

SURG 2022 Prevention Subcommittee Recommendations

1. *Implement changes to recruitment, retention, and compensation of health and behavioral health care workers and enhance compensation in alignment with the Commission on Behavioral Health Board's letter to the Governor of June 22nd. Additionally, continue to sustain and expand investment in Community Health Workers, Peer Recovery Specialists, and Certified Prevention Specialists by implementing changes to recruitment, retention, and compensation.*
2. *Support a backbone agency that specializes in data collection, evaluation, analysis, and assessment, and provides consultation to entities across Nevada to help improve internal local data collection systems and create a comprehensive statewide data sharing system that includes all State dashboards and public data.*
3. *Support prevention and intervention in K-20 schools by investing in multi-tiered system of supports (MTSS) and provide a robust platform of services at schools to connect families to prosocial education, early intervention, counseling services, and other resources to help mitigate Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACES).*
4. *Provide age appropriate, innovative and/or evidence-based prevention education and programming that is based on best practices and invest in certified prevention specialists in schools.*
5. *Increase school-based mental health professionals through a multi-disciplinary, cross-department school-based behavioral health team.*
6. *Require the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) to allocate increased funding for the Prevention Coalitions to set aside funding for small grants to programs and grassroots efforts geared toward substance use prevention and education.*
7. *Expand Medicaid billing opportunities for preventive services and allow blended and braided funding to facilitate services to expand access to care for youth and adults.*
8. *Support Harm Reduction through:*
 - a. *A recommendation to DHHS to utilize opioid settlement dollars to designate a baseline level of identification and overdose reversal medication for the next 10 years in Nevada (base this on the state naloxone saturation plan) to create a stable, sustainable source of overdose reversal medication throughout the state.*
 - b. *Create a recommendation to the legislature modeled on Maryland's STOP Act which authorizes certain emergency medical services providers to dispense naloxone to individuals who received treatment for a nonfatal drug overdose or were evaluated by a crisis evaluation team, and requires certain community services programs, certain private and public entities, and hospitals to have a protocol to dispense naloxone to certain individuals free of charge under certain circumstances.*
 - c. *Expand access to MAT and recovery support for SUD, limit barriers to individuals seeking treatment regardless of the ability to pay, and encourage the use of hub and spoke systems, as well as recovery support, including use and promotion of telehealth, considering the modifications that have been made under the emergency policies, and pursuing innovative programs such as establishing bridge MAT programs in emergency departments.*