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RESPONSE SUBCOMMITTEE

Substance Use Response Group (SURG)

August 5, 2025

11:00 am

1. CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL TO ESTABLISH QUORUM

Chair Kerns

1. Call to Order and Roll Call to Establish Quorum Cont.

Member	SURG Role	Subcommittee Role
Dr. Shayla Holmes	Rural Human Services (Lyon County)	Vice Chair
Dr. Terry Kerns	Attorney General Appointee	Chair
Nancy Lindler	SUD Treatment Provider	Member
Christine Payson	Sheriffs' & Chiefs' Assoc.	Member
Senator Jeff Stone	Member of the Senate appointed by the Senate Minority Leader	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.
- If you are dialing in from a telephone:
 - Dial 719-359-4580
 - When prompted enter the Meeting ID: 878 2168 8019
 - Please press *6 so the host can prompt you to unmute.
- Members of the public are requested to refrain from commenting outside the designated public comment periods, unless specifically called upon by the Chair.

3. REVIEW AND APPROVE MINUTES FROM JUNE 3, 2025, RESPONSE SUBCOMMITTEE MEETING

Chair Kerns

4. PRESENTATION ON BEHAVIORAL HEALTH EDUCATION, RETENTION, & EXPANSION NETWORK OF NEVADA (BeHERENV)

Sara Hunt, PhD, Executive Director, BeHERE Nevada, and Roberta A. Miranda-Alfonzo, PhD, CPC-S (NV), LCADC-S (NV), NCC, ACS, CPCG-I (NV), Associate Director of Recruitment and Outreach, Kirk Kerkorian School of Medicine, UNLV



BeHERENV

Behavioral Health Education, Retention,
& Expansion Network of Nevada

SURG Response Committee

August 5th, 2025

Sara Hunt, Ph.D.

Roberta Miranda-Alfonzo, Ph.D., CPC, LCADC-S, NCC, ACS

KIRK KERKORIAN
SCHOOL OF MEDICINE

UNLV



Assembly Bill 37

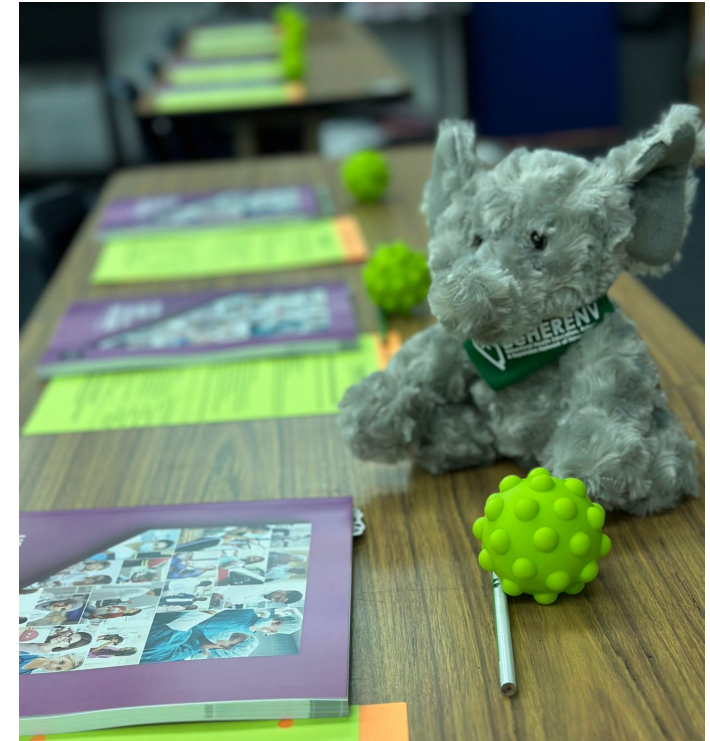
82nd (2023) Legislative Session

- **AB 37: “Authorizes the establishment of the Behavioral Health Workforce Development Center of Nevada...under the Nevada System of Higher Education”**
- Sponsored by the Rural Regional Behavioral Health Policy Board
- Build out a robust pipeline for behavioral health providers in Nevada
- Initial fiscal allocation has ended; now in UNLV budget



Priorities of AB 37

- ↑ Higher # of high school students pursuing behavioral health degrees in higher education
- ↑ Higher # of graduates from NSHE who intern and practice in Nevada
- ↑ Higher # of BH providers with specialty training to address most critical shortages (i.e. rural areas)
- ↑ Higher # of supervisors and sites for students and post-grads
- ↓ Lower amount of time between graduation and registration/licensure



Our mascot "Winnie" (named after Winnemucca) making an appearance at Reed High School.

Objectives



Recruit-Provide outreach and education about behavioral health careers to K-12 and adult learners in Nevada.



Educate-Highlight education pathways within the Nevada System of Higher Education (NSHE) for behavioral health skills training, certificates, and degrees.



Retain-Promote opportunities to retain our graduates and the existing Nevada behavioral health workforce.



Recruit

Provide outreach and education about behavioral health careers to K-12 and adult learners in Nevada.

- Over 1,000 students
- 9 counties
- Over 700 Nevada Healthcare Career books



Our first high school career fair at Fernley High School (March 2024).



