



Commission on Mental Health and Substance Use Disorder Strategy and Planning Subcommittee

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

Judge Mark Mahon
Governor Appointee

Melissa Larkin-Skinner
Speaker of the House Appointee

Lee Fox
President of the Senate Appointee

Secretary Taylor Hatch
Department of Children and
Families

Secretary Shevaun Harris
Agency for Health Care
Administration

Richard Duggan
President of the Senate

Richard Weisberg, CRPS
President of the Senate
Appointee

Meeting Minutes

November 6, 2025

3:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Virtual Meeting via Microsoft Teams

Call to Order/Welcome

The meeting was called to order at approximately 3:30 am by Commissioner Shevaun Harris, Subcommittee Chair.

Roll call was taken by Aaron Platt.

The following members or designees were in attendance:

Secretary Shevaun Harris, Subcommittee Chair

Clara Reynolds, (Governor Appointee)

Jay Reeve, Commission Chair (Governor Appointee)

William Prummell, (Governor Appointee)

Richard Duggan, (President of the Senate Appointee)

William Hardin, Subject Matter Expert Lead

Nancy Dauphinais, Subject Matter Expert

Rachelle Burns, Subject Matter Expert

Carali McClean, Subject Matter Expert

Christine Cauffield, Subject Matter Expert

Review and Approval of August 27, 2025 Meeting Minutes

A motion was entered to approve the August 27, 2025 minutes. The motion was carried. The minutes were approved with no opposition.

Commission Update

Commission Chair Jay Reeve informed the subcommittee that the next full commission meeting will be held on November 14, 2025. There will be another full commission meeting held in January 2026 and an in-person full commission meeting held in April 2026. Subcommittee recommendations should be finalized by February or March 2026. Chair Reeve also briefed the subcommittee on the idea of incorporating a recommendation that would create a group of high-level stakeholders and agency executives to provide ideas for elevating behavioral health discussions after the Commission sunsets in September 2026. Commissioner Reynolds introduced a motion to move the recommendation to the full Commission so a vote could be taken to fast-track the recommendation for inclusion in a Legislative bill in the upcoming legislative session. The motion received a second by Commissioner Prummell and carried with all in favor. Subject Matter Expert Rachelle Burns asked that individuals with lived experience be included in the group to be formed.

Subcommittee Chair Harris reviewed the Strategy and Planning subcommittee recommendations that were voted on and passed during the last full commission meeting. Opportunities to improve access to care is a recurring topic of discussion, and as a result, Commissioner Reynolds was invited to review recommendations involving access originating out of the previous Access to Care subcommittee.



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Review of Access to Care Subcommittee Recommendations

Commissioner Reynolds reviewed recommendations originating from the previous Access to Care subcommittee. The Access to Care subcommittee was focused on three key areas which include barriers to utilization, solutions to barriers and acute care transport. The purpose of the review was to explore the possibility of incorporating portions of the Access to Care recommendations that were not put forward in the previous report into the current Strategy and Planning recommendations to increase awareness of the array of services and to improve upon access to behavioral healthcare. There was in-depth discussion regarding the Solutions to Barriers recommendation number 3: “Circle of Influence Engagement Campaign-Tailored Training to Empower Community Involvement”, with a particular focus on additional supports for primary care physicians. An invitation to present will be sent to Heather Flynn, PhD with Florida State University to discuss their work on bridging the gap between primary care physicians and the mental health community and integrating primary and behavioral healthcare best practices surrounding screening in primary care settings. Commissioner Reynolds will also invite representatives from the Pinellas County Juvenile Welfare Board to discuss their work with pediatricians. Commissioner Reynolds will assume lead with developing unified messaging between managing entities and managed care plans.

Further Development of Draft Recommendations

Subcommittee Chair Harris requested all subcommittee members continue to come up with ideas and recommendations for continuing to move behavioral health quality and access forward in the state. Recommendations should be presented to the subcommittee utilizing the previously shared “Strategy and Planning Subcommittee: Recommendation Tracker”.

Other Issues for Discussion

Subject Matter Expert Carali McLean volunteered to assist with further development of unified messaging between Managing entities and managed care plans.

Public Comment

Laurie Gerhard addressed the subcommittee regarding workforce and the hiring of psychiatric mental health nurse practitioners.

Dr. Christine Cauffield, CEO Lutheran Service Florida encouraged members of the public to contact their managing entity directly to share any feedback or concerns.

Closing Remarks

Commissioner Harris, Subcommittee Chair provided closing remarks.