MINUTES

of the

Mental Health Planning Advisory Council Quarterly Meeting

meeting on

Wednesday, August 12, 2009

held at
Division of Child and Family Services (DCFS)
6171 West Charleston Blvd

6171 West Charleston Blvd. Las Vegas, Nevada 89146

1. CALL TO ORDER, ROLL CALL, INTRODUCTIONS –, CHAIR

Roger went over the bylaws for a special meeting due to the Chair not being able to attend, and the Vice Chair not being in attendance at this time. Constance motioned to hold a special meeting. Lydia seconded the motion.

UNANIMOUS VOICE VOTE: MOTION CARRIED

Rene called the meeting to order at 8:46 am. Roll call was done for both Las Vegas and Sparks by Roger Mowbray. Rene went over the Council's purpose.

Members present:

- Bousquet, Judy Consumer (proxy for Bryce Willingham)
- Cooley, Judge Consumer, Vice Chair
- Daniels, Steve DOC
- Jackson, Barbara Consumer
- Kosuda, Constance Family Member
- Lawrence, Coleen Medicaid
- Norris, Rene Family Member, Acting Past Vice Chair
 - Members absent:
- Castle, Howard DETR
- Hughes, Kathy Family Member

- Parra, Debra Housing (via video conference in Sparks, NV)
- Peterman, Patricia Family Member
- Phinney, Cody MHDS
- Roden, Christine Health
- Snead, Lydia Nevada PEP, Family Member
- Wilhelm, Layne SAPTA

- Thomas, Alyce Consumer, Chair
- Willingham, Bryce Consumer

Staff and guests:

- Benitez, Tanya MHPAC Administrative Assistant
- Blake, Mary public
- Brown, Tonya public (via video conference in Sparks, NV)
- Crowe, Kevin Dr. NCMHDS
- Goetz, Wesley public (via video conference in Sparks, NV)
- Goldstein, Delores public
- Goldstein, Elisa public
- Hefner, Marty MHDS
- Hinton, Donald public
- Huff, Mary public
- Jones, Flo public
- Maharis, Mercedes public, via phone

- Mears, Susan Dr. DCFS (proxy for Ann Polakowski – via video conference in Sparks, NV)
- Merrifield, Patricia DCFS
- Michael public
- Mowbray, Roger Grant Consultant
- Quint, Kevin Nevada
 Commission on Mental Health
 and Developmental Services
 (NCMHDS) Chair
- Rabell, Michelle public
- Sanchez-Ragen, Caroline public
- Steven public
- West, Phillip public

2. REVIEW AND APPROVE MINUTES FROM PRIOR MHPAC OUARTERLY MEETING ON 4/2/2009

Rene asked for comment on the minutes. Coleen said there were a couple of items on page five that needed to be rearranged. The last sentence needs to be moved to the top, and rewording a sentence. She handed the information to Tanya to make the changes. Rene asked if there were any other comments or changes.

Constance motioned to approve with changes. Coleen seconded the motion.

UNANIMOUS VOICE VOTE: MOTION CARRIED

3. ROSETTA JOHNSON

Rene asked Roger to speak. Roger said Rosetta was a long time member of the Council. Roger said the article in the NV PEP newsletter was very nice. Lydia said she would send the newsletter to all of the members of the Council. Roger read "On May 12, 2009, Nevada lost a passionate advocate for mental health and co-occurring disorder, Rosetta Johnson, a long standing advocate for the mentally ill, was appointed as Chair to the Governor's Committee on Co-Occurring Disorders in 2007. During her tenure on that committee, she wrote: "It is time to give our own seriously mentally ill citizens the same aid that is needed for their

restoration to an honorable place in a society which has the means and moral responsibility to make this happen". Mrs. Johnson was also a long standing member of the Mental Health Planning and Advisory Council. She will be missed by all." Roger thanked NV PEP for putting the information together. Lydia said NV PEP wanted to make sure that she was recognized. Rene said a couple of years ago when Rosetta was at Legislation for the bill on Co-Occurring Disorders, she reported to the Council that she wanted to get this up and running. Rene said she did it while going through treatment, she fought it, and she was able for a year to Chair the committee and get it started. Constance said in remembrance of Rosetta, who will be sorely missed. She said it falls to her to point out for the record that she had expressed fear and concern about asking questions at the Council meetings. At prior Council meetings she had expressed the outrage at having some of her requests for information blocked by the Administration. Out of honor for her memory and for her work, and out of respect for her, Constance asked that the Council no longer tolerate a climate of fear or intimidation in this meeting or any other that the Council is a part of. Judy said she hopes to be on the committee for Co-Occurring Disorders. Judy said that Rosetta was a valiant warrior. Patricia thanked Constance for her comments. Rene asked if there were any other comments.

4. SUMMARY OF LEGISLATIVE SESSION

MHDS

Rene gave the floor to Marty. Marty said the Legislature adjourned on time. There were over 1300 Bill Draft Requests (BDR) put in. There were over 1100 bills and resolutions that introduced among all of the bills. The Division actively tracked and monitored about 169 different bills of interest. Overall the session was not quite as bad as was initially imagined. Marty went over the appropriations. The total funding was approximately 704 million for the biennium, which is approximately 16 million less than what was approved in the previous Legislative session. MHDS avoided closing most of the Rural Clinics field offices, which had previously been anticipated to close. The funding for Substance Abuse and Preventative Treatment (SAPTA) remained relatively level. They were able to keep the reduction of staff to a minimum. Over the biennium approximately 199 positions may be reduced. A question was asked in regard to the number of staff. Cody said the original number before the cuts was approximately 1900 and now it is approximately 1700. Patricia asked if any of them were through attrition. Cody said everyone worked very hard so that the actual number of layoffs was minimal. It was mostly done through attrition, retirements, moving people into positions that were not slated for layoff. The number of actual layoffs was extremely low. Constance asked if this included people in the facilities like Southern Nevada Adult Mental Health Services (SNAMHS). Cody responded yes. Marty went over the key Legislative measures that were approved. Marty said if there are any questions on the bills or what kind of impact they will have, give him a call and he will get the information to

them. Constance asked for his number. Marty said he can be reached at the MHDS 775-684-5943. Marty went over the interim monitoring. Marty said 2011 will have a greater impact than this last session. One of the items that will affect this next session is the term limits. There are a number of Legislators both on the Senate and Assembly side were term limited out; they are no longer eligible to run for office. There will be a lot of new members and also new Legislative leadership. A number of committees lost their chairmen. With the turn over in the Legislature, there will be a greater potential for interest groups to their issues heard and communicated because these people are new, they are not as acquainted with the legislative process or all of the different type of things going on. Now is a good opportunity to get your voice out there and be heard if there are particular issues that need to be brought to the Legislatures attention. Roger asked when the reapportionment after the 2010 census will take place. Marty said the Legislature has to appoint a special committee to oversee the reapportionment. That should be happening during this interim. As soon as that takes place Marty can update the Council. Rene asked Roger to explain the reapportionment. Roger said after the census in 2010, changes in the population will be taken into consideration both nationally and statewide. They will look at the distribution of the 435 Congressional seats and then in Nevada they will look at the apportionment of the Senate and Assembly seats as far as what areas they serve to make sure that the Districts for both the Senate and Assembly are portioned according to population. That has not occurred since 1990. Patricia said with Congress that would only affect the House of Representative because the Senate is set. Is it the same with Nevada? Roger said it is both. Marty said they will take into account population increases that have occurred over the last ten years. They will be redrawing voting Districts for serving members of the Senate and Assembly, so if a person lives in one particular area and are used to voting to a particular Senate or Assemblyman, the person may be put into another District. Rene made comment that the funds may be affected. Roger said the calculations for the CMHS Block Grant are very complicated as was mentioned in the training the previous day, but population was a factor in the formula. Marty said additional factors that will play in the 2011 Legislative session are revenue related. There is the probability that they will be more extensive than this last session, mainly because a lot of the funding that was used in this session to bolster the Divisions funding will not be available in the next session. This is due mainly to Federal funds, the stimulus that will not be coming around the next biennium. A lot of the taxes that the Legislature passed this session are expiring in 2011, so those funding mechanisms will not be available. Marty said if the Council has feedback on things they are interested in, please let Marty know. Marty asked for questions. Constance asked if there is a way to get more notice to attend, so they know what is coming up and can participate more actively. Can the agenda for the entire session be sent to Roger or Tanya, so the members of the Council know when the hearings are, so they can attend? Roger said the notices were sent out as soon as they were posted. Constance asked if MHDS has anyone who actively lobbies. Marty responded the Administrator speaks for the Division. The liaisons track and monitor what is going on. Constance requested that they consider a professional

lobbyist. Cody said as State employees at the Executive Branch, they are by law prohibited from lobbying. They are also prohibited from providing any funds for professional lobbying. Constance asked how to get around that because every bill that comes through has people who are professional lobbyist in the Legislature every day. Cody said they are not hired by the Executive Branch. Constance asked how the Council can get a lobbyist hired. Patricia said that the Council is a public entity and as a public entity the Council is prohibited from hiring a lobbyist. Only private entities may hire a professional lobbyist. Constance wanted to know how can the Department of Corrections lobby if the Council can not. Patricia Merrifield said it is the Union that lobbies. Any state employee union member that is going must be on annual leave. They can not be on state time; they must identify themselves as a member of the union not a state employee. Rene said in the past, they have always had to identify themselves as parents (in her particular case). Coleen said state employees can not do any type of lobbying. The union can come in as an organization. Coleen said they always tell their providers the best way for them to lobby is to go is to go as a private citizen and testify. Constance said the Legislatures listen differently if the person testifying is a private citizen or an organization. Lydia said the Governor had her testify on behalf of families for children with disabilities. She had never testified before. She said it was very interesting because they gave her two minutes. Rene said anyone on the Council can testify as a private citizen, but none of the members can testify as a member of the Council unless they have been requested to represent the Council. Constance said it is ok to let them know that you are affiliated with the Council, but it needs to be made known that they are there as a private citizen. Marty asked if there were any additional questions. If there are any items that the Council would like information on, please let Roger know and he will forward the information to Marty who will get the information back to him. Also let Roger know if anyone needs assistance with testimony as far as when and where. Rene thanked Marty and turned the floor to Patricia Merrifield.

