

Cover Slide for Rural Regional Behavioral Health Policy Board Bill Presentation

RURAL REGIONAL BEHAVIORAL HEALTH POLICY BOARD

ELKO, EUREKA, HUMBOLDT, LANDER, PERSHING, AND WHITE PINE COUNTIES

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AB 37 Summary Presentation to the Nevada Rural Children's Mental Health Consortium
March 16, 2023

Rural RBHPB Concept for AB37 82nd (2023) Legislative Session

- Build out a robust pipeline for behavioral health providers in Nevada
- Based on successful models from Nebraska and Illinois
- Would incorporate and expand upon existing successful programs, and introduce new programs and connections across the educational system and professional licensing
- **AB 37 “Authorizes the establishment of the Behavioral Health Workforce Development Center of Nevada”**



Purpose the Behavioral Health Workforce Development Center of Nevada

- Increase the number of graduates of high schools in this State who pursue higher education in fields related to behavioral health;
- Increase the number of graduates from programs for the education of providers of behavioral health care within the System who intern and practice in this State;
- Increase the number of providers of behavioral health care who have the specialized training necessary to address the most critical shortages of such providers in this State;
- Increase the number of supervisors and sites for internships for students and graduates of programs for the education of providers of behavioral health care;
- Decrease the amount of time between graduation from a program for the education of providers of behavioral health care and licensure, certification or registration and, if applicable, endorsement as such a provider; and
- Address other needs relating to the number and distribution of providers of behavioral health care in this State, as determined by the Center.

Summary of AB 37

- Collaborate with School Districts to support and expand Career and Technical Education (CTE) Programming related to behavioral health professions in schools
- Collaborate with Area Health Education Centers (AHECs) to include focus on behavioral health professions
- Bolster efforts to support minority and disadvantaged youth in considering careers in behavioral health
- Look for ways to weave SEL and Mental Health support programs with students as leaders or peer supports to increase interest



Summary of AB 37

- Professional programs at NSHE focused upon:
 - Marriage and Family Therapy, Clinical Professional Counseling, Psychology, Psychiatry, Clinical Social Work, Behavior Analysts, all Drug and Alcohol Counselor types, and specialty medical tracks (psychiatric Nurse Practitioners, PAs, etc.)



Summary of AB 37

- Ensure undergraduate students are prepared for rigors of graduate school
- Ensure clear pathways for undergraduate education to graduate school are created (courses needed, application and test deadlines, testing preparation, etc.)
- Create easily-accessible opportunities for high-quality graduate and clinical internships/practicum, with an emphasis on creating opportunities to work with communities with least access to appropriate care (Rural, BIPOC, LGBTQ+, etc.) to ensure competent workforce with these experiences



Summary of AB 37

- Expand the number of approved internship sites and supervisors through targeted training and approval efforts.
- Work with licensing boards (not already doing so) to create processes to improve efficiency related to licensing for Nevadans, and those coming from out of state



Summary of AB 37

- Work with Nevada Health Service Corps and federal programs to help place providers in rural and underserved communities for longer-term practice for tuition assistance/forgiveness (existing programs)
- Identify opportunities to educate new providers on the “business” of practice in Nevada, including setting up insurance reimbursement, liability insurance, business licensing, etc.
- Recruit eligible providers as approved supervisors and/or sites for undergraduate, graduate, and clinical internships.



