

MEETING MINUTES

January 28, 2026

The Vaya Health Regional Board for Region 4, representing Alamance, Caswell, Chatham, Franklin, Granville, Person, Rockingham, Stokes, and Vance Counties, conducted a regular meeting at 10:00 a.m. on January 28, 2026 via Teams; with PUBLIC ACCESS available via electronic communication only (real-time two-way audio and/or visual communication, i.e., telephone and Microsoft Teams).

<i>In Attendance:</i>	<i>Attending:</i>	<i>Apologies:</i>
Pamela Thompson (Alamance)	X	
Tony LoGiudice (Alamance)	X	
Greg Ingram (Caswell)		X
Michelle Waddell (Caswell)		X
Karen Howard (Chatham)		X
Jennie Kristiansen (Chatham)	X	
Meredith Wester (Franklin)		X (proxy to Dan Brummitt)
Mark Speed (Franklin)		X
Lisa Harrison (Granville)	X	
Mark Griffin (Granville)		X
Janet Clayton (Person)		X
Antoinetta Royster (Person)	X	
Mark Richardson (Rockingham)	X	
Houston Barrow (Rockingham)	X	
Sonya Cox (Stokes)		X
Stacey Elmes (Stokes)	X	
Dan Brummitt, Chair (Vance)	X	
Vacant (Vance)		

Also attending the Regional Board meeting for Region 4:

Tracy J. Hayes, Area Director & Chief Executive Officer; Rhonda Cox, Executive Vice President & Chief Operating Officer; Danielle Wittekind, Chief Human Resources Officer; Brian Shuping, VP of Community Relations; Elliot Clark, Community Relations Regional Director; Cara Dohner, Community Relations Regional Director; Dr. Heather Cree, Vice President of Pharmacy Operations; Ricky Graves, Board Member; Jeanette Williamson, CFAC Representative; McLean Moore, Chief of Staff – Business Integrity Division; and Ashley Logan, Chief of Staff and Secretary to the Board; and no additional members of the public.

A. Welcome and Call to Order

Mr. Dan Brummitt, Chair, called the meeting to order at 10:04 a.m.

Ms. Ashley Logan, Chief of Staff and Secretary to the Board, confirmed a quorum of the Region 4 Board.

B. Approval of Agenda and October 29, 2025 Meeting Minutes

Mr. Houston Barrow made a motion to approve the Agenda and Meeting Minutes, as presented.

Ms. Pamela Thompson seconded the motion.

Motion unanimously approved.

C. Governing Board Report

Mr. Dan Brummitt, Chair, shared updates from the i2i Winter Conference held earlier this month. Ms. Tracy J. Hayes, Area Director and Chief Executive Officer, recognized Mr. Brummitt and Mr. Houston Barrow for attending the i2i Winter Conference and shared that Vaya consistently has the highest Board attendance. Mr. Brummitt also shared that the Board of Directors participated in their annual retreat last week, which included required annual training conducted by Kelsi Knick, NCDHHS Deputy Director, Behavioral Health I/DD Tailored Plans, and Michelle Merritt, NCDHHS I/DD Clinical Consultant.

Mr. Dan Brummitt opened the floor for Regional Board 1 Chair and Vice Chair nominations.

Mr. Mark Richardson made a motion to reappoint Mr. Dan Brummitt as Chair of Regional Board 4. Mr. Houston Barrow seconded the motion.

Motion unanimously approved.

Mr. Mark Richardson made a motion to reappoint Mr. Houston Barrow as Vice Chair of Regional Board 4. Mr. Dan Brummitt seconded the motion.

Motion unanimously approved.

Next, Mr. Brummitt reported several minor revisions to the Bylaws are being presented for consideration. Ms. Hayes noted the updates include the addition of language for a designee to present the Report of the Area Director and CEO, adding the Consumer and Family Advisory Committee report as part of regular business, and updating the annual meeting cadence.

Mr. Mark Richardson made a motion to adopt Region 4 Bylaws, as presented.

Mr. Houston Barrow seconded the motion.

Motion unanimously approved.

D. Report of the Chief Executive Officer

Ms. Tracy J. Hayes, Area Director & Chief Executive Officer, began the presentation by sharing recent advocacy updates, including the details from Vaya's CFAC Annual Retreat and i2i Winter Conference. Continuing the presentation, Ms. Hayes welcomed new Region 4 Board Members Ms. Pamela Thompson, Alamance County Commissioner, and Mr. Tony LoGiudice, Alamance County Health Director, and presented an overview of the member roster and meeting schedule for Regional Board 4.

Mr. Ricky Graves joined the meeting at 10:17 a.m.

