



## **Board of Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Disabilities**

Thursday, April 23, 2026 1:00 p.m. – 2:30 p.m.

(Hybrid Meeting)

200 Piedmont Avenue, S.E. West Tower, 5<sup>th</sup> Floor, Board Room 512, Atlanta, GA 30334

Chair Lasa Joiner called the meeting to order at 1:02 P.M. Board members Lasa Joiner and David Glass attended the meeting in person. Board members Amanda Owens, Deb Bailey, Jimmy Thomas, and Jean Sumner, M.D. joined the meeting via WebEx. Board members Bubber Epps, Jan Ligon, Ph.D., and Bill Slaughter were not able to attend the meeting.

Chelsee Nabritt informed the Board members that a few Board members were having technical difficulties joining online and that a quorum had not been met, however she will update the Board members after the recovery speaker shares their story.

Chair Joiner then invited Ursula Berger, Outreach Coordinator for the Respect Institute of Georgia, to the podium to introduce the recovery speaker for the day. Mrs. Berger introduced the recovery speaker and after she shared her story Chelsee updated the Board members informing them, they had reached a quorum.

Chair Lasa Joiner asked the Board members to review the action item documents in their folders prior to considering motions for approval.

### **Action Items:**

There were 3 action items on the agenda which the Board approved:

1. Board Meeting Minutes – February 26, 2026
  - Rules Update Presentation
    2. Rules and Regulations for Drug Abuse Treatment and Education Programs- Request for approval of publication of revised proposed DATEP rules for additional 30-day comment period
    3. Rules and Regulations for Licensure Enforcement and Sanctions – Request for Final Adoption

### **Commissioner's Report:**

Commissioner Tanner invited Joy Bell, Director of Office of Mental Health Justice Program with the Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Disabilities, to the podium to present the Co-Responder Budget.

Commissioner Tanner invited Orion Mowbray, PhD., Executive Director of the Ralston Institute for Behavioral Health and Developmental Disabilities College of Family and Consumer Sciences with the University of Georgia, to the podium to present the UGA Ralston Institute Overview.

Commissioner Tanner then presented the 2026 Legislative and Budget Update.

Commissioner Tanner also presented the Board Engagement.

Commissioner Tanner closed his report.

### **Chairman's Report:**



Chair Lasa Joiner thanked the presenters for presenting to the Board and congratulated Commissioner Tanner on a successful session and on the Department's tremendous success since the previous Board meeting. Chair Joiner also recognized Board Member Dr. Jean Sumner for being recognized as a Rural Health Care Champion of the Year. Chair Joiner also mentioned that the next meeting is rescheduled for June 18<sup>th</sup>, 2026.

There were no public comments at this meeting.

The meeting adjourned at 2:12 P.M.