone Conference ID:** 832 794 904#

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[+1 775-321-6111,832794904#](tel:+17753216111832794904) United States, Reno

**Phone Conference ID:** 832 794 904#

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**Physical Location:** 1161 S Valley View Blvd  
Las Vegas, NV 89102

## **Minutes**

1. **Call to Order**

2. **Roll Call**

Members Present: Anna Marie Binder, Amy Coyne, Corey Nguyen, Linda Tran, Amy Walch, Korri Ward (Chair), Nicole Muhoberac

Members Excused Absent:

Guests: Rique Robb, George Hernandez, Samantha Jayme, Katie Pfister, Sarah Horsman, Lindsey Wood-Lopez, Patricia Knight, Sheila Garner, Vanessa Delgado-Acosta, Steven Cohen, Steven Tyler

Staff: Abbie Chalupnik, Wendy Thornley

**Public Comment:**

(No action may be taken upon a matter raised under public comment period unless the matter itself has been specifically included on an agenda as an action item. To provide public comment telephonically, dial [1(775)-321-6111]. When prompted to provide the Meeting ID, enter [832794904]. Comments will be limited to three minutes per person. Persons making comment will be asked to begin by stating their name for the record and to spell their last name and provide the secretary with written comments.)

Nicole Muhoberak: Early Intervention Services (EIS), Aging and Disability Services Division (ADSD), and Autism Treatment Assistance Program (ATAP) were recognized by the county during the Joint Interim Standing Committee on Health and Human Services on June 10<sup>th</sup>, for preventing out of home placement, especially for children with Autism Spectrum Disorder.

Steven Cohen: Additional Bill Draft Requests (BDR)s of potential interest to the Commission. He feels that the Deputy Attorney Generals (DAG)s' requirement that all BDRs must be listed on the meeting agenda is unreasonable due to how fast the legislative session moves, and it is easy to miss opportunities for testimony. He suggested that ADSD establish a singular Board and Commission Legislative Committee with non-appointed members permissible not only to seat, but to lead as well, the duplication of services within the Division.

Lori Follett: In the 82<sup>nd</sup> legislative session, SB191 directed Nevada Medicaid to expand services to individuals up to age 27. This service was expanded to all Medicaid eligible individuals. The policy and state plan have an effective date of 4/1/2024. The State Plan was approved by the Centers for Medicare, Medicaid Services, CMS in July 2024 and is currently scheduled for a third public workshop this fall to discuss activities of daily living. The first update clarified the language to policy for service limitations, testing and diagnostics, diagnosis requirements.

The second update will clarify the use of activities of daily living with the ABA Therapy Delivery Model. The public hearing information will post soon and can be found at:

[PublicNotices \(nv.gov\)](https://www.nv.gov/publicnotices)

Steven Cohen: The Bills that were submitted to Abbie for consideration for the Commission:

53 from Senator Ohrenschall, requires school districts to coordinate with certain providers of services for enrolled pupils with autism who have an individualized education program.

62 from Senator Ohrenschall, Expands the jurisdiction of certain specialty courts for juveniles to include children with fetal alcohol syndrome and other neurodevelopmental disorders.

106 from Senator Dondero Loop, Revises provisions relating to autism.

199 from Assemblywoman Gonzalez, makes various changes relating to the Speech-Language Pathology, Audiology and Hearing Aid Dispensing Board.

287, is the Fetal Alcohol Syndrome Disorder.

3. **For Possible Action:** Approval of Meeting Minutes from the Previous Meeting held July 29, 2024

Amy Coyne motioned to approve the draft minutes. Amy Walch seconded. Members voted and the motion carried.

4. **For Information:** Presentation from Nevada Early Intervention Services on Autism Diagnosis Services, Autism, and The Modified Checklist for Autism in Toddlers (MCHAT) Data Reporting for Fiscal Year 24

Sheila Garner: Gave her presentation, the presentation is available on the Commission's webpage [Home \(nv.gov\)](https://www.nv.gov)

Highlights included NEIS learning objectives, Early Intervention Services; Part C of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA), Why Pediatricians refer to Early Intervention (EI), Cost to family and service provider options, Early Intervention Delivery Model, Eligibility Criteria, Service Provider Types, Developmental Assessment, Developmental Screening and Autism, Autism Testing Process, and much more.

5. **For Information:** Autism Treatment Assistance Program (ATAP) Updates as it Relates to Current Caseload, Caseload Growth, Waitlist Elimination Progress, Referrals, Applied Behavior Analysis Profession Growth in Nevada, and Status of Active Providers.

Samantha Jayme: Gave her presentation, the full presentation is available on the Commission's webpage [Home \(nv.gov\)](http://Home.nv.gov)

This presentation demonstrates the outcomes reported on referrals, caseload, waitlist, and program type by the Autism Treatment Assistance Program (ATAP) which are current through July 31, 2024.

6. **For Information:** Discuss Information Related to the State Plan Amendment Expansion of Autism Services for Applied Behavioral Analysis (ABA) as a Lifelong Service in Nevada. Information received from Nevada Medicaid, Social Services Chief II, Lori Follett.

