

MINUTES
NEVADA HEALTH CARE SECTOR COUNCIL BOARD MEETING
April 7th, 2011
workforce **CONNECTIONS**
Conference Room—Suite 200
7251 W. Lake Mead Blvd.
Las Vegas, NV 89128

Members Present

Laura Hale
Linda Johnson
Jim Osti for Larry Sands
Debra Scott
Steven Knauss for Al Martinez
Steve Lebedoff
Carolyn Yucha
Holly Balmer for Maurizio Trevisan

Members Absent

Bobbette Bond
Maggie Carlton
June Coleman
Margaret Covelli
Hyla Winters
Ann Lynch
Lawrence Mathias
Janice Muhammad
Maureen Peckman
Charles Perry
Debra Toney
LeRoy Walker

Members Present-Teleconference

Mary-Ann Brown
Lynn O'Mara
Randi Hunewill
Deborah Moore-Jaquith
Marissa Brown for Bill Welch
Joan Hall

Staff Present

Kimberly Coalgioia
Debra Collins
Veronica Dahir
Douglas Geinzer
Earl McDowell
John Packham (phone)
Linda Yi
Darragh Huggins
Veronica Dahir

Others Present

Julie Johnson

*It should be noted that all attendees may not be listed above.

Agenda Item #1

The meeting was called to order by Linda Yi at 9:42 AM.
It was noted that the meeting was posted according to NRS 241.020.
Roll call taken.

Agenda Item #2

Housekeeping Issues

Those attending the meeting by teleconference were reminded that when they place their phone on hold their organization may have piped in music that disrupts the meeting.

Boards members were also encouraged to completed their member applications and submit their bios so that letters of appointment may be mailed to all members.

It was noted that Dr. Maurizio Trevisan was appointed as chair of the Nevada Health Care Sector Council and has asked Debra Scott to work with him as vice-chair and she has agreed. Both have received their letters of appointment which are included in the agenda packet.

Earl McDowell congratulated both Dr. Trevisan and Ms. Scott on their appointments. He noted that Mr. Moseley and Mr. Lee are thrilled they had accepted and wished to thank them for their contribution to the Council in the high-growth high-demand field of healthcare.

The meeting was turned over to Debra Scott to chair in Dr. Trevisan's absence.

Agenda Item #3

Lynn O'Mara made a motion to include a Legislative update to the agenda. This update would include following Bills that could directly affect this Board. The motion was seconded by Carolyn Yucha. The motion carried. Lynn O'Mara offered to provide the update to the Board. It was also noted that Board members Charles Perry, Ann Lynch, and Larry Mathias could contribute as well to the update. Debra Scott suggested Fred Hillerbee, who represents dentists and nurses, be notified as well.

Agenda Item #4

There was one correction on page 5, agenda items 9 & 12 to the Sector Council minutes of March 3, 2011. The sentence should read, "Debra Scott (rather than Debra Toney). It was moved, seconded and the motion carried to accept the Sector Council minutes of March 3, 2011 with the above mentioned change.

Agenda Item #5

There was one correction to the objective #3 ad hoc committee meeting minutes of 02-28-2011. On page two Marissa Brown noted that *CampWannaBeANurse* is sponsored by NIN (Nursing Institute of Nevada) and that the event this year is on April 19, 2011. Also the participants in Nurse Excellence Awards are nurses within Northern Nevada not 6th-8th grade students. The winners are announced, recognized and awarded at an annual ceremony in Reno, NV. (May 6, 2011) It was moved, seconded and the motion carried to accept the minutes with the above mentioned changes.

Agenda #6

The appointments to the chair and vice-chair position have been completed.

Agenda #7

Deferred until John Packham provides updated information in agenda item #10

Note:

An interjection was made at this point by Lynn O'Mara to determine that a quorum was present.

Agenda # 8

Darragh Huggins, Economist with DETR in the Research and Analysis Bureau provided information to the Board about the Nevada Career Information System. NCIS is a comprehensive career guidance system available to all Nevadans via the internet. It is updated each year by DETR and is an invaluable tool for future and current job seekers. The goals of NCIS are to make the information current, reliable, unbiased, understandable, relevant to Nevada and easy to use. NCIS is used extensively by the school systems, libraries, military bases and individual Nevadans. There are about 50,000 hits per month to the site with approximately 20,000 attributed to the junior site and 30,000 to the standards site. An update of the entire system is completed each January.

Ms. Huggins took the group through the website using nursing as a specific occupation, outlining education and training required, skill sets, types of nursing and schools within the state of Nevada that offer a nursing program. Information was also available about how to pay for school, including financial aid and scholarships.

