

Mid-State Regional Advisory Board September 23, 2025

The Trillium Health Resources Mid-State Regional Advisory Board met Tuesday, September 23, 2025. 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, Commissioner Melvin “Skip” Alston, Commissioner J. Carlvena Foster, Mary Hassell, Leann Henkel, Commissioner Priscilla Little-Reid, and Ann Shaw

Members Absent:

Kishia Dunlap, Commissioner Jeffrey Pope, Dr. Tommy Jarrell, and Commissioner Dr. Rick Watkins

Staff Present:

Anthony Ward, Anne Kimball, Robert Nelson, Joy Futrell, and Sherry Bynum

Guest Present:

Randy Abbott and Blake Henkel

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.

III. Adoption of Agenda

Chair Allen called for a motion to adopt the agenda. *Commissioner J. Carlvena Foster made a motion to adopt the agenda. Commissioner Priscilla Little-Reid seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.*

IV. Approval of Minutes

Chair Allen called for a motion to approve the July 22, 2025 Meeting Minutes. *Mary Hassell made a motion to approve the minutes as written. Commissioner J. Carlvena Foster seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.*

V. Public Comments

There were no public comments.

VI. Trillium Health Resources Chief Executive Officer

Chair Allen welcomed Trillium Health Resources Chief Executive Officer Joy Futrell. Ms. Futrell provided the following:

- State Budget – the Senate and House failed to reach an agreement today. This is unfortunately for Medicaid rebase, which, if not resolved this week, will result in provider rate reductions. Provider rate reductions will go into effect October 1.

- Tailored Plan is going well. Stable across the state.
- Children's and Families Specialty Plan – moves to Healthy Blue Care Together, effective December 1, 2025.
- As Trillium moves into years 3 and 4 of the Tailored Plan, talks will begin to move away from dependency of Standard Plan partner, Carolina Complete Health.
- Awarded \$17 million from DHHS to strengthen crisis system – mobile crisis, Behavioral Health Urgent Care centers (BHUCs), and Facility Based Crisis centers.
- Technology with healthcare – have received a lot of positive feedback on the TULA (Trillium Ultimate Living Assistant) product.
- Have noticed an increase in spending for Applied Behavior Analysis (ABA) therapy for individuals with autism.
- Partnership with Attend Behavior to expand family support services for Autism, Attention Deficit/Hyperactive Disorder and Intellectual Disabilities

VII. Regional Vice President Report

Anthony Ward, Regional Vice President, provided the following:

A. North Carolina Medicaid Rebase Update

Mr. Ward gave an update on North Carolina Medicaid Rebase.

In July, the NC General Assembly passed H125, which included \$600 million for both the Medicaid rebase and the Medicaid Oversight Fund, leaving \$500 million or \$319 million less than the projected amount needed to fully fund the Medicaid rebase for FY26.

Based on this funding amount, NC DHHS released a plan in August to decrease provider reimbursement rates by 3% across the board, with 8% or 10% reductions for selected providers/services and elimination of certain services all together. NC DHHS announced an effective date of October 1, 2025 for these changes.

- 10% reimbursement rate reductions are planned for Acute Care Hospitals, Nursing Homes, Psychiatric Residential Treatment Facilities and Research-based Behavioral Health Therapy/Applied Behavior Analysis.
- An 8% reimbursement rate reduction is planned for Intermediate Care Facilities.
- Additionally, a 1.5% capitation rate reduction is planned for Standard Plan revenue.
- Finally, Pharmacy Benefit changes are planned with GLP-1 coverage solely for obesity/weight loss set to end. GLP-1s will still be covered for other clinical needs like diabetes and heart disease as required by the federal government.

B. Children's and Families Specialty Plan Update

Mr. Ward discussed the Children's and Families Specialty Plan (CFSP). Children in foster care will transition from the Tailored Plan to Blue Cross Blue Shield of North Carolina under the name Healthy Blue Care Together. It is set for launch on December 1, 2025. Potential CFSP beneficiaries include NC Medicaid-enrolled children, youth and young adults currently and formerly served by NC Child Welfare

The DSS offices have expressed concerns about this planned transition to Healthy Blue management.

C. Victory Junction Family Weekends

Mr. Ward reported that Trillium Health Resources is continuing the partnership with Victory Junction, an inclusive camp located in Randleman, NC, to offer family weekends for Trillium Members.

The Fall 2025 dates have been announced. The remaining dates are:

- October 3-5, 2025

- October 31-November 2, 2025

For families interested, applications can be found on the Trillium website.

D. Provider Council Vacancy

Mr. Ward stated that the Trillium Health Resources Provider Council has a seat available for a hospital representative. For those interested, applications can be found on the Trillium Health Resources website.

E. Trillium Supporting Children Early Simulation – Guilford County

Mr. Ward reported that the Supporting Children Early Simulation held today in Guilford County, in partnership with Guilford County Partnership for Children, at St. Mary's Episcopal Church in High Point, was well attended.

