



**BeHERENV**

Behavioral Health Education, Retention,  
& Expansion Network of Nevada

## Assembly Bill 37 (2023): Implementation of the Behavioral Health Workforce Development Center

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Joint Interim Standing Committee on Health and Humans Services - 5/13/24

# Acknowledgements

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**Rural Regional Behavioral Health Policy Board  
Nevada System of Higher Education & Board of Regents**

**Kirk Kerkorian School of Medicine at UNLV  
UNR Office of Statewide Initiatives**

# Assembly Bill 37

## 82<sup>nd</sup> (2023) Legislative Session

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- AB 37: “**Authorizes the establishment of the Behavioral Health Workforce Development Center of Nevada**”
- Build out a robust pipeline for behavioral health providers in Nevada
- Based on successful models from Nebraska and Illinois
- Fiscal note from NSHE = \$2 Million for current biennium (FY 23-24 & FY 24-25)



# Summary of AB 37

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## **RECRUIT**

Outreach and education about behavioral health professions to K-12, adult learners, undergraduates; connect to education pathways

## **EDUCATE**

Expand higher education behavioral health training; clear pathways

## **RETAIN**

Strengthen bridge between graduation and Nevada licensure; supervision support  
Provide technical assistance on the “business” of practicing in Nevada

# “Hub-and-Spoke” Infrastructure

- Main administrative “hub” within University of Nevada Institutions
- Spokes to regional “hubs” in each Behavioral Health Region through other NSHE institutions

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# Implementation

# Fall 2023

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- UNLV submitted proposal to the Nevada System of Higher Education (NSHE) Board of Regents to create the center:  
**Behavioral Health Education, Retention, and Expansion  
Network of Nevada (BeHERE NV)**
- Approved at the September 2023 BOR meeting; effective October 1, 2023
- February 2024: Silver State Health Improvement Plan 2023-2028  
Access to Health Care – Goal 2; Objective 2.1  
“Establish the Behavioral Health Workforce Development Center...”

# January - Present

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- ✓ Hiring and onboarding personnel:
  - 5 Full-time staff; 1 Graduate Assistant
  - Northern and Southern Nevada
- ✓ Develop outreach and marketing
  - Social media presence; monthly newsletter; website
- ✓ Follow-up presentations and meetings
- ✓ Meeting with NSHE institutions
  - GBC; TMCC; WNC; CSN; NSU; UNLV; UNR
  - Academic programs; pre-college programs



# K-12 Outreach

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- 5 High School Career Fairs = Fernley, Yerington, Dayton, and Silver Stage; over 200 students
- Pre-Professional Health Summit through High Sierra Area Health Education Center (AHEC)
- Workshops through UNR Upward Bound Office and High School Health and Human Services Career and Technical Education (CTE) Programs

# What's next?

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- Continued outreach to K-12
- Collaborating with NSHE mental and behavioral health programs
- Data! Data! Data!
- Explore grant opportunities
- First legislative report in June 2024
- FY 24-25:
  - ✓ Focus on retention
  - ✓ Advisory consortium
  - ✓ Business technical assistance
  - ✓ Continued funding

# Opportunities

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- Expand career awareness at multiple education levels
- Acknowledge social determinants of education
- Scholarships
- Grow higher education training
- Data collection

# Policy Considerations

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“We are training psychology students to leave our state.”

- SB 300: Appropriation to fund grants to increase accredited pre- and post-doctoral training placements
- SB 267: Expand reimbursement for services provided by psychology trainees beyond Medicaid to “certain public and private policies of insurance...”
- AB 69: Expands state loan repayment program to certain providers of behavioral health care

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# Questions?

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