



Mid-State Regional Advisory Board March 24, 2026

The Trillium Health Resources Mid-State Regional Advisory Board met Tuesday, March 24, 2026. The meeting was held in person at the Asheboro Office, 938 New Century Drive, Asheboro, NC, and via Web-Ex at 6:00 p.m.

Members Present:

Commissioner David Allen, Kishia Dunlap, Mary Hassell, Leann Henkel, Dr. Tommy Jarrell, Commissioner Jeffrey Pope (virtual), Commissioner Priscilla Little-Reid, and Ann Shaw

Members Absent:

Commissioner Melvin "Skip" Alston, Commissioner J. Carlvena Foster, and Commissioner Dr. Rick Watkins

Staff Present:

Anthony Ward, Sandra Dunlap, and Sherry Bynum

Guest Present:

None

I. Call to Order

Chair Commissioner David Allen called the meeting to order and welcomed everyone.

II. Certification of Quorum

Sherry Bynum, Clerk, certified a quorum.

Chair Allen stated he spoke with Commissioner J. Carlvena Foster earlier today and she stated that she would not be able to attend tonight.

Dr. Tommy Jarrell stated that Commissioner Dr. Rick Watkins would not be in attendance tonight.

III. Adoption of Agenda

Chair Allen called for a motion to adopt the agenda. *Commissioner Priscilla Little-Reid made a motion to adopt the agenda. Dr. Tommy Jarrell seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.*

IV. Approval of Minutes

Chair Allen called for a motion to approve the November 25, 2025 and the January 27, 2026 Meeting Minutes. *Kishia Dunlap made a motion to approve the minutes as written. Mary Hassell seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.*

V. Public Comments

There were no public comments.

VI. Regional Vice President Report

Anthony Ward, Mid-State Regional Vice President, provided the following:

A. North Carolina Medicaid Rebase Update

Mr. Ward provided an update on the North Carolina Medicaid Rebase, stating that no new funds have been allocated although Governor Stein in March proposed a \$1.37 billion 'critical needs' budget which, along with other items, includes funding for the Medicaid rebase to avoid further service or payment disruptions.

NC General Assembly action is required on any possible funding allocation. The 2026 NC General Assembly short session is scheduled to begin April 21, 2026, although bill drafting is already underway for the upcoming session.

This is being watched closely, and an update will be provided when available.

B. Rural Health Transformation Program Funding

Mr. Ward provided an update on the Rural Health Transformation Program Funding, reporting that on February 27, 2026, NC DHHS announced a Request for Applications process seeking applications from qualified organizations to serve as designated North Carolina Rural Organizations Orchestrating Transformation for Sustainability (NC ROOTS) Hub. Up to six organizations will be selected to represent the six North Carolina Medicaid Managed Care regions. Mr. Ward stated that Trillium is applying for four of the "NC ROOTS" hubs.

The timeline requires application submission by Thursday, April 2, 2026 with award notification expected on Friday, May 1, 2026. NC ROOTS Hubs are expected to begin their work on Monday, June 1, 2026.

C. Enhanced Affordable Care Act Subsidies

Mr. Ward reminded Regional Advisory Board members that the Enhanced Affordable Care Act was introduced during the pandemic and extended by the Inflation Reduction Act, which made coverage premiums free for some and capped costs at 8.5% for others, expired on December 31, 2025.

According to the latest available data, 761,457 North Carolinians enrolled in ACA coverage for 2026, a decrease of 213,543 or 21.9%, the largest percentage decrease in the nation. With this decrease, Trillium is expecting an increased demand for State funded services, the limited behavioral health funding for indigent individuals with no insurance coverage.

D. THRive Local Awards Luncheons

Mr. Ward discussed the March 13 inaugural THRive Local Mid-State Regional Awards Luncheon held at the Asheboro office. Awards were presented to community leaders for their work in the local communities. The Mid-State Regional Advisory Board received the Community Champion Award and the Mid-State CFAC received the Family Voice Leadership Award.

