



Commission on Mental Health and Substance Use Disorder

Meeting Minutes

March 20, 2024

9:00 am – 1:00 pm

Virtual Meeting via Microsoft Teams

Members

Jay Reeve, PhD
Chairperson

Representative Christine
Hunschofsky, Co-Chair
Speaker of the House Appointee

Senator Darryl Rouson
President of the Senate Appointee

Clara Reynolds, LCSW, MBA
Governor Appointee

Ann Berner
Speaker of the House Appointee

Sheriff William Prummell
Governor Appointee

Kathleen Moore, PhD
President of the Senate Appointee

Kelly Gray-Eurom, MD
Governor Appointee

Larry Rein
Governor Appointee

Chief Judge Mark Mahon
Governor Appointee

Melissa Larkin-Skinner
Speaker of the House Appointee

Lee Fox
President of the Senate Appointee

Shawn Salamida
Speaker of the House Appointee

Secretary Shevaun L. Harris
Department of Children and
Families

Secretary Jason Weida
Agency for Health Care
Administration

Uma Suryadevara, MD
Speaker of the House Appointee

Richard Duggan
President of the Senate

Richard Weisberg, CRPS
President of the Senate
Appointee

Welcome/Call to Order:

Dr. Jay Reeve, Chairperson, opened the Commission on Mental Health and Substance Use Disorder (Commission) meeting after a brief delay caused by technology issues.

Dr. Reeve asked Aaron Platt, Staff Liaison, to carry the rollcall.

The following members or designees were in attendance:

Jay Reeve, PhD, Chairperson (Governor Appointee: Apalachee Center)

Representative Christine Hunschofsky (Speaker of the House Appointee)

Senator Darryl Rouson (President of the Senate Appointee)

Clara Reynolds, LCSW, MBA (Governor Appointee: Crisis Center of Tampa Bay)

Sheriff William Prummell (Governor Appointee: Charlotte County Sheriff's Office)

Kathleen Moore, PhD (President of the Senate Appointee: University of South Florida)

Kelly Gray-Eurom, MD (Governor Appointee: UF College of Medicine)

Larry Rein (Governor Appointee: ChildNet)

Chief Judge Mark Mahon (Governor Appointee: Fourth Circuit Court)

Melissa Larkin-Skinner (Speaker of the House Appointee: Centerstone of Florida)

Lee Fox (President of the Senate Appointee: David Lawrence Centers for Behavioral Health)

Shawn Salamida (Speaker of the House Appointee: Lakeview Center)

Secretary Shevaun Harris (Department of Children and Families)

Austin Noll for Secretary Jason Weida (Agency for Health Care Administration)

Richard Duggan (President of the Senate Appointee: Collier County Public Schools)

Richard Weisberg, CRPS (President of the Senate Appointee: Weisberg Wealth Management)

Review and Approval of the January 17, 2024 Meeting Minutes:

A motion was entered to approve the January 17, 2024, minutes. The motion was carried. The minutes were approved with no opposition.

1. Remarks From the Chair:

Chair Reeve reviewed the rules of the commission and the importance of maintaining compliance with Florida's Sunshine law. The next interim report is due January 2024 and the final report is due January 2025.

2. Legislative Round-Up:

Chair Reeve reviewed a sample of legislation from the 2024 Legislative Session that, in part or whole, resulted from the work of the commission. The legislation reviewed included Senate Bill 7016, The Live Healthy Act; Senate Bill 330, Behavioral Health Teaching Hospitals, and House Bill 7021, Mental Health, and Substance Abuse.

Commissioner Representative Hunschofsky acknowledged the Legislature's attention to the work of the commission.



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Commissioner Senator Rouson echoed comments from Commissioner Representative Hunschofsky in acknowledging the legislative attention to the work of the commission.

3. Subcommittee Report Outs:

- **System of Care:** Subcommittee Chair Harris provided a brief update. The last subcommittee meeting included presentations from the Agency for Health Care Administration (AHCA) and the Department of Children and Families (DCF) on the progress with the Certified Community Behavioral Health Clinics (CCBHC). The Mental Health Task Force of Northwest Florida shared their road map to improving behavioral healthcare services. The subcommittee will continue to focus on the development of CCBHCs, the gap analysis, mobile response teams, outpatient treatment services, forensic services, the baker act, central receiving facilities, and examining deep end services including residential treatment. Geriatric psychiatry is another area for possible exploration.
- **Children and Youth:** Subcommittee Chair Commissioner Representative Hunschofsky provided a brief update. The last subcommittee meeting included a presentation from the Department of Education regarding school based mental health initiatives. The subcommittee discussed outcomes and performance measures, care coordination between providers and schools, school-based Medicaid, utilization of behavioral health funds as it relates to primary and secondary payors sources, and examined the use of graduate school students in the mental health workforce in schools. The subcommittee will examine access to behavioral health services further.
- **Data Analysis:** Subcommittee Chair Moore provided a brief update. The previous subcommittee meeting included presentations from representatives from Florida State University and the Northwest Regional Data Center. The subcommittee continues to work on the main recommendation to develop a statewide data repository with the framework of connecting multiple data sources to conduct data analysis. The subcommittee explored issues around data sharing and deidentified data, framework for data integration, and relevant state and federal laws.
- **Finance and Workforce:** Subcommittee Chair Commissioner Senator Rouson provided a brief update and review of presentations from the previous subcommittee meeting which included the DCF providing an overview of opioid settlement funds. The subcommittee's expanded charge now includes behavioral health workforce issues. Presentations during the previous subcommittee meeting focused on recruitment and pathways for a resilient workforce, Medicaid strategies for bolstering mental health care via training and services, and insights on the behavioral health workforce from the community provider perspective. The subcommittee will leverage Senate Bill 330.
- **Access to Care:** Commissioner Fox provided a brief update. During the last subcommittee meeting, three sub-groups were formed to examine identifying and addressing barriers to utilization including stigma and fear, developing solutions to barriers and refining marketing strategies, and developing options outside of law enforcement transports. The subgroups have already started meeting and will provide updates at the next subcommittee meeting. The subcommittee is also developing a survey to assist with identifying barriers to access.

4. Discussion:

Chair Reeve acknowledged the enormous amount of work occurring in the subcommittees and the overwhelming influence that stigma and prejudice have on barriers to behavioral health care.



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5. Public Comment:

Amanda Nicol (Partnr305 and F-Fentanyl.org) – Ms. Nicols expressed thanks for the partnership with DCF which allowed her agency to distribute 5000 doses of naloxone at a recent music festival. She also thanked the commission for focusing on behavioral health and supports.

5. Closing Remarks:

Chair Reeve encouraged commission members to maintain the current traction.

The meeting adjourned at approximately 10:15 am.