



# DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

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



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## MEETING MINUTES

*Name of Organization:* Nevada Lifespan Respite Care Coalition

*Date and Time of Meeting:* Monday, April 18, 2022  
10:00AM

*Place of Meeting:* Virtual: [TEAM's Link](#)

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**NOTE:** 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 & Welcome:

Molly Walt, Chair

- Members: Sharifa Wahab, Molly Walt, Kathleen Doyle, Amy Dewitt-Smith, Justin Hansen, Deidre Hillyard-Manley
- Staff: Cheryl Dinnell (ED), Lisa Torres, Carole Hanley
- Guests: Alison Koenig, Amna Khawaja, Arianna Ramos, Autumn Blattman, Cheyenne Pasquale, Jamie Ahumada, Jeanette Garcia, Mark Pierre-Louis, Obioma Officer, Sara Batey, Shelli O'Donnell, Tori Diego, Nancy Herrera

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.)

Molly Walt, Chair

- May Birthdays Acknowledgments

3. Review and Approve Draft Minutes from February 14, 2022, Nevada Lifespan Respite Care Coalition (NLRCC) meeting (For Possible Action):

Molly Walt, Chair

- Cory motioned to approve the minutes; Kathy seconded the motion.

- All approved
4. Discussion and approval of representative to attend the ARCH/National Lifespan Respite Conference (For Possible Action):  
Cheryl Dinnell, Executive Director
- Molly, Sharifa & Cheryl all expressed interest in going
  - Molly nominated Cheryl to go to represent the Coalition; Justin seconded the motion
  - All approved for Cheryl Dinnell to represent the Coalition
5. Overview of Department of Health and Humans Services (DHHS) Programs and Services  
Cheyenne Pasquale, Aging and Disability Services Division (ADSD), Planning Chief
- The **Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS)** is under the Governor's office.
    - **DHHS** promotes health and wellbeing for residence through delivery or facilitating essential services.
  - **Aging & Disability Services Division (ADSD)**, under DHHS, has departments for Community Based Care Unit (CBC), Adult Protective Services (APS), Disability Service Unit, Nevada Early Intervention Services (NEIS), Autism Treatment Assistance Program (ATAP), Planning, Advocacy & Community Service Unit (PAC).
    - **CBC** administers Medicaid waver programs as well as some state caregiver support services.
    - **APS** investigates fraud, abuse, and neglect of vulnerable persons 18 and older.
    - **Disability Service Unit** provides programs and services for individuals and families with intellectual and developmental disabilities. This program does have a respite program and a Medicaid waver program.
    - **NEIS** provides services that help families with children 0-3 years of age with developmental delays.
    - **ATAP** provides therapy and treatment for children with autism.
    - **PAC** is the Grants Management unit that funds respite caregiving support services using federal and state funds. They also oversee the Nevada Care Connection Program and several other program and services.
  - **Child and Family Services**, another division under DHHS, support and assist Nevada's children and families. The two areas that have some caregiving supports are the Child Welfare Services and the Children's Mental Health units.
    - **Child Welfare Services** also has **Child Protective Services (CPS)** that have some family supportive services.
  - **Division of Healthcare Financing and Policy (DHCFP)** under DHHS provides services through Nevada Medicaid and Nevada Medicare.
    - Medicaid helps beneficiaries with copays and premiums.

