

# Nevada County Mental Health and Substance Use Advisory Board Minutes

**Date:** January 9, 2026  
**Time:** 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.  
**Place:** Behavioral Health Department in the Crown Point Conference Room  
500 Crown Point Circle, Grass Valley, CA 95945

## STANDING ORDERS

**No Public Comment today.**

### **1. Call to Order and Introductions-**

- **Roll Call- Quorum**
- **Approval of meetings for Dec 5, 2025- Moved: Dave Davidson-Methot, Second by Anne Rarick. Approval by all.**

### **2. BH Director Report on Transitions:**

- Phebe is leaving nooo! Taking a new roll with CalMHSA working on housing policy at the state level.
- Dave commented on how incredible Phebe's leadership has been and expressed appreciation.
- Appreciation shared by many at the table. Tears were shed.
- Interim plan: Cari Yardley will be serving as the Interim Director once Phebe departs. Department will go through a thorough hiring process to cast a wide net. Likely can take 4-5 months.
- BH Department went over year in review PowerPoint, no time to share today but Phebe will send it out to the board for review.

### **3. Quality Assurance Team with Brianne Chavez and Priya Kannal:**

- Quality Improvement Committee: meets monthly to review, evaluate and analyze data
- Looking at BH data and contractor's data.
- Cultural and Linguistic Proficiency Plan 2026 Update: 4.72% to 8.03% increase
- They offered 3 trainings related to LGBTQ+ for staff and contractors and attended pride picnic.
- Tracking service rates for Medi-Cal county members, rates are above state average, landing around 9.6%
- DHCS creating new format for Performance Improvement Plans (PIP). 3 Year process now
- 2026: Planning and implementation year
- 2027: continued intervention implementation plan
- 71% of individuals that go to Emergency Dept for SUD are getting a follow up appt within 30 days for 2024 Measurement.
- Non-clinical PIP: Do targeted interventions increase the percentage of members who receive Peer Support services? 2024 Measurement: 7.48%
- HEDIS MEASURES: Nevada County is #1 in the state for MHP MY 24. #4 in state for DMC MY 24. No Corrective Action Plans (CAPs) for low performance
- Trying to automate reporting processes for Adverse/Unusual Incidents

- Member NOABD process migrated to the Electronic Health Record
- QA/Contract Performance Measurement data.
- Increased cultural competency trainings hosted by NCBH.
- Implementation of Evidence Based Practices required through BHSA/BH-Connect
- CertifyOS implementation
- Launching E-grievance function
- Policy and Procedure improvement plan
- No CAPs (one of very few counties)
- Audits galore in 2026- DHCS Mega Audit is coming (they actually call it a Mega Audit)
- How many staff hours go into these audit procedures?
- Iden interested in consumer participation in this process (QIC).

#### **4. Consumer Advisory Council**

- Theresa opened: Members of their board have been dedicated to this effort to connect consumers to program administrators.
- Supporters of PHF project and QA.
- Consumers on SSI cannot get full-time PEER jobs and it is negatively impacting them
- How can Council help SSI recipients with finding a way to give their time to this effort?
- Karen joined to be part of something productive for consumers
- Phyllis wanted to hear from other consumers and help push advocacy for the voice of consumers in the County
- Karen: gave her a different perspective as to what resources are available through BH and enjoys having a voice in this community. Wants to give back to the community that has helped her.
- Phyllis: Enjoys having a voice and giving back to the community, integrating different entities into a common interest and goal.
- Karen: Perceives that their role moving forward is to make sure that client voice is central in progress since the services cannot progress without feedback.
- Phyllis: Wants to be a healing factor in her recovery and the recovery of others.
- Karen recommends that upon first visit, clients have a layout of what resources or case managers/peer support is available to them.
- Having a peer the minute they come through the door?
- Karen believes case managers are vital to the success of clients
- San Mateo County NAMI has robust peer support group. Potential communication between counties to see what we could improve.
- Karen thinks the BH services in Nevada County are exceptional and feels at home here
- Phyllis is a Nevada County native and enjoys the therapists and psychiatrists here at BH.
- Open to questions from the group?
- What could be improved: reducing BH staff turnover, staff consistency helps progress
- More suicide prevention services here, workshops on PTSD and Trauma to help people come to services.
- Theresa and Cody are the messengers for complaints brought to the Council, also clients generally would share with those closest to them such as peer supports or therapists.

- Debriefing for crisis scenarios to ensure those involved are supported through and after an event
- Classes (education) breaking down diagnosis for better understanding to clients
- Dave asked about usage of social media to get information related to diagnosis?
- Karen uses YouTube to find more information related to her case and it has been very beneficial to deeper understanding
- Phyllis also discovered some helpful content on YouTube
- Suggestion to add information pamphlets on different disorders for clients to read through.

### 5. Peer Support Update:

- SPIRIT team expressed appreciation for Phebe's service and wish her the best in her future endeavors
- Day center at Commons Resource Center run by SPIRIT and their first quarter numbers exceeded expectations. Saw approx. 70 people a day.
- Seeing increase in active addiction
- Strong collaboration with HOME team
- Some SPIRIT staff have prior life experience in the client side
- Connecting with Brianne and Kelly to see about giving a SUD presentation at SPIRIT
- New facility is incredible for clients
- Kudos out to law enforcement partners as they continue to make efforts to meet people where they are at

#### Final Thoughts:

- Dave- County purchasing Stagecoach Motel for permanent supportive housing with grant funding that was awarded by the State
- Dave hosting a focus group meeting on Monday, 1/12 for local neighbors near that property
- Marie to put Dave on the agenda with update

Meeting adjourned at 11:58am

### ATTENDANCE:

**Members Present:** Hardy Bullock, Iden Rogers, Marie Kittle, Anne Rarick, Suzanne Nobles, Dave Davidson-Methot, Thaddeus Stoenner (Online), David Wallace (Online),

**Excused Absent:** Laura Preston, Jacob Smith, Shera Banbury

**BH Staff:** Mallory Borrego, Brianne Chavez, Priya Kannall, Phebe Bell

**Visitors:** Phyllis Day, Karen Garcia, Cody Feiler, Shannon Cotter, Cara Chesney, Jennifer Morrill, Bette Worth, Theresa Hodges, Beckie (missed last name, attended online).

Minutes by Mallory Borrego