CTE Partnership



→ Support in developing and delivering behavioral health content for students



→ Support with accessing guest speakers



→ Co-participation in CTE track recruitment efforts



→ Integration of planned efforts with existing efforts (SEL integration, CTE programming, etc.)



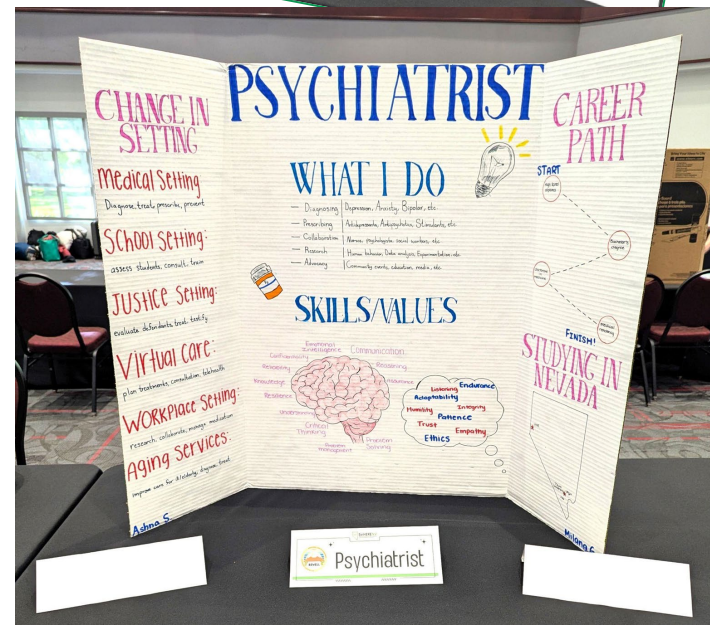
Fast facts:

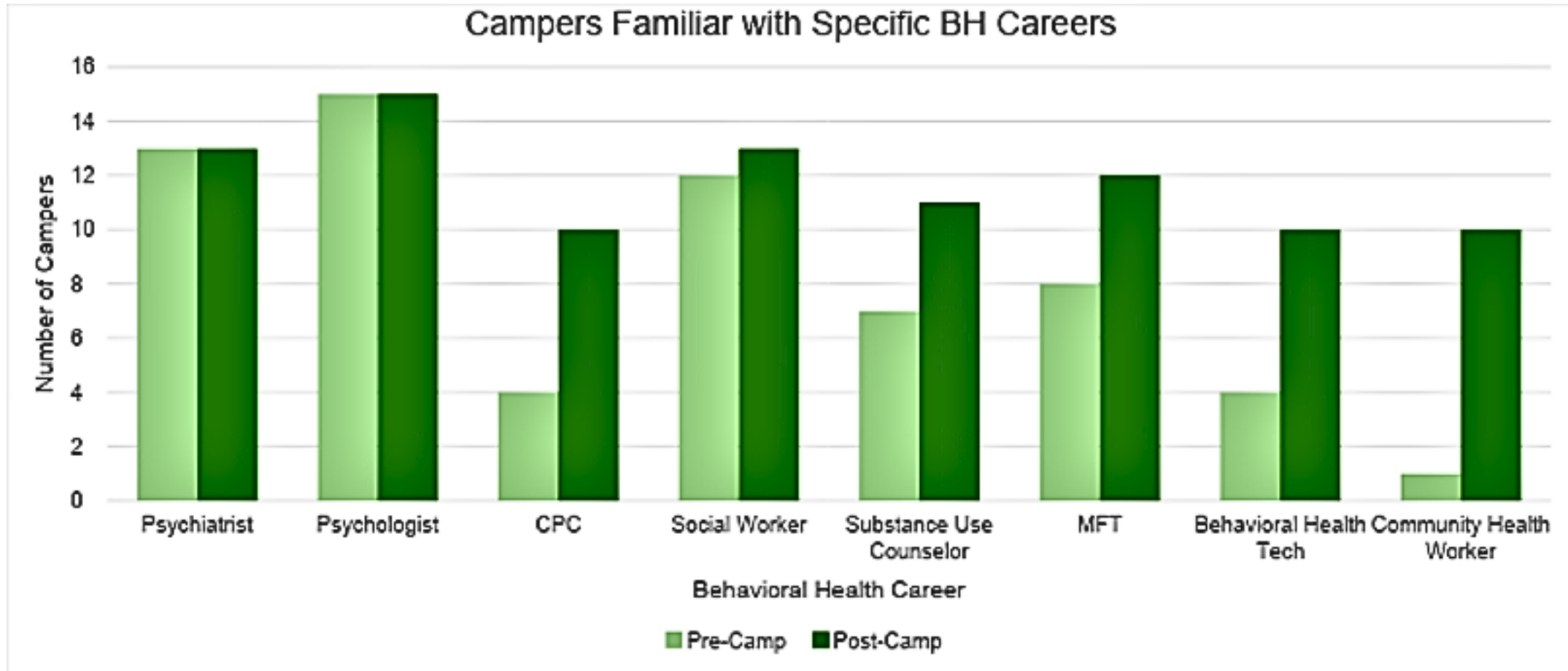
- 16 campers
- Age 14-17
- Majority 10th grade, age 16
- Las Vegas & Henderson
- 6 male, 10 female



