

Behavioral Health Commission- Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, September 8, 2026 - 2:00 p.m.

Senate Room A – General Assembly Building

Members Present

Senator Creigh Deeds, Chair

Senator Lashrecse Aird

Senator Tara Durant

Senator Barbara Favola

Senator Russet Perry

Delegate Marcia Price, Vice Chair

Delegate Patrick Hope

Delegate Adele McClure

Delegate Ellen McLaughlin

Delegate Vivian Watts

Delegate Rodney Willett

Members Absent

Delegate Wren Williams

Call to order and opening remarks- Senator Creigh Deeds, Chair

Roll call- Agnes Dymora

Executive Director Nathalie Molliet-Ribet provided an overview of the agenda and introduced the two presentations.

Assistant Policy Analyst Abigail Cornwell provided an overview of the findings from the most recent monitoring report on Project BRAVO and Behavioral Health Redesign (BHR). She discussed current services under Project BRAVO and access to those services. Abigail also spoke about the lack of comprehensive metrics and reporting on the quality of services delivered and outcomes of service recipients. She then discussed BHR, which is expected to replace several legacy services in July 2027. Abigail provided recommendations and options to improve the delivery and effectiveness of Project BRAVO and BHR services throughout the presentation.

Heather Norton, Deputy Commissioner of Community Services at the Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services, and Dr. Lisa Jobe-Shields, Behavioral Health Division Director at the Department of Medical Assistance Services, provided a briefing regarding the improper use of some crisis services, particularly in Region 4 of the Commonwealth. They provided context around the crisis system buildout and discussed the timeline over which improper use and fraud became apparent. They also described the steps taken to identify providers suspected of improper use and to prevent future issues. Lastly, they provided an update on civil and criminal actions against certain providers and answered member questions.

Several individuals provided public comments.

Meeting adjourned.

Next Commission meeting will be on October 6, 2026.