

# Nevada Mental Health Workforce and Education

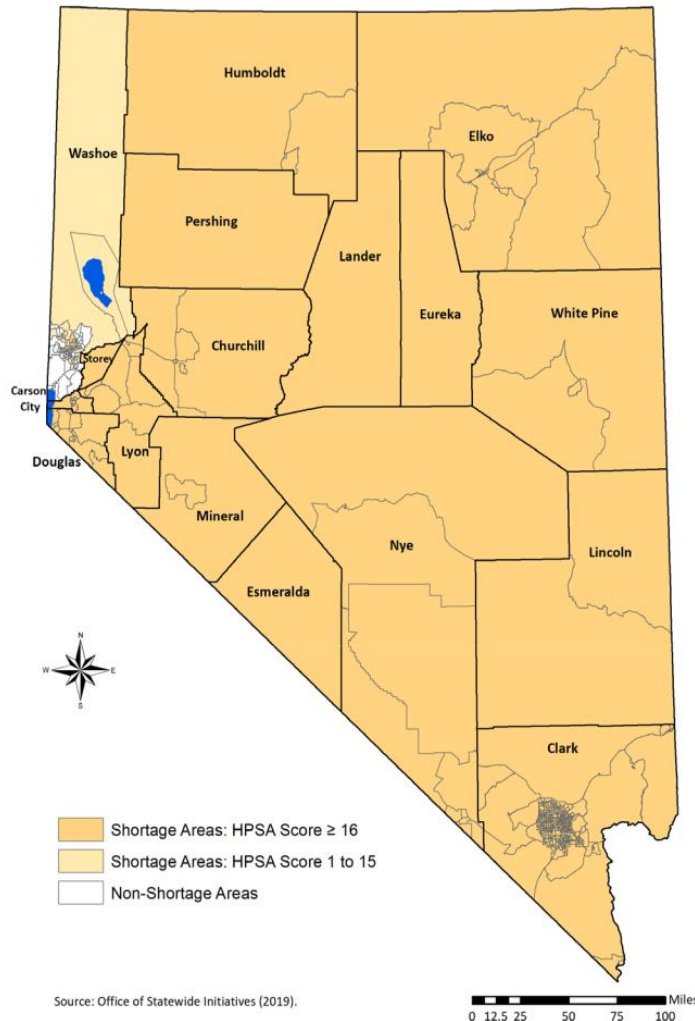
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# Mental Health Workforce Shortages

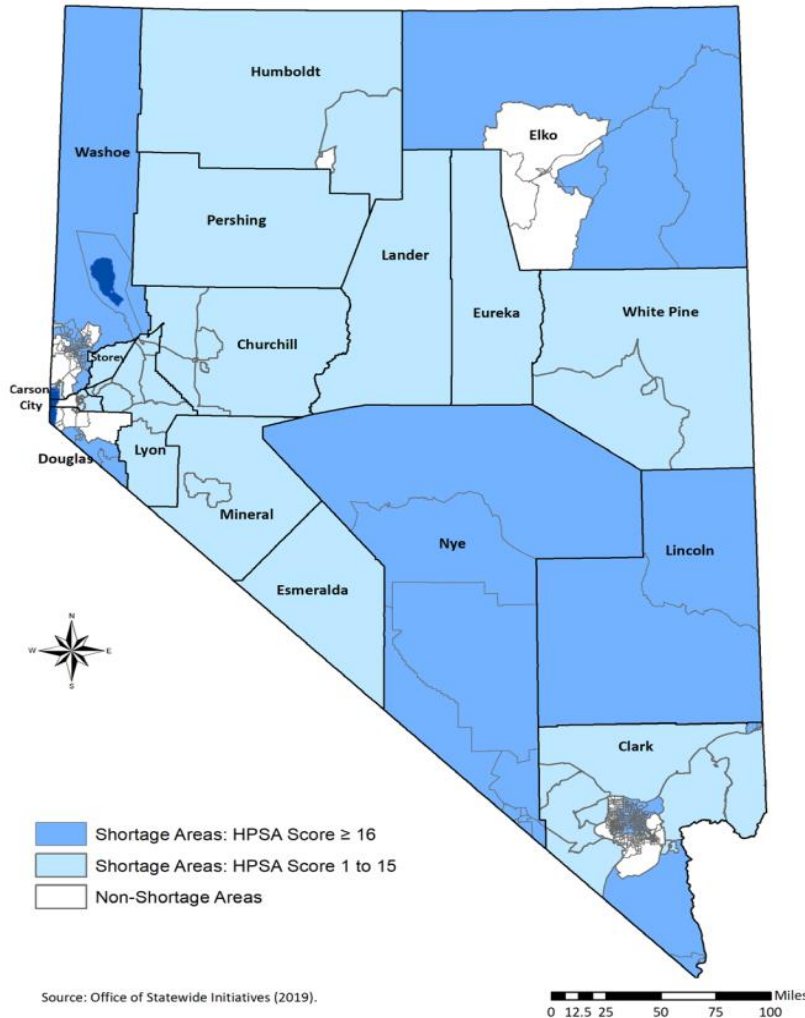


- 2.8 million Nevadans, or 94.3% of the state's population, reside in a mental health care health professional shortage area ("HPSA"), including 100% of Clark County and Carson City residents.
- 16 single-county mental health care HPSAs, including all 14 rural and frontier counties in Nevada