DCFS

Patricia went over three handouts. The first one is a short summary of DCFS's legislatively approved budget. For those who do not know DCFS covers three areas of children's services, Juvenile Justice, Child Welfare, and Children's Mental Health. The first one is Wraparound in Nevada. This provides intensive clinical case management in a wraparound model for children with severe emotional disturbances in the foster care system. She said all state agencies have no merit increases, no longevity pay, etc. There is a 4.6% reduction in the budget that was achieved by the one day a month mandatory furlough. Rene asked if the mandatory one day a month will lower the productivity hours. Patricia said they are looking at reducing the productivity hours by five hours per month.

In Northern Nevada Child and Family Services Washoe County, there were some cuts. In the 2007 session, they received the early childhood day treatment program. Unfortunately, at the start of the last biennium the revenues were falling

and so they were not able to institute the program, so the program was cut during the session.

In Southern Nevada, in the 2007 session they received the mobile crisis program. It was to be a pilot program and would have had very positive outcomes. Due to the reduced revenues, this was never started, so it was cut during this session.

They did receive a capital improvement project. This is to build a new 36 bed hospital. The Center for Medicaid Services (CMS) did a site review and said that acute units and RTC units may not be housed together in compliance with federal regulations. It should take approximately two and a half years to complete. Rene asked if Medicaid is ok with it taking this much time. Coleen said they are moving forward and at this time they have not received any other feedback. Rene asked if there is a back up plan in place just in case. Coleen said they have had discussions with the Federal Government and what DCFS has with acute care and RTC under one roof is very common practice across the nation. It is affecting everyone. Rene said she just doesn't want those in acute care to be put out. Patricia Peterman asked if the children have to be on Medicaid. Patricia Merrifield said the majority of children that they are serving at Desert Willow Treatment Center are under insured or uninsured. Patricia verified that if they have insurance they can go to a private hospital. Coleen said the private sector is a lot different. They can shift and move beds a lot easier than the public sector entities because the public sector entities are reporting on those beds. The private sector can move beds without being scrutinized by the Legislature. Rene made comment that the private sector can state that they will no longer accept Medicaid patients anymore. Coleen said they don't usually have that issue when it comes to children in the psychiatric institutions.

Patricia Merrifield said they are very worried about the next session. There will be millions less that was replaced by federal stimulus funds, which is why they were able to preserve as much as they did. There are grants that are ending, so the next session is going to be rough.

She went over the one page handout "DCFS Legislative Issues of Interest 2009." The first one is called the LCB Child Welfare Auditor. During the last session a temporary position was created for auditing all residential facilities that correctional, child welfare, and mental health. All DCFS residential facilities have been inspected. SB131: Revises provisions governing mental health consortiums that provide mental health services to children with emotional disturbance. This is a 10 year strategic plan. She encouraged anyone who would like to participate in the process. There will be 22 meetings between now and December. Coleen said these are the consortiums they were discussing yesterday to build collaboration with because those are three meetings formed statewide plus all of their sub groups. Rene said it is important to know what others are doing so that the Council is not duplicating. She mentioned the Child Transition Committee that had discussed the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) as an

example. Lydia said if anyone is interested on attending via phone for the MOU contact Lydia and she will get the number to the person.

Rene asked if there were any questions for Patricia. Roger asked Patricia and Marty to remain for the next section for their input on the Legislative update section of the Block Grant.

5. REVIEW AND COMMENT ON BLOCK GRANT APPLICATION

Rene introduced Roger. Roger went through the Block Grant. The forty page document covers two sections. This covers the adult services and then there is a discussion of new developments and issues, the transformation plan that MHDS is working on, comments about behavioral health programs, managed care, and the reorganization of rural clinics. Page 14-17 is the legislative initiatives and changes. Pg 18 is the description of the state agency's leadership. This discusses the work on the student plan that has been in the works since December. Then it goes on to the Integration of Substance Abuse and Treatment and the continuation of this. There is a continuation on consumer involvement. These five portions make up the section one, description of the state service system for adult services.

Next is the Identification of strengths, needs, and priorities for adult services. It starts with the systems strengths, weaknesses, and unmet needs. The unmet needs were based on the needs assessment that the division created in 2008. It includes some of the items that were identified through the strategic planning. Page 28 – 31 are plans to address the unmet needs. The next section is on recent significant achievements, which is a consolation of things that the agencies have done to improve the community based system of care, and then the state agency's vision for the future. A lot of this was taken out of the work that has been done with the MHDS strategic planning efforts and what they are trying to work toward. Section three: performance goals and action plans. There are five criterions that the state is required to report on. One through four is statistical based components that Roger is still waiting to receive the data. Criterion five – management system a grant expenditure manner was presented to the Council at the April meeting and is in summary here.

Roger went over the DCFS section of the plan. This was prepared by Dr. Susan Mears in Reno and Patty has had input on this also. It follows the same general format. There is an overview of the children's system that goes through five goals. Next is regional programs and resources, then new developments and issues, and then legislative initiatives and changes. Roger said he did the same format as he did for MHDS for DCFS. He said if there is something he added or did not include, please let him know. Following that is a description of the state agency's leadership. Then the children's plan, strengths, weaknesses, unmet service needs. Four pages from the back are the plans to address unmet needs. The federal government always likes to hear the strengths and weaknesses but

they are very interested in what the state intends to do about meeting these unmet needs. Then there is the recent significant achievements and finally Nevada's vision for the future.

Roger asked the Council for any comments on the State's plan. Rene said she would like to give everyone a few minutes to refresh their memory and get their thoughts together.

Meeting adjourned for 15 minute break to read the block grant. Meeting reconvened at 10:15 am.

Rene asked for the comments on the block grant to be written on the board. Cody pointed out this is not the only opportunity for comment. There is a public comment opportunity for this as well. She asked Roger to describe exactly what the mechanism for that is. Roger said the Council has a page on the MHDS website. Both documents will be posted on the website. The Division is obligated to provide all comments on the plan received from the Council as a whole or from individuals. Roger said his email will be there for people to respond to. Constance said she has attempted to use the system several times and it doesn't work. She keeps getting messages back that the comments have not been submitted. Roger said that they will check into it and get it fixed. Rene said Rogers email address will be provided too. Constance said she will send it to Roger from now on. Roger said the directions state to email any directive to his email address. Constance said there is a link on the MHDS page for comments and contact us and that link has not worked. Roger said the comments for the Block Grant will not be a fill in the blank page, all it will say is comments can be directed to Roger Mowbray, Grant Writer at mowbray@charter.net . If you click on Roger's email address, it should open the persons email editor and then the person can send all their comments regarding the Block Grant to Roger. Roger said Cody will look at the overall MHDS functionality.

Roger said the system for submitting the Block Grant application is called web b gas "web based grant application system"; it is the federal system for submitting the components of the Block Grant application. There are over sixty sections, one of which is a list of MHPAC members. That list is populated based on previous years' application. Roger was made aware that at one point in time there was an address that the member did not want to have publicly posted. This will appear in the State's Block Grant application and will show up on Google if someone were to Google your name. Roger has a print out of the addresses that were used in the past, plus they have been updated to the best of his knowledge. He requested that all members provide Roger with their preferred mailing address, phone number, fax number, and preferred email address, so that Roger can add it to the Block Grant application.

Rene opened the children's section for comment. Judy said there are so many unmet needs for the children which are becoming more active in mental health

and co-occurring diagnosis. Rene asked if the block grant covers how the unmet needs will be met. Constance commented one of the reasons that she wants to form the committee intervention/prevention, the prevention part dealing with children. Making sure that they get what they need, so that one possible alternative is so that they do not grow up and go to prison. The schools have a major role to play. In Clark County almost week after week for several years, parents were pleading for help from the school. They were asking that their child not be suspended for 30 days and literally ruin the child's chances of graduating on time. That the child be given the services that the child needed including children with special needs, ADHD, Asperger's, Autism, and other conditions, which can have behavioral components. Children and their families are sometimes targeted for hostile treatment when they make these requests. That is a big problem. A child's life can be destroyed by preventing that child from graduating high school. There is a very high percentage in Clark County of children who do not graduate from high school. She said the statistics are manipulated so that it looks not as bad as it actually is. There is constant litigation. There are a lot of community based organizations complaining about this and asking for changes. Less than 46% of black male youths graduate. That is dooming that child to a life of poverty a life of despair, a life of no opportunity and frequently added self medication, which can cause drug abuse, and then incarceration for self medicating when no other treatments were offered to that child or that child's family. There has been no opportunity for civil discourse to discuss and deal with the situation at the Clark County School Board meetings. Parents sometimes have to sit for four to six hours waiting for their public comment. They get three minutes and then a buzzer goes off. There is no resolution. Constance said that Assemblyman Mumford is one of the people who is very well aware of this problem and he has been arguing for change for a long time. She does not see that this is being dealt with in a rational fashion. Steve commented that they identify depression in children. At times it's not depression but clinical depression. It is more that these children are too young to be in the work force, they don't have anything to do, and with no services for children in school, so they turn to drugs which lead to a criminal lifestyle. They end up in prison. Then prison becomes their lifestyle, because there are a lot of people in prison that they can relate to. The prisoners are going through the same thing. Steve said one of his interests is to strengthen the family. He believes that efforts need to be focused on strengthening the family so that children don't get cast aside. In today's society, the best people are promoted; if you're not one of the best then you're on your own. He said there needs to be a societal shift to focus more on children who are having difficulties. Patricia said she has a child in the school system. She said one of the struggles that she came up against was having the teachers recognize that her child had a severe emotional disturbance. She said some children slip through the cracks because they think the child is acting out. Sometimes that is true, the child is angry and acting out because of things going on at home. She would like to see the families be empowered to go to the school district and advocate for the children. The Individual Disability Education Act (IDEA) just had an amendment passed. There is a lot of strengthening in there for

