



Commission on Mental Health and Substance Use Disorder

Meeting Minutes

April 9, 2026

9:00 am – 4:00 pm

In-Person Meeting and Virtual Meeting via Microsoft Teams

Members

Jay Reeve, PhD
Chairperson

Representative Christine
Hunschofsky, Co-Chair
Speaker of the House Appointee

Senator Darryl Rouson
President of the Senate Appointee

Clara Reynolds, LCSW, MBA
Governor Appointee

Ann Berner
Speaker of the House Appointee

Sheriff William Prummell
Governor Appointee

Kathleen Moore, PhD
President of the Senate Appointee

Kelly Gray-Eurom, MD
Governor Appointee

Larry Rein
Governor Appointee

Judge Mark Mahon
Governor Appointee

Melissa Larkin-Skinner
Speaker of the House Appointee

Lee Fox
President of the Senate Appointee

Secretary Taylor Hatch
Department of Children and
Families

Secretary Shevaun L. Harris
Agency for Health Care
Administration

Richard Duggan
President of the Senate

Richard Weisberg, CRPS
President of the Senate
Appointee

Welcome/Call to Order

Jay Reeve, Commission Chair, opened the Commission on Mental Health and Substance Use Disorder (Commission) meeting. Chair Reeve requested that DCF Staff Liaison Aaron Platt take roll.

The following members or designees were in attendance:

Jay Reeve, PhD, Chairperson (Governor Appointee: Apalachee Center)
Senator Darryl Rouson, (President of the Senate Appointee)
Clara Reynolds (Governor Appointee: Crisis Center of Tampa Bay)
Sheriff William Prummell (Governor Appointee: Charlotte County Sheriff's Office)
Kathleen Moore, PhD (President of the Senate Appointee: University of South Florida)
Larry Rein (Governor Appointee: ChildNet)
Judge Mark Mahon (Governor Appointee: Fourth Circuit Court)
Melissa Larkin-Skinner (Speaker of the House Appointee: Community Assisted & Supported Living, Inc.)
Lee Fox (President of the Senate Appointee: All Points North)
Taylor Hatch (Secretary, Department of Children and Families)
Shevaun Harris (Secretary, Agency for Health Care Administration)
Richard Duggan (President of the Senate Appointee: Collier County Public Schools)
Richard Weisberg, CRPS (President of the Senate Appointee: Weisberg Wealth Management)

Review and Approval of the January 14, 2026 Meeting Minutes

A motion was entered to approve the January 14, 2026 minutes. The motion was carried. The minutes were approved with no opposition.

Opening Remarks

Commission Chair Jay Reeve provided opening remarks and shared a brief history of the Commission. Commission members introduced themselves and gave a brief background statement.

2026 Legislative Session: Laws Impacting Behavioral Health

The Department of Children and Families Substance Abuse and Mental Health Assistant Secretary Amanda VanLaningham provided the Commission with a comprehensive overview of the 2026 Legislative Session. The overview highlighted the 2026 legislative session behavioral health themes and DCF legislative priorities including: 988 Florida Lifeline, Community Residential Beds, Short-term Residential Treatment Facilities, patient safety and bed capacity at State Mental Health Treatment Facilities.

Dual Diagnosis Treatment Subcommittee Report out and Discussion

Commissioner Melissa Larkin-Skinner presented the Dual Diagnosis Treatment subcommittee's recommendations, focusing on enhanced training, supportive housing, integrated health teams, central receiving facilities and expanded treatment programs.



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Recommendations Include:

1. Enhance training for Mobile Response Team (MRT) staff to include knowledge regarding developmental disabilities and seniors.
2. Increase availability of supportive housing services for individuals with developmental disabilities and mental health/dually diagnosed disabilities.
3. Replicate successful community integrated health teams to address the dual diagnosis needs of seniors with mental health disabilities or others with complex co-morbidities.
4. Expand central receiving facilities/systems for “no wrong door” access including both mental health and substance use.
5. Continue to increase both programmatic and bed availability of short-term residential (non-crisis stabilization unit) treatment programs for youth, particularly in high-need areas.

All recommendations were accepted for inclusion in the final report with no objections.

Data Subcommittee Report Out and Discussion

Commissioner Kathleen Moore and Dr. Heather Flynn reported on the progress of the Data subcommittee, detailing the establishment of a statewide behavioral health data repository, governance structures, technical architecture, and future plans for integrated data analysis. A nine-member steering committee has been formed that includes representatives from State agencies. Memorandums of Understanding/data sharing agreements have been developed for the Department of Children and Families and for the Agency for Health Care Administration. Data analysis is targeted to begin by the Fall 2026.

Funding Subcommittee Report Out and Discussion

Commissioner Senator Darryl Rouson provided the report out for the Funding subcommittee advising Commissioners there are no recommendations originating from the subcommittee for the final report. Commissioner Senator Rouson advised that some of the accomplishments of the Funding subcommittee will be incorporated in the next speaker’s presentation.

Data Analysis Subcommittee Report Out and Discussion

Commissioner Kathleen Moore discussed the Legislative report/implementation plan for the Behavioral Health Data Repository that was due to the Legislature on December 1, 2025. The Behavioral Health Repository Project Manager was hired in November 2025 and meetings with state agency partners have begun to inform them of the phased approach for implementation and Legislative funding. Subject Matter Expert Dr. Heather Flynn provided additional information on the timeline for implementation, the governance plan, and tasks to be performed moving forward.

Historical Commission Recommendations and Results

William Hardin, Deputy Assistant Secretary for the Department of Children and Families Substance Abuse and Mental Health Program Office presented a detailed history of the Commission’s recommendations and legislative outcomes, including modernization of the Baker Act and Marchman Act, regional collaboration, crisis response integration, diversion programs, and workforce initiatives.



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Strategy and Planning Subcommittee Report Out and Discussion

Commissioner Secretary Shevaun Harris presented the Strategy and Planning subcommittee's three major recommendations to the Commission include focusing on ongoing gap analysis, regional and statewide collaboration, and integration of primary care with behavioral health.

Recommendations Include:

1. The Department of Children and Families shall complete a gap analysis every three years
2. The Department of Children and Families and the Agency for Health Care Administration shall convene a meeting of Health and Human Services' State Agency leaders (open to the public/stakeholders) at least annually to elevate and address system wide/systemic issues emerging from the regional collaborative meetings.
3. Stakeholders will continue to evaluate opportunities for enhanced integration of primary care and behavioral health into the statewide planning and evaluation framework to improve access and promote coordinated care for every service population across the lifespan, and to evaluate the implementation of a validated screening tool.

All recommendations were accepted for inclusion in the final report with no objections during the January 14, 2026 Commission meeting.

General Discussion

Commissioner Sheriff William Prummell noted the absence of a Master Client Index, a recommendation from a previous Commission report, and discussed the challenges associated with the lack of such a system.

Public Comment

Marsha McKay, NAMI Jacksonville, Florida Mental Health Advocacy Coalition: Ms. McKay shared her experience with the behavioral health system.

Closing Remarks

Commission Chair Jay Reeve provided closing remarks.

The meeting adjourned.