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# Primary Care Workforce Shortages



- 2.0 million Nevadans, or 67.3% of the state's population, reside in a primary care HPSA
- Majority of Clark and Washoe County residents live in a primary care HPSA
- 11 single-county HPSAs in rural and frontier areas of Nevada

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# What it Takes to be Average – Mental Health

Profession	Number per 100,000			Number Needed to	
	Population			be Average	
	US	Nevada	Clark	Nevada	Clark
Clinical Professional Counselors	45.4	29.7	25.1	471	446
Licensed Clinical Social Workers	34.4	29.4	24.7	221	213
Marriage and Family Therapists	13.3	28.3	22.1	(460)	(194)
Psychiatrists	12.5	7.9	7.3	139	114
Psychologists	37.5	13.4	10.6	728	592

Source: OSI analysis of unpublished licensure data and Bureau of Labor Statistics data (2019).

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# The state of mental health in Nevada: We need to talk.

- Rates of mental illness and substance use disorders at or above national averages<sup>1</sup>
  - Depression in youth higher than national average and increasing
  - Substance use disorders in young adults slightly higher than national average
    - Opioid use disorder in young adults more than double national average
  - Suicidality increasing in young adults (similar to national average)
  - Serious mental illness in adults at national average
  - Mental health service utilization in adults lower than national average
- Rank 51<sup>st</sup> in nation based on high prevalence rates and low rates of access to care<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup>SAMHSA. Behavioral Health Barometer, 2017.

<sup>2</sup>Mental Health America. State of Mental Health in America, 2019.  
(HEALTH SCIENCES SYSTEM COMMITTEE 12/05/19) Ref. HSS-6a, Page 5 of 13

# Everybody's Talking: Mental health, education, and workforce development in Nevada

- Governor Sisolak, The Nevada Independent 1/23/19:
  - “I think **we need to train more mental health people**...often time these kids have nowhere else to go.” (discussing school safety)
- DHHS Director Richard Whitley testifying to the Legislative Commission's Budget Subcommittee 1/23/19: 2 of 4 department priorities
  - 1) Access to healthcare and mental health services: “That effort and that partnership with the universities needs to continue in a focused way. A lot of discussion occurs about medical graduate school, but **we also need to look at the pipeline for other health care professionals and build that access because we have shortages in other disciplines.**”
  - 2) Work force: “...the universities it's really working more closely with them to, as they produce more clinicians, they're relevant to what our needs are in our state and that we keep them in our state.”

# Everybody's Talking: Mental health, education, and workforce development in Nevada

- Chancellor's Bulletin 12/24/18: "We cannot underestimate the importance of creating a culture of higher education for our young people and the **need to grow our partnerships with our K-12 colleagues.**"
- Other notable mentions:
  - Mental Health Implications for Policing Practices and the Administration of Justice (Nevada Advisory Committee to the U.S. Commission on Civil Rights, August 2019)
  - Capacity Assessment Report: Nevada (Nevada Substance Abuse Prevention and Treatment Agency, July 2019)
  - Letter to Governor (Commission on Behavioral Health, July 2019; composite reports from Regional Behavioral Health Policy Boards and Children's Mental Health Consortia)

# University of Nebraska: Behavioral Health Education Center of Nebraska (BHECN)

- 2004 Nebraska Legislature (LB1083): Nebraska Behavioral Health Services Act
  - “...promote activities in research and education to improve the quality of behavioral health services, **the recruitment and retention of behavioral health professionals**, and the availability of behavioral health services.”
- 2009 Nebraska Legislature (LB603): Behavioral Health Workforce Act
  - Introduced by Health and Human Services Committee
  - “The Legislature finds that there are **insufficient behavioral health professionals in the Nebraska behavioral health workforce...**”



# University of Nebraska: Behavioral Health Education Center of Nebraska (BHECN)

- 2009 Nebraska Legislature (LB603): Behavioral Health Workforce Act
  - Creates BHECN to be administered by University of Nebraska Medical Center
    - Add 2 additional Psychiatry residents yearly
    - Fund 5 doctoral-level Psychology internships (+5 in 3 years)
    - Train BH professionals in telehealth
    - Analyze workforce trends
    - Establish learning collaborative with other higher education institutions and stakeholders
    - Develop 2 interdisciplinary BH training sites each year
    - Legislative report every 2 years

