

Joe Lombardo  
Governor

Richard Whitley, MS  
Director



# DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

DIVISION OF CHILD AND FAMILY SERVICES  
*Helping people. It's who we are and what we do.*



Marla McDade,  
Williams, MPA  
Administrator

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## RURAL NEVADA CHILDREN'S MENTAL HEALTH CONSORTIUM MAIN MEETING MINUTES 3/20/2025 **DRAFT**

### **VOTING MEMBERS' PRESENT:**

Melissa Washabaugh  
Jaymee Oxborrow  
Heather Plager  
Lana Robards  
Britt Young  
Abbey Bernhardt  
Rebecca Mc Gough  
Mala Wheatley  
Marcel Brown

### **STAFF AND GUESTS:**

775-745-3652  
Linda Anderson  
Brenna Hardtner  
Cherlyn Rahr Wood  
Fireflies notetaker Elyse  
AI Scribe read.ai meeting notes (unverified)  
Amna Khawaja  
Belz & Case Government Affairs Scribe by Rewatch  
Carissa Pearce  
Elyse Monroy-Marsala  
John Gracia  
Katie Metz  
Kelly McKiddie  
Kristen Rivas  
Lindsey Bondiek  
Linda Anderson  
Natalie Filipic  
Nicole Mara  
Olivia GrafMank  
Patience Ford  
Rose Staffen

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**1. Call to Order, Roll Call:**

**2. Introduction:**

Chair Melissa Washabaugh called the meeting to order at 3:02 pm. Kristen Rivas, from the Division of Child and Family Services (DCFS), conducted a roll call confirming that a quorum was established.

- 3. Initial public comment:** Brenna Hardtner, from Youth MOVE Nevada, shared information about their youth-inspired and youth-led podcast available on Spotify. The platform explores topics related to mental health and youth-serving systems. Noteworthy episodes include “Voices for Change” and “Vocational Rehabilitation and Pre- ETS.” Members are encouraged to listen and share. For more details, visit the podcast at [Youth MOVE Nevada | Podcast on Spotify](#)

Rebecca McGough, from Foster Care Provider, reported that she and Melissa Washabaugh set up a table at the Senate building, where they met several providers. Discussion included the new Wraparound program in Nevada and the Healthy Communities Coalition. The providers expressed interest in presenting their services to the consortium members.

- 4. For possible action:** Review and approval of outstanding meeting minutes for January 29, 2025, meeting.

**MOTION:** Lana Robards made a motion to approve January 29,2025, meeting minutes.

**SECOND:** Rebecca McGough

**VOTE:** Consortium members voted unanimously to approve the January 29,2025, meeting minutes. Britt Young abstained due to illness.

- 5. For possible Action:** Review, discussion, and possible approval of the Rural Nevada Children’s Mental Health Consortium’s (RNCMHC) participation in the Elko County School Education Conference. Melissa Washabaugh provided members with an update on the policy regarding public events that members may attend. She clarified that no formal vote is required for participation in public events and that there are no associated costs involved. Additionally, members are permitted to present information and distribute promotional items at such events.

- 6. For information only:** Update on the (RNCMHC) participation at the Nevada Legislative Children’s Mental Health Awareness Week. Melissa Washabaugh provided members with updates on the Children’s Mental Health Awareness Week. Various bills regarding children’s mental health were discussed. Senate Bill 257(SB257) focuses on revising provisions related to autism diagnosis and treatment.

- 7. For information only:** A legislative update on children’s behavioral health issues is currently being discussed at Nevada Legislature. Cherylyn Rahr Wood, from Regional Behavior Health Coordinator, presented an excel sheet outlining the Senate Bills being implemented for children’s mental health. She informed members of key dates including April 11<sup>th</sup> through April 22<sup>nd</sup> for sending letters to the Senate. The first house will pass the bills on April 27<sup>th</sup>, after which all bills will move to the next house. The presentation will be shared in the chat for consortium members to review.
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8. **For information only:** Update and clarification on the Mobile Crisis Response Team (MCRT) website, specifically regarding the services they provide, and the accuracy of the information related to youth and families in the state of Nevada. As Michelle Sandoval was not present, this item will be added to next meeting's agenda.
  9. **For information only:** Update to RNCMHC website. Melissa Washabaugh will meet with the web developer on March 24, 2025, to discuss updates to the webpage. These updates will be presented at next month's meeting.
  10. **For information only:** Update on the completion and submission of the 2025 Rural Nevada Children's Mental Health Consortium Annual Report and the status of the long-term strategic plan. Melissa Washabaugh reported that the annual report has been completed and is waiting to be approved by the collective board.
  11. **For possible action:** Review, discussion, and possible approval of recommendations for the Rural Nevada Children's Mental Health Consortium FY2025 budget. Melissa Washabaugh asked Kristen Rivas to display the FY 2025 budget spreadsheet for consortium members to view. Proposed allocation included \$2,000 for Youth MOVE booklets, \$1,000 for RCMHC Flyer and Printing, \$1,000 for NAMI Walk Carson City sponsorship, \$1,000 for Jordon for Jaden substance abuse treatment sponsorship for rural youth, \$1,000 for Nami Walk Team Elko sponsorship, \$750 for the Unmasked Gala hosted by NAMI Western Nevada. For Kids Foundation is to be confirmed.
  12. **For possible action:** Approval of the next meeting date and agenda items. The next scheduled meeting is on April 17, 2025, at 3:00 pm. Agenda items to be discussed include an update and clarification on the Mobile Crisis Response Team website. An update to the RNCMHC website. An update on Wraparound Services Program in Nevada. An update on the Healthy Communities Coalition. An update on Medicaid - funded Youth MOVE. An update on the Nevada System of Care. An update on legislative support letters.
  13. **Public comment and discussion:** Nicole Mara, representing NAMI Western Nevada, thanked the members for sponsoring NAMI Western Nevada Gala. She emphasized that the event aims to support mental health advocacy and services. Additionally, she provided information about the Nevada Teen Peer Support Text Line, a stigma-free, non-crisis peer support service for adolescents and young adults. More details can be found below. Britt Young, from Nevada PEP, announced that a live webinar on Behavior & Discipline in Schools will be offered for caregivers and professionals on April 1, 2025. More details can be found at [Nevada PEP | Strengthening Families with Education, Empowerment, and Encouragement](#).
  14. **Adjournment:** Chair Melissa Washabaugh adjourned the meeting at 4:56 pm.
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