



OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL

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TREATMENT AND RECOVERY SUBCOMMITTEE

Substance Use Response Group (SURG)

June 27, 2023

1:00 pm

**1. CALL TO ORDER AND
ROLL CALL TO ESTABLISH
QUORUM**

Chair Lee

1. Call to Order and Roll Call to Establish Quorum

Member	SURG Role	Committee Role
Chelsi Cheatom	Harm Reduction Program	Member
Dr. Lesley Dickson	Healthcare Provider with SUD Expertise	Member
Lisa Lee	Urban Human Services (Washoe County)	Chair
Steve Shell	Hospital	Vice Chair
Jeffrey Iverson	Person in Recovery from an SUD	Member

2. PUBLIC COMMENT

Public Comment

- Public comment will be received via Zoom by raising your hand or unmuting yourself when asked for public comment. Public comment shall be limited to three (3) minutes per person (this is a period devoted to comments by the general public, if any, and discussion of those comments). No action may be taken upon a matter raised during a period devoted to comments by the general public until the matter itself has been specifically included on an agenda as an item upon which action may be taken pursuant to NRS 241.020.

**3. REVIEW AND APPROVE MARCH
20, 2023 TREATMENT AND
RECOVERY SUBCOMMITTEE
MEETING MINUTES**

(FOR POSSIBLE ACTION)

Chair Lee

4. SUMMARY AND DISCUSSION OF PRESENTATION VIDEOS RECOMMENDATIONS

(FOR POSSIBLE ACTION)

Chair Lee

Treatment and Recovery for Indigenous African Americans

Presenter: Donald Griffin, Founder,
Black Wall Street Reno

Gaps

- Public engagement campaigns including billboards that focus on Indigenous African American Community members
- Lack of programming and funding specific to organizations reaching Indigenous African American community members
- Lack of opportunities for recovery and diversion and deflection from the criminal justice system

Recommendation(s)

- Prioritize programming and funding specific to organizations reaching Indigenous African American community members
- Promote diversion and deflection programs for Indigenous African American people and facilitate access to treatment
- Engage Indigenous African American people and organizations in campaigns, billboards, and messaging related to substance use
- Support and implement Trac B model with funding for staff and infrastructure to stand up news stands/vending machines for Indigenous African Americans
- Address the school to prison pipeline (new Jim Crow laws) through policy and legislation

Role and Importance of Peers and Persons with Lived Experience

Presenter: Sean O'Donnell, Executive Director,
Foundation for Recovery

Barriers from Presentation/Summary

- Legal considerations and background requirements for Peer Recovery Support Specialists (PRSS) with different agencies which are difficult to get around due to background of PRSS applicants
- Concern about diversity, equity and inclusion for PRSS, for example, with tribal communities or LGBTQIA, is how to create a more diverse peer workforce.
- Concern for better reimbursement rates for PRSS.

Recommendations from Presentation Discussion and Summary

- Lisa Lee: Team model for sobriety, treatment and recovery working in dyads with family mentors and case workers to avoid children's removal from their parents with substance use disorder or working toward reunification.
- Lisa Lee: Examine NRS to change disqualifying offenses that don't align with PRSS legislation.

Recommendations from Presentation Discussion and Summary

- Sean O'Donnell:
 - Stand up PRS independently of treatment, with targeted funding. (Let people who are directly impacted have resources to do work in communities. Think outside the box working with those who have historically been left out, creating a more diverse workforce.)
 - Support PRSS training events including train-the-trainer programs with technical support for other trainers.

**5. OVERVIEW OF
RECOMMENDATIONS
RECEIVED AND NEXT STEPS**
(FOR POSSIBLE ACTION)

Chair Lee

Recommendations Received

- Recommendation (submitted by from Lisa Lee): *Prevention and overdose prevention outreach to underserved communities, including BIPOC communities.*
- Justification: A recommendation from this subcommittee was to expand overdose prevention outreach to BIPOC communities. This recommendation is based on racial disproportionality in our state's overdose fatality data.
 - Presenter suggestion: Donald Griffin and Romar Tolliver, Black Wall Street Reno
- Recommendation (submitted by Steve Shell): *Presentation from Nevada Department of Veteran's Services.*
- Justification: The VA provides a variety of services around the state that are pertinent to our focus on special populations.
 - Presenter Suggestion: Dr. Joseph Simpson from the Reno VA system or his designee (or his counterpart at the Las Vegas VA System)

6. PRESENTATION UPDATES

(FOR POSSIBLE ACTION)

Chair Lee

Potential and Pending Presentations

- Katro Henderson, CADC, The Adelson Clinic
- Abigail Beagen, Addictive Disorders Treatment Program Supervisor, VA Sierra Nevada Healthcare System (confirmed interest, to be scheduled)
- Kailin See, Washington Heights Corner Project, Safe Consumption Sites (confirmed interest, to be scheduled)
- Marissa Brown, Hospital Association to present on the Bridge program
- Kat Reich, Administrative Manager, Trac-B Exchange

7. 2023 LEGISLATIVE SESSION UPDATE

(FOR POSSIBLE ACTION)