**\$1,385,160 from general fund FY10**

**\$1,563,993 from general fund FY11**

# University of Nebraska: Behavioral Health Education Center of Nebraska (BHECN)

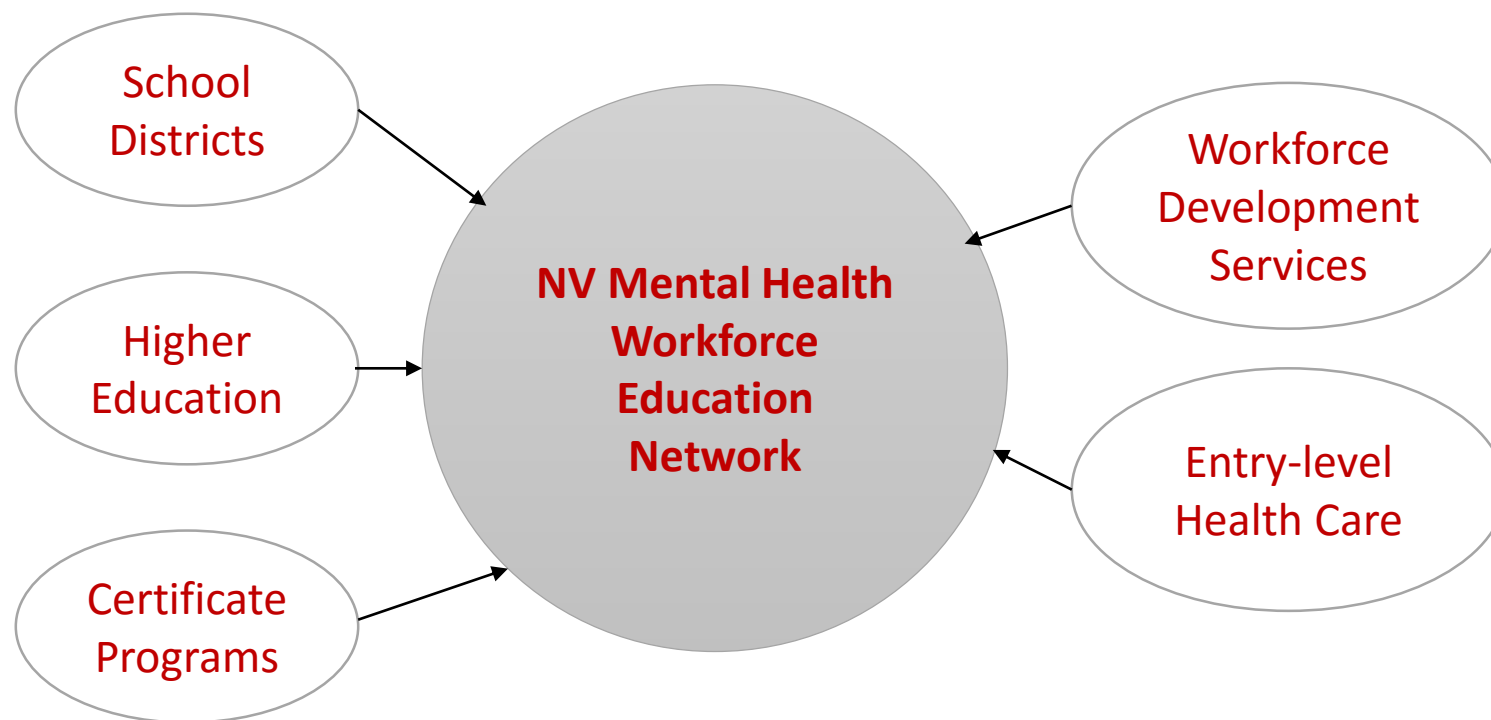
- Engage and Recruit
  - Ambassador Program: connect high school students with resources and mentors to engage interest in BH professions (rural and urban underserved areas)
  - FY17: connected with more than 3,000 students
- Prepare and Train
  - Connect college students to training and mentoring opportunities with emphasis on interprofessional training
  - FY17: 67 students completed BHECN supported internships
  - 1,900+ students completed interprofessional training in rural and urban underserved sites
  - 42 Integrated Behavioral Health Clinics established in NE
- Retain and Support
  - Support professional development
  - BH jobs website

<https://unmc.edu/bhecn/>

# Proposal:

## Nevada Mental Health Workforce Education Network

- Create statewide network of partners based on BHECN model
  - Education, employers, policy makers, state entities, community groups
  - Administered by NSHE
- Constructed with various entry points into NSHE



# Proposal:

## Nevada Mental Health Workforce Education Network

- Mentor matching in geographic locations
- Workshops and conferences for licensed professionals
- Data tracking
- Statewide mental health jobs board



- ❖ 125,412+ website views
- ❖ 1,000+ jobs posted since inception

# Questions?

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