

**COMMITTEE TO REVIEW SUICIDE FATALITIES**  
**MEETING MINUTES**  
**September 5, 2018**  
**3:00 p.m.**

Division of Public and Behavioral Health (DPBH)  
Bureau of Child, Family and Community Wellness  
(BCFCW)  
Office of Suicide Prevention (OSP)  
4150 Technology Way, Room 301  
Carson City, Nevada 89706

DPBH-BCFCW-OSP  
3811 West Charleston Boulevard, Suite 204  
Las Vegas, Nevada 89102

**Teleconference Options:**

Zoom.us  
1-669-900-6833 or 1-408-638-0968  
(West Coast)  
1-646-876-9923 (East Coast)  
Meeting ID: 190 348 826

**Videoconference:**

Join from PC, Mac, Linux, iOS or Android:  
<https://zoom.us/j/190348826>

**BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT BY PHONE**

Marlyn Scholl, LCSW, Veterans Health  
Administration, Sierra Nevada Health Care System,  
Reno, Co-Chair  
Sheila Leslie, MA, Behavioral Health Program  
Coordinator, Washoe County Social Services  
Jamie Elizabeth Ross, Executive Director, PACT  
Coalition for Safe and Drug-Free Communities  
Lesley Dickson, MD, Nevada Psychiatric Association  
Kathy Ingelse, DNP, APRN, PMHNP-BC,  
FNP-BC, representative of providers of health care  
Sergeant John Harney, Las Vegas Metropolitan  
Police Department

**BOARD MEMBER PRESENT BY VIDEOCONFERENCE**

Mike Bernstein, M. Ed., representative of  
injury prevention, Nevada Coalition for Suicide  
Prevention, Co-Chair  
Gregory Cowper, Director of Business  
Development, Montevista Hospital

**BOARD MEMBERS NOT PRESENT**

John Fudenberg, D-ABMDI, Clark County  
Coroner

**DIVISION OF PUBLIC AND BEHAVIORAL HEALTH (DPBH) STAFF PRESENT IN CARSON CITY**

Misty Vaughan Allen, Nevada State Suicide Prevention Coordinator, Division of Public and Behavioral  
Health (DPBH), Bureau of Child, Family and Community Wellness (BCFCW), Office of Suicide  
Prevention (OSP)  
Angela Friedman, Administrative Assistant IV, DPBH-BCFCW-OSP

**DIVISION OF PUBLIC AND BEHAVIORAL HEALTH (DPBH) STAFF PRESENT IN LAS VEGAS**

Florece Bolden, Administrative Assistant, DPBH-BCFCW-OSP-Project AWARE

**OTHERS PRESENT BY PHONE**

Beth Handler, Bureau Chief, DPBH-BCFCW  
Fran Maldonado, Tribal Liaison, Division of Child and Family Services  
Naomi Jones, Director of Business Development, Spring Mountain Treatment Center

Sara Hunt, Ph.D., Director of University of Nevada, Las Vegas Mental and Behavioral Health Coalition;  
Assistant Dean of Behavioral Health Sciences

Marlyn Scholl called the meeting of the Committee to Review Suicide Fatalities (CRSF) to order at 3:02 p.m. The meeting was properly posted at the locations listed on the agenda in accordance with the Nevada Open Meeting Law (OML).

**1. ROLL CALL AND INTRODUCTIONS**

Marlyn Scholl introduced herself. Angela Friedman called roll. A quorum was present. Misty Allen announced Fran Maldonado's appointment to the membership of the committee is pending.

**2. APPROVAL OF THE JULY 16, 2018 OPEN AND CLOSED MEETING MINUTES**

Marlyn Scholl asked for corrections or additions to the July 16, 2018 open and closed meeting minutes. No changes were suggested.

**MARLYN SCHOLL ENTERTAINED A MOTION TO APPROVE THE OPEN AND CLOSED MINUTES OF THE JULY 16, 2018 MEETING AS PRESENTED. A MOTION TO APPROVE WAS MADE BY LESLEY DICKSON. MIKE BERNSTEIN SECONDED THE MOTION. THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY WITHOUT PUBLIC COMMENT.**

Ms. Scholl asked for public comment. None was heard.

**3. UPDATE ON, DISCUSS AND MAKE RECOMMENDATIONS REGARDING THE SHORTAGE OF MEDICAID BEHAVIORAL HEALTH PROVIDERS**

Lesley Dickson discussed Medicaid fee for service overspending, behavioral skills training, and the difficulty of attracting providers to remain in Nevada due to Medicaid reimbursement issues. Sheila Leslie believes the new pre-authorization recommendation will go forward on October 2, 2018. Ms. Leslie discussed the six page pre-authorization form requirement, attempts to resolve overspending in Medicaid, and behavioral health spending increases. She commented more providers will refuse Medicaid clients. Dr. Dickson noted SilverSummit Healthplan, a subsidiary of Centene Corporation, is behind in paying providers and some providers are dropping Centene as a result. She noted problems with Managed Medicaid. Marlyn Scholl noted the barrier presented when clients are required to bill their own insurance. Dr. Dickson discussed the difficulty of pre-authorization for psychotherapy. Ms. Scholl said a new client would need a full assessment before a provider obtains the information needed to complete the pre-authorization form.