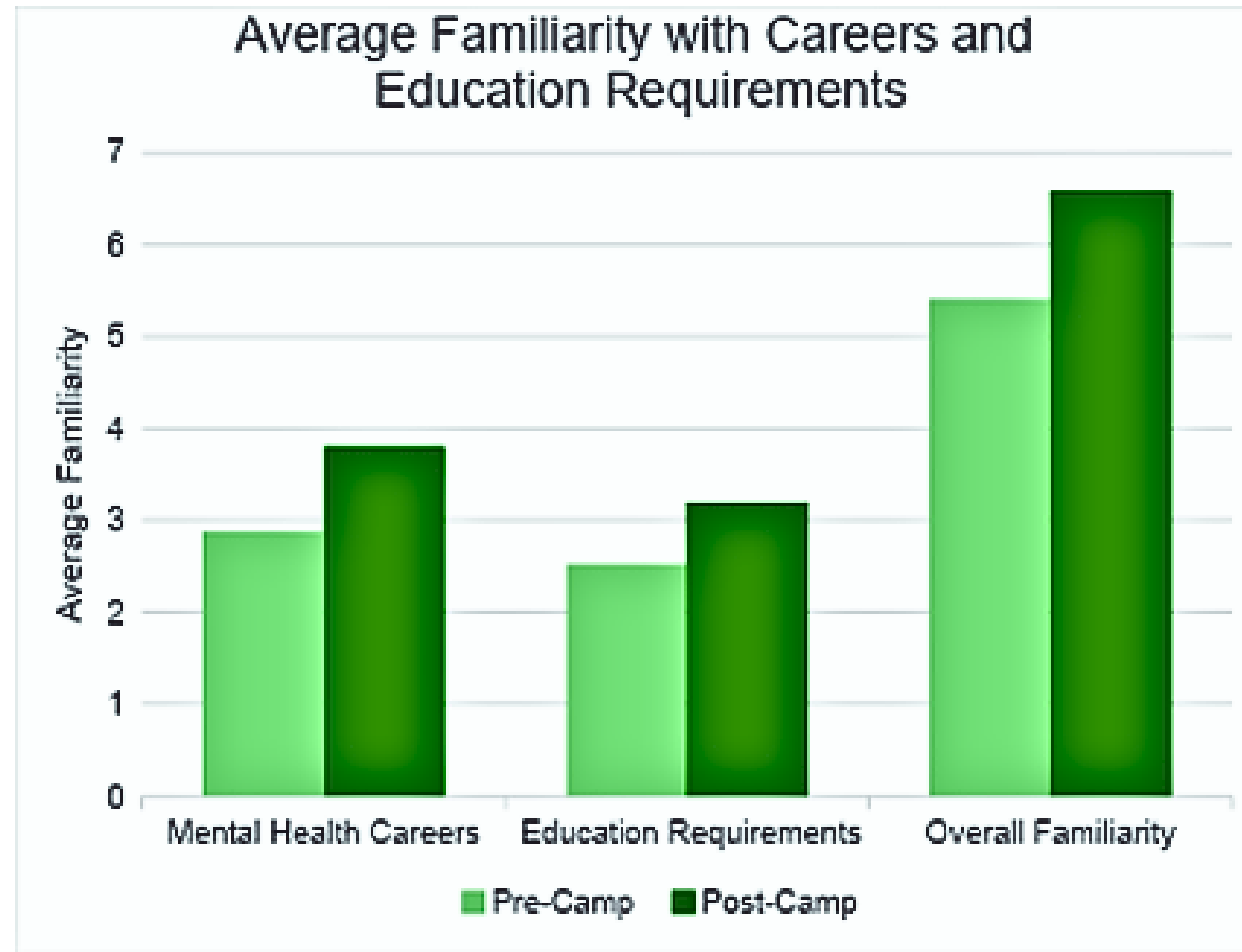


Dr. Alison Netski, Interim Dean of the Kirk Kerkorian School of Medicine at UNLV, attended and interacted with our campers.





Participants showed a significant increase in their familiarity with specific behavioral health careers after attending camp ($p = .002$), with a large effect size ($r = .758$), indicating that the camp was highly effective in expanding students' career awareness.



Participants reported a significant increase in their familiarity with behavioral health careers and related education requirements after attending camp ($p = .003$), with a large effect size ($r = .752$), demonstrating that the camp effectively enhanced students' understanding of these career pathways.



Great Basin College Career Fair, Pahrump, NV (August 2024).



Educate


Highlight education pathways within the Nevada System of Higher Education for behavioral health skills training, certificates, and degrees.



Retain

Promote opportunities to retain our graduates and the existing Nevada behavioral health workforce.

Molina Clinical Supervision Grant



CLINICAL SUPERVISION

BEHERE NV AND MOLINA CLINICAL SUPERVISION GRANT

ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

- ▶ Must be a current postgraduate pre-licensed intern
- ▶ Must be registered with a licensing board
- ▶ Must be working 20+ hours per week in an internship placement
- ▶ Must be paying out-of-pocket for all or part of your internships fees
- ▶ Must currently reside and practice in Nevada
- ▶ Must intend to practice in Nevada after licensure

APPLICATION DEADLINE:
JUNE 30TH, 2025

Are you a practicing pre-licensed counselor intern in Nevada? BeHERE NV is here to support you! As a statewide initiative focused on growing Nevada's behavioral health workforce, we're committed to helping you complete your required clinical supervision and launch your career in the field.