Chair Lee

Legislative Update (part 1)

- SB119: Extends coverage for telehealth services. (SURG Recommendation #11 to expand access to MAT, and SUD recovery support including telehealth.) **[AB374 Sec10 Paragraphs (e) and (f)]**
 - 5/29/23 – Approved by the Governor
- SB128: Clarifies certification for Community Health Workers and expands the range of professionals who can provide oversight and supervision. (SURG Recommendation #15 to enhance compensation of health and behavioral health care workers; sustain/expand investment in Community Health Workers, Peer Recovery Specialists, and Certified Prevention Specialists.) **[AB374 Sec10 Paragraph (q)]**
 - 4/15/23 – No Further Action Allowed
- SB191: Expands Medicaid coverage to behavior analysts, assistant behavior analysts and registered behavior technicians for recipients under 27 years of age. (SURG Recommendation #6 to Expand Medicaid for preventive services and access to care.) **[AB374 Sec10 Paragraph (q)]**
 - 6/12/23 – Approved by the Governor
- SB242: Authorizes clinical trials with adults using MDMA or psilocybin in the treatment of mental health and other medical conditions. **[AB374 Sec 10 Paragraph (j)]** Study the efficacy and expand the implementation of programs to: (1) Educate youth and families about the effects of substance use and substance use disorders.
 - 6/12/23 – Approved by the Governor
- SB412: Increases penalty for possession of fentanyl and other substances. (SURG Recommendation #1 to Revise Fentanyl penalties) **[AB374 Sec10 Paragraph (o)]**
 - 6/12/23 – Approved by the Governor

Legislative Update (part 2)

- AB37: Supports workforce development for behavioral health care . (SURG Recommendation #15 to enhance compensation of health and behavioral health care workers; sustain/expand investment in Community Health Workers, Peer Recovery Specialists, and Certified Prevention Specialists.) [AB374 Sec10 Paragraph (q)]
 - 6/15/23 – Approved by the Governor
- AB45: Supports workforce development for health care providers through loan repayment.
 - 6/9/23 – Approved by the Governor
- AB69: Expands loan repayment for behavioral health providers under the Nevada Health Service Corps (SURG Recommendation #15 to enhance compensation of health and behavioral health care workers) [AB374 Sec10 Paragraph (q)]
 - No Further Action
- AB132: Creates Committee to Review Overdose Fatalities, like the Committee to Review Suicide Fatalities (SURG Recommendation #10 Overdose Fatality Review Committees to identify system gaps and innovative strategies.) [AB374 Sec10 Paragraph (i)]
 - 6/5/23 – Approved by the Governor
- AB137: This bill expands confidentiality of reporting on fetal alcohol spectrum disorders which may not be used for criminal prosecution.
 - 6/9/23 – Approved by the Governor

Legislative Update (part 3)

- AB138: Expand State Plan for Medicaid to cover evidence-based behavioral health services. (SURG Recommendation #6 to Expand Medicaid for preventive services and access to care.) (SURG Recommendation #14 to increase capacity including access to treatment facilities and beds for intensive care coordination to divert youth at risk of higher-level of care and/or system involvement.)**[AB374 Sec10 Paragraphs (e), (f) and (q)]**
 - 6/12/23 – Approved by the Governor
- AB156: Ensure availability of medication-assisted Treatment in jails, detention centers, and correctional facilities, for people diagnosed with opioid use disorder, and continuation of treatment on release or transfer. (SURG Recommendation #5 to expand outreach for overdose and deploy personnel to people released from institutional or other settings after overdose) (SURG Recommendation #11 to expand access to MAT and recovery support for SUD, including bridge MAT programs.) (SURG Recommendation #12 to implement follow-up, referrals, and linkage of care for justice involved individuals with opioid use disorder.)**[AB374 Sec10 Paragraphs (e) and (f)]**
 - 6/15/23 – Approved by the Governor
- AB277: DHHS endorsement for rural emergency hospitals to serve as crisis stabilization centers providing behavioral health services, leveraging Medicaid payment source. Recommendation #6 to 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. **[AB374 Sec10 Paragraph (q)]**
 - 6/9/23 – Enrolled and Delivered to the Governor

Legislative Update (part 4)

- AB403: [R]emoving the requirement that such a halfway house be licensed by the Division while preserving the requirement that such a halfway house be certified by the Division. **[AB374 Sec10 Paragraph (j) Study the efficacy and expand the implementation of programs to: (2) Reduce the harms associated with substance use and substance use disorders while referring persons with substance use disorders to evidence-based treatment.**
 - 6/9/23 – Approved by the Governor

8. DISCUSSION OF REPORT OUT FOR JULY SURG MEETING

(FOR POSSIBLE ACTION)

Chair Lee

9. PUBLIC COMMENT

Public Comment

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10. ADJOURNMENT

**ADDITIONAL INFORMATION, RESOURCES &
UPDATES AVAILABLE AT:**

[https://ag.nv.gov/About/Administration/Substance
Use Response Working Group \(SURG\)/](https://ag.nv.gov/About/Administration/Substance_Use_Response_Working_Group_(SURG)/)



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