The group was very impressed with the information and had many specific questions. Carolyn Yucha asked how the information is placed into the system. Darragh stated that Nevada has been part of a consortium for 23 years. The program that comes out of the University of Oregon provides a shell program that the consortium contributes and detailed information about the state of Nevada is input by DETR (Department of Employment, Training and Rehabilitation).

Linda Johnson asked about how the program is funded and if the program is in danger of being unfunded. Darragh stated that NCIS is completely funded by DETR at this time and does not expect to be cut from the budget.

Jim Osti asked for a review on how to log on as a state resident. Darragh pointed out that you must first choose the junior or standard tab and then log on to the home page. Debra Scott asked if there is the ability to provide a link from one site to another (e.g.: Nevada Board of Nursing with a link to NCIS) and the answer was yes.

Questions also arose about training opportunities. Darragh has a small staff, one person that trains, another economist, one support staff member and Darragh provides back up and outreach. Training is provided at a minimum of twice a year in Las Vegas or more often when enough people are available for a work shop. It is also provided in the Rural areas once a year and Reno /Sparks as necessary. Debra Collins suggested a date around July 1, 2011 when the next group of service providers will begin their contracts and will need this information.

Lynn O'Mara asked Darragh if she knew Daphne DeLeon who is the State Librarian. Public computer centers are being established under the HIT grant including the rural areas and Lynn suggested that Darragh contact Daphne to provide information on the Nevada Career Information System.

Jim Osti, asked if there is the ability to build additional career clusters. Darragh stated that they work off a 16 career cluster that aligns with the School Districts which would make it difficult to add and/or change. Everything in the system is related and linked appropriately in a meaningful way but Darragh suggested that Mr. Osti send her an email with his suggestions and she will speak with her programmers about the possibility of additions.

Randi Hunewill feels that the career clusters should remain the same so as not to disrupt the school district's use of this system. Finally, John Packham informed the group that his office is putting together a health care career manual that includes 95-100 health care occupations and that Darragh's office has allowed him to utilize current information and inventory. John acknowledged Darragh and her staff's critical role in the project.

Agenda Item #9

Laura Hale, Manager for the Primary Care Office at the Nevada State Health Division, provided an *Overview of the Primary Care Office (PCO)*. The PCO is funded by a grant from HRSA to increase access to primary care for underserved or vulnerable populations in Nevada. The grant drives the work of the PCO with three expectations that affect the work of this Board. They include:

1. Assessment of Needs/Sharing Data
2. Workforce Development for the Nevada Health Care Sector Council and Safety Net/Health Center Network.
3. Shortage Designation Application and Updates

The Primary Care Office utilizes demographic, primary care provider and geographic data as well as needs assessments to submit applications to HRSA/OSD (Office of Shortage Designation) for new and renewal designations for the state. These designations provide access to federal resources including funding for federally qualified health centers (Nevada Health Centers and HAWC), Medicare bonus incentive payments, J-1 Physician Visa Waivers and the National Health Services Corporation loan repayors.

Both the National Health Service Corps and the National Health Services Corporation helps the designated health professional shortage areas provide care to those in need.

The Primary Care Work group has identified multiple priorities including:

1. Gaps from closure of mental health centers
2. Utilization of telemedicine
3. Primary Care Provider Data/Access
4. Primary Care Provider Recruitment and Retention
5. Primary Care Access point and available funding
6. Shortage/affordability of oral health providers
7. Engaging VA and Tribal Health Care systems.

Sub-committees have been formed to address each of these priorities with the expectation that the group will work through each of these priorities. The work group is currently focusing on mental health where there is a particular shortage in rural areas and drafting some solutions in conjunction with John Packham.

Laura explained how the J-1 Physician Visa Waiver program works and how previous difficulties with the program have been resolved. Lynn O'Mara stated that in previous years there has been an 80% retention rate of these physicians in the community after they complete their required 3 years of service so it is certainly advantageous to Nevada to pursue these providers for Health Shortage Designated Areas.

Agenda Item #10

John Packham, PhD presented an update on objective #2—“*Identify current and projected high demand State or regional healthcare sectors for purpose of planning career pathways*”- Those occupations with current projected high demand must be prioritized for the purposes of the planning grant and this Board. John has worked on the supply, demand and need for a specific list of health care professionals. The grant requires work data collection and the development of minimum data set. John listed five different occupations including primary care, nursing, health information technology, mental and public health that were previously discussed by the Board. He encouraged the Board to include oral health as well since the

Primary Care Office will be collecting data on this occupation as well. Within these six occupations are sub-sets for each occupation (e.g. Primary care = physicians, osteopaths, physician assistants and advanced practitioners of nursing) that brings the total list to approximately 20 occupations to be researched and developed. John stated that the development of a minimum data set is crucial to moving forward and that he is “wildly optimistic” about our ability to move forward with an implementation grant upon completion of this objective.