children with mental health issues that has really helped make people more responsible who are in a place to actually help the children. Rene said with the authorization of IDEA the schools are saying they have to go through teams or RPI, etc to get the child on this. In the unmet needs they should add more about the elementary schools children with behavioral health problems or low proficiency and getting children services and the protection through IDEA so they are not being suspended for thirty days. In addressing this make sure that the families get the information to access these organizations and help them get an Individual Education Program (IEP) for their child. Comment was made by a retired educator. She taught special education in this district for 14 years. She proposed to the Council that they consider having an advocate available for the IEP's for the children because if a person goes to an IEP, the teacher who is writing the plan is supposed to be the teacher who is working with the child and they are advised that they are not to put anything on the IEP that does not already exist in the school district umbrella of services. If the teacher does, then the school district would be liable. So they are told by supervisors not to do it. If there is a dispute, there should be an advocate that is available through some agency that can get a hold of a live person who is knowledgeable who can go in with the parents and look at the documentation and make real recommendations that would have to be followed. Rene said Lydia works for Nevada PEP, which is an advocacy organization for children. Lydia said she does not represent that here in this meeting because she represents a parent of two children with special needs. She works very closely along with the main office in Las Vegas who works with parents for IEP's. She said all they have to do is call and let them know that they need an advocate to accompany them. The retired teacher asked if all of the parents were notified of this. Lydia said in Washoe County, now that they have a new director; it has become well known to the parents in Washoe County. The retired teacher asked about Clark County. Lydia said she could not speak for the office in Clark County. They have a lot more staff than what they do in Washoe County. Lydia said she covers Washoe County, a coworker covers the rural areas, and then the office in Las Vegas covers all of Clark County. They do have advocates for the parents; they just need to know which direction to appoint them. The retired teacher said if every parent that is going through an IEP process does not know this service is available and they can call on it, then someone is dropping the ball. Lydia said when she gets assigned to someone, she goes through everything with them and teaches the parent about education and helps the parent take their child through social services. The retired teacher said she has been working with two families in West Las Vegas and she is not aware of any services that have been made available to them. They have children who are out of school. She asked where the Las Vegas office was. The response was 388-8899. Constance said there is another office Assistance of Nevada that also assists. There will be a lady here today from there. Constance said she also offers the same assistance. Coleen said there is time for public comment, there is time for action items, however at this time; they are to be discussing where the Council is in the plan. She said there is a lot of information to cover and she wants to help make sure that everything is covered. She asked that the Council stay on topic.

She asked Constance to clarify her recommendation. Constance said there is something else involving the Clark County School District. Parents have been approaching her and others, looking for clear statement of policy and procedures from the Clark County School District. The school district has refused in every case. Coleen said what she is hearing is that they need better collaboration with the school district for children with mental illness. Constance said they need the school district to respond appropriately and respectfully to the questions that are asked by parents. Coleen said in collaboration, they would want a professional response, teamwork, values... overall collaboration with the school district. Constance said her point is right now parents are treated very differently, there needs to be clear response to all parents so that the needs of the children are met. Judge Cooley said she would like to go back to the last topic. One of the things they might consider is that parents that are going through the process for the IEP, that there is something on the application in bold letters that states if you need help call this number, and also on the Council's website. List some organizations and phone numbers on the application so that they can the information immediately and not after they have the appointment. Rene said some schools are very good about handing out the Nevada PEP brochure or a list of advocates that will assist parents. Lydia said Washoe County has partnered with the school district, so they are on the school districts web page and newsletter as parent advocates that they can call. Judge Cooley said she is advocating to put the information on the application, so that it is well known to the parents. Lydia said she would take the recommendation to her office and on Thursday morning, her Director meets with the Director of Special Ed. That is something she can recommend for parents. She said she is not able to speak for Clark County, but she is aware that they are attempting to do the same as Washoe County. Barbara asked who puts out the application. Rene said it is not an application; it is a school district form. Barbara said the reason she is asking is if it is a form, they need to start with whoever produces the form. Patricia said instead of putting it on the application because the parents will not be going into the offices of each school. Something should be posted for all of the organizations that are parent advocate organizations for children, have them posted right in the lobby of each school. The problem the will arise by recommending someone is there will be another parent organization that was left out by accident. Rene said parents do not know what the form is until someone actually tells them. The Council at the time of developing the yearly plan needs to state what the unmet need is, how the Council will address it, put it in a report, and do the actions. Comment was made that maybe taking a positive in order to facilitate communication between parents and their school district for children who are having any discord in their school activities, that a notice of all the applicable agencies be made up and handed at to them at possibly their first meeting at the school. Children are falling through the cracks and by the time they get to special ed, two years have gone by. Rene said possibly hand out with each registration packet. Coleen said there is definitely a need for better cooperation with the school district for children with mental health issues. From this, the Council will work on their action plan in the future over this next year, to discuss how the Council can improve with the school district.

Children with mental health falling through educational crack – unmet needs, and the way the Council will address it is establishing collaboration with the school district

Caroline Sanchez said regular ed teachers need to be aware of what the signs are for those who have mental illnesses. They need back up and extra training on this. Rene asked for other unmet needs. Coleen said the Council should have the information for the possibility of the health care reform as a general item. It does not require an action item. Rene said access to insurance for children and adults with mental illness. She said people have to keep themselves poor in order to get Medicaid or Nevada Check Up, so that the children can have their medications. Constance said she believes 37 states have passed legislation to provide provisions for involuntary commitment to community based treatment and that is what the State of Nevada needs also. Rene asked if this is the legal 2000. Constance said no. Rene asked Coleen if she new what happened at legislation. Coleen asked Dr. Cook if the legislation for the involuntary outpatient passed. Dr. Cook responded that it died in legislation. Constance said it is an unmet need. Comment was made that this is already in the plan.

An unidentified person asked if there is a committee to take care of the first plan with the relationship with the school or is that the intervention/prevention? Rene said this is a statewide item. Cody said she represents the adult mental health services so she can not speak to the children's mental health. She asked for clarification – she is concerned that they are identifying these items to be added; perhaps Roger can specify what the mechanism is for these being added. Is there going to be a list created and then will the Council vote to approve the list of comments? Roger responded there are some options. The first option is for the Council to identify items that were not in the plan that need to be and for MHDS or DCFS to agree or disagree, and then to incorporate it into the plan, because in essence it is the agencies plan. The role of the Council is to comment on the plan. The second option is for the Council as a whole to submit their comments on the plan. The third option is if the Council does not agree that the item is important enough to include that in their comments, then an individual can submit a comment as an individual. The Division is obligated to provide all comments received by the public and the Council in its submittal of the plan. Cody verified that the Council comments means the Council needs to approve as a whole. Roger said the Council needs to decide as a whole what comments need to be incorporated into the plan. Separate from that, the agencies will consider changes to what gets submitted in the documents that were provided earlier.

Barbara said she is concerned that quite a bit of time has been spent on this item and the Council is behind on the agenda. The bylaws are going to take 30 minutes and the Council should be on the NAMI conference. There is a website, and all of the comments can be submitted. Barbara asked that the Council continue with the agenda that has been set.

Caroline said she has Mercedes on the line and she wanted to read into the minutes some information. She was informed she would need to make the public comment at the end of the meeting when public comment is scheduled. Lydia said she was offended because the Council is not being allowed to move on with the schedule. Many members have to catch a plane, and she is offended as a parent that Ms. Kosuda continues on without allowing the Council to move forward. Constance disagreed and said it was a preposterous statement. She said the meeting is scheduled to go until at least 4:30 and will probably go until 5. She said she has one final statement in respect to the budget. She said she opposes any further money going to a mental health commission. She said the Council has no working relationship with them. That became very clear at the Mental Health Commission meeting she attended. She pointed out that on the website they have three meetings scheduled in September and all of them are taking place in Reno.

Unintelligible comment ensued due to people in the meeting talking over one another. Rene called the meeting back into order. She stated that the budget was voted on at the last meeting and approved. Rene let Ms. Kosuda know that her opposition was noted at that time in the minutes. As far as MHDS and DCFS's budget, the Council can not tell them what to do with the money or where to put it. Constance disagreed. Rene said MHDS receives the money from the federal government and disperses the money. Constance said that is part of her grievance. Rene recognized Cody to the floor. Cody said if she understands correctly, the issues of the grievance have been assigned to a committee and that is the appropriate place for that to be handled. This Council as a whole body does have the obligation to make recommendations about the plan, which also includes the budget. They need the recommendations and that is what that Council needs to get done today. To review the plan and make recommendations is the first duty outlined in what was discussed yesterday in training. Cody said the Council needs to stay on topic and get all of the comments to include in the process. Coleen asked what the mechanism for people to submit in writing their comments of any areas that may not be addressed on or for clarification. Roger said there are three options. He said he is a grant writer and he has to consult with MHDS and ultimately Dr. Cook approves all of MHDS and Patty Merrifield approves DCFS. If the Council can provide the information, he will include those edits. The deadline for submitting the application to the federal government is September 1st. There is a component of the plan that includes comments from the Council and that is what the Council needs to decide on. Roger said he has a recommendation if the Council would like to hear it that would be to assign responsibility for someone to submit on behalf of the Council their comments on the entire plan. There needs to be a letter from the Council included in the Block Grant, there also is a requirement that addresses how public comment is gathered. Roger will include a description of this meeting and the attendees, a description of the posting of the documents to the Council's website. This is a mechanism for individuals, concerned citizens to provide input and they can email Roger at rmowbray@charter.net. The comments will be included as public comment on the plan that gets submitted to the federal government. Rene asked Roger if there

is a way for members of the Council to submit their comments to Roger and then Roger send them out to everyone and then they have a special meeting before he has to submit the application, so that it can be approved as a group. Roger said that he does not believe there is enough time with the Open Meeting Law. It would be a challenge. Cody agreed it is time prohibited at this point to accomplish it that way. Some of the discussion yesterday revolved around having mechanisms in which this can be accomplished earlier. Rene said she would like to revisit the timeframes of the plan. Cody said she would like to request as a future agenda item about how to have this mechanism function for the Council to do this portion of the process. Rene asked her to do an agenda request item and send to Tanya.

Patricia motioned to move on to the Bylaws section number six. Lydia seconded the motion.

