

Joe Lombardo
Governor

Richard
Whitley, MS
Director



DEPARTMENT OF
HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES
AGING AND DISABILITY SERVICES DIVISION
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Dena Schmidt
Administrator

COMMISSION ON AUTISM SPECTRUM DISORDERS SUBCOMMITTEE MEETING – INSURANCE AND FUNDING

MEETING NOTICE

Date and Time of Meeting: Friday, May 23, 2025
1:00PM

MINUTES

1. **Roll Call, Opening Statement:**

Anna Marie Binder, Chair

Members Present: Anna Marie Binder, Eve Eriksson, Meghan Brescia-Burns, Steven Cohen, Ralph Sacrison, Katrina Ojeda

Members Excused Absent: Allen Glatts

Members Unexcused Absent: Stephanie Chung, Dalia Gonzalez, D.J. McGee

Guests: Samantha Jayme, Lori Lutu, Kori Ward, William Hammargren, Yeni Medina

Staff: Wendy Thornley

2. **Public Comment:** (No action may be taken upon a matter raised under the public comment period unless the matter itself has been specifically included on an agenda as an action item. To provide public comments telephonically, dial +1 775-321-6111. When prompted to provide the meeting ID, enter 465 080 148#. Comments will be limited to three minutes per person. People making comments 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.)

No public comment.

3. **For Possible Action:** Discussion and Approval of March 28, 2025, Draft Minutes.

Eve Eriksson motioned to approve the minutes with the addition of herself and Meghan to the attendance. Meghan Brescia-Burns seconded. Members voted and the motion carried.

4. **For Discussion:** Discussion of the relevant Aging and Disability Services Division (ADSD) and Division of Health Care, Financing, and Policy (DHCFP, AKA Medicaid) potential budget account State General Fund impacts on programs

Discussion to be focused on the Autism Treatment Assistance Program (ATAP), Nevada Early Intervention Services (NEIS), Statewide (Desert, Sierra, and Rural) Regional Centers (DRC, SRC, and RRC), and associated Medicaid Home and Community Based Services (HCBS) Individuals with Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities (ID/DD) Waiver, including, without limitation, ADSD's provider payment shortage - Bill Draft Request (BDR) 1173

1. Budget and Staffing Updates

Autism Treatment Assistance Program (ATAP) and Nevada Early Intervention Services (NEIS) received full funding for service costs in the current biennium.

ATAP was approved for additional staff based on October 2024 projections, but not the higher staffing needs identified in March 2025 projections (a difference of ~\$700,000).

NEIS received no new positions, which may strain capacity and increase reliance on community providers.

2. Referral Increases and Waitlist Concerns

A new statewide referral source ("No Wrong Door") has led to a surge in ATAP referrals.

While there is still room for new clients, both ATAP and regional centers are closely monitoring caseloads and anticipate waitlists.

The Rural Regional Center is already over its caseload cap and has no funds for emergencies or court-ordered services—an unprecedented situation in over 25 years.

3. Pilot Program and Legislative Activity

A pilot program under AB6 is exploring services for children with co-occurring FASD and autism.

The program has focused on training, eligibility review collaboration, and model development based on successful programs in other states (e.g., Michigan).

A formal memo on the pilot is being finalized and will be submitted by July 1.

AB 586, a supplemental funding bill, is pending and critical for sustaining services.

4. Community Referrals and Internal Collaboration

When individuals are ineligible or services are unavailable, agencies provide referral lists and case managers help families connect with other resources (e.g., Medicaid providers, youth services).

ATAP uses a risk assessment tool to triage waitlists and prioritize high-need cases.

NEIS and ADSD are working to maximize funding (e.g., insurance billing) and expand provider networks.

Internally, ADSD is exploring cross-program collaboration to better manage shared clients and staff capacity.

5. Looking Ahead

There is strong emphasis on creativity, collaboration, and flexibility across agencies to navigate funding shortfalls.

Stakeholders are considering partnerships with juvenile justice and other systems to address emergency needs.

The situation remains fluid, especially with uncertainty around federal funding, and ongoing discussions are expected over the next two years.

5. **For Possible Action:** Discussion and Possible Update of Quadrennial Medicaid Rate Review Results from Burns Report for presentation to full commission. Anna Marie Binder

At the last full Commission meeting, Chair Corey Ward tasked the group with reviewing the interest requirement from the Burns Report. Due to the busy legislative session, Anna Marie Binder had not been able to complete the work but created an outline to guide the process.

To move forward, Anna requested 1–2 volunteers to help complete the outline, which will inform what needs to be integrated into the Commission’s next five-year plan. Volunteers will help compile findings related to the quadrennial Medicaid Rate Review results.

Three members volunteered:

Eve Eriksson
Steven Cohen
Ralph Sacrison

Anna clarified that this work will go directly to the full Commission, not back to the subcommittee, and all members will receive a copy.

Eve Eriksson motioned for Mr. Cohen, Mr. Sacrison, and Miss Eriksson to compile the Commission’s response to the Medicaid Rate Review results.

The members voted and the motion carried.

6. **Public Comment:** (No action may be taken upon a matter raised under the public comment period unless the matter itself has been specifically included on an agenda as an action item. To provide public comments telephonically, dial +1 775-321-6111. When prompted to provide the meeting ID, enter 465 080 148#. Comments will be limited to three minutes per person. People making comments 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.) Anna Marie Binder: Thanked the members for their time, commitment and efforts in the work for the Autism community.

Steven Cohen: SB497 was passed by the full Senate yesterday.

7. **Adjournment:**

Meeting adjourned at 1:43 pm

AGENDA POSTED AT THE FOLLOWING LOCATIONS:

Notice of this meeting was posted at the following Aging and Disability Services Office at 1550 E. College Parkway, Carson City, NV. 89706. Notice of this meeting was posted on the Internet through the Nevada Aging and Disability Services Division website at <https://adsd.nv.gov> and Nevada Public Notices website at <https://notice.nv.gov>