



# DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

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



## MEETING Draft MINUTES

<i>Name of Organization:</i>	Nevada Commission on Services for Persons with Disabilities (CSPD)
<i>Date and Time of Meeting:</i>	Thursday, May 19, 2022 9:00AM
<i>Place of Meeting:</i>	Virtual: Zoom Meeting Materials can be found here: <a href="https://www.nv.gov/cspd">CSPD (nv.gov)</a>

**NOTE:** Items on this agenda may be taken in a different order than listed. Two or more agenda items may be combined for consideration. An item may be removed from this agenda or discussion relating to an item on this agenda may be delayed at any time.

Minutes of this meeting will be produced in summary format. Please provide the Commission administrative support with electronic or written copies of testimony and visual presentations if you wish to have complete versions included as exhibits with the minutes.

### 1. Roll Call & Opening Statement: Diane Thorkildson, Chair

- Members: Stacy Alaribe, Pam Berek, Charlene Frost, Mechelle Merrill, Diane Thorkildson, Cindi Swanson, Ilia Sandez, Pam Phillips
- Guests: Robin V Reedy, Obioma Officer, Steven Cohen, Mya, Crystal Wren, Cheyenne Pasquale, Sarah Adler, Carrisa Tashiro, Adrienne Navarro, Amanda Merrill, Kate, Jack Mayes, Robin Kincaid, Sabra McWhirter-Clark. Becky Van Auken, Captioner
- Staff: Lorraine Belt-Dolan, Lisa Torres

### 2. 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. Comments will be limited to five 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.)

- Robin Reedy, NAMI NV – Is here because we have mental health on our agenda and when you have people with chronic mental health problems
- Mechelle Merrill – On the summer webinar series, for children and youth with special healthcare needs, is there a cost associated with attendance in that? Diane Thorkildson answered that it was free and that it could be shared with staff.
- Obioma Officer New Executive Director of the Commission for Persons who are Deaf and Hard of Hearing introduced herself in the comments.

3. Approval of Minutes of the February 10, 2022, meeting: (For Possible Action)

Diane Thorkildson, Chair

- Char Frost made a motion to approve the minutes, Pam Berek seconded, motion carried.

4. Discussion and Update regarding Aging and Disability Service Division (ADSD) Olmstead Planning Survey:

Cheyenne Pasquale, Chief I, Planning, ADSD

- They have been working with UNR surrounding a new survey to send out about the Olmstead plan, this should go out in the next few weeks.
- Then there will be a period of information gathering.
- Char Frost asked if they had taken into consideration questions about mental health.
- Diane answered as someone who is working for the contractor tasked with this that yes, they have considered mental health
- Cindi Swanson asked if the materials would be accessible to all including the blind and the answer was that yes accessibility would be available.

5. Presentation and discussion regarding the Nevada Center for Excellence in Disabilities (NCED) Strategic Plan.

Kenneth Bleak, Nevada Center for Excellence in Disabilities

- Diane Thorkildson stepped in for Kenneth and opened the discussion to all persons at the meeting
- NCED offers a ton of different programming and I think on the things that folks don't quite know is everything that is associated with the NCED. Is there a decent understanding in the community of what NCED does or doesn't do?
  - Most people did not feel that they or many people know of NCED and its services.
- What services do you think, disability related services are needed for you or your family members or the groups that you represent?
  - A direct service that targets behaviors, supported housing, transportation services, access to health services, information on what is available, Deaf, and hard of hearing services for families in home, education for staff and schools for dual diagnosed students, and education on disabilities for doctors and medical professionals.
- What services are most difficult to access?
  - Mental health, respite, transportation, employment, housing, and recreational activities to socialize.
- I've heard several people say that there is not a central place to easily access information about all the services out there. Where are you going, where are your family members going, who are the people that you are supporting, where are they getting the information, they are currently getting?
  - Bridge link, Nevada 211, Unite Nevada, Nevada PEP, and Family navigation network.
- Is there anything you feel NCED should do to promote greater growth or independence for individuals with disabilities?
  - Seeing Disabilities demystified, making it easier for those with disabilities to go out in public without people being afraid of them, a list of doctors that know about and are good with people with disabilities, and medication barriers,

6. Presentation, Discussion on Guinn Center report on competitive integrated employment in Nevada:

Nancy Brune, Guinn Center

- We are tabling this item as Nancy was unable to make it today.