Opposed: Constance Kosuda, Rene Norris

Abstained: Cody Phinney

Yes: 9 No: 2

MAJORITY VOICE VOTE: MOTION CARRIED

6. BYLAWS

Rene asked Roger to cover this section. Roger said all of the members have received a proposed change of the Bylaws, which was reviewed at the last Executive Committee meeting. It was agreed by the Executive Committee to present this for consideration. The background on this issue is in dealing with the Governor's Office to get nominations for new applications/membership for the Council processed, Roger was advised by the Governor's staff that they would like to see a term limit included in the Council's bylaws. The bylaws do not address a term limit for appointment to the Council, but in recent appointments, the Governor's Office has put ending dates on appointments. They have provided a list of appointment dates and end appointment dates for individuals on the Council. A large number of the appointments end either on April 28th or April 5th of 2010. There are some exceptions. There was a request for copies of the appointment letters because that is the only legitimate source document that the Council's administrative staff can use to determine what the conditions of every member of the Councils appointment was. There was a very limited response. The reason the information was requested is because Tanya and Roger are relatively new. They do not have any access to records of the appointment letters. There were no appointment letters in the files. The Governor's Office will not provide the information without a release of information signed my individual members. Roger went through the appointment end dates. A question was asked as to what "at the pleasure of the Governor" meant. Cody responded it doesn't matter which Governor appointed the person, it is until the Governor in office

decides the appointment is over. Roger said if the information is different from what the Governor's Office has provided, then the member needs to provide the information to Tanya or Roger. Rene said if members have the letter or the appointment certification, please fax or email to Tanya. Constance said Alyce has a copy of the form. Roger said he has spoke with Alyce and she does not have copies of the appointment letters. Judge Cooley asked where the dates came from. Roger said the Governor's Office has a data base that they keep. This is their record of the end date. Cody said previous Governors have appointed people without end dates however; this Governor has expressed the preference to have end dates. Roger said this is the reason for this exercise is to find out who has been appointed at the pleasure of the Governor and who has an end date. Rene said that the Council does not want the entire Council expiring in April 2010. Constance asked who drafted the form. The response was the Governor's Office. Rene reiterated that everyone needs to fax or email Tanya their appointment certificate or letter. Cody said if the Council can get the appointment letters to Tanya then the MHDS Office can communicate through DHHS to the Governor's Office, that this is the corrected information. This is the current information that the Governor's Office has. Judge Cooley said it sounds as if April is an arbitrary date that has been designed when they could not find someone's letter. Roger said the resolution is to provide a copy of the appointment letter with the correct information. Constance said it is a made up number. She said not only did Alyce have a copy but so does the Governor's Office. Coleen said there are multiple boards that are Governor appointed boards. This is a routine exercise. When one Governor leaves and another Governor comes on, obviously there are changes. Similar requests are going on with the other boards right now also. There is a reconciliation process, this is what the Governor has on file right now and the easiest way to correct it is to send Tanya the appointment letter and the information will be clarified via the appointment letter. Barbara said she is going through this on other boards also, so it is not just the Council. Coleen said Patricia said she believes they are doing an audit of the membership and they are basing it on the paperwork that is available. If the paperwork is not available then they are putting in a date. It's like an audit, if there is missing information they use an arbitrary one and then when the correct information is provided, then it will correct the issue. Constance said it is their error, so to blame it on the Council, if there is an incorrect termination date that is punitive. Patricia said there is no blame. Rene gave Cody the floor. Cody said she acknowledges what Constance is saying about it being their error. The reality is the Governor has the authority to determine those appointments, so because that is what they have recorded right now, the Council has to respond or that becomes the reality, so as Coleen described, the Council is attempting to get this all cleaned up. From the perspective of the Council she is very concerned about the concept of having a lot of members expire at one time. That could be very detrimental to the functioning of the Council. She said if whoever has the information could get it; it would be very helpful in continuing to have the Council function.

Roger read through the proposed changes in the bylaws. Judge Cooley said that those appointed at the pleasure of the Governor be exempt from the four year term limits. Constance asked when the Executive Committee met. Roger responded on July 8, 2009. Constance asked if it was right after the telephone conference with the grievance. Rene said it was the Ad Hoc, Nominating, and then the Executive Committee that day. Constance asked when the list was provided to Roger. Roger said he received a fax from the Governor's Office on April 9, 2009. Constance said the Council has never seen the list. Roger said once the list was received, he had Tanya send out an email requesting copies of everyone's appointment letters. He thanked everyone who graciously and politely responded to that and provided the information. Constance said when two people were entrusted with that information, who had previously indicated to her that they had the information, and apparently both lost it. She asked if anyone ever called Andrew, if that was his name, who actually had that in his files before he left. Constance said it would have been a simple thing to ask Andrew where he put the information. Roger responded that it was thought to have been simpler to go to the source, because technically the Governor's Office said they could not release it without a release of information. Constance said it is a simple thing and she would be happy to sign one, she was never given that option. Constance said this is further evidence for the record, this is a punitive act. You are not going to do the work that somebody else was actually paid to do, that you are actually paid to do; then the members get arbitrary termination dates. Rene said the termination dates were already in there before they requested the information. Coleen said this is a Governor appointed board and neither Roger nor Cody has influence on the dates. They have nothing to do with this. If the member is a Governor appointed member, then they have a responsibility to work with the Governor's Office and it is the member who has been appointed, not the staff. If there are concerns about appointment letters, appointment time frames, she encouraged the members to work with the Governor's staff on the appointment because members are appointed at the leisure of the Governor. Constance said he has a legal responsibility as well. Coleen said if there are questions with the process, it would be better to discuss that with the appointing authority. Patricia asked Constance if she has a problem providing the document. Constance said she has made it very clear, this is a punitive act. They lost the information. Comment was made that the Council is way behind schedule. Constance said she did not care that the Council is behind. They always are. Look at this state they are behind schedule. Rene asked for a motion regarding the bylaws with the addition from Judge Cooley.

Barbara motioned to accept the changes to the bylaws with the comment. Judge Cooley seconded the motion.

Opposed: Constance Kosuda

MAJORITY VOICE VOTE: MOTION CARRIED

7. NAMI CONVENTION TO BE HELD IN RENO ON OCTOBER 9, 2009

Rene gave the floor to Judy Bousquet. Judy said across the country NAMI and Councils have had a close working relationship with each other in supporting each other. That connection has not been established with NAMI and this Council. The NAMI convention is October 9th. The Council is too late to work into their agenda. She said maybe the Council could participate in a meet and greet. It is important to reach out to them. Coleen asked if the convention is open for people to attend or do they need to RSVP. Judy said it is open. Constance asked if there is a cost to attend. Judy said no. Judy said she is not sure if the invitation will be accepted this year, but extending the hand of the Council out to them would be resourceful for the communication and building a working relationship. Rene asked Roger if there is money in the budget for people to attend. Roger responded there is money avail for instate travel. Coleen asked if this is an annual convention. Judy confirmed. Judge Cooley suggested that there is a list of people who are available and interested in participating. Barbara said MHPAC has always had a good report with NAMI. Judy said the report between the governing bodies has not been established since the board has changed. This is an opportunity to establish a bond. Rene said whoever is interested and available to attend, please email Tanya.

8. ESTABLISH A MENTAL HEALTH AWARENESS COMMITTEE TO PLAN ACTIVITIES AND PROMOTE UNDERSTANDING OF MENTAL HEALTH AWARENESS MONTH IN MAY 2010

Rene asked for volunteers to be on the committee. Rene Norris, Alyce Thomas, Patricia Peterman, Judy Bousquet, Barbara Jackson, Coleen Lawrence, Cody Phinney, and Constance Kosuda volunteered. Patty said the regional children's mental health consortium does one day out of the month. Rene said that the Council would need to recognize May 7th for the children also. Constance asked what the budget would be for this initiative. They need money to spend on service announcements or something that is more effective than buttons. Roger said at this point, there is not any money budget for that specific task. He recommended that the committee put together a budget, keeping in mind that every time a budget is submitted for an increase in spending, that a place where spending will be reduced to compensate for that. Rene asked if this will affect the budget with the Federal Government, and would the Council have to submit an amended budget. Roger said it depends on the amount and it is a fairly high threshold. Patty said SAMSHA does mental health day and mental health month. Rene said building up relationships with the TV stations will help with getting the information. She said the one at the college has had the Council speak on different mental health issues. Judge Cooley said start calling the local stations and organizations, so that when the first meeting convenes the Council has some

names, numbers, and an idea of how many people may help. Someone asked if it could be done by phone.

Rene asked for a motion.

Judge Cooley motioned to establish the committee and leave the membership open incase someone else would like to participate.

Roger went over the bylaws for committee appointments. He read Article VII, Section 1: Appointments of all Permanent and Ad Hoc Committees "Except for the Nominating Committee and the Executive Committee, the Chair, in consultation with the Council, shall appoint all chairs and members of all committee established by the Council. The Nominating Committee shall be appointed by the Council. The Executive Committee is established as outlined under Article VI, Section 4.

Section 2: Powers – Committees appointed by the Chair or Council shall have power and authority to make decisions only as specifically assigned by a majority of a quorum of the Council at a regularly called meeting of the Council. Committee chairs shall be responsible for keeping minutes of committee meetings and reporting on committee activities to the Council."

Roger said the Council can establish the committee but he does not believe the membership can be left open. Cody said she has been made aware of information prior to this meeting. They have been advised by the Attorney General's Office that members of the subcommittee can only be members of the Council, so the Council can have a subcommittee of Council members. She said they have recently been advised by the Attorney General's Office. Constance asked when. Cody said within the last two weeks. Constance said Roger has told her specifically that someone who is not a member of the Council can be a member of the subcommittee and participate. Cody said they are open public meetings so the public can participate, but to be a voting member of the committee, the person has to be a member of the Council. The Council does not have the authority to appoint members; only the Governor's Office has the authority to appoint new members. Constance asked who the Attorney General is. Julie Slabaugh is the Attorney General for MHDS. Judge Cooley said she believes this is a different situation; they are not appointing people to the Council. She said they are bringing in outside volunteers to be on the subcommittee. Cody said this has been a past practice; however, MHDS has recently been advised that only the Governor's Office can appoint additional people, so people can attend, but they are not a voting member. Constance asked for the date of the communication. Cody said she did not have that with her and she would need to check when she returned. Constance said it is very problematic. Cody said she understands this is a change from past practice. She does not have the date of the communication, but she will get it. Constance asked if there was anything in writing. Cody said she did not receive it in writing, so she is not sure. She said she would be willing to check. Constance said she needs to see it in writing because believe it or not

with all due respect sometimes the Attorney General in various states do things that are illegal. Cody said she is providing the information that she was provided as a representative. What concerns her at this point is if the Council states that the membership of a committee is open, the current information that the Council has is it would be open to members of the Council; however they are public meetings so anyone can participate through the public comment section.

Rene said there is a motion on the table pertaining to the mental health awareness committee.