Continuing, Ms. Hayes reported that SAMHSA issued a notice of grant termination on Jan. 14, 2026, which would have affected Vaya's System of Care Team. The grant termination notice was rescinded on Jan. 15, 2026. Ms. Hayes shared Hope4NC updates, highlighting the total number of contacts with survivors to date, approval for the Hope4NC program to continue through April 24, and the opportunity for an additional no cost extension.

Next, Ms. Hayes shared details of recent Spotlight Carolina segments and a Jan. 13 article in the Caswell Messenger. Ms. Hayes noted that Vaya is always willing to support and sponsor health and recovery related community events. Ms. Hayes then presented training data from October to December 2025, and updates on the Vance and Caldwell projects.

Ms. Cox presented updates on the Rural Health Transformation Program and details of community feedback received following the launch of the Children and Families Specialty Plan (CFSP), membership transitioned from CFSP by county, and reasons CFSP members transitioned as of Jan. 1, 2026. Mr. Brummitt inquired whether the CFSP rates given to Blue Cross and Blue Shield of North Carolina (BCBSNC) are higher than those Vaya received. Ms. Hayes confirmed BCBSNC receives higher rates than those received by Vaya.

In closing, Ms. Hayes presented crisis utilization data and details from the Jan. 2, 2026, Tailored Plan and Medicaid Direct scorecards.

E. Community Relations Update

Mr. Brian Shuping, Vice President of Community Relations, began the presentation by sharing metrics on Tailored Plan and Medicaid Direct eligible members by age group, Tailored Plan and Medicaid Direct penetration rate data, behavioral health service utilization, physical health service utilization, behavioral health emergency department admissions and readmissions, physical health emergency department admissions and readmissions, walk in center utilization, mobile crisis management utilization, facility-based crisis utilization, and behavioral health urgent care utilization from the period of July to September 2025.

Continuing, Mr. Shuping shared details of the Member Moment event for Heart Month, taking place on Feb. 9, 2026, in Danbury, NC, and an overview of community events for Region 2 from October 2025 through January 2026.

Ms. Cara Dohner joined the meeting at 11:12 a.m.

Mr. Elliot Clark, Community Relations Director, presented Community Relations updates. Mr. Barrow requested additional information on the Faith in Mental Health Initiative pilot program. Ms. Pamela Thompson inquired as to whether involuntary commitment and seeking care from the emergency department are related to the Opioid Treatment Program. Mr. Clark confirmed this program is still in the works. Ms. Cox emphasized that Vaya aims to avoid overburdening law enforcement and to prevent individuals from remaining in the emergency department unnecessarily, while acknowledging that some individuals will always require emergency department treatment.

Ms. Cara Dohner, Community Relations Director, continued presenting Community Relations updates by highlighting the Caswell Food Drive, the upcoming opening of an Adult Day Center in Chatham County, preliminary discussions of an Adult Day Center in Stokes County, and the Rockingham County Microtransit pilot program. Ms. Thompson extended an invitation to visit Alamance County's Adult Day Center. Ms. Dohner accepted with pleasure Ms. Thompson's invitation.

F. Pharmacy Operations Update

The Chair welcomed Dr. Heather Cree, Vice President of Pharmacy Operations, to the meeting. Dr. Cree began by presenting plan paid spending and utilization trends. Dr. Cree shared high cost claims and care management data for October through December, GLP-1 utilization, and authorization summary details by volume and by denial. Dr. Cree continued by presenting details of the asthma management project, noting the project resulted in 68% improvement in health outcomes. Dr. Cree further presented a review of excessive Uzedy dosing with potential drug savings of \$210,000, Hepatitis C project review, osteoporosis review, and future project considerations. Ms. Lisa Harrison, Granville Vance Public Health Director, highlighted the work of public nurses in Granville County around Hepatitis C and thanked Dr. Cree for her presentation.

G. Consumer & Family Advisory Committee Report

Ms. Jeannette Williamson, CFAC Representative, provided a CFAC activity summary from November 2025 through January 2026, recommendations of Vaya CFAC, highlights from Vaya CFAC's annual retreat held on Nov. 12-14, 2025, recent events and trainings attended by Vaya CFAC members. Ms. Williamson concluded by inviting all Regional Board members to attend the upcoming Region 4 CFAC meeting on Feb. 17, 2026.

H. Other Business

Ms. Pamela Thompson asked if the slide deck for today's meeting would be made available. The Clerk confirmed that materials from the meeting will be redistributed following the meeting.

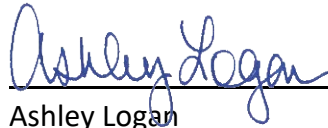
I. Adjournment

Mr. Houston Barrow made a motion to adjourn.

Mr. Mark Richardson seconded the motion.

Motion unanimously approved.

Meeting adjourned at 11:56 a.m.



Ashley Logan

Chief of Staff and Secretary to the Board