

Joe
Lombardo
Governor



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



Rique
Robb
Administrator

Richard
Whitley,
MS
Director

Nevada Commission on Services for Persons with Disabilities (CSPD)

MEETING NOTICE

Date and Time of Meeting: Thursday, August 7, 2025, at 9:00 am

Location of Meeting: TEAMS

DRAFT MINUTES

1. Roll Call:

Members: Cindi Swanson, Ilia Sandez, Christine Riggi,

Members Excused Absent: Mechelle Merrill, Renee Portnell, Max Lowe,

Members Unexcused Absent:

Guests: Regino Arizmendi, Sabrina Schnur, Khadyja Carter, Jone't Young, Robin Kincaid,
Lissette Gray, Shannon Litz,

Staff: Lori Lutu & Wendy Thornley

- 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. To provide public comment telephonically, dial +1 775-321-6111. When prompted to provide the meeting ID, enter 558 850 373#. Comments will be limited to three minutes per person. Persons 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.)

Cindi Swanson: She will be leaving as Chair. This will be her last meeting as Chair but she will continue as a member of the Commission.

Lori Lutu: Aging and Disability Services Division (ADSD), will be sending out surveys to gather information for their Direct Care Workforce Project, and that project is aimed at strengthening the Personal Care Attendant (PCA), workforce in Nevada.

The surveys will be customized to gain insight from several key groups, including personal care agencies, personal care attendants, individuals receiving PCA services and their family members or consumer advocates.

Please keep an eye out for these surveys and people are free to share them with anyone that they think might be interested in filling it out and providing some feedback. For any questions or concerns, please contact the lead for our ADSD, Autumn Blackman, and her e-mail is autumn@adsd.nv.gov .

Christine Riggi: Is willing to assist or fill in as Chair or Vice Chair for the Commission.

3. **For Possible Action:** Discussion and possible vote to approve Draft Minutes of May 8, 2025, meeting.

Ilia Sandez motioned to approve the draft minutes. Christine Riggi seconded. Members voted and the motion carried.

4. **For Presentation and Discussion:** Overview of the Community Advocate roles (Adults Rights Specialists) under the Office for Consumer Health Assistance (OCHA), a program under the Aging and Disability Services Division (ADSD). Presentation will include an overview of the responsibilities assigned to them as resources navigators, and highlight their coordination within the community, as well as on behalf of individuals to address complex, ongoing, and/or long-term care needs.

Presenters: Jone't Young and Regino Arizmendi

Regino Arizmendi: OCHA is dedicated to empowering Nevada residents by helping them understand and navigate their healthcare rights and responsibilities. The agency provides:

Support for consumers and injured workers

Guidance on:

Health insurance plans

Workers' compensation

Eligibility and appeals

Quality of care complaints

Medical billing issues

OCHA also connects uninsured and underinsured individuals with resources like healthcare access programs and prescription medication assistance, promoting equitable access to care.

Community Outreach:

OCHA's community advocates attend local events, set up informational booths, and collaborate with nonprofits and healthcare providers.

They distribute brochures, contact information, and explain services directly to the public.

Medication Assistance:

OCHA helps locate resources for those who can't afford medications.

For individuals 60+, limited financial assistance may be available if certain criteria are met (e.g., income level, proof of need).

Contact Information:

Clark County: 702-486-3587

Rest of Nevada: 888-333-1597

Fax: 702-486-3586

5. **For Possible Action:** Discussion and possible vote to elect the new Chair and Vice Chair for the following year.

Members voted and Christine Riggi was elected as Chair for the Commission. Cindi Swanson will act as Vice Chair until the next meeting when they vote for Vice Chair.

6. **Next Meeting Dates and Agenda Items:** Upcoming meetings for the rest of the year:

November 13, 2025, at 9:00 a.m.

Future agenda items to address membership vacancies and recruitment efforts.

Vote for Vice Chair

Status of the Commission currently and for the future

Regional centers data regarding services provided from the regional centers, the future plans regarding the centers, the freeze on services and money and the status of home and community based waiver services.

Supported living waitlists

7. **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 558 850 373#. Comments will be limited to three minutes per person. Persons 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.)

Christine Riggi: Is looking forward to her new role as Chair and working with everyone in that new capacity.

8. **Adjournment:**

Meeting adjourned at 9:00 am.

AGENDA POSTED AT THE FOLLOWING LOCATIONS:

Notice of this meeting was posted at the following Aging and Disability Services Offices at 1550 East College Parkway, Carson City, NV. 89706. 7150 Pollock Drive, Las Vegas, NV. 89119, and 10375 Professional Circle, Reno, NV. 89521. Notice of this meeting was posted on the Internet through the Nevada Aging and Disability Services Division website at www.adsd.nv.gov and Nevada Public Notices website at <https://notice.nv.gov>