



Clallam County
Behavioral Health Advisory Board
Minutes for September 9, 2025 3:00 – 5:00 pm
Clallam County Courthouse
Board of Commissioners Meeting Room 160
223 E. 4th Street, Port Angeles, WA 98362

Voting Members Present: Kristina Bullington, Bruce Fernie, Anne Grover, Kristine Johnson and Wendy Sisk

Non-Voting Members Present: Amy Bundy, Jody Jacobsen and Jenny Oppelt

General Attendance: Candice Lawler, Don Wenzl and Minnie Whalen

1. Welcome and Introductions

- The meeting was called to order at 3:05 p.m.

2. Agenda

- Majority approved the agenda as presented

3. Minutes for 07/08/25

- Majority approved the minutes as corrected, removing Jody Jacobsen as present.

4. Public Comment

- None

5. Old Business

- Position Vacancies
 - Tribal Representative
 - Private Provider of Mental Health Services not contracting for funding Representative
 - Services for the Homeless Representative
 - Advocate for SUD/MH Services
 - Consumer/Past Consumer of SUD Services
 - Hospital Commissioner Representative
 - At-Large Representative
- Opioid settlement update
 - Jenny Oppelt provided an update regarding the second joint meeting between Board of Health and the Behavioral Health Advisory Board. During this meeting, members emphasized the need for additional data to better inform future funding decisions. In response, Clallam County's Public Health team will be developing an Opioid Gaps Report that will analyze trends and data 2016 to the present. This comprehensive report

is intended to identify service gaps, highlight areas of need, and support decision-making related to opioid prevention, treatment, and recovery efforts that these funds can address. The findings of the report will be presented at a future meeting. Discussion followed.

- 2026-2027 Funding cycle – Determine available funding amount
 - Jenny Oppelt provided a PowerPoint presentation to discuss the funding for the next RFP funding cycle. A thorough discussion took place regarding the allocation of funding for the 2026-2027 cycle. Following the discussion, the board voted unanimously to allocate \$1,800,000 over the two-year period, while setting aside \$100,000 per year (a total of \$200,000) to be redistributed during the first quarter of 2027 to support unfunded or underfunded programs.

6. New Business

- Behavioral Health Reporting Update
 - Christine Dunn provided an update on the report done by the contracted Jefferson County Epidemiologist.
- Request for Proposal Timeline review
 - Jenny Oppelt provided the timeline and the release date of the RFP to be September 16, 2025 after approval from the Board of County Commissioners.
- Volunteers for review committee for proposals
 - Kristine Johnson volunteered her time to be on the review committee. Due to the number of BHAB board members that have a current conflict of interest, CCHHS staff will recruit additional review committee members.
- New board members vote –
 - Advocate for SUD/MH Services –Abigail Barnett
 - BHAB discussed and voted to move Abigail Barnett on to the BOCC for final approval.
 - Services for the Homeless – Alexandria Fermanis
 - BHAB discussed not to move forward with Alexandria Fermanis at this time.

7. Future Agenda Items

- 2026-2027 Behavioral Health Funding Recommendations – Vote
- Jamestown Healing Clinic inpatient facility update
- Program updates

8. Updates & Announcements

- Wendy Sisk provided an update on the North View project.

9. Public Comment – *Please limit comments to three minutes*

- Minnie Whalen provided an update on October Resilience Month.

10. Adjournment

- Meeting adjourned at 4:39 p.m.

Next Meeting: Friday, November 14, 2025 from 12:00 p.m. – 2:00 p.m.

Behavioral Health Advisory Board Voting Members: Kristina Bullington, Bruce Fernie, Anne Grover, Kristine Johnson, Vaness Lea, Kelly Newhouse and Wendy Sisk

Behavioral Health Advisory Board Non-Voting Members: Amy Bundy, Jody Jacobsen, Kirsten Poole and Jenny Oppelt

Clallam County Behavioral Health Advisory Board

2026-2027 Behavioral Health Funding Cycle

September 2025



BHAB Retreat July 2025

- Four funding priorities
 - **Unfunded or Underfunded Behavioral Health Services**
 - **Behavioral Health Specialized Services**
 - **Prevention and Early Intervention**
 - **Behavioral Health Housing and Shelter**
- Discussed holding funds back due to impending budget challenges at Federal/State level – no decision made

2026-2027 Behavioral Health Funding Priorities

Unfunded or Underfunded Behavioral Health Services - Proposals must demonstrate that the services cannot be paid for or covered by another source and must clearly explain why clients do not qualify for other resources (such as Medicaid) or why existing funding is insufficient. This includes group, individual, or family counseling services provided in a non-residential substance use or mental health treatment facility. Eligible services also include case planning, case consultation, referral services, and other supportive services designed to engage, retain, or maintain clients in treatment. This category includes services provided by agencies throughout Clallam County, including **service providers on the West End**, to ensure regional access to care.