Supporting Children Early can give kids with disabilities the tools they need for lifelong success. Kids and families often experience challenges when seeking help. In the Supporting Children Early Simulation, participants walk in the shoes of the families and kids as they navigate their communities.

F. Senate Bill 425

Mr. Ward noted the following:

- On February 6, 2025, a Motion to Dismiss was filed by Trillium Health Resources and by counsel for the State of North Carolina, Senator Berger, former Speaker Moore and former Secretary Kinsley (Defendants).
- On June 26, 2025, the Defendants' Motion to Dismiss was granted. Each of the claims contained in Guilford County's (Plaintiff) amended complaint was dismissed.
- On July 25, 2025, the Plaintiff (Guilford County) gave Notice of Appeal to the North Carolina Court of Appeals from the Order Granting Defendants' Motion to Dismiss the Plaintiff's Amended Complaint for Declaratory Judgement and Motion for Permanent Injunction.
- On September 3, 2025, the Plaintiff (Guilford County) filed a Motion for Extension of Time to Serve Proposed Record on Appeal for 30 days, through and including October 8, 2025. An Order Granting the Motion for Extension of Time to Serve Proposed Record on Appeal was ordered on September 9, 2025.
- On September 10, 2025, a Request for Duplicate Copy of Verbatim Audio Court Record was filed. Certificate of Service for that Verbatim Audio Court Record was served on September 10, 2025.

G. Tailored Plan Operations Report

Mr. Ward reviewed the Tailored Plan Operations Report that was included in the packet, noting that the majority of the benchmarks continue to be met.

Mr. Ward congratulated Chair Allen on his M.H. "Jack" Brock Outstanding County Commissioner Award. The award is presented annually to a commissioner who has demonstrated special achievements and efforts, primarily during the past 12 months, on behalf of county government throughout the state and/or region.

VIII. Governing Board Report

Chair Allen introduced Randy Abbott. Mr. Abbott is member of the Governing Board as an At-Large member.

Governing Board member, Commissioner Priscilla Little-Reid, highlighted items from the August Governing Board meeting.

- The meeting included a discussion of Board terms, including identification of three (3) individuals with 1-year terms. Those include:
 - Commissioner Priscilla Little Reid of the Mid-State Regional Advisory Board
 - Ms. Lorraine Washington of the North Central Consumer and Family Advisory Committee
 - Ms. Flor Herrera-Picasso as an At-Large Member
- The terms of these members end December 31, 2025. The appointing authority for each will need to take action prior to that date to nominate their recommendation to fill the next term for each.
- The Finance Committee reviewed a Budget Amendment to close out FY 2025, a Financial Summary for FY 2025, and an overview of the 2026 budget.
- The Governing Board is scheduled to meeting next on Thursday, October 23.

IX. Consumer and Family Advisory Committee (CFAC) Report

Leann Henkel, CFAC Chair, provided a Mid-State Consumer and Family Advisory (CFAC) report, highlighting:

- Meetings – are held the 3rd Tuesday of each month.
- Reports and updates are provided by staff.
- Highlights from the September report –
 - The Mid-State Chair and Vice chair participated in meeting with officers of the other four (4) CFACs.
 - Information regarding new procedures for Supports Intensity Scale (SIS) evaluations was shared at the August CFAC meeting.
 - Information on Tailored Care management was shared at the September CFAC meeting.
 - CFAC members continue to attend internal and external committee meetings and events.
 - The combined membership of all five (5) Trillium CFAC's constitutes the Member Advisory Committee (MAC). The next quarterly meeting is scheduled for September 24.
- Recruitment continues in Montgomery and Richmond Counties.

X. Regional Advisory Board Comments

Chair Allen thanked Trillium staff who attended the NC County Association of County Commissioners' annual conference held August 21-23 at the Greenville Convention Center.

XI. Governing Board Appointment

Chair Allen discussed the Mid-State Regional Advisory Board appointment to the Trillium Governing Board. He stated that at the initial appointment of the newly restructured Governing Board, Commissioner Priscilla Little-Reid was appointed to a one-year term which ends January 31, 2026. As the appointing authority for this position, the Mid-State Regional Advisory Board is tasked with submitting its appointee to the Governing Board no later than November 28. Chair Allen stated that the appointment will be decided at the November Regional Advisory Board meeting.

XII. Other Material

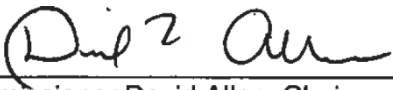
- Chief Executive Officer Report
- Financial Report/Budget Ordinance
- Tailored Plan Operations Report

XIII. 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. Mary Hassell*

seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved. The meeting adjourned at 6:50 p.m.

The next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, November 25, 2025, starting at 6:00 p.m. at the Asheboro Office, 938 New Century Drive, Asheboro, NC.



Commissioner David Allen, Chair

November 25, 2025

Date

Sherry Bynum

Sherry Bynum, Clerk

November 25, 2025

Date

Packet Material:

- Tuesday, September 23, 2025 agenda
- Draft July 22, 2025 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