



Behavioral Health Coordinating Council

Meeting Summary

Tuesday, August 5, 2025, 2:00 p.m. – 3:30 p.m. (Hybrid Meeting)
200 Piedmont Avenue, S.E. West Tower, 5th Floor, Board Room 512
Atlanta, GA 30334

Vice-Chair Christopher Nunn called the meeting to order at 2:01 p.m. and welcomed everyone to the meeting. The hybrid meeting was held at 200 Piedmont Avenue, S.E. West Tower, 5th Floor, Board Room 512 Atlanta, GA 30334 and online via Webex; the following BHCC members participated:

Council members attended in person: Brian Pettersson, Esq. on behalf of Commissioner Candice Broce (*DHS*), Commissioner Christopher Nunn (*DCA*), Commissioner Dean Burke (*DCH*), Director Jerry Bruce (*OCA*), Jason Ellington on behalf of Commissioner Kathleen Toomey (*DPH*), Commissioner Amy Jacobs (*DECAL*), Sherri Bloodworth on behalf of Commissioner Michael Nail (*DCS*), Commissioner Shawanda Reynolds-Cobb (*DJJ*), and Shelly-Ann Simpson on behalf of Patricia Ross, Ed.D. (*GDVS*)

Council members attended via WebEx: Representative Katie Dempsey (*District 13*), Commissioner Greg Dozier (*TCSG*), Nathan Call, Ph.D. (*Expert on Child & Adolescent Health*), Ombudsman Jacquice Stone (*ODOS*), Shaun Owen on behalf of Superintendent Richard Woods (*DOE*), Stanley Jones, Esq., (*Family Representative*), and Latera Davis on behalf of Commissioner Tyrone Oliver (*GDC*)

Council members absent: Commissioner Kevin Tanner (*DBHDD*), Alexia Jones (*Adult Consumer*), Commissioner Barbara Holmes (*DOL*), Senator Kay Kirkpatrick (*District 32*), Veda Johnson (*Pediatrician*), and Joyette Holmes (*PAP*)

DBHDD Leadership staff in attendance: Brenda Cibulas, *Executive Director, Division of Behavioral Health*, Brenda Woodard, Esq., *General Counsel*

Vice- Chair Christopher Nunn asked Ashley Black, Program Director for Rise Up to approach the podium to share her recovery story with the council members. Ashley Black shared her recovery story with the Council members, thanked them for inviting her to the meeting and exited the podium.

There was 1 action item on the agenda that was approved unanimously:

1. May 8, 2025 Meeting Minutes

Ashlie Oliver, Senior Policy Advisor for Georgia State University Georgia Health Policy Center presented an update on Mindworks Georgia.

Heather Stanley, MATCH Program Director for the Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Disabilities, presented an update on MATCH.

Ladji Ruffin, Forensic Peer Mentor Trainer/Liaison for the Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Disabilities and Cathy Smith-Curry, Director of Reentry Services for the Department of Juvenile Justice presented on the Forensic Peer Mentors: DBHDD-DJJ Partnership.

Vice-Chair Christopher Nunn thanked everyone for presenting to the council and adjourned the meeting.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 3:10 p.m.