Through the BeHERE NV and Molina Clinical Supervision Grant, eligible applicants can receive up to \$1,000 to help cover the cost of primary and/or secondary supervision. Priority will be given to those serving in rural areas, school-based settings, or crisis care—and those planning to stay and serve Nevada communities.

Contact us
702.929.3673

QR CODE TO APPLY

Email
info@beherenv.org

90 Responses over 2 weeks

Supervisor Partnership with UNR



CAS 783
Spring 2025 Class

CAS 783 will be offered in a hybrid format. No travel to Reno required!

January 20
-
May 14, 2024

20 FULL scholarships available, with priority status given to rural/frontier counselors and those working for non-profits.

This course will also include a mentorship opportunity that extends beyond the semester. Students must apply through UNR as a Grad Special.

This course will include a practicum component that will be available virtually.

This course satisfies the MFT/CPC BoE academic and practical requirements for approved supervisor application AND approved for ethics and cultural competence CEUs through the MFT/CPC BoE.

 Community Behavioral Health Collaborative
School of Public Health

 CASAT
School of Public Health


www.unr.edu.grad

Expanding Nevada's Clinical Supervision Workforce: CBHC & BeHERE-NV Make Strides

The Community Behavioral Health Collaborative (CBHC), based at the University of Nevada, Reno, partnered with BeHERE-NV to launch a successful clinical supervision training initiative this spring. Sixteen licensed counselors from across the state completed CAS 783: *Supervision for Counseling Professionals* at UNR, positioning them to become state-approved supervisors for CPC, MFT, and LCADC interns.

This exciting milestone could soon add 16 new clinical supervisors to Nevada's behavioral health workforce—opening the door to more internship placements, stronger supervision access, and expanded career pathways for emerging counselors. With participants from both urban and rural communities, the program supports a truly statewide impact.

Led by Drs. Megan Weller and Jennifer Ross, the course included a practicum, mentorship, and CEUs in ethics and cultural competence. The course returns in fall 2025 in an accessible online format.

For enrollment info, contact Dr. Megan Weller at meganweller@unr.edu.



NSHE Courses

UNLV

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Student Resources

Faculty Resources

Backpack

Commons

Help

Organization

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Announcements

Assignments

Discussions

Grades

People

Pages

Files

Syllabus

Outcomes

Rubrics

Quizzes

Modules

Collaborations

Chat

Attendance

Google Drive

Library Resources

LockDown Browser

Ally Course Accessibility Report

Welcome to the BeHERE NV Career Corner	
BeHERE NV Corner: Expanding Opportunities in Behavioral Health	
Module Summary and Navigation Guide	
Special Note: Embracing Your Doubts	
Special Note: The Importance of Self-Care in Behavioral Health Careers	
Learning Content	
Introduction to Behavioral Health Careers	
Why Pursue a Career in Behavioral Health?	
Personal Characteristics and Skills of Behavioral Health Providers	
Types of Settings for Behavioral Health Providers	
Laws and Regulations Related to Behavioral Health Careers in Nevada	
Suggested Readings, Videos, and Websites	
Exit Ticket	
Exploring Behavioral Health Careers (Extra Credit)	

Congratulations on Earning Your Badge! 🎉

We're excited to recognize your commitment to behavioral health. Download your badge below and share it to spread awareness and inspire others to join the movement!

Badge Title: Behavioral Health Advocate

Description: Awarded for demonstrating a commitment to supporting mental health awareness and advocacy through participation in the BeHERE NV Career Corner.

How to Download Your Badge:

1. Click the **Badge Image Below** to download your "Behavioral Health Advocate" badge.
2. **Save the Badge File** to your device.



[BeHERE Behavioral Health Advocate Badge.png](#) ↓

[BROWSE BY PROGRAM](#)[BROWSE BY INSTITUTION](#)

Select an area of study below to get started.



Certificates



Social Work



Psychology



Counseling



Nursing



Psychiatry Residency



Addiction



Family Studies



**School-Based
Mental Health**

[BROWSE BY PROGRAM](#)[BROWSE BY INSTITUTION](#)

Select an NSHE Institution below to get started.



College of Southern Nevada



Great Basin College



Nevada State University



Truckee Meadows Community College



University of Nevada, Las Vegas



University of Nevada, Reno



Western Nevada College

Virtual Summit



"MAPPING YOUR NEXT STEPS: A ROADMAP FOR NEW BEHAVIORAL HEALTH PROFESSIONALS" VIRTUAL SUMMIT

 **FRIDAY, APRIL 25TH, 2025**
01:00 PM - 04:00 PM (VIA ZOOM)

ABOUT OUR EVENT!

Nevada college students enrolled in behavioral health or mental health programs, along with early-career professionals, are invited to this free summit designed to explore diverse career pathways, connect with industry leaders, and gain valuable insights into the field.

This engaging event will feature a keynote speaker and the opportunity to participate in breakout sessions tailored to different interests and career stages.

We hope attendees leave the summit feeling inspired, well-informed, and equipped to take the next steps in their academic and professional journeys in mental and behavioral health!



Contact us
702.823.1877

QR CODE TO REGISTER

Website
Beherenv.org

WHO SHOULD ATTEND?