Patricia seconded the motion.

Abstention: Lydia Snead

MAJORITY VOICE VOTE: MOTION CARRIED

9. MENTAL HEALTH PROFESSIONAL SHORTAGE AREA DESIGNATIONS IN NEVADA

Rene gave Christine Roden the floor. Christine said she is giving information about what her office does. They are the designated office for work force development. This addresses the third objective of the Council – to evaluate mental health. In her opinion as a primary office manager there is a severe problem with workforce. She believes it contributes to not being able to provide the services that are needed. According to NAMI the Nevada Mental Health Care System gets a "D", 11 million was cut from the budget for 2009, resulting in closure of clinics, services and staff cuts. NAMI said that Nevada's greatest challenge is to adequately fund mental health services including support accounting. They also need to develop culturally competent services. Nearly 40% of Nevada's population is acclamatory and racially diverse. Kieser states that there are 2.5 million residences and that is probably really 2.7. 38.5% of the residents of the adults report for mental health. 86 thousand of the residents have serious mental illness, and the public health is budgeted for 24 thousand. There is a large gap between what can be provided and what is needed. There are 19.5 suicides per 100,000 compared to 11 in the nation. The goal in her office is to attempt to get health care workers out. They work with providers, through agencies. They receive a \$210,000 grant to operate. One of their primary goals is to designate health care shortage areas. What that consists of is there are five staff and with cuts, it takes it to one and a half staff. They do phone interviews with providers to figure out which providers will accept Medicaid/Medicare and provide a sliding fee scale. They only count the ones that will provide for the under insured. There are not very many especially in rural Nevada. There are 51 health professional shortage area designations in Nevada. For that population there is not enough health care providers. This is medical, mental, and dental. That is 85% of the population that there are not enough providers for. There has

been about a 50% drop in providers who will accept Medicaid/Medicare in the last year. For just mental health in rural and underserved areas they have 3.7 psychiatrist and they need 14 more.

The reason the designations are done is the federal government require these survey's to be done to establish the HPSA areas, and then those HPSA areas where a community health center or federally qualified health center can start up shop. Christine oversees the J-1 physician program. There are 41 foreign physicians working in Nevada a lot in Las Vegas and underserved areas. There is a lot of Las Vegas that has one primary care Dr. per 60,000 population and that is in the metro area.

Obama is attempting to do is they have put out stimulus money and they are attempting to give more money to increase the workforce and the way they are doing that is providing them with National Health Scholarship money, and what that means is a facility is in an underserved area and they want to hire a clinician or psychologist. The person coming on board can pay off \$25,000 of their tuition every year for up to five years. There are about 27 who are working in rural, underserved areas under this program. Obama has pushed that to 100 million to help people recruit providers. They have not seen an increase in waivers coming to Nevada yet.

They also have a program call SEARCH Student Experiences and Rotations in Community Health Programs and they get some federal funding for that. Last year they placed 104 students in underserved areas. They have applied for additional funds and hope to receive them.

Washoe County and one area in Las Vegas are the only locations that have enough mental health care workers. They are working with Northern Nevada Adult Mental Health Services (NNAMHS). They are not in a mental health HPSA area; however, they have given them a waiver so they can receive a foreign physician there. They do need to work more with the mental health facilities. SNAMHS has never applied for a designation with HPSA. They should be. They would be able to take students and people fresh out of school; they would be able to have J-1 physician's work there. They have given Christine's office all of the information and they have forwarded it to the fed's and hopefully soon they will get designation and that will really open up some options for them to use federal money. Rural clinics have approached them about using J-1 positions. They have been given them 200 curriculum. It is a long process.

They have a job vacancy site on their sister agency Great Basin Primary Care Association. They are also working with tribals. A lot of the tribes want to become community health centers. They would be able to open their doors to non American – Indians. It is quite a process for them to go through to become a community health center.

Christine said they have applied for a 20 million dollar grant with HPSA that will provide insurance to those who are uninsured in Nevada. They chose 60 -64 year olds because that is when medical problems start showing up and Nevada has a huge population of underserved adults. When this comes through they will be letting the mental health facilities know.

She just attended an all state meeting regarding the health care reform that may come down from the fed's. What it will mean for Nevada is that people under 200% federal poverty level will get their premiums paid for by the federal government and will be brought on for health insurance. She is very optimistic that they will have something by January. The role the state will play is all will pass through Medicaid to make sure that they do not qualify for Medicaid programs. The 500,000 that are uninsured in Nevada are going to have a big impact on Medicaid.

Christine asked for questions. Caroline asked how it will affect children with autism. Coleen said this is still at the highest levels of Congress. She also said that autism is not considered a mental health disorder. That would be developmentally and they have to be kept separate. Caroline said it is a neurological disorder. Unintelligible discussion ensued.

Barbara asked how long the physicians will have to stay to have their loan repaid. Christine said they will have to stay for two years which will pay \$25,000 each year, then the physician can extend three more years. That is \$125,000 that can be paid in the five years.

Christine said if anyone knows fresh graduates that need to pay off loans, have them call her office. The fed's need to move the money by October 1, 2009.

Rene asked for more questions.

10.LUNCH

Meeting adjourned for lunch at 12:20 pm

11.COMMITTEE UPDATES

The meeting reconvened at 1:38 pm.

AD HOC GRIEVANCE

Patricia said the Ad Hoc Grievance committee has convened twice since its creation in the special meeting of the Mental Health Planning & Advisory Council on May 14, 2009, on Thursday, June 11th and on Tuesday, July 8th. The committee has met to discuss the grievance of Ms. Constance Kosuda, family member with the Council, filed on April 13, 2009. They have

reviewed approximately 295 pages of documents, have listened to the cd recording of the Council meeting held on April 2, 2009, and have discussed the concerns. The next meeting will be held on August 19, 2009 at 1:00 pm. This meeting as the previous two is open to the public and as Chair; Patricia extended a welcome to any member of the Council or other individuals to attend either in person or by teleconference. At this time the committee can not render any findings regarding the matter. The committee hopes to have a resolution before the next quarterly Council meeting.

RURAL MONITORING

Rene asked Roger to give an update. Roger said the next meeting is on September 3, 2009. Rene said Kathy Hughes was a member of that committee and beings that she has moved they will need another volunteer. Patricia Peterman volunteered. Roger said they will be visiting two locations, one of which is Fallon and the other is to be determined. They will be doing a full service clinic and a smaller satellite clinic. The date has been tentatively set for the week of September 16th. This will be finalized in the next few weeks. Rene asked if the trip would be done in time for the grant. Roger thought they would be able to get the information for the Transformation Transfer Initiative which is due in early November.

CHILD TRANSITION

Lydia said they are looking for a Chair for the committee, due to Kathy Hughes moving. They have completed Clark County and Rural Nevada's Fact Sheet. They are almost done with Washoe County. Rene asked for a volunteer for the Child Transition Committee. There were no volunteers. Rene tabled.

NOMINATING

Rene said at the last meeting they chose Cory Herrera was chosen to be brought to the Council to represent family member with SMI. They will be meeting again to replace Kathy. Rosetta was on the Nominating Committee and they will need to vote a volunteer in. Rene asked for a motion in regard to Cory Herrera. Constance asked if they had met Cory. Rene responded that the Nominating Committee has met with her via teleconference. Someone asked if it is normal to speak with the Nominating Committee before an application is put in. Rene said the person submits an application to the Council, then the Nominating Committee meets and speaks with the applicants and makes a decision to bring before the Council, and then the Council votes and the applicant if approved is asked to submit the application for the Governor's Office, if not approved, then the Committee goes back to discuss the other applicants.

Patricia motioned to accept Cory pending the Governor's decision. Coleen seconded the motion.

UNANIMOUS VOICE VOTE: MOTION CARRIED

Rene asked Tanya to contact Cory and have the application sent to the Governor's Office and to notify those that were not chosen.

A member of the public asked where to go to get an application to complete for the Council. Rene gave her the website information. The member of the public asked if there is ever a time when the nomination comes down from the Governor's Office. Cody said the representatives from the state agencies come from the Governor's Office.

Rene asked for volunteers for the Nominating Committee. Patricia Peterman and Christine Roden volunteered. A vote was taken and the new member of the Nominating Committee is Christine Roden.

A question was asked as to who represents education on the Council. Lydia responded Janell Rosenberg.

Dr. Harold Cook asked if after Ms. Kosuda gives her presentation if he can address the Council. Rene said yes.

Rene said at the next Council meeting there will be an election for the officers of the Council, at that time they will entertain motions from the floor and then they will have the secret ballot. If there are more than two people nominated for one position, the bylaws address how the voting continues until there is a person chosen.

INTERVENTION/PREVENTION

Constance said the prevention/intervention committee has had a number of calls. They are a very active group. They have a number of emails everyday. There are many things on the agenda. They are going to zero in on some of them. Because of politics they will do that on a need to know basis. It is a great group working with youth and neglect in the state as directed toward the mentally ill starting with people when they are still children being abused and neglected because of their status as mentally ill or special needs by the Department of Education, by the School District, by the School Board, then illegal profiling of youths and neglect by police throughout the state, in particular metro, and then abuse and neglect by the Department of Corrections, which warehouses people rather than some forward thinking, so rather than \$2500 per year in this state, the state spend between \$25 and \$75,000 per year putting people in prisons. It is hit or miss giving them treatment while they are there. For some people it is very irregular. The

committee is going to be approaching this with an active plan. She said she will speak more about that at future meetings.

Rene gave the floor to Dr. Cook. Dr. Cook said it is his understanding that the Council was provided with information about the composition of the subcommittees. Subcommittees are authorized to _____ they have to consist solely of Council members unless the Governor appoints someone else. The subcommittee must consist only of Council members. People that are not members can be involved but not as Council members. The other issue is the Open Meeting Law. Subcommittees have to abide by the Open Meeting Law. This means public notice of the agenda, and minutes. Anything that the subcommittees do including informal communication outside of the subcommittee is subject to the Open Meeting Law.