7. Discussion and Make Recommendations Regarding the Bi-Annual NRS 439 Report: (For Possible Action)  
Diane Thorkildson, Chair

- Every two years we need to make recommendations on how the grant management unit should spend their dollars that are related to disability.
- We can use the report from two years ago as the template.
- Categories include respite services, positive behavior support services, and independent living. Last time we said to split the money evenly, do we still want to do that?
- More respite providers trained to take individuals with dual diagnosis, IDD, and mental health. Home health aides, trained in behavioral supports and an increase in the allowable amount for respite.
- Char Frost made a motion to include in the letter the topics discussed, Pam Berek seconded, and motion carried.

8. Discussion and Make Recommendations regarding the 700-hour letter: (For Possible Action)  
Diane Thorkildson, Chair

- Add several sentences to the letter so that consumers know that the services are available.
- Char Frost made a motion to include the addition of actively promoting the 700-Hour program out in the community, specifically targeting consumers, and then also actively promoting within the State's hierarchy, making sure that folks truly do understand what the program is and use it. Pam Berek seconded, and motion carried.

9. Discussion and Updates regarding the Aging and Disability Service Division Caseload Evaluation Organization reports (CLEO):  
Diane Thorkildson, Chair

- There was no one from ADSD to discuss the CLEO reports so the discussion would be about what the Commission would like to do with the CLEO reports.
- The ideal situation would be to have the report early and be able to submit questions prior to the meeting to ADSD and have people available at the meeting to answer those questions.
- The report is quarterly and will be available at least 10 days prior to the meeting for commissioners.
- This is addressed in the Commission on Aging, and we can have personnel from ADSD available to answer questions at future meetings if that is asked for.

10. Discussion about the intersection of disability and mental health:  
Diane Thorkildson, Chair

- Looking for a little more clarity on what people on the commission want in this discussion or who do we want to present to us?
- Would like to see reporting from ADSD about how many individuals are being turned away because of a mental health need. How is ADSD partnering with NAMS and SAMS and DCFS to ensure that youth and adults are not being Ping-Ponged back and forth between agencies.
- Look at policy change where mental health is looked at as a disability and no longer separate the two. People should not be defined by one diagnosis or another, if they have multiple diagnosis then they should all be addressed.

- It's often hard to get services if the only diagnosis is mental health issues. That needs to change.
- We can look at it through the Olmstead perspective and ask for feedback from DCFS, DPBH, and how they are approaching Olmstead issues and least restrictive environments and how are they being inclusive of serving kids with IDD.

11. Review, Discuss and Approve Tentative Agenda Items for August 11, 2022, meeting: (For Possible Action)  
Diane Thorkildson, Chair

- CLEO Reports ask for department heads from ADSD and specifically ATAP to be here to answer questions.
- Ask how ADSD is approaching consumers who are presenting with mental health concerns.
- Collaborative pathways program to learn about the intersectionality of IDD and mental health concerns in youth.
- Ask Nancy Brune to come back and give her report.
- Find out how much money ADSD got for SILC and how that is being awarded.

12. 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. Comments will be limited to five 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.)

- Robin Reedy with NAMI Nevada – Stigma is just another word for prejudice. We need to be more inclusive. Trauma is whatever trauma is to the individual. Chronic illness and disabilities being ostracized all create some form of trauma for an individual. We need to talk about having a mental health condition as a disability. This needs to be talked about and she would be happy to provide a presentation from NAMI to the commission.

13. Adjournment: 11:03

Diane Thorkildson, Chair

**Accommodation Requests and Meeting Materials:**

**Note:**

We are pleased to make reasonable accommodations for members of the public who are disabled and wish to attend the meeting. If special arrangements for the meeting are necessary, please notify Lorraine Belt-Dolan in writing at 3320 W. Sahara, Suite 100, Las Vegas, Nevada 89102, email [lorrainebelt@adsd.nv.gov](mailto:lorrainebelt@adsd.nv.gov) or call at (702) 486-4307 at least 5 business days prior to the meeting. Notice of this meeting was posted at the following Aging and Disability Services Office at 3208 Goni Road, Building I, Suite 181, Carson City, NV. 89706. Notice of this meeting was 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 Notices website at [www.notice.nv.gov](http://www.notice.nv.gov) Supporting public material provided to Commission members for this meeting may be requested from Lorraine Belt-Dolan, Commission Administrative Support, ADSD at (702)486-4307 and is/will be available at the meeting locations and ADSD website at [CSPD \(nv.gov\)](http://CSPD(nv.gov))