



Board of Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Disabilities

Thursday, December 18, 2025 1:00 p.m. – 2:30 p.m.

(Hybrid Meeting)

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

Chair Lasa Joiner called the meeting to order at 1:00 P.M. Board members Lasa Joiner, Deb Bailey, Bill Slaughter, Bubber Epps, Amanda Owens, Jean Sumner, M.D., Jimmy Thomas and David Glass attended the meeting in person. Board member Jan Ligon, Ph.D. joined the meeting via WebEx.

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

Action Item:

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

1. Board Meeting Minutes – October 23, 2025
2. Proposed 2026 Meeting Schedule
3. Cindy Levi Resolution

Commissioner's Report:

Commissioner Tanner opened his report by inviting Ron Wakefield, Executive Director for the Office of Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities, to the podium to introduce the first presenter for the day. Beth Shaw, Director for the Office of Crisis and Transition Services, approached the podium to present Community Residential Alternatives.

Mr. Wakefield then approached the podium to introduce Dr. Mercedes Brown, Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities Crisis Stabilization Services Manager, to present Crisis Services & Diagnostics Center Updates.

Mr. Wakefield then approached the podium to give an Intellectual Developmental Disabilities Workgroup and Planning List Highlight, followed by introducing Rita Young, Executive Director for Participant Directed Advocates of Georgia and Bruce Lindemann, Chair of the Intellectual Developmental Disabilities Advisory Council to present the Assessment Tool and Planning List Overview.

Mr. Wakefield then introduced Diane Wilush, Interim CEO for United Cerebral Palsy National Organization to present the New Waiver Overview.

Mr. Wakefield then introduced Jeff Case, National Director of Business Development for Therap Services to present the Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Disabilities and Therap Services Partnership.

Commissioner Tanner presented the 2025 Board Engagement.

Commissioner Tanner closed his report.

Chairman's Report:

Chair Lasa Joiner thanked everyone for attending the Board meeting and spoke highly of the work being done at the Department and its positive impact on the community.

There were 2 public comments at this meeting.

The meeting adjourned at 2:30 P.M.