Chair Allen expressed his appreciation for the award given to the Mid-State Regional Advisory Board.

E. Trillium Supporting Children Early Simulation – Anson County

Mr. Ward reported that on Tuesday, April 14, 2026, Trillium will hold a Supporting Children Early Simulation in Anson County at South Piedmont Community College in partnership with Anson County Partnership for Children. The event will run from 9:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. In the Supporting Children Early Simulation, participants walk in the shoes of the

families and kids as they navigate their communities. Tickets for the event are free, but registration is required. Registration is available on the Trillium webpage.

F. Staffing Changes

- Anne Kimball, Associate Regional Vice President, retired effective March 1, 2026.
- Sherry Bynum, Executive Assistant for the Mid-State Region, has given notice of her decision to retire, effective April 1, 2026.
- Sandra Dunlap has been hired as the Executive Assistant to Mr. Ward. She will provide assistance to the Mid-State CFAC and serve as the Clerk to the Mid-State Regional Advisory Board.

G. Operations Report

Mr. Ward called attention to the Tailored Plan Operations Report for February 2026, noting the shift in the Health Plan Eligible Members for Trillium Whole Health and Trillium Direct. He noted a new section to include Physical Health for Utilization Management. Mr. Ward explained the jump of clean claims received in January.

VII. Governing Board Report

Governing Board member, Commissioner David Allen, provided an update of the February Governing Board meeting and the March 11 Governing Board Retreat. The next Governing Board meeting is scheduled for Thursday, April 23 at 4:00 p.m.

VIII. Consumer and Family Advisory Committee (CFAC) Report

Leann Henkel, CFAC Chair, provided a Mid-State Consumer and Family Advisory (CFAC) report and gave highlights for February and March.

IX. Regional Advisory Board Comments

Chair Allen stated that an email was received from Governing Board member Randy Abbott apologizing for not being able to attend the Mid-State Regional Advisory Board meeting tonight.

Commissioner Jeffrey Pope expressed his appreciation to be able to attend virtually tonight.

Chair Allen welcomed Sandra Dunlap to the Mid-State Regional Advisory Board.

Mary Hassell thanked Sherry Bynum for the job that she has done.

Chair Allen discussed the recent Randolph County Opioid Collaborative meeting, with a discussion on kratom. He noted that the Dare County Board of Commissioners adopted a resolution urging the NC General Assembly to enact legislation banning the over-the-counter sale of unregulated kratom products. Commissioner Priscilla Little-Reid stated that the Trillium Governing Board also passed a resolution regarding the regulation of the misuse of kratom.

X. Other Material

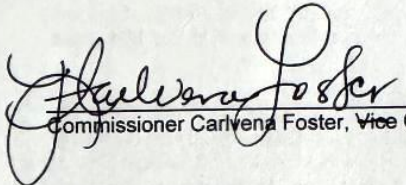
- Chief Executive Officer Report
- Financial Report/Budget Ordinance
- Tailored Plan Operations Report
- Operations Report PowerPoint

XI. Adjournment

With there being no other business, Chair Allen called for a motion to adjourn the meeting. *Commissioner Priscilla Little-Reid made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Dr. Tommy Jarrell seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved. The meeting adjourned at 6:48 p.m.*

March 24, 2026 Mid-State Regional Advisory Board

The next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, May 19, 2026, starting at 6:00 p.m. at the Asheboro Office, 938 New Century Drive, Asheboro, NC.


Commissioner Carlvena Foster, Vice Chair

4/22/26
Date

Sherry Bynum
Sherry Bynum, Clerk

Date

Packet Material:

- March 24, 2026 agenda
- Draft November 25, 2025 Minutes
- Draft January 27, 2026 Minutes
- Mid-State Regional Vice President Report
- Mid-State Regional Governing Board Report
- Mid-State CFAC Report
- Chief Executive Officer Report
- Financial Report
- Tailored Plan Operations Report
- Operations Report PowerPoint