Sara Hunt presented on the University of Nevada, Las Vegas (UNLV), Mental Health and Behavioral Health Training Coalition, a UNLV faculty workgroup focusing on workforce development in Nevada. She discussed current incentives to encourage students to stay in Nevada, such as exposure to integrated care models through curriculum, guest lectures and practicum. Annual surveys, in the past few years, note 55 to 60 percent of masters and doctorate program students currently enrolled in behavioral health programs are inclined to stay in Nevada. The students note benefits of staying in Nevada are family, a reasonable financial quality of life, the understanding of the shortage of mental health professionals, and the connection to the National Health Service Corps Loan Repayment incentives. The coalition is also focused on making licensure and becoming paneled with insurance companies less difficult for graduates. Dr. Hunt is attempting to work with administrators within the Nevada System of Higher Education and the Southern Nevada Health Forum to develop a model to encourage the progression of middle and high school students from

considering careers in the mental health field to supporting them as post graduate students with employment placements.

Jamie Ross mentioned the Area Health Education Center (AHEC) helped promote careers in healthcare. Dr. Hunt discussed the shortage of mental health career clubs in high schools and noted reaching out to AHEC would be beneficial. Dr. Dickson said Touro University has been able to interest medical students in the psychiatry field. She reported 10 – 15 graduates are majoring into psychiatry. A psychiatry club exists at Touro University. Dr. Hunt said UNLV School of Medicine, second year students receive curriculum on psychiatry, the brain and behavior. She will help with the third medical student cohort interviews and will continue to encourage entry into the psychiatry field. Ms. Scholl thanked Dr. Hunt for her work.

Ms. Scholl asked for public comment. None was heard.

**4. UPDATE ON AND MAKE RECOMMENDATIONS FOR APPOINTMENTS TO FILL THE VACANT COMMITTEE POSITION: A PERSON WHO REPRESENTS NATIVE AMERICAN TRIBES**

Misty Allen noted Fran Maldonado's application for the position was submitted to the Director's Office for approval.

Marlyn Scholl asked for public comment. None was heard.

**5. DISCUSS AND MAKE RECOMMENDATIONS RELATED TO SUICIDE RATES AND PREVENTION OF DIFFERENT AGE GROUPS, GENDERS AND CULTURES**

Misty Allen had nothing to share other than the information written in the report to the Director which will be discussed in agenda item 8.

Marlyn Scholl asked for public comment. None was heard.

**6. UPDATE ON, DISCUSS AND MAKE RECOMMENDATIONS ON THE PROGRESS OF IMPLEMENTING THE AB366 REGIONAL MENTAL HEALTH BOARDS**

Dr. Dickson shared the boards' deadline to submit bill draft requests has passed. The Southern Regional Behavioral Health Policy Board suggested making changes to Assembly Bill 366 (AB366) as the requirements limit the ability to fill the board positions, and to request to hire a full time staff person to implement the board's suggestions. Another bill suggestion required tracking of Legal 2000 filings. The Northern Regional Behavioral Health Policy Board formed a committee to discuss possible changes in the Legal 2000 law and its process. Sheila Leslie reported the Rural Regional Behavioral Health Policy Board is looking for funds for crisis intervention training with law enforcement. The Washoe Regional Behavioral Health Policy Board wants the state to consider ways to establish crisis stabilization units (CSU), modeled after other states, which will triage patients and allow for short term beds while patients wait for long term solutions. Ms. Leslie and Dr. Dickson discussed candidates running for office who are looking to support mental health improvements in the state. Mike Bernstein noted mental health is in the forefront nationally. Marlyn Scholl noted the recent critical incidents has influenced the discussions.

Ms. Scholl asked for public comment. None was heard.

**7. DISCUSS AND MAKE RECOMMENDATIONS FOR POSSIBLE PROMOTION OF LEGISLATION TO MANDATE THE SUICIDE PREVENTION HOTLINE NUMBER IS LISTED ON PRESCRIPTION DRUG CONTAINERS**