- Current College Students**
Undergraduate and Graduate-Level Students enrolled in Behavioral or Mental Health Program
- New Behavioral Health Professionals**
Individuals new to the behavioral and mental health fields.
- Individuals interested in mental/behavioral health careers**
Individuals who are considering a role in a behavioral health/mental health career.



Mapping Your Next Steps: A Roadmap for New Behavioral Health Professionals

Virtual Summit Agenda

04.25.2025 | 01.00 PM - 04.00 PM
Zoom Link to Summit: <https://unlv.zoom.us/j/92707168802>
Meeting ID: 927 0716 8802



QR to Register

AGENDA

1:00 PM – 1:15 PM: BeHERE NV Welcome
1:15 PM-1:30 Who is BEHERENV?

1:30-2:00 PM Key Note Speaker: Desiree Vargas, LMFT
"Your Story, Your Way: Navigating the Behavioral Health Field Authentically."
2:00-2:10 PM: Break

Break-Out Sessions (Attendees choose one per time session)

2:10– 2:40 PM: Break-Out Sessions
Break Out Session 1: Embracing Authenticity in Your Practice: Hazel Guenther, MA, LMFT
Break Out Session 2: Advocacy in the Behavioral Health Field: Dr. Monique Martinez-Quiros
Break Out Session 3: Community Health Workers Professional Panel

2:45 PM – 3:15 PM: Break-Out Sessions
Break Out Session 1: How to Pay for Graduate School & Other Financial Considerations, Alexis Kirby & Dr. Roberta Miranda-Alfonzo
Break Out Session 2: Preventing Burnout in the Helping Profession, Cindy Guerrero, LCSW
Break Out Session 3: Private Practice vs. Community Practice, Rosa Montez, LCSW

3:20 PM – 3:50 PM: Break Out Sessions
Break Out Session 1: Licensing Processes in Nevada (Overview of Different Professional Licenses), Bailey Gonzalez, CADC
Break Out Session 2: Navigating Grad School as a First-Generation Student., Kaleigh Mancha, LMFT
Break Out Session 3: Finding a Clinical Supervisor, Carly Shadid, MS, LMFT

3:50 PM-4:00 PM: Conclusion

Post-Summit
Surveys and Certificates of Completion will be Emailed
*One must be registered to receive a certificate.



Focus Groups



COMMUNITY HEALTH WORKERS' VIRTUAL FOCUS GROUP

BeHERENV
Behavioral Health Education, Retention, & Expansion Network of Nevada

About this Focus Group

Your Voice Matters – Join Our Virtual Focus Group!
We're hosting a virtual focus group just for Community Health Workers to:

- ✓ Share your experiences in the field
- ✓ Talk about what inspired you to serve your community
- ✓ Offer advice for growing the behavioral health workforce
- ✓ Discuss your career goals, training needs, and more!

Help shape the future of behavioral health in Nevada by sharing your story.

Who Should Attend?

Certified Community Health Workers Practicing in Northern Nevada

Register Here ↓

[Link to Registration](https://forms.gle/acnAxLnpuENmTqQTA)
<https://forms.gle/acnAxLnpuENmTqQTA>

 **THURSDAY, MAY 1ST, 2025**
10:00 AM - 11:15 AM

Contact us
+702-823-1877

 Email
roberta.miranda@unlv.edu

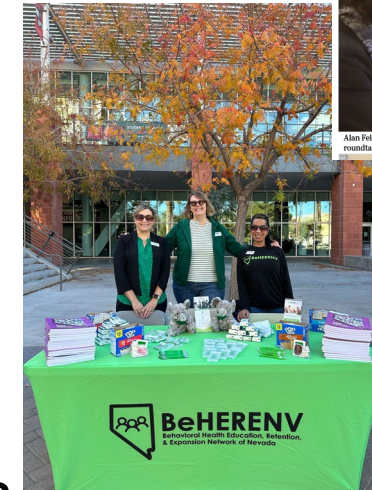
PRSS Focus Group
August 4th, 2025

Additional Initiatives

- Information Sessions (BH Careers, Practicum Sites)
- Outreach Events
- Technical Assistance-Business Side of Behavioral Health (credentialing, paneling, business license, private practice, etc.)
- Career Fairs/Workforce Connections (Southern NV WF Development Board)
- NSHE BH Collaborations
- First Generation Boot Camp
- Mentor Programs & Social Events
- Supervision Directory
- Support for non-NSHE Institutions & Students
- Problem Gambling Initiatives & Internship Expansion



Alan Feldman, chair of the Advisory Committee on Problem Gambling, center, opens the Project Worth-Nevada Leads roundtable discussion on problem gambling Tuesday, Dec. 3, 2024, at downtown Las Vegas' Historic Fifth Street School...



2025 Legislative Session

- Assembly Bill 269
 - State Treasurer's Student Loan Repayment Program: Nevada HEAL
 - Added licensed marriage and family therapists
 - Added clinical alcohol and drug counselors
 - Added problem gambling counselors
- Provided information for Senate Bill 165: development of Behavioral Health and Wellness Practitioners



Follow us!

www.beherenv.org



Scan the QR Code!