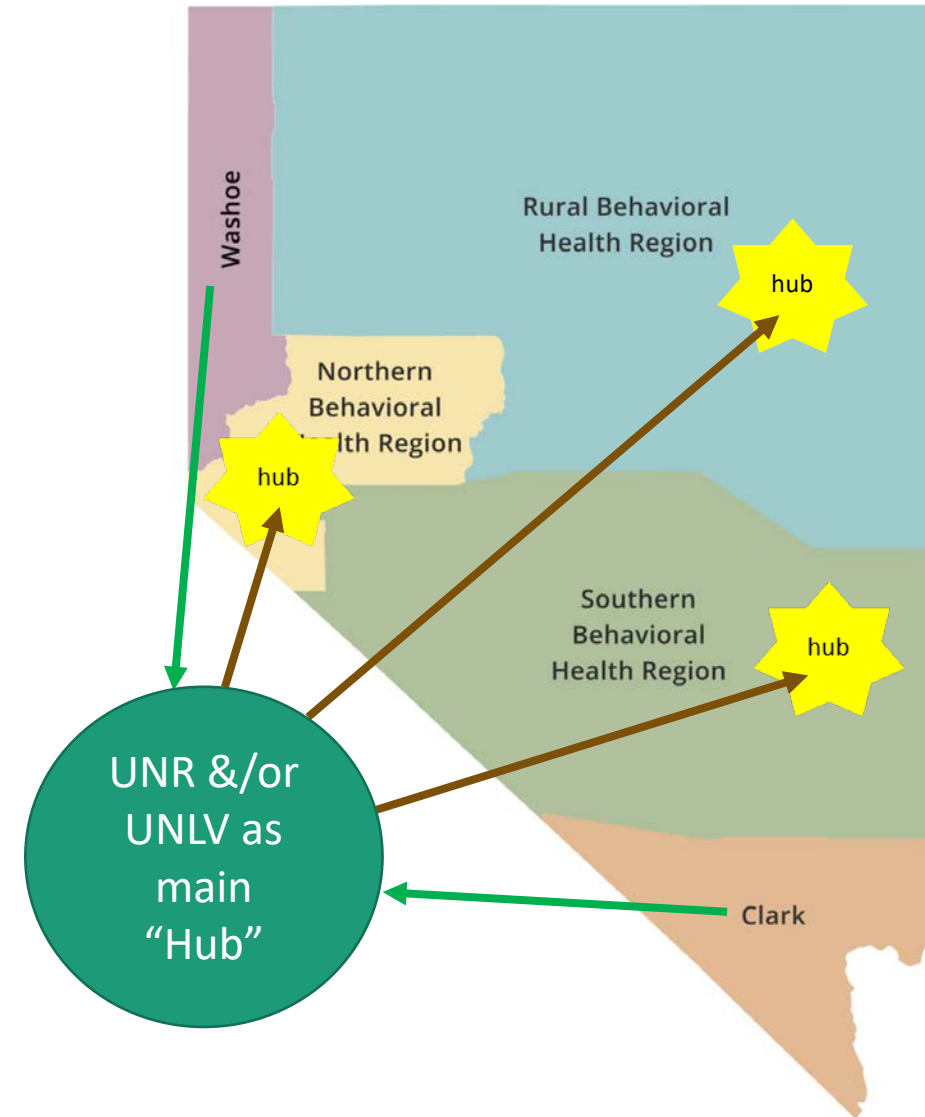
Intention for Infrastructure

- Not a brick-and-mortar “center”
- Fiscal note should be focused on programming and staffing, not on new buildings
- Remote work may promote collaboration across all NSHE institutions providing education for future behavioral health providers
- Allows for participation of staff representing multiple communities and may ease recruitment



“Hub-and-Spoke” Model for Infrastructure

- Main “Hub” within University of Nevada Institutions
- Spokes to regional “hubs” in each Behavioral Health Region where the Center is not otherwise represented
- Regional hubs will have specialty training or experiences to enrich both clinical training programs and to support local recruitment efforts



Advisory Consortium

- The work of the Center would be directed by an Advisory Consortium
- Make-up of the consortium would include:
 - (1) Institutions within the System;
 - (2) Providers of behavioral health care;
 - (3) The Department of Education and school districts;
 - (4) State and local law enforcement agencies;
 - (5) Consumers of behavioral health care;
 - (6) Family members of consumers of behavioral health care;
 - (7) Hospitals and other facilities that provide behavioral health care;
 - (8) The Department of Health and Human Services, the Department of Veterans Services, the Department of Employment, Training and Rehabilitation and other relevant agencies of this State selected by the Center;
 - (9) Sites that provide internships for providers of behavioral health care;
 - (10) Representatives of members of the Armed Forces of the United States and the National Guard who are on active duty, veterans and families of such members and veterans;
 - (11) Representatives of historically marginalized communities, including, without limitation:
 - (I) Lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and questioning persons; and
 - (II) Persons of color;
 - (12) Representatives of persons with disabilities; and
 - (13) Other relevant persons and entities, as selected by the Center.

Projected Fiscal Note

- ***Caution: final numbers have not yet been explored; will be working with NSHE to calculate actual fiscal note.***
- Initial estimates sit at approximately \$2.3M for the first biennium, and likely around \$2.7M/yr. thereafter.
- Nebraska model worked with \$1.3M - \$1.6M, but focused only on psychology and psychiatry
- Argument: we are at a point where bolstering the workforce and enabling the expansion of treatment options to support persons is at crisis levels. We must address staffing shortages before we can fill gaps in services and meet the growing needs of Nevadans.

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