Agenda Item #11

Holly Balmer discussed progress on objective #4. The committee planned out a road map with tasks assigned to meet the objective. It was determined that the Comprehensive Schools as well as the Career Technical Academy need to be included in obtaining the information. The National Health Care Assessment Foundation skills test was also discussed and it was questioned whether or not the Community Colleges use the results of this test in determining admission to the college. Holly acknowledged Linda Johnson and her critical role in helping complete the tasks associated with this objective.

Holly also provided an update on objective #5. The health sciences survey is out (150 surveys) and to date 48% have responded. The survey will end on April 18th at 800 AM. Reminder phone calls have been made in order to increase compliance. The objective #5 ad hoc committee will meet shortly after the survey is completed to review the data and discuss results.

Randi Hunewill reported that there are health science programs at less than 23% of the high schools in the state of Nevada. Most of the high schools surveyed would welcome the opportunity to offer a health science program but lack of funding is the major factor preventing implementation. Randi also discussed the National Health Care Foundation Skills Assessment test. The test is taken at the end of the student’s course of study in health science. That may be a two or four class course of study. There is no funding to take the examination but Randi’s department paid for a small number of students to take the examination last year.

Randi referred the group to the document she provided at the last meeting. (Health Science One and Two) which demonstrates how rigorous the program is for the students. Randi also stated that students that successfully complete the health sciences curriculum are very successful in their career but the challenge is that at the secondary level requests for these classes cannot be met and students are being turned away.

Agenda Item #12

Linda Yi provided an update on objective # 3&6. Most of the information needed for objective #3 for recruitment and retention strategies has already been completed thanks to the ad hoc committee participants. Deborah Moore-Jaquith (AARP) will also be sending additional information about recruiting and retaining the older workforce.

The ad hoc committee for Objective #6 which requires that we “*identify Federal or State policies or rules to developing a coherent and comprehensive health care workforce development strategy*” was unable to meet due to telephone difficulties but Laura’s information about repayment plans for health educational loans was welcomed as one methodology. The main responsibility of this grant is to eliminate barriers. Doug Geinzer suggested that we look at strategies based on the State Workforce Investment Board. Carolyn Yucha was struck by the fact that we are doing everything possible to encourage students to

pursue a health career and at the same time we are cutting those programs at University and Community College levels.

Agenda Item #13

Dr. Dahir discussed the deadline for information to be collected as May 15th with June 30th as the deadline for completion of the written report. Dr. Dahir encouraged those chairing the different objectives to give out pieces to their committee to summarize or at a minimum to outline. She stated that she and John do not need volumes. Simply answer the objective. Holly Balmer requested a template which will be forwarded to her. Steve Lebedoff suggested that a report status be added to next agenda. Doug recommended that a grant writer be brought in at this point so that the educational curve will be less severe when writing the implementation grant. Andy Anderson, who helped write the planning grant, will be invited to the next meeting. Dr. Dahir said that one of our biggest challenges is to discuss the components of our implementation grant, what our strategies will be and how we are going to spend the money and have sustainability for the program/s selected.

Agenda Item #14

Board members were notified that Dr. Kathy Wibberly, Director, Virginia Division of Primary Care and Rural Health will present at the next Council Sector meeting. The State of Virginia under the direction of Dr. Wibberly received the only HRSA Implementation Grant funded. Dr. Wibberly will be speaking about their infrastructure and how they achieved success in being awarded this grant.

Agenda Item #15

The next Nevada Health Care Sector Council meeting will be held on Thursday, May 5, 2011 from 09:30 am – 12:30 pm at Workforce Connections.

Agenda Item #16

Several additional information items were presented. Debra Collins discussed the “Go to College Nevada” event at local high schools and encouraged members to complete the form and participate if possible. A prototype for the Sector Council logo was shown to the group. A suggestion was made to change the colors to blue and silver, reflecting the state’s colors. It will be voted upon at the next meeting. Debra Scott cited the article that was recently published in the Nursing News magazine highlighting Workforce Connections and the Southern Nevada Medical Industry Coalition 20-20 plan. It was also mentioned that as the web site is developed links will be provided with other organizations as well as the availability of scholarships.

Agenda Item #17

A motion for adjournment was seconded and carried. The meeting adjourned at 1:02pm.