



## Northeast Regional Behavioral Health Interagency Collaboration

February 20, 2025, 11:00am

5920 Arlington Expressway Jacksonville, FL 32211

### MEETING MINUTES

**Attendees:** **DCF** - Travis Alessi, Steve Civitelli, Idris Gaines, Jacqueline Castro Mercado, Charles Puckett, Matt Sparling, Cara Thomas-Bryant, Asta Trinh, **AHCA** - Gary Badger, Kirk Hall, **Baker County School District** - Beverly McCray, **Behavioral Health Resource Center** - Karrie Dolan, **Better together FPPA/FACTS/NAMI** - Melina Markos, **Community Partnership for Children** - Danielle Antoine, **Clay County District Schools** - Melissa White, **DJJ** - Alison Fulford, **DOC** - Alfie Frazier, Brannen Jerred, **DOE** - Julie Barrow, **DOH Alachua** - Kourtney Oliver, **DOH Jefferson and Madison** - Kimberly Allbritton, **DOH Dixie** - Stephanie Holifield, Angela Land, **Duval County Public Schools** - Katrina Taylor, **Elder Source** - Cassandra Jackson, **Family First Recovery** - Susan Nyamora, **Family Integrity Program** - Jessica Gossett, **Family Support Services of North Florida** - Kasia Ford, **Flagler Cares and One Voice for Volusia** - Kristy Amburgey, **Flagler County Sheriff's Office** - Daniel Engert, Jennifer Nawrocki, **Flagler Schools** - Kimberli Halliday, Brandy Williams, **Floridians for Recovery** - Joe Dmitrou, **Gateway Community Services dba Gateway** - Candace Hodgkins, AJ Penix, **Halifax Health** - James Terry, **Hamilton County Schools** - Marjorie Cooks, Annie Pinello, **Kids First of Florida** - Tanya Miller, **LSFHS** - Shelly Katz, **Madison County School District** - Melinda Richie, **Memorial Hospital of Jacksonville - HCA** - Melissa Camp, **NAMI Jacksonville Florida, Inc.** - Suzanne Mailloux, Cheryl Virta, **New Smyrna Beach Police Department** - Kimberly Jensen, **NWF Health Network** - Charles McDonald, **Optum/United Health Care** - Tara Bryant, **Partnership for Strong Families** - Justen Ostreicher, **Rebel Recovery FL** - Nancy McConnell, **River Point Behavioral Health** - Donna Smith, **SMA Healthcare** - Salvatore Gintoli, Jennifer Stephenson, **Specialized ABA** - Sarah Sieg, **St. Johns County School District** - Leslie Couden Dileo, **St. Johns County Sheriff's Office** - Adam Hertz, Tara Wildes, **St. Johns EPIC** - Leslie Waller, **Starting Point Behavioral Health** - Semikah Yisrael-Johnson, **Sunshine Health** - Julie Smythe, **TSI Health Jax** - Blaire Taylor, **UF Health** - Regina Ford, **Welaka Police Department** - Todd Bryant

#### I. CALL TO ORDER

Matt Sparling called the meeting to order at 11:00am on February 20, 2025

#### II. WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

Idris Gaines welcomed attendees. Introductions were provided by Asta Trinh Chief of Regional Operations and Initiatives Department of Children and Families, Idris Gaines Regional Director Department of Children and Families, Matt Sparling Regional Collaboration Coordinator Department of Children and Families, Kirk Hall Government Analyst Agency for Health Care Administration



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### **III. OVERVIEW OF REGIONAL COLLABORATION COORDINATOR POSITION/ROLE/OBJECTIVES**

PowerPoint presentation was provided by Matt Sparling, highlighting the roles, objectives, and vision of the House Bill 7021 which allocated funds for the Regional Collaboratives and the regional coordinator position.

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### **IV. IMPACT OF REGIONAL BEHAVIORAL HEALTH INTERAGENCY COLLABORATIVES**

Idris Gaines shared an overview of the impact of the Regional Behavioral Health Interagency Collaboratives and the importance of sharing Gap Analyses and Needs Assessments among agencies.

Idris Gaines expressed the difference that these collaboratives will make which includes bringing all those together in a way that addresses all populations needs.

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### **V. MANAGING ENTITY NEEDS ASSESMENT**

Shelly Katz - Lutheran Services Florida Health Systems presented needs assessment summary from 2022, current improvements and plans for upcoming 2025 triennial assessment.

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### **VI. REVIEW OF KEY FOCUS AREAS**

Idris Gaines provided overview on the 4 key focus areas recommended by the commission. Strengthening Community networks and gross agency collaboration. Enhancing Crisis Care Continuum. Improving Data Collection and Management Processes. Optimizing the financial management of the Behavioral Health system of care.

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### **VII. OPEN DISCUSSION**

Attendees were asked to provide responses to the below questions.

1. Tell us about your organization GAP Analysis process and if it is public facing.
2. What other Collaboratives or Workgroups are you attending, and items being addressed.
3. What are opportunities for improvement?

Attendees comments:

- Kimberly Jensen-New Smyrna Beach Police Department-Discussed capacity and lack of resources due to excessive growth in St. John's County.
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- Brandy Williams – Flagler Schools- Discussed availability of Care Coordination services but capacity issues with long wait times.
  - Julie Barrow- DOE- Discussed staff turnover rate and cost. Increased diagnosis of autism spectrum disorders.
  - Charles McDonald- NWF Health Network-Discussed solution focused community integration and alliance meetings have assisted with closing some of the gaps of rural counties.
  - Law enforcement- Discussed lack of receiving facilities in rural areas, increase in geriatric population calls due to dementia and domestic violence resulting in gaps in behavioral health services availability to serve the population.
  - Candace Hodgkins – discussed more flexibility regarding OCAs.
  - Statewide RCO updates provided.
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### **VIII. MEETING FREQUENCY/NEXT STEPS**

Matt Sparling provided next meeting date May 22nd, 2025 and that the meeting will be in person at this same location and time. Asta Trinh discussed future quarterly Collaborative Meetings to include Agency specific presentations. Survey development to gather information on potential presenters.

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### **IX. PUBLIC COMMENT**

An opportunity was provided for public comment.

No public comment.

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### **X. ADJOURNMENT**

Asta Trinh and Idris Gaines provided closing remarks thanking the group for attending. Matt Sparling adjourned the meeting at 12:45pm

**Minutes submitted by:** Matt Sparling

**Minutes approved by:**

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