

Department of Health and Human Services · Nevada Mental Health and Developmental Services  
Substance Abuse Prevention and Treatment Agency (SAPTA)  
Statewide Epidemiology Workgroup (SEW)

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**APPROVED MINUTES**

**DATE:** July 27, 2011

**TIME:** 9:00 a.m.

**LOCATION:** MHDS Conference Room  
4126 Technology Way, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor  
Carson City, NV

*Video-Conference*

College of Southern Nevada – Room 2647 B  
3200 East Cheyenne Ave.  
North Las Vegas, NV

**Committee Members Present**

Kristen Clements-Nolle – Ex-officio, telephonically  
William Gazza – Committee Chair  
Tony Fredrick  
Alicia Hansen – telephonically  
Muriel Kronowitz  
Deborah McBride  
Susan Mears  
Sue Meuschke  
Cody Phinney  
Ron Pierini  
Chris Pritsos  
Kevin Quint  
Pauline Salla  
Linda Septien – proxy for Debbie Gant-Reed  
Angel Stachnik  
Brad Towle  
Wei Yang

UNR School of Community Health Science  
Clark Co. Coroner's Office  
Southern Nevada Health District  
Bureau of Health Planning & Statistics  
Bureau of Child, Family and Community Wellness  
SAPTA Agency Director  
Nevada Dept. of Child & Family Services  
NNADV  
MHDS Planning  
Douglas County Sheriff's Office  
UNR  
Join Together Northern Nevada  
DCFS- JJPO  
Crisis Call Center  
Staff Epidemiologist, Indian Health Board, NV  
NSHD- Health Statistics, Planning, Epidemiology, & Response  
Nevada Center for Health Statistics and Informatics

**Committee Members Absent**

Misty Allen  
Kulwadee Axtell  
Ihsam Azzam – Ex-Officio  
Debbie Gant-Reed  
John Johansen  
Diane McCoy  
Jim Osti  
Susanne Paulson

DHHS-Office of Suicide Prevention  
Nevada Department of Education  
NSHD –Communicable Disease Control  
Crisis Call Center  
Nevada Office of Traffic Safety  
Boys and Girls Clubs of Western Nevada  
Southern Nevada Health District  
Nevada State Health Division

**Public Present**

Freida Carbery  
Christy McGill

Fellow - CASAT  
Healthy Communities Coalition

**Contractor**

Michael Coop

Coop Consulting

**SAPTA Staff Present**

Chuck Bailey  
Kim Davis  
Bill Kirby  
Linda Kreeger  
Nan Kreher  
Charlene Herst  
Charlene Howard  
Meg Matta – Recorder

SAPTA Health Program Specialist  
SAPTA Administrative Assistant  
SAPTA Health Program Specialist  
SAPTA Health Program Specialist  
SAPTA Health Program Specialist  
SAPTA Prevention Team Supervisor  
SAPTA Health Program Specialist  
SAPTA Administrative Assistant

**1. Welcome and Introductions**

William Gazza opened the meeting in due form at 9:11 a.m. by announcing the locations where notifications of the open meeting were posted and welcoming the attendees. After introductions, a quorum was established.

**2. Public Comment and Discussion**

There were no comments.

**\* 3. Approval of Statewide Epidemiology Workgroup Minutes of March 23, 2011**

Minutes of the former meeting were approved.

**4. Update on the State/Community Assessment Instrument**

The four-page handout of the Nevada State/Community Instrument of March 2011 was discussed. It was found helpful and a better gauge of what is happening at a national level.

**5. Update on Task 10 Deliverables**

The final deliverable for the SEOW Grant was discussed. The deliverable is due September 28 and there is an anticipation of news of a result on the grant application within a month to six weeks.

**6. Update on the Statewide Epidemiology Outcomes Workgroup (SEOW) Grant**

The following points were discussed:

- Statewide Epidemiologic Profile
- Community Profile
- State Community Monitoring System
- National Survey on Drug Use and Health website: <https://nsduhweb.rti.org/>
- State Dissemination Plan – as the deliverable, it will be an electronic database similar to the SAMHSA database
- Currently developing a Request For Proposal (RFP) to send to vendors, some of which are promising
- Data Gap Plan – identify and close any gaps in data

Nan Kreher will email links to the Epidemiologic Profile.

