



Behavioral Health Coordinating Council

Meeting Summary

Thursday, August 6, 2026, 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

Chairman Kevin Tanner called the meeting to order at 2:04 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: Commissioner Kevin Tanner (*DBHDD*), Laura Lucas on behalf of Commissioner Amy Jacobs (*DECAL*), Brian Pettersson, Esq. on behalf of Commissioner Candice Broce (*DHS*), Joe Hood on behalf of Commissioner Dean Burke (*DCH*), Commissioner Christopher Nunn (*DCA*), Nathan Call, Ph.D. (*Expert on Child & Adolescent Health*), Senator Kay Kirkpatrick (*District 32*), Robert Markley on behalf of Chairman Joyette Holmes (*PAP*)

Council members attended via WebEx: Commissioner Greg Dozier (*TCSG*), Commissioner Kathleen Toomey (*DPH*), Ombudsman Jacquice Stone (*ODOS*), Representative Katie Dempsey (*District 13*), Sherri Bloodworth on behalf of Commissioner Michael Nail (*DCS*), Commissioner Patricia Ross, Ed.D. (*GDVS*), Commissioner Shawanda Reynolds-Cobb (*DJJ*), Stanley Jones, Esq., (*Family Representative*), Veda Johnson (*Pediatrician*)

Council members absent: Alexia Jones (*Adult Consumer*), Director Jerry Bruce (*OCA*), Commissioner Barbara Rivera Holmes (*DOL*), Shaun Owen on behalf of State School Superintendent Richard Woods (*DOE*), Assistant Commissioner Latera Davis on behalf of Commissioner Tyrone Oliver (*GDC*)

DBHDD Leadership staff in attendance: Brandon Kenney, *Assistant Commissioner of Operations*, Monica Patel, Esq., *Assistant Commissioner for Agency Affairs and Chief Legal Officer*, Brenda Woodard, Esq., *General Counsel*

Chairman Kevin Tanner invited Lewis Ponzo to the podium to share his recovery story with the Council members.

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

1. May 14, 2026 Meeting Minutes

Renee Johnson, Executive Director for Georgia State University Georgia Health Policy Center presented an update on Mindworks Georgia.

Danielle Fish, MATCH Clinical Specialist with the Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Disabilities, presented an update on MATCH.

Emily Hatchett, Senior Policy Advisor for Medical Assistance Plans at the Department of Community Health and Ashleigh Caseman, Director of the Office of Medicaid Coordination and Health-Systems Innovation at the Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Disabilities, presented a GREAT Health Program Overview.

Commissioner Tanner thanked everyone for presenting to the Council and adjourned the meeting.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 3:20 p.m.