Constance interrupted and said point of order none of this is on the agenda. This is out of order and if the Chair is going to apply it to her, she needs to apply it Dr. Cook. Rene said it is part of the committee updates. Constance disagreed. Constance said it is not on the agenda and she believes it is a violation of the Open Meeting Law. She said if it applies to her then it needs to apply to everyone and he needs to fill out an agenda request form. Coleen said her understanding is Dr. Cook was following up regarding the request the Council was previously discussing prior to lunch as to who could be on the subcommittee, because they were looking at nominating subcommittees. Constance said it was not an agenda item and the conversation was cut short. Rene asked Dr. Cook if he could hold it for public comment. Dr. Cook said he would not be here for public comment because of another appointment. He said if the representations of subcommittees and the Council members are not part of an agenda item in an open meeting, he will not consider them. Rene thanked Dr. Cook.

12.CRISIS ITERVENTION TEAM (CIT) PRESENTATION

Rene introduced Officer Sherry Herney and Officer Kelly Raybuck. Officer Herney passed out copies of the power point. Both Officer Herney and Officer Raybuck are coordinators for the CIT training. Officer Herney said on behalf of Sergeant Dave Tony, he is the Sergeant that runs the unit; he was not able to be here today. He asked Officer Herney at the last minute to do the presentation. Anything that she is not able to answer she will defer to Sergeant Dave Tony and get the answers for everyone.

The program was implemented in 2003. She was in one of the very first classes. They had to sit before a panel called an oral board and they would ask questions as to why the person wanted to attend CIT. She said when they asked her that, it was pretty easy for her to answer. It brought back an event that occurred in 2002. She was working graveyard on patrol. They received a call about 5:30 am. They were in separate cars. Shots were fired in a mobile home. As they were driving

there, they were receiving updates from dispatch. It was an elderly man and he said his wife was distraught inside the mobile home and she had fired a couple of shots. As they pulled into the park, they strategically placed their cars, and prior to going toward the residence they heard another shot fired. At that time, the cavalry started to come and their sergeant was in route and they started to set some parameter around the mobile home. The sergeant arrived and the elderly male subject was still on the line with dispatch. Dispatch transferred the call over to the sergeant. The sergeant has to take charge of the scene, so he was not able to necessarily talk with this person and handle the scene at the same time. So he handed the phone to her partner. Her partner starts talking with a woman, she is an elderly lady and she is very upset, crying, saying she wants kill herself. Her partner is on the phone with the subject and he doing everything in his power, using every kind of verbal skills that they have been taught, because she is in there with a firearm and he is trying to get her all of the help that she needs. He asks her to put the gun down and come out. Officer Herney is hearing a one-sided conversation. Pretty soon the door opens, she comes out and she is in her night gown. By this time the sun is coming out. She is walking back and forth across the front lawn and she has the gun to her head and she's got the phone to the other side. So now Officer Herney can hear both sides of the conversation, she is crying, upset, she's saying she doesn't want to live. She can hear everything that her partner is saying to her, things that she would have been saying too if she had been on the phone with the woman. The conversation went on for about a half hour 45 minutes, maybe a little longer. Then as the subject is talking, she sits on a lawn chair in the front yard, and she says bye, and she proceeded to shoot herself in front of all. Officer Herney remembers looking at her partner and thinking "Oh my God did that just happen". She said the guilt that her partner felt when that happened. When they do the after action, when they talk about it, officers sometimes use humor to mask the feelings. Her partner was hurting and she talked with him about. She put herself in his shoes. He felt guilty for not being able to stop her. This is one reason when they asked her why she wanted to be a CIT officer. Her partner had very good verbal skills, but sometimes it is just not enough. He said that he wondered what he could have done, and Officer Herney wondered the same thing. Is there something that could have been done better, is there something that he could have said? Officer Herney still remembers it vividly today. It was something traumatic for her and something very traumatic for her partner as well. She believes that having gone through the CIT program and being one of the first ones, they have changed it a little here and there. They are always attempting to improve it in anyway that they can.

They give eight classes a year. They are about six weeks apart. They have 40-48 officers through the course at a time. The goal of CIT is to provide immediate response by specially trained officers, to de-escalate the situation, and to provide an alternative other than arrest. The advantage of having CIT officers in the department is less jailing of the mentally ill. They do notice that because officers are educated, they have a lit bit more resources, so not as many consumers are put in jail like they used to be. Less criminalization of mental health-related events,

minimized officer call time. If an officer can find an alternative to taking a subject to jail and finding help for them, it puts the officer back out on the street quicker than having to take the person to jail and having to fill out paperwork etc. It frees up the officers as well. A decrease in emergency calls for SWAT and negotiators involving people barricading themselves, a lot of times the officers out on the streets, first time responders, are quickly able to resolve situations whereas before they did not do much and a lot of times they would have to call SWAT or a negotiator. They have seen a decrease in that. Decrease in officer and citizen injuries. That is something also by educating these officers, there is a decrease in injuries to officers as well as consumer injuries, and citizen injuries because of the education that they are receiving. Better delivery of services to people suffering mental crisis.

The certification course is 50 hours of training over five days, Monday through Friday, ten hours per day with an hour lunch. They try to limit it to 40 students, but there are a lot of officers that want the class, so they sometimes have classes up to 48. The classes are all taught by professionals and they all volunteer to come in and teach the class. They really appreciate the support that they receive in the community and from the doctors and advocates. They have a couple of doctors who come in and teach introduction to mental illness. There is a class about Psych medications. They give the officers a card that they can carry in their pocket and it has all of the different types of medications that people may be on. They have a registered nurse that comes in and she talks about the more common psychiatric medications and what they are used for. They also have someone who specializes in Post Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD) and they are seeing a lot of people who are coming back from Iraq with PTSD. They go through the legal 2000 process, which officers know about, but they do a refresher course on it. They have a lady that comes in from senior mental health services, she comes in and discusses senior mental health, Alzheimer's, Dementia, and what kind of resources are available to those who suffer. They also have someone from their negotiations team comes in; he is one of the experts on negotiations. They have someone who comes in with the family perspective. She tells her story and gives an overview. They do site visits to various locations. The officers are able to ask questions and they are able to ask the officers questions. They go to different charities and work with them. They do monitor what goes on in the classes. They have the officer's talk with consumers who are not in the middle of a crisis so that they can ask what they can say or do to calm them during a crisis. At the end of the course on Friday, they put the officer's through practical exercises. They give the scenarios that have to be performed in front of everyone and they are critiqued by the doctors.

Currently they have 467 metro officers CIT certified. 380 of the officers are patrol. That is 32%. The national average is about 25%. There goal by the end of next year is to be above 50%. They would like to get at least half through the training. In 2008 they had 6249 CIT calls. That number rises daily. The more

they educate their entire department the better for everyone. They have also training 213 corrections officers and 160 officers from other jurisdictions.

Every year a CIT officer of the year is solicited by NAMI. They really appreciate it. They have to go through their list of officers and keep track of every event of the CIT officers. Some of them really stand out.

Officer Herney went over the website where people can get more information on the programs and the training that they put the officers through. There is also a section for talking to 911 operators. Be prepared to answer questions that are routinely asked which can include: name and relationship to the person, location and phone number, the situation that is currently occurring, etc. (see handout). When the officer arrives some of the things that will help the officers are try to meet the officers outside or out of earshot of the person that was called about, stay calm and explain the situation fully and if the situation has escalated, have on hand information about psychiatrist contact numbers, alter the officer if the individual has a history of violent behavior, any kind of information that may help the officer de-escalate a situation. If an officer has been there before, let the officer know what worked. When the officer responds to a call, they have no idea what they are going into. The more information they have, the better equipped they are to go in and deal with the situation. Also, if there is something that will set the person off, let the officer know.

Officer Herney asked for questions. Rene asked if she were to call for a family member, is there something that they can say to the operator that will trigger a CIT officer. Officer Herney said tell the 911 operator that the subject being called about has a diagnosed mental illness. That will automatically trigger a CIT officer. Constance asked if she can call the number on the front of the handout because she has a lot of questions. Officer Herney told her that is fine. Constance said that all officers should be CIT trained, not just a small number. She asked how many metro officers they have. Officer Herney said there are over 2000. Constance said she has been told in the past that the CIT program was offered primarily to the verbal officers and not the non-verbal officers. She said those people are considered action people, in her opinion they need to give the training to everyone. Officer Herney said it is a work in progress; they are trying to get as many officers as possible trained. Rene asked if any other members of the Council have any questions. Coleen asked if there is anything that identifies the officers as a CIT officer. Officer Herney said that all officers who go through the training receive a little badge. A lot of consumers can identify the badge. One of the reasons is that they go to some of the facilities and they let them know. Barbara said in Northern Nevada they have consumers who ask to ride with the CIT officers, and she wanted to know if they have the same thing in Las Vegas. Officer Herney said they do not have that right now. That is something that they would like to do as the unit grows. Barbara said the CIT program is wonderful. They can tell the difference, there is respect from the consumer to the officer and respect from the officer to the consumer. It is working in Reno. Judy said with

467 CIT officers on three different shifts, so there can't always be a CIT officer available at all of the specific times they are needed. Officer Herney said they are trying to make sure there is adequate coverage on every shift. They have created a graph and are looking at each shift individually. Patricia asked if they then take whatever officers there are for that particular shift and through demographics and the number of calls issued regarding people who have mental issues signed up so that the areas that really have the need are covered. Officer Herney said officers get to pick where they want to work by seniority, but their badge states Clark County, so when the officer is a CIT officer, if there is a CIT incident then the officer will go to whatever location they are needed. At times she would be the only CIT trained officer in three areas, so she would go to each area as the calls came in.

Rene opened the questions to the public. A comment was made that each time this person had seizure on the street; she was arrested for what she has. She said that the officers didn't bother to look at her medical bracelet. She said she has had it since 1950, and it is not her fault that she has seizures. She said she doesn't smoke or drink and she is thrown in jail and they say she is drunk. She is in jail and she is denied her medication. Rene asked if there is some way that they address people with seizures or is a diabetic. Officer Herney said that in the training the doctors do educate the officers to look for the signs. They are trying their hardest to make sure the officers get educated. As far as the marshals she can not speak for them. She believes they are on the list to be trained. There was a question asked as to giving the new officers a watered down version of the training so they are at least aware. Officer Herney said they do get a course on introduction to CIT. They are aware of the course. A question was asked if the officers who apply are compensated for becoming a CIT officer. Officer Herney said they are not compensated for becoming a CIT officer. She said they are trying to get all of the officers that go out and get recruitments graduating from the academy and they train them. They need to make sure that all of the field training officers are certified. Tonya asked if the officers have follow up after a possible arrest of a mentally ill person. For example a mentally ill person's elderly relative calls on them and the person is arrested, then the elderly person has to testify in court against that person. As a follow up do they ever go back and talk to the elderly that is required to appear in court and do they give their input as to what the elderly is asking for. Officer Herney said that they do have a task of action report that the officers fill out and explain what occurred. They are not at the stage yet where they do follow up, that is something that they are looking into as the program grows. A question was asked if they are open to having other organizations educate the officers and maybe looking at different systems. Officer Herney said they are open to this.