5. PRESENTATION ON RECIDIVISM AND DESISTANCE

TJ Mills, Program Coordinator, The Bridge at Washoe County Sheriff's Office

Presentation on Recidivism and Desistance

Aligning statewide recidivism data with program-level outcomes

TJ Mills, MBA | Program Coordinator | The Bridge @ WCSO



The Bridge at Washoe County Sheriff's Office

- We envision a community where every individual, no matter their past, has the opportunity for successful reentry after incarceration.
- Jail-based, pre-release reentry program
 - Provides the structure, tools, and support for change
- What is successful reentry?
 - Reduce recidivism and increase long-term stability

The Challenge We Faced

- Funding structure
- Lack of institutional knowledge
- Outdated processes: “The way we’ve always done it...”
- Programming was often ineffective and misaligned
- No tools to measure outcomes or improvement

Commitment to Change

- Launched June-July 2024 with full agency support:
 - Department-wide transformation
 - Evidence-based, data-driven, holistic
- Does your program reduce recidivism?

Recidivism

- Dr. Snider & Ms. Rahr-Wood
 - Uniformity
 - Guide policy
 - Guide research
 - True measurements of impact

As a Measure of Program Performance?

- Measures failure
- Binary
- Observed behavior
- Reflects layered interactions, “between individuals and corrections professionals’ training, orientation and skill set” (Pettus-Davis Kennedy, 2020: 373)