- Medicare helps with the 1915 waivers. 1915 wavers are for the frail and elderly, persons with physical and intellectual disabilities, and developmental disabilities.
  - Low-Cost Comprehensive Health Coverage is also available for low-income uninsured children.
  - **Division of Public and Behavioral Health (DPBH)** under DHHS protects, promotes, and improves physical and behavioral health. This includes residents that live in northern, southern, and rural Nevada. It's three main service branches are Clinical Services Branch, Regulatory & Planning Services Branch & Community Service Branch.
    - The Community Service Branch may have some caregiver support services.
  - **Division of Welfare and Supportive Services** under DHHS has several traditional government support programs like Supplemental Nutrition Assistant Program (SNAP) and Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF), among others.
    - The Welfare and Supportive Services unit does the financial eligibility, and the Division of Healthcare Financing and Policy sets the rules.
6. Presentation on No Wrong Door and Nevada Care Connection (NCC), ADSD/PAC Autumn Blattman, Program Officer II Resource Education Coordinator
- NCC Resource Navigators offer a wide range of support and help individuals navigate the complex systems and provide several services.
  - NCC helps identify eligibility for services like Medicaid waiver programs and other long-term supports.
  - Identify and connect caregivers to respite and supportive services.
  - Advocate for individuals to help meet their long-term goals.
  - Case Management Services available for persons with dementia or memory loss, hearing loss or a speech disability.
  - Warm handoffs to other resource organizations.
  - Assist with filling out applications and gathering documents for Medicaid waivers
7. Presentation on Self-Directed & Paid Family Caregivers, ADSD/PAC Alison Koenig, Social Services Program Specialist
- Self-Direction allows an individual to make decisions about their life and pick & choose what services would benefit them, given a budget and an array of services.
  - Self-direction model uses a 3<sup>rd</sup> party for payroll/managing funds.
  - Older American Act funded voucher programs are not self-directed currently, but self-directed pilot program did well and allowed greater access to respite services, work around workforce shortages.
  - Not everyone wants to self-direct, but many want more choice & control to select own workers, make own schedules.
  - Due to the pandemic, OAA vouchers allow family members to be hired as respite providers. Need to find out if change permanent or if family hired can live in the same house.

- Some in-home and respite services are not tied to Medicaid or Medicare.
8. Presentation on Caregiver Supports and Respite Services, ADSD/CBC  
Arianna Ramos, Social Services Manager
- Links to [CBC Application](#), monthly [household income limits](#), and [Programs and Providers](#) information.
  - The Frail Elderly Waiver (FE) requires the primary caretaker who needs respite to reside with the resident that needs care. Respite provider must be someone other than the primary caregiver. The spouse cannot be the respite caregiver.
  - FE Waiver Respite is only provided as an in-home service. Adult day program is a separate service but may help meet respite need. Currently waitlists for programs.
  - It is possible to receive multiple services depending on qualifications upon assessment. Emergency response system could allow a caregiver to receive respite.
  - Very difficult to cover overnights or multiple days as pay is going to be the same for 7 hours or 24 hours. Labor laws kick in after 8 hours/day.
  - The Physical Disability Waiver (PD) is for those who are 18-64 years of age.
  - Respite hours much less - could be 6 hours a week (or 10 hours a month to stretch it out a full year).
  - Waivers are funded from Medicaid. Community Options Program for the Elderly (COPE) and the Personal Assistance Services (PAS) helps those who do not meet the income level for Medicaid but still need services.
9. Lifespan Respite Care grant updates, ADSD/PAC:  
Jamie Ahumada, NWD Coordinator and Yazmin Orozco, Project Coordinator
- The balance of the emergency respite funding for caregivers is \$4587.00. So far, 35 Caregivers received assistance with the funds.
  - Nevada Respite Worker Training launched in February of 2022; Outreach efforts are extensive to help promote the training to those who did not know about respite work.
  - Online course modules take 6 to 8 hours to complete.
  - Currently 32 individuals have signed up for the training, with 8 in the process of completion.
  - Position announcements for a Respite Intern Coordinator and a Training Officer will be available soon.
10. Discuss Tentative Agenda Items for June 21, 2022, meeting:  
Cheryl Dinnell, Executive Director
- Legislative action proposals
11. 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):

Molly Walt, Chair

- No public comment

12. Adjournment: 11:50am

Molly Walt, Chair

**Accommodation Requests and Meeting Materials:**

**Note:**

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 [adsd.nv.gov](http://adsd.nv.gov). and Nevada Public Notices website at <http://notice.nv.gov>. Supporting public material provided to Commission members for this meeting may be requested from Carole Hanley, Commission Administrative Support, ADSD at (702)486-9765 and is/will be available at the meeting locations and ADSD website at [adsd.nv.gov](http://adsd.nv.gov).

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