This item was tabled.

7. **For Possible Action:** Review and Discuss Legislative Updates Regarding the 83rd (2025) Session of the Nevada Legislature that will begin on February 3, 2025. Discuss the Impact of the Following Bills and possible vote to Approve a Position Statement.

- Senator Ohrenschall's - BDR 62, Proposed Expansion of the Jurisdiction of Certain Specialty Courts for Juveniles to Include Children with Fetal Alcohol Syndrome and Other Neurodevelopmental Disorders.

Anna Binder motioned to approve writing a position statement to support this. Nicole Muhoberac seconded. Anna will write that letter. Members voted and the motion carried.

8. **For Possible Action:** Review and Approve the Results from the Key Informant Interview Questions, Provider Survey, and Consumer Survey for Inclusion in the 5-year Strategic Plan. \*

This item was tabled.

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

Friday, September 20<sup>th</sup> 3:30pm

Reviewing the letter that Anna wrote.

Approving the results

Legislative update

Steven Cohen's BDRs

10. **Public Comment:**

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Abbie Chalupnik: She will be changing the TEAMS meeting invite moving forward.

11. **Adjourn**

Meeting adjourned at 5:02pm

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### **Autism Commission Members**

**Korri Ward (Chair):** Parent of a child with autism who resides in a county with a population of <100,000.

**Corey Nguyen (Vice Chair):** Member who is a behavior analyst.

**Anna Marie-Binder:** Representative of the public at large.

**Amy Walch:** Parent of a person with an autism spectrum disorder who is over 12 years of age.

**Amy Coyne:** Representative of school districts in this State (Clark County).

**Nicole Muhoberac:** Parent of a child with autism who is under 5 years of age.

**Linda Tran:** Representative of school districts in this State (Washoe County).

**Note:** Items may be taken out of order, combined for consideration, and/or removed from the agenda at the Chairperson's discretion. The public body may combine two or more agenda items for consideration. The public body may remove an item from the agenda or delay discussion relating to an item on the agenda at any time. The public body may place reasonable restrictions on the time, place, and manner of public comments but may not restrict comments based on viewpoint.

**Note:** We are pleased to provide reasonable accommodation for members of the public who have disabilities and wish to attend the meeting. If special arrangements for the meeting are necessary, please notify Abbie Chalupnik at 702-707-2957 or e-mail [AChalupnik@adsd.nv.gov](mailto:AChalupnik@adsd.nv.gov) as soon as possible. Supporting materials for this meeting are available at: 3208 Goni Rd, Bldg. I-181 Carson City, NV 89706 or [Autism \(nv.gov\)](http://Autism.nv.gov)

**Note:** If at any time during the meeting an individual who has been named on the agenda or has an item specifically regarding them included on the agenda is unable to participate because of technical or other difficulties, please email Abbie Chalupnik at the e-mail address above and note at what time the difficulty started so that matters pertaining specifically to their participation may be continued to a future agenda if needed or otherwise addressed.

**The following complete link for the meeting is included below:**

[https://teams.microsoft.com/l/meetup-join/19%3ameeting\\_NTM4MjY4NjAtMDFmZC00YzZkLTk1N2EtYjhmZWRjMmU0NWFj%40tHread.v2/0?context=%7b%22Tid%22%3a%22e4a340e6-b89e-4e68-8eaa-1544d2703980%22%2c%22Oid%22%3a%22824c0984-2e05-4c3f-88e6-9f2124324cee%22%7d](https://teams.microsoft.com/l/meetup-join/19%3ameeting_NTM4MjY4NjAtMDFmZC00YzZkLTk1N2EtYjhmZWRjMmU0NWFj%40tHread.v2/0?context=%7b%22Tid%22%3a%22e4a340e6-b89e-4e68-8eaa-1544d2703980%22%2c%22Oid%22%3a%22824c0984-2e05-4c3f-88e6-9f2124324cee%22%7d)

Please be cautious and do not click on links in the chat area of the meeting unless you have verified, they are safe. If you ever have questions about a link in a document purporting to be from ADSD, please do not hesitate to contact Abbie Chalupnik for verification.

This meeting may be recorded to facilitate note-taking or other uses. By participating you consent to recording of your participation in this meeting.

**Agenda Posted at the Following Locations as Required by Law:**

Nevada Early Intervention Services at 1161 S Valley View Blvd Las Vegas, NV 89102 and Aging and Disability Services Division at 3208 Goni Road, Building I, Suite 181, Carson City, Nevada 89706. Notice of this meeting was also posted on the Internet through the Nevada Aging and Disability Services Division website at [www.adsd.nv.gov](http://www.adsd.nv.gov) and Nevada Public Notice website at [Home - Nevada Public Notices Website - NV.gov](http://Home - Nevada Public Notices Website - NV.gov)

\* **The 5-year Strategic Plan** can be located on the Commission for Autism Spectrum Disorders web page: [ADSD Commission strategic plan final deliverable 12-24-14 \(nv.gov\)](http://ADSD Commission strategic plan final deliverable 12-24-14 (nv.gov))