Sample Timeline With Recidivist Events

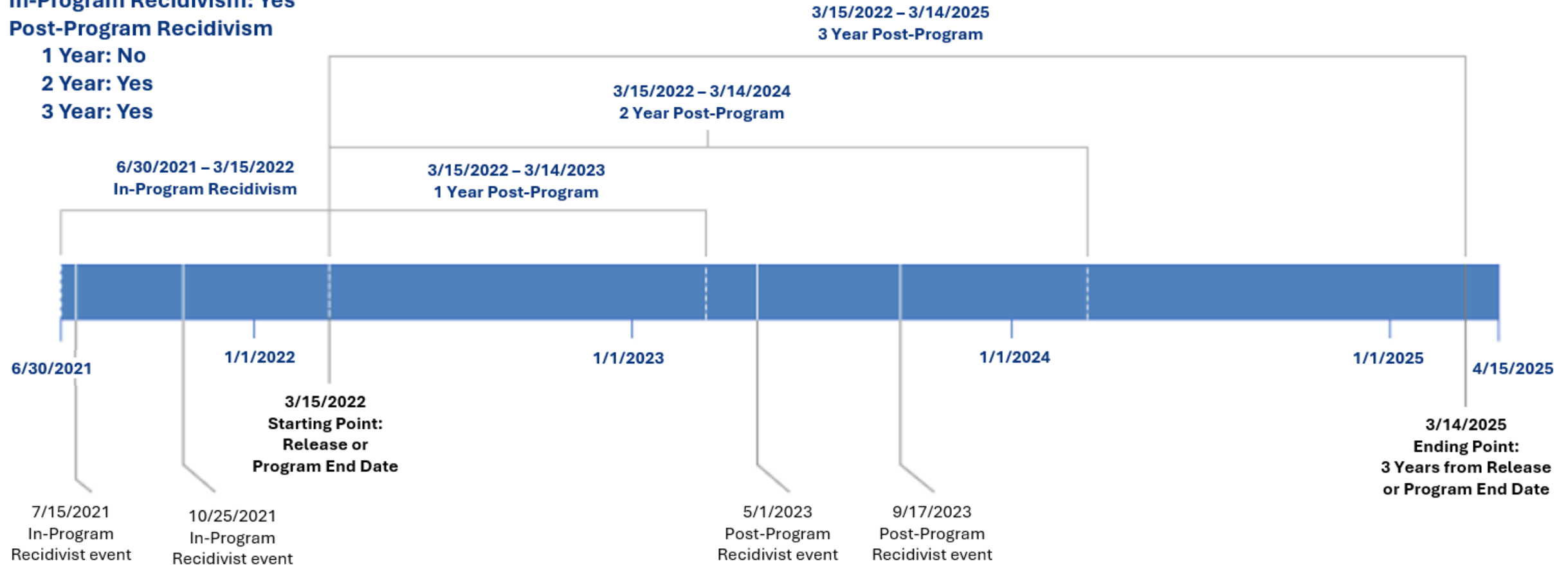
In-Program Recidivism: Yes

Post-Program Recidivism

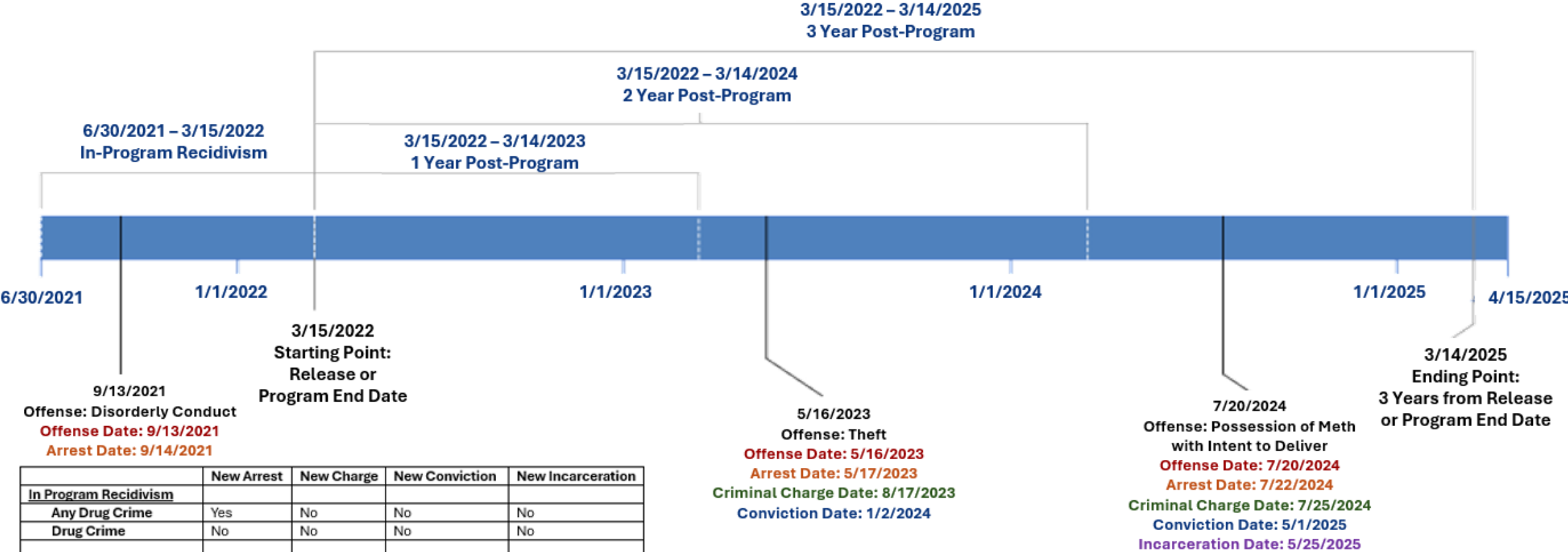
1 Year: No

2 Year: Yes

3 Year: Yes



Sample Timeline With Detailed Events



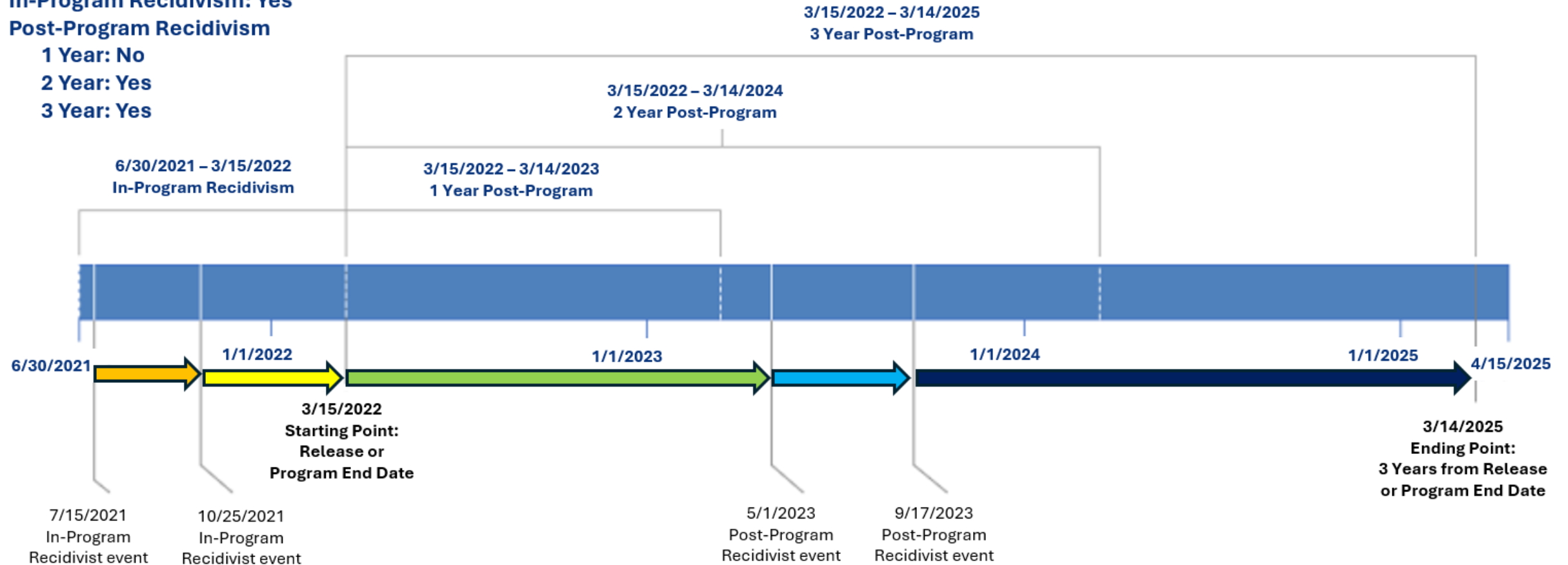
	New Arrest	New Charge	New Conviction	New Incarceration
In Program Recidivism				
Any Drug Crime	Yes	No	No	No
Drug Crime	No	No	No	No
Post Program Recidivism				
1 Year				
Any Crime Type	No	No	No	No
Drug Crime	No	No	No	No
Property Crime	No	No	No	No
2 Year				
Any Crime Type	Yes	Yes	Yes	No
Drug Crime	No	No	No	No
Property Crime	Yes	Yes	Yes	No
3 Year				
Any Crime Type	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Drug Crime	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Property Crime	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes

The date for each recidivist event should be based on the underlying offense date, if possible, as they are each ways of measuring reoffending. The individual events (arrest, charge, conviction, incarceration) may occur at points in time after the offense date and may even be outside of the follow-up period used to measure the cohort, even if the offense date is within the follow-up period. For example, the conviction and incarceration dates for the Possession offense occur after the end of the 3-year post recidivism cut-off date, but the offense date was within the follow-up period so these would be counted as recidivist events.