Behavioral Health Specialized Services – Proposals must support the provision of specialized behavioral health services that utilize targeted, evidence-based or promising practice interventions that address specific mental health conditions, substance use disorders, or behavioral challenges requiring a higher level of care than general outpatient services. Eligible services may include, but are not limited to, substance use disorder treatment programs; behavioral support interventions that promote the development of adaptive behaviors and reduce maladaptive behaviors impacting daily functioning; services for individuals with co-occurring behavioral health issues; and therapeutic modalities such as Cognitive Behavioral Therapy (CBT), Dialectical Behavior Therapy (DBT), or Eye Movement Desensitization and Reprocessing (EMDR).

2026-2027 Behavioral Health Funding Priorities

Prevention and Early Intervention - This may include evidence-based mental health and substance use early prevention and intervention parent programs; community and school-based curriculums; and coordinated outreach and education to school aged children and youth. Programs must demonstrate linkages to mental health and/or substance use disorder programs.

Behavioral Health Housing and Shelter - Includes a focus on providing support needs of people with substance use and mental health disorders for them to access housing and shelter. Examples of Housing/Shelter Services may include:

- Subsidized housing and support services for individuals with behavioral health disorders that are homeless or at risk of homelessness.
- Establish stabilization transition housing for individuals with behavioral health disorders moving from jail to treatment.

This includes; modification of existing facilities to address health & safety needs necessary for the provision, operation, or delivery of substance use disorder or mental health treatment programs or services. “Programs and services” includes, but is not limited to, treatment services, case management, transportation, and housing that are a component of a coordinated substance use disorder or mental health treatment program or service.

2026-2027 Behavioral Health Funding

Available Funding for 2026-2027 (Anticipated Available)	
January – December 2026	\$1,000,000
January – December 2027	\$1,000,000
TOTAL	\$2,000,000

Retreat Recap

In anticipation of upcoming changes to Medicaid funding and decreased local revenue, we discussed setting aside a portion of available funds in reserve.

Do we want to withhold a portion of the available funding?

If yes, how much should we retain (dollar amount or percentage)?

50% Year 2: \$500,000

25% Year 2: \$250,000

10% Year 2: \$100,000

Process of Withheld Funds

Year 1: Fully Fund

Year 2: Fund \$____

End of Year 1: Reconvene sub-committee to allocate withheld \$____

RFP Timeline

Date	Activity
July 8, 2025	Behavioral Health Advisory Board Meeting - Funding Priorities Confirmed at Retreat
September 15, 2025	RFP presented to BOCC at Work Session Meeting
September 16, 2025	RFP approved at BOCC Regular Agenda Meeting
September 16, 2025	RFP Released
September 30, 2025	Voluntary Bidders Conference questions due to christine.dunn@clallamcountywa.gov by 5pm
October 1, 2025	Voluntary Bidders Conference answers posted to HHS website (http://www.clallam.net/HHS/) by 5pm
October 20, 2025	Proposals due to Board of Commissioners by 3:00 p.m.
October 21, 2025	Proposals opened and accepted at BOCC Mtg.
Nov 3 - 7, 2025	<u>MANDATORY</u> virtual interviews with RFP Review Committee - Rating sheets completed/finalized - Preliminary recommendations made
November 14, 2025	Behavioral Health Advisory Board Meeting Recommended Proposals on Agenda for Approval
November 17, 2025	Work Session with BOCC for funding recommendations
November 24 – December 5, 2025	Contracts to County Prosecutor for approval if required
December 12, 2025	Contracts to Providers and returned to HHS with signatures
December 16, 2025	BOCC regular meeting for contract final approval
January 1, 2026	Contract period begins

Note – All dates are subject to change – Updated August 2025