The Council thanked Officer Herney and Officer Raybuck for coming to give the presentation.

Rene adjourned the meeting for a 10 minute break. The meeting reconvened at 3:15 pm.

13.NEVADA COMMISSION ON MENTAL HEALTH AND DEVELOPMENTAL SERVICES (NCMHDS) ROLE, RESPONSIBILITIES, AND OPPORTUNITIES TO COLLABORATE WITH THE MHPAC

Rene introduced Kevin Crowe and Kevin Quint. Kevin Quint said he has been on the Nevada Commission for Mental Health and Developmental Services (NCMHDS) for just over a year. He was recently elected as chair of the commission. One of the things he wanted to do is to have chance to chat with the Council. He would like to find a way to collaborate. Rene asked if they could explain to the Council what their charges are, what exactly the Commission does. Dr. Kevin Crowe went over the roles and functions hand out. He said that the Council and the Commission knows very little about each other. The blue circle goes over the Commissions assignments and responsibilities and the red is the responsibilities of the Council. He attempted to find similarities. The similarities have to with monitoring, reviewing, and planning. They have to do with reviewing program and finances of the Division of MHDS and DCFS. There are other things that are comparable but different. The Commission has a variety of statutory responsibilities that differentiate it from other groups. The Commission is a much smaller group, there are only ten members and the Council has 21 members. The Commission is enacted by the statues and the Council is required under public health law. The Council represents the agencies. If both the Commission and the Council come together there is a collaboration of professional discipline, agencies, and consumers. Kevin said when reading through SB 79, the Commission has added new legislative responsibilities. There are a large number of responsibilities; they have also added two other areas, one of which is the area of children's mental health services and co-occurring disorders. Rene asked about the Council going to the Commission with ideas for legislation. Kevin Quint said they are already preparing for the next session and it makes sense that they collaborate together. The list on the Commission side is in the NRS, they make up their bylaws. He would like to bring as the chair of the Commission is to talk about what to prioritize, plan how to do the best they can to help get services and policies to the legislature. Rene asked if Mental Health for the prisons is under the Commission. Dr. Kevin Crowe said Julie indicated that the Commission is MHDS and DCFS. Rene clarified that it means it doesn't include the prisons because the mental health for the prisons fall under the prisons. Constance disagreed. Rene said that is the situation with intervention/prevention because mental health in the prison falls under the prison. Constance said the problem is they are not doing anything. Coleen asked if the consortium came under the Commission. Kevin said according to SB 79 they are looking at children's mental health issues. The consortium asked if they would be the committee. They need to figure out how to do that. Coleen asked if the Commission has established objectives that they are looking at for the next year.

Kevin Quint said that they have not, however they are having a special meeting on September 16th of which they are going to ask for input from all as to what the priorities should be. Rene suggested that the Council come up with ideas they would like to work on and the Commission met and then the Executive Committees of the two separate bodies met to work on the issues together. Kevin said he thought that would be a great vehicle. Constance said there are three meetings that are scheduled in September in Reno. She said that they need to be video conferenced. She said they have the Grant Sawyer building. She said they need to video conference from Las Vegas to Reno and at least hear and have an opportunity to make public comment. She said she thinks the Council meetings also out of fairness need to be video conferenced so that people all over the state can participate. Kevin Quint said the meetings on the 17th and 18th of September will be via video conference. Cody said the Division may be able to help with video conferencing. Rene asked what the Council thought about at the next meeting taking an hour to look at what they want to work on. Rene asked Tanya to send an agenda request to her. Constance said that she attended a Commission committee meeting and she hears some things that were very disturbing, but one of them, the registered nurse said that she had concerns. She couldn't guarantee that the legal rights of the hospitalized mentally ill were not being violated by nursing staff. Constance said how can they possibly address it, it must be a matter of training. When people are in the hospital, they have to have their legal rights protected, honored, respected. Rene asked if there is a way to look into that and get clarification as to what rights she meant and what the barrier might be. Constance said they should start with the seclusion and restraint. Cody said any violation of a client's rights in a public mental health facility would be a violation of Division policy and grounds for action. They would need specific information about a particular incident, the Division would want to have that information, so that they can follow up on that, and they have specific protocol for following up on those types of issues. The idea that seclusion would be acceptable would be a violation of the Divisions policy on seclusion and restraint. The rules exist. If there is specific information about an incident that would be something the Division would want to follow up on. Barbara asked if it was a public or private hospital. Constance said she thought it was a public. Kevin Quint said they will look and find out. Steve said years ago when he worked in private hospitals and the children were routinely in four point restraints over issues that were basically created by the staff. He said it would need to be documented and then investigated. Rene said during the last meeting they were discussing the report on how money is being spent so they can provide the information to the Fed's, so that the Fed's know the Council is being accountable for the money. Roger said he has a format from the Council when they sub granted money to non-profit entities that he can provide to either Kevin so they can see the expectations in the past as far as the Councils requirements for reporting on how the money is spent. Kevin Quint said it would be great. He wants to make sure that the money is being adequately spent.

Rene opened the questions to the public. Florence Jones asked if some form of an Ombudsman office might be reasonable to filter out mental health issues and prison issues and for just basic communication. Rene said that the Commission and the Council will be working together to work more efficiently, working toward the same goal. Delores Goldstein made comment that regarding her child that had been put in a group and she was not allowed to see her for six weeks at a time. It was very traumatic for both mother and daughter. Caroline said her question is there is an issue. Sometimes it is a lot of ugliness out there. This is their chance to make it right, to give them a chance to get the help. How to they protect the employees if they see a physician, nurse, etc doing something when they go to report it. What steps are they going to take to make sure that the employee is protected? They need to know that they will be ok if they report this. Rene asked Cody to respond. Cody said the Division has a well developed policy on investigating allegations of abuse and neglect. The procedures include protecting having that information be available to the limited group of people required to handle the incident. There is also a whistle blower statute in the state that is designed to protect employees who report Government wrong doing. For MHDS there is a well developed process for investing complaints by either consumers or staff members that allege abuse and neglect against a client. Caroline said there was an issue that she is aware of and it was reported. The agency told the person reporting it that they were sorry, they would not be able to protect this person. The incident will not go anywhere and the person is still going to be hurt. Now there is another victim, the person who reported it. What can be done to make sure that people who are reporting the wrong doing are protected? Rene asked if there is something that the Council and Commission can work on together. Patricia said last year she broke her back last year and she was in a rehabilitation facility. She the patient's rights were posted on the wall. She said she assumes that the mental health facilities would also have something that lists their rights. Rene said that they may be so medicated that they may not be able to read. Cody said they are required by law to have notices posted from the Nevada Disability Advocacy Law Center who is the officially designated legal advocate for people with disabilities. Those are posted in all of the psychiatric facilities. There are also internal procedures in public facilities. There are two branches by which a complaint could be reported. Constance said there is a problem because the Disability Advocacy Law Center and the Attorney General will say that they can not help the person. They will say there is a conflict of interest because they represent the state. Rene asked that these comments be saved for public comment. They are on agenda item for the Commission. Rene asked for any comments or questions about the Council collaborating with the Commission. Lydia said she doesn't have a lot of ideas, but she would like to thank Kevin Quint and Dr. Kevin Crowe for all of the work that they have put in and for being here today to report on the Commission because she knows this has been a question in the past for the Council. Flo said it sounds like to her that all of the issues come right back to communication and having an independent Ombudsman office for the state. Obviously they don't have it with the Attorney General so they have to have someplace where people can come, share their

issues, whether they are workers trying to let someone know what is going on or there is someone in the community that is in trouble, whether they are in prison or mentally ill. It seems to her that it leads them right back to the same issue. Rene said that is something that the Council and the Commission can work on together. Kevin Quint said they can come up with a number of things and he believes this has been very fruitful. Rene asked if there were any other questions or comments.

14.PUBLIC COMMENT

Rene said Coleen is going to give an overview of yesterday's training. Coleen said the training was very enlightening and beneficial for everyone who attended. One thing that came out of it was to focus this meeting a little bit more. There are a lot of important topics and everybody is very passionate about their viewpoint. Obviously it would be more productive if they can focus more. Taking the ideas and what are the top issues that need to be address in the state of Nevada and addressing it under the scope and responsibilities that the Council has and prioritizing them and being realistic about prioritizing them. There should maybe be only two major issues for this next year and then to work with the collaborative partners, Commissions and Consortiums and to focus all of the energy on the two objectives. The second part was a good lesson learned on running the meetings. This group is charged with running professional, organized meetings that are respectful and yet productive at the same time. Listening to all, the Council will get a lot more accomplished. Respect others to allow for time progression. Rene said she would like to put in an agenda request at the beginning of the next meeting for the Council to go over the ground rules so the meetings are run more effectively. Judy agreed with what Coleen said. One of the things that came up was a mentor. New members could have a mentor when they come to the Council to help them learn the ropes.

Judge Cooley said she just wanted to put a couple of reminders on the table. The history of this Council has been hard fought not to be taken over by the state, state agencies or representatives of agencies. This Council is supposed to be about people who have family members or who themselves have gone through the system theoretically so that they can be more empathetic. She said she hopes that when the ground rules are set up, they do not over ride the members of the Council having the ability to speak. They need to make sure that it is not unequal. She said she has a problem giving an hour to an outside agency that gave the Council a packet that they could have had in their materials to look at on the plane and then the members are cut off. She thinks that they need to remember that it was a hard fight to get the power for the Council, so don't give it up. Do not let other people usurp it from this group. Rene said the goal of the ground rules is to stop things like that from happening. She said they do not want three people talking at once. Judge Cooley said that she thinks it is beautiful that they want to keep order, but she is attempting to make sure that they do not lose individuals right to speak and then it sort of dampens a persons enthusiasm when they're cut off all the time. She said that the Council needs that fire and passion to really get

up to the point where they are making a difference with living people. Barbara said that they need to have respect for each others passion, never down play each others passion. Each person's passion is important to that person. If they respect each others passion, then the Council can move forward. If there is no respect for each other's passion, then the Council fails.

Flo said how they can communicate effectively with Clark County School District. She understands that Washoe County is already up and running. They really have an issue with the information getting out to parents in Clark County. Somehow there has to be communication with the School Board. Is it this Council that can do, are they going to create another committee, or are they going to give it to intervention/prevention and have them work on it? Somehow they need to get a communication line going, and she would hate to see them go another year without them having a packet or disseminated to the parents' day one that there is help out there and that they can call for an IEP meeting. There are people they can call if their child is suspended from school and they don't know where to go or what to do. Rene said they may be able to address when the Council does it's plan. Flo said so the Council is just going to table it. Lydia said there is a Nevada PEP in Las Vegas. Flo asked if they are going to take the lead then and make a contact. Rene said that voting does not happen during public comment. For action to be taken, it must be an agenda item. Flo said it was brought up earlier in the meeting. Rene said it will be going into the public comment on the Block Grant application, so it will be going to the Fed's as a concern. The Council must have it as an action item on the agenda in order for them to take a vote on the item. Barbara said that sometimes she thinks people have a misconception of what can be done. They come to the meeting thinking that something can be done and it can't because the Council has to have an action item on the agenda. If it is not on the agenda they can not take an action. When people come before the Council, understand that they have rules and regulations to follow. They have to go by the rules and regulations. Constance asked how they make sure that everyone has equal access to the agenda to get the items on the agenda.

Michael said he is here today to testify about Lupus. Inaudible comment. Lupus is a dangerous disease. Inaudible comment. His sister has permanent neurological damage and inaudible comment.

Michelle said it is very exciting to see all the people in the room. She said she can see the friction in the room. She believes everyone wants to help people. Inaudible comment. Sometimes they need new blood and new ideas in order to fulfill(inaudible comment) Although it may seem like a dark period right now, she thinks that eventually the Council has the same vision and the same purpose at heart. The second comment she would like to make is the Council doesn't understand how important it is for this information about mental health to be disseminated to the schools. She has a ward in the school and she has gotten him through unusual circumstances and although he wouldn't be considered mentally

ill, she is sure he has some psychological issues due to his (inaudible comment) She was in his classroom everyday and she can not believe how many children she saw in those classrooms that needed some type of counseling or help and the school district answer is they can get in, in three months. What good is that to a (inaudible comment). She understands that this may not be a priority; to her it should be a priority. If they could get the parent's interested enough so that they have some place to call.

Mercedes apologized for not being at the meeting. She submitted some pages that should be getting passed out to people. There is information in there about deaths and suicide in the prisons. She said she would like everyone to listen to a report that they received at 8:56 am of the death of a recorded mentally ill prisoner about 4 am this morning at Ely State Prison. She would like to know what the MHPAC is spending on mental health in Nevada Prisons because prisoners are people and they are important to us and our future. She played the recording of a gentleman. "Around 4 am this morning, the 12th of August 2009, at Ely State Prison. Around 4 am this morning the guard found an inmate dead in his cell. Inaudible comment. Last night around 10 pm he said he wasn't feeling well. Inaudible comment. This inmate had been saying for the past three or four days that he wasn't feeling well. Officers disregarded what was said and as a result of that the inmate lost his life. Inaudible comment. Mercedes asked if he knew the inmates name. He said he thought his was Hector. He was in unit 9 8 cell 7. He was an African American. Inaudible comment. Mercedes asked if he was in lock down. The gentleman said he was in a cell in a different wing, so he was five or six cells away from the office and said he thought his was Hector. He was in unit 9 8 cell 7. He was an African American. Inaudible comment. Mercedes asked if he was in lock down. The gentleman said he was in a cell in a different wing, so he was five or six cells away from the officers. Inaudible comment. He said he attempted to speak to the Warden, but when he called him he didn't answer. Mercedes asked what the Warden's name was. The gentlemen said McDaniel came in for all of five minutes and then he walked out. He said he asked (inaudible comment). Mercedes asked if there was anything else. His comment was inaudible. Mercedes asked the gentleman to stay in touch." Mercedes said that this is unfair of wardens to basically blow people off. When someone says I want to see you and that the warden says well you can see me now, she said that is callous and it needs to be remedied. She believes it is time for new leadership that is long overdue. She said they need to implement training, training and education, education, education to the officers. She would say that this is an emergency because the suicides are escalating and now they are having problems getting information out of NDOC. She said she attempts to have very fine communication skills and manners on the phone, and she has had instances recently when NDOC employees actually hang up in her ear, which is not very polite and can be painful. She said that this needs to be looked at very carefully and ask ourselves if this could happen to us or a loved one that is in our family. She said it can happen to anyone. She said to her, studying these issues all of these years, a Nevada sentence in prison or jail can be a death sentence and there

is plenty of data to back that up. They are losing young people left and right because mental health issues are not being addressed properly in her mind. She said if anyone would like a transcript of this prisoners account, let her know. She thanked everyone and said she looks forward to meeting everyone when she is better and at the next meeting. Rene thanked Mercedes. She said she would like to add in the future, if they can block out the inmates name because as a family member, she would not want to hear that her daughter's father died in prison over a conference call. Mercedes said that she did not have time to edit it. Rene said she would appreciate it and she knows there are others on the Council that know people who may be in that situation and would not want to hear their name on a conference call.

Donald said he is not going to speak today, he is just an observer. What he has seen so far, he could not pretend to catalog. It is much too much. He will at a future meeting have a lot to say about the operating of this committee.

Tonya Brown said inaudible comment. She said she would like to know where, inaudible comment, children who are now adults. The children were put on Ritalin and what was the outcome of that. Inaudible comment. Are they in prison, in mental health?

Wesley Goetz said he wants to know why psychologist I, II, and III, do not have to be licensed in the Nevada Prison system as a licensed psychologist. Inaudible comment.... Three hour additional training in medication. Psychologists that work in the Nevada State Prison System getting away with violating an inmates constitutional rights that a Nevada licensed inaudible comment. In the Nevada Prison, mental health has its own entity where they do not have to, inaudible comment, or the inmate's constitutional legal right. Inaudible comment. He would like to know what the Council can do to make mental health better and embrace Nevada inmates. He requested that this be on the next agenda for action. Rene said he needs to get an agenda request form from Tanya, the administrative assistant and submit it. She asked if he had an email address. He said he does not have access to a computer now. Rene asked him to leave the address at the front desk attention Tanya Benitez, and she can send it to him. Tanya gave her direct line. 775-684-4295. Rene said that he can call and leave it on her voicemail, she will be back in the office tomorrow.

Caroline Sanchez-Ragen said she had put her name in for Calvinia Williams, she could not be here today. She also handed a two page document in that Michael would like in the record for public comment (Appendix B). It is about his sister and Lupus. She is also there for Calvinia Williams who is the founder of Lupus of Nevada. Caroline read (Appendix A) into record.

Caroline said she has two children that have autism. One has ADD and one has ADHD. She has faced many challenges in her life with her children. She also suffers from ADHD. Every single day in her life she absolutely suffers. Her son

was pulled into Clark County office and told that he was a loser by his administrator and then told not to come back and take the CRT's because he was just going to fail. She said she knows that Nevada PEP just walked out the door because they didn't help her at that time, so she decided that she would never let a parent suffer as much as she has suffered. She said Flo knows how much her son has suffered when he was little. She wanted to let people know that along with the autism, when they make adulthood, it is very hard for them to find their place in society. A lot of times they end up in the Clark County jail system. She has watched this happen. It happened to her son. She was able to pull him out of there. She promised herself that this would never happen again and there have been times that she has been able to help a parent, so they wouldn't face the challenges that she has faced or the severity of it. She is here to bring awareness of not only autism but also Lupus. She as a parent has been through a lot and when a parent goes into and IEP and there are 29 people that are there in the IEP meeting and the parent is all alone by themselves, not knowing the law, trying to find a way to educate yourself, to educate your child. She said this is the sounding board for the Council to help the children so they don't fall through the system or fall through the cracks. She said that everyone is very passionate about what they do; they all need to come together and help these children before they end up in the juvenile system. It doesn't matter what race they are, it affects all of us. Every single one of us, whether the person is a tax payer or parent. In that thought, she just wants everyone to make a difference in someone's life, and that is what they are here for.

Rene asked if the Council has received everyone's comments. She said she would like to reiterate that the Council can not work on everything at one time. They have to prioritize and focus on a couple things at a time, so the Council can actually get things accomplished, instead of spreading the Council so thin that they don't get anything accomplished.

Donald Hinton said he has been an administrator in (inaudible comment) business. He has had 12 years as business manager in Las Vegas, heavy steel construction union. He said in his opinion, the Council should concentrate on every single solitary thing that has been brought up here today, because when the Council starts picking and selecting they are killing themselves. He doesn't see that the meeting today has accomplished very much in the four hours that he has been here. He thinks that the Council needs to get down and become a professional organization because today with what he has seen and heard, the Council is not. He said he is not embarrassed about saying what he just said.

Rene said that any professional organization will have a strategic plan that has certain goals that they are going to work toward. They don't work toward everything at the same time. They say what their focus is and when they finish that they move on to the next item. They prioritize and they move forward.

Donald said that the Council had better work toward all of them.

Barbara said she feels everybody's pain in here and it is important. It has to be done the right way. Have people been to DCFS, etc. People need to look at the bylaws of the Council and see what the Council can and can not do before people think that the Council is heartless.

Donald said he said ignoring not heartless.

Rene and Barbara both said they are not ignoring. Barbara said that there is so much they are hindered by certain things. That needs to be understood. She said if she could correct the problems, she would do it in heartbeat. Can she do that as an advisory council member? Is she confined by the law of the advisory council? They have to do what they are assigned to do. Rene said that the Council can only monitor (inaudible comment). None of it goes to the prisons.

15.CONFIRM DATE FOR FOLLOW-UP MHAC MEETING ON FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 6, 2009

Rene went over the next meeting date.

16.ADJOURNMENT

Cody motioned to adjourn the meeting. Barbara seconded the motion.

UNANIMOUS VOICE VOTE: MOTION CARRIED

Meeting adjourned at 4:40 pm