Legend:
Offense
Arrest
Charge
Conviction
Incarceration

The Spaces Between The Events...

In-Program Recidivism: Yes
Post-Program Recidivism
1 Year: No
2 Year: Yes
3 Year: Yes



What is Desistance?

- Primary
 - Criminal behavior
- Secondary
 - Shift in identity

How Does Your Program Define Successful Reentry?

How are you going to measure that?

- It isn't meaningful if it's not measurable

Scientific Method

- Theory of change – working hypothesis
- Logic model – test the hypothesis
 - Link program's goals, resources, and activities to:
 - Intended outcomes, which:
 - Depicts functionality

Recommendation

- Alongside state-mandated recidivism measures, require that all publicly funded or publicly administered reentry programs:
 - Define success using clear, behavior-based outcomes
 - Programs must articulate what meaningful behavior change looks like for participants

Recommendation

- Employ standardized methods for tracking and measuring progress
 - Include tools for measuring engagement, goal attainment, and behavioral milestones

Recommendation

- Implement consistent reporting requirements
 - Ensure outcomes are reported to government partners in a way that supports data-driven decision-making and accountability

Questions?

WCSO Desistance Questionnaire:

[Bridge Re-Entry Services.pdf](#)



6. DISCUSS AND DRAFT PROPOSED 2025 RESPONSE SUBCOMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS

Chair Kerns

Recommendation #1

Submitted by: Dr. Shayla Holmes

Description: Prohibit the sale of all psychoactive substances, including hemp-derived cannabinoids and psychoactive mushrooms, to individuals under 21 years of age, aligning with existing cannabis regulations.

Implement Clear Labeling Standards: Mandate that all products containing psychoactive compounds have standardized labeling, including clear warnings about potential health risks and age restrictions.

Restrict Sales Locations: Limit the sale of these substances to licensed establishments that can verify the age of purchasers and prohibit sales near schools and other youth-centered facilities.

Enhance Enforcement Mechanisms: Provide regulatory agencies with authority and resources to monitor compliance, conduct inspections, and enforce penalties for violations.

Recommendation #1 (cont.)

Justification: In Nevada, it is illegal for individuals under 21 to purchase or possess cannabis products, including Delta-9 THC, unless they are medical marijuana cardholders. Additionally, over-the-counter (OTC) medications containing dextromethorphan (DXM) cannot be sold to minors under 18 without a prescription.

However, certain substances, such as hemp-derived Delta-9 THC products (containing less than 0.3% THC by dry weight) and psychoactive mushrooms, may be legally accessible due to their specific chemical compositions and lack of comprehensive regulation. This creates potential loopholes that could allow minors to obtain and misuse these substances.

Action Step: Bill Draft Request (BDR), Regulatory or Licensing Board

Recommendation #2

Submitted by: Dr. Terry Kerns

Description: Revise this recommendation to also include desistance: Recommend state agencies under the legislative, judicial, and executive branches involved with deflection and diversion programs have a comprehensive definition of recidivism, and policies related to measuring and reporting recidivism.

Justification: Desistance is potentially a more accurate way to measure program impact.

Action Step: State agencies that support diversion and deflection programs have a definition of recidivism. Also have a working group to address this.

Potential revision: Recommend state agencies under the legislative, judicial, and executive branches involved with deflection and diversion programs have a comprehensive definition of recidivism and **desistance**, and **standardized** policies related to measuring and reporting recidivism. **Additionally, require that all publicly funded or publicly administered reentry programs define success using clear, behavior-based outcomes and that programs articulate what meaningful behavior change looks like for participants using tools for measuring engagement, goal attainment, and behavioral milestones.**

Placeholder for Draft Recommendation(s)

Submitted by:

Description:

Justification:

Action Step:

7. REVIEW 2025 RESPONSE SUBCOMMITTEE MEETING TOPICS

Chair Kerns

Planning for 2025 Response Subcommittee Meetings

Current Topic and Presenter Suggestions for Upcoming Response Meetings:

- Drug and Alcohol Prevention, Education, and Enforcement – Officer Jermaine Galloway
- Recovery Friendly Workplace Initiative – Foundation for Recovery

Please email Subcommittee staff with any speaker recommendations.

Response Subcommittee Meeting Dates:

- September 2 and November 4 from 11:00 am - 12:30 pm

8. PUBLIC COMMENT

Public Comment

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 - When prompted enter the Meeting ID: 878 2168 8019
 - Please press *6 so the host can prompt you to unmute.
- Members of the public are requested to refrain from commenting outside the designated public comment periods, unless specifically called upon by the Chair.

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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