



September 10, 2024

TRILLIUM HEALTH RESOURCES  
NORTHERN REGIONAL ADVISORY BOARD MEETING

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The Trillium Health Resources Northern Regional Advisory Board met face to face and by WebEx on Tuesday, September 10, 2024 at 4:00 p.m.

**Members Present:** Whitney P. Aydlett, Bertadean Baker, Dr. Margaret Brake, Dr. Barbara Courtney, Dr. Regina Dickens, Dr. Kelvin Edwards, Charles Jordan, Dr. Alex Kehayes, Kevin McCord, Dr. Michael McLain, Wanda Piland, Chenoa Richardson-Davis, Brian Rountree, Dr. Denauvo Robinson, Willie R. Smith, III, Emmie Taylor, and James Ward

**Members Absent:** Sandra Layden, William F. Mitchell, Jr., Sheron Mosby, Ronnie Smith, and Dr. Patricia Wright-Wesson

**Staff Present:** Terrell Alston, Erin Kinsel, Bobbie Lowe, and Jacqueline M. Waller, Clerk

I. **CALL TO ORDER**

Dr. McLain called the meeting of the Northern Regional Advisory Board to order at 4:00 p.m.

II. **OATH OF OFFICE**

Ms. Waller administered the Oath of Office to Willie R. Smith, III (Gates County). Mr. Smith gave a brief summary of his background.

III. **APPROVAL OF July 9, 2024 MINUTES (BOARD ACTION REQUIRED)**

Dr. McLain called for a motion to approve the July 9, 2024 Minutes. The motion was so moved by Whitney Aydlett, seconded by Emmie Taylor, and unanimously approved.

IV. **PUBLIC COMMENTS**

There were no public comments.

V. **ADOPTION OF AGENDA**

Dr. McLain called for a motion to adopt the agenda. The motion was so moved by Wanda Piland, seconded by Commissioner Rountree, and unanimously approved.

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VI. PRESENTATION ON T-STAR

Erin Kinsel, Trillium Health Resources Support Transit and Reentry Director, introduced herself to the Board and shared that *T-STAR* is a relatively new program that Trillium had for our care management members. She gave a high level overview of what they do and the goals for the program. This is a program that started July 2023 whereby you learn about the many barriers individuals go through when they are released from jail. There were discussions on permanent housing for people who had been released from jail. Questions regarding stepping up programs, statistics on what percentage of clients in our catchment area are being served in reference to gender and race, Any questions, please feel free to contact Erin at [erin.kinsel@trilliumnc.org](mailto:erin.kinsel@trilliumnc.org).

VII. BOARD COMMENTS/CONCERNS

Dr. Kehayes expressed that at the DSS meeting this morning in Chowan County they discussed the continuing problem of having adolescent children taken into their care and not having any other place to put them and having to coerce the DSS employees in baby-sitting them 24 hours a day. They are six employees short of a thirty-six employee operation. Ms. Lowe spoke about Trillium's DSS Engagement Team Sean Kenny and Kristin Farmer who has come a few times to assist with this problem.

VIII. GOVERNING BOARD REPORT

Commissioner Jordan shared that things are smoothing out with the Governing Board. Although there has been some challenges with Medicaid transportation since starting with the Tailored Plan on July 1, they are being addressed. The meeting in August was good and there was good attendance. The period of adjustment with the board is going well.

IX. REGIONAL VICE PRESIDENT REPORT

Ms. Lowe reported that:

- The Tailored Plan is going well since it went live on July 1. The call volume has increased tremendously since that time.
- Last July all of our member facing phone lines, we got about 4,480 calls. This July, for all of our members facing phone lines together, we had 24, 900 calls. The call volume has gone up five times.
- NEM Company non-emergency transports have had issues with getting paid.
- Last town hall was today in Guilford County. Joy has attended everyone.
- The budget ordinance that you got in your agenda packet is the one that was approved this year.
- NC Department of Health and Human Services has announced that they have awarded the contract to Blue Cross and Blue Shield of NC to manage the child and family specialty plan for children and foster care. The go live date was originally December 1 but now it has been pushed back to July 2025 or 2026.
- Ms. Lowe explained the Operations Report.
- Ms. Lowe mentioned the Reentry Simulations that are scheduled for later this month and invited board members to attend. These flyers were in the board agenda packet.

- A suicide symposium at the College of the Albemarle in Elizabeth City will be held on Friday, September 13.
- Ms. Lowe gave updated information on Senate Bill 425. Everything that was asked of Joy to submit she has submitted.

X. CFAC Report


Ms. Mosby was absent, therefore, no CFAC Report was given. Dr. McLain requested that if the board members know of anyone who would like to join CFAC to please let Ms. Mosby know.

XI. Adjournment

With there being no other business, Dr. McLain called for a motion to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner Ward so moved, Dr. Brake seconded the motion, which was unanimously approved.

The meeting adjourned at 5:16 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

  
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Jacqueline M. Waller, Clerk

  
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Dr. P. Michael McLain, Chair

