

Behavioral Health Commission- Executive Committee

Meeting Minutes

Thursday, November 13, 2024 – 11:00 a.m.

Virtual meeting

Members Present

Senator R. Creigh Deeds, Chair	Delegate Patrick Hope, Vice Chair
Senator Tara Durant	Delegate Carrie Coyner
Senator Barbara Favola	Delegate Vivian Watts

Members Absent

Call to order – Chairman Deeds

Executive Director, Nathalie Molliet-Ribet gave a quick overview of the goals of the BHC and summarized the results from the survey of members on potential 2026 study topics. The members who were present spoke about the topics they suggested, and Nathalie presented the topics from members who were not present at the meeting. BHC analysts also summarized three staff-suggested topics for members to consider.

Members discussed the options and provided input on each topic. They voted to move forward with the following study priorities for 2026:

- Availability and effectiveness of programs and services for substance use disorders (SUDs) in Virginia schools (to be completed in 2026)
- Use and effectiveness of mandatory/assisted outpatient treatment (to be started in 2026, completed in 2027)
- Efficiency of the competency restoration process (to be started in 2026, completed in 2027)

Members also voted to have joint resolutions drafted that would direct JLARC to conduct two studies, which the Executive Committee did not recommend assigning to BHC staff:

- Approaches for handling individuals with neurodevelopmental and neurocognitive disorders
- Rightsizing the number of state psychiatric hospital beds in Virginia

Members also approved a request for DMAS to conduct a rate study related to behavioral health professionals who have shifted to a self-pay model.

Lastly, Nathalie presented the list of programs that members prioritized for monitoring and evaluation. Members agreed to keep Project BRAVO/ Behavioral Health Redesign and the Discharge Assistance Program (DAP) as monitoring priorities for 2026.

Meeting adjourned.

Next Commission meeting will be on December 2, 2025, at 2:00pm.