

**S. C. MENTAL HEALTH COMMISSION MEETING**  
**SCDMH Administration**  
**2414 Bull Street, Columbia, South Carolina 29201**  
**June 1, 2018**

***CALL TO ORDER***

The June 1, 2018 meeting of the South Carolina Mental Health Commission was called to order at 10:30 a.m. by Dr. Alison Evans, Chairperson, in Conference Room 320 at the SC Department of Mental Health Administration Building, 2414 Bull Street, Columbia, SC. Ms. Rochelle Caton provided the invocation.

***INTRODUCTION OF VISITORS***

Dr. Evans welcomed Thornwell Simmons, Andrew Lindