



**Board of Behavioral Health and Developmental Disabilities
Meeting Summary
February 11, 2021
1:00 p.m.**

*This meeting was conducted via WebEx with video connection for Board Members.
There was no in-person attendance at the Department of Behavioral Health & Developmental Disabilities.*

Chair Kim Ryan called the meeting to order. Board members Kim Ryan, David Glass, Ellice Martin, Jimmy Thomas, Laura Whitaker, Justine Welsh, Lasa Joiner, and Jan Ligon joined by WebEx. Jean Sumner did not attend the meeting.

Chair Kim Ryan opened the meeting by recognizing Jeff Breedlove of the Georgia Council on Substance Abuse to introduce the guest speaker Dawn Mullinax. Ms. Mullinax shared her story of recovery.

There was one action item on the agenda that was approved:

1. December 10, 2020 Board Meeting Minutes

Commissioner Fitzgerald provided a detailed update on the renewal of the COMP and the NOW Waivers.

Emile Risby, M.D., *director of the Division of Hospital Services and Chief Medical Officer*, provided an update on COVID-19 preventative measures within Hospital Services.

Doug Reineke, *director of legislative affairs*, provided a General Assembly update.

Commissioner Fitzgerald gave insight and status on the 988 National initiative.

Danté McKay, *director of the Office of Children, Young Adults, and Families*, introduced Dr. Mark Johnson, Chief Executive Officer, Gateway Community Service Board, to provide a plethora of information regarding workforce development on their psychiatric residency program and their child and adolescent fellowship.

Commissioner Fitzgerald closed her report by thanking DBHDD staff and providers. She will continue to be optimistic about the advances made for the pathway ahead and the agency's continued efforts.

Kim Ryan provided brief remarks, commended the agency for its great work, and announced her retirement and resignation from the board.

Commissioner Fitzgerald presented Chair Ryan with a plaque and a framed proclamation signed by Governor Kemp in honor of her service to the state and DBHDD.

Brenda Woodard, General Counsel, gave accolades to Chair Ryan and announced the board will need to elect and vote for a new chairperson at the next meeting.

There was no public comment.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:25 pm.