Misty Allen questioned how the report to the Director should include the recommendation to use pre-printed prescription drug lids. Mike Bernstein suggested partnering with the Pharmacy Board as cost could be a deterrent if the use was mandated. Marlyn Scholl discussed how printing of the hotline on the veterans' prescriptions was established nationally. She said the local Veterans Administration (VA) resisted the change and requiring the change nationally helped establish the practice. She noted all prescriptions have these lids so not to denote medications with the highest risk of lethality. Ms. Scholl discussed the 14 day limit for all medications to discourage overdose. Ms. Scholl questioned the ability to promote the use of the lids while pursuing the mandated use of the lids. Dr. Dickson noted the legislators may still have time to submit a bill and suggested reaching out to Assemblyman Tyrone Thompson. Ms. Scholl will ask about the VA's cost to print the lids. Jamie Ross has some contacts of companies who provide pre-printed lids. Misty is concerned the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline will be changed to three digits and effect cost. Mr. Cowper and Ms. Scholl both noted the loss of lives if the use was delayed. Mr. Cowper suggested for-profit businesses have budgets and could provide funds for pre-printing as long as the company's logo was included on the lid. Ms. Allen suggested a pilot study in Southern Nevada. Ms. Scholl noted both lifeline numbers would most likely be in operation during the transition. She said the set-up is most of the cost. Mr. Cowper said cost is based on quantity and will look into the costs. Ms. Allen asked Mr. Cowper and Ms. Ross to forward the contacts to her. She also asked the committee members to look at the wording in the report to convey the committee's intent regarding the lids.

Ms. Scholl asked for public comment. None was heard.

**8. DISCUSS AND MAKE RECOMMENDATIONS REGARDING THE COMMITTEE'S ANNUAL REPORT TO THE DIRECTOR OF THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES**

Misty Allen questioned with the report substantially focused on Washoe County data if it should be submitted as such, or if the report should be more general to reflect the state as a whole. Members expressed it should be submitted as such. Ms. Allen requested suggestions on the format of the report. She noted graphics and charts were created by the state biostatisticians and the public health interns. She felt the report was process oriented. She wasn't expecting feedback at the moment, but she would like to call a meeting to discuss the report. Ms. Scholl thought past reports were well done.

Ms. Allen discussed the draft report and requested the committee submit comments, suggestions and additional recommendations to her. Ms. Scholl commented on the Zero Suicide presentations hosted by the Office of Suicide Prevention.

Ms. Allen asked if the section on the future work of the committee should still be included. Sheila Leslie said a visionary ending needs to be included in the report. Ms. Allen noted the report should represent more of the committee's thoughts. She would like input on what the committee would like from the state, the Office of Suicide Prevention, or what the committee could like to grow toward. She anticipates a final vote on the draft report can occur at a meeting within the next two to three weeks.

Dr. Dickson questioned what happens in the five to fifteen minutes prior to death which moves a person to act on suicide. Misty Allen suggested inviting a focus group of people with lived

experience to the next in person meeting. Mike Bernstein said valuable information could be collected if attempt survivors were willing to discuss this topic. Ms. Allen expressed how crucial it is to have the voice of suicide attempt survivors with lived experience guide the Zero Suicide implementation. Ms. Allen will add in the report to the Director the plan to invite attempt survivors to the meeting.

Ms. Scholl for public comment. None was heard.

#### **9. DISCUSS ARTICLE 3.3 OF THE COMMITTEE BYLAWS, MAKE RECOMMENDATIONS, AND REAPPOINTMENT CO-CHAIR OR ELECT NEW CO-CHAIR**

Misty Allen asked for nominations of a new co-chair who is located in Northern Nevada. Mike Bernstein suggested re-appointment of Marlyn Scholl. Ms. Scholl accepted the re-appointment.

**MISTY ALLEN ENTERTAINED A MOTION TO REAPPOINT MARLYN SCHOLL AS CO-CHAIR. A MOTION TO APPOINT WAS MADE BY MIKE BERNSTEIN. LESLIE DICKSON SECONDED THE MOTION. THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY WITHOUT PUBLIC COMMENT.**

Ms. Scholl asked for public comment. None was heard.

#### **10. PUBLIC COMMENT**

Marlyn Scholl asked for public comment.

Lesley Dickson announced an upcoming February 2019 Suicide Prevention training will occur in Las Vegas presented by the Nevada Psychiatric Association. She will forward a flyer to the group. She is hoping the training will be available as a video presentation for continuing education units.

Misty Allen announced she will give a one hour presentation at a conference on September 15, 2018 hosted by the Nevada Chapter of the American Pediatric Association, and will be presenting safeTALK training at the Western Regional Advanced Practice Nurses Network (WRAPNN). On September 15, 2018 Walk in Memory, Walk for Hope events will occur in 12 communities in Nevada. She announced which locations across the state will be lit in purple and teal for World Suicide Prevention Day. She noted the Project AWARE grant along with the Nevada Coalition for Suicide Prevention will work to create and support a web portal with training opportunities for recertification for Youth Mental Health First Aid trainers, CMEs and CEUs.

The next meeting is scheduled for November 6, 2018 at 1 PM. A meeting to discuss the report will need to occur before the November meeting. The next Face to Face meeting will be January 17, 2019 in Las Vegas.

Marlyn Scholl asked for additional public comment. None was heard.

#### **11. ADJOURNMENT**

**MARLYN SCHOLL ENTERTAINED A MOTION TO ADJOURN. A MOTION WAS MADE BY MIKE BERNSTEIN. JAMIE ROSS SECONDED THE MOTION. THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY WITHOUT PUBLIC COMMENT.**

The meeting was adjourned at 4:23 PM.