**7. Overview of Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration's (SAMHSA) Strategic Prevention Framework State Prevention Enhancement (SPE) Grant**

A thirty-three-page copy of the narrative portion of the grant was handed out and the following points were discussed:

- One year capacity-building for state infrastructure
- Deliverables must be sent to the contractors by the end of the eleventh month of this grant
- Not all fifty states applied so our chances of receiving the grant are good.
- Goal is to complete the data dissemination system, the data warehouse and Crystal Reports

**8. Update and Approval of the Data Dissemination Plan and Proposed Database**

Besides having a dissemination tool, SAMHSA has further requirements. The basic outline is due at the end of August, but more time will be allotted to get the tools together. One of the

first steps is to put out a Request for Proposal (RFP) and review the bids received. We are working with the IT people to fill in the details and it will be out in a week or so. Synectics gave us an outline to use for the dissemination plan, and the items on that outline include:

- Identifying and selecting target audiences and end users
- Epi data information – which is the content of the database
- Products – such as county data reports
- Formats and mediums – written, electronic or face-to-face
- Identify and describe channels and opportunities for delivering the data products
- Describe how these products will address target audience needs

We have to identify and work with the most at-risk and needy populations within our state. There are many different ways to describe that need: rural vs. urban communities; specific populations; specific age groups; military; LGBTQ – how we identify these at-risk communities will be of importance as we move forward.

We also need to identify our resource needs, strengths and barriers; quality control and improvements; how we determine what is working and what may need to change; and our work plan and timeline along with identifying who is responsible for putting those tasks into action.

The plan is due August 31<sup>st</sup>.  
There were no further questions or comments.

#### 9. **Discussion on Pre/Post Survey Results**

Chuck Bailey discussed the results of the 2010 surveys. Spreadsheets containing the raw data have been sent to all but two coalitions. The 2011 data is due in August and will be sent in Excel format to the coalitions for distribution to their subgrantees.

Refinements were made in the 2012 survey instrument and include more details that will be useful in evaluations.

The loss of SAPTA staff is something we need to plan around. The increased workloads make it difficult to respond quickly.

#### \* 10. **Recommendations and Approval on Membership**

Charlene Herst made the following recommendations:

Alicia Hansen, as chief biostatistician, has represented the Health Division and is now working from home and has put in her resignation. Charlene would like to keep Alicia on as a public member with voting rights. She would like Brad Towle to take over as the member from the Health Division's biostatistician staff. Brad knows our agency well and has worked with us over the years.

There being no further comments or discussion, it was moved and seconded to accept both Alicia and Brad as voting members.

Susan Mears is from the Division of Child and Family Services, Planning and Evaluation Unit. With Health Care Reform, DCFS is preparing to submit the CHS Block Grant jointly with MHDS. She looks to SAPTA as a model for their departmental preparation with regards to data collection, policies and legislative workgroups.

There being no further comments or discussion, it was moved and seconded to accept Susan Mears as a member.

The chairman welcomed the new members and looks forward to their participation.

\* 11. **Review and Approval of Special Reports**

Michael Coop presented his two special reports, *Substance Abuse in Nevada* and *Substance Abuse and Gender in Nevada*. Following are the salient points:

- Trends show a decrease in drinking and driving, an increase in illicit drug use, and smoking remained roughly the same. Nan's Epidemiologic Profile shows the same trends.
- Early initiation and binge drinking are the behaviors that support all other high-risk behaviors and will appear consistently throughout the data. These behaviors may be used as planning priorities.
- Median age of the telephone survey respondents in 2007 was 51.
- Median age of the telephone survey respondents in 2010 was younger, due to extensive cell phone use.

Members were asked to send any comments or corrections to Nan Kreher by August 5<sup>th</sup> for incorporation before the final versions of the reports are published on the website in mid-August.

After comments and discussion, the reports were voted upon and approved with one abstention, and pending changes submitted to Nan or Michael.

12. **Review and Approval of Epidemiological Profile**

Nan presented a summary of the findings contained in the 2011 Epidemiologic Profile:

- Nevadans 12 and older rank in the top quintile for prescription drug abuse.
- The incidence of drinking and driving in Nevada has not decreased.
- A greater percentage of Nevadans smoke.
- Nevada is in the top quintile for mental illness and suicide.
- Nevada students report higher use of methamphetamine and cocaine.
- Nevada students report a significantly greater instance of being offered illegal drugs on the school premises.
- Nevada students reported a lower instance of binge drinking and smoking, but a higher number report using marijuana, alcohol, and tobacco before age 13.

Crisis Call Center has offered to help gather data from their callers by asking one or two key questions for us when the situation allows. They asked for suggestions for the questions.

Because the Profile was due the end of June, it has received internal approval and no further action is necessary.

\* 13. **Discussion and Approval of Future Meeting Dates**

Dr. Ira Chasnoff will be speaking on Tuesday, November 15<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 a.m. in the Hearing Room of the Health Division. He would like to address a large audience and the SEW, the MPAC, and all Coalition members are invited as well SAPTA and Health Division staff. The meeting will be video-conferenced with Las Vegas. A flyer will be sent out with more specifics.

The date of the next SEW meeting was voted and approved for September 28<sup>th</sup>.

14. **Public Comment and Discussion**

Christy McGill commented that CASAT helped her by developing a report out of her raw pre/post survey data. She asked for guidance from this group to come up with a plan to work on preventing the behaviors that are shown in the special reports to be increasing.

\* 15. **Adjourn**

It was moved and seconded to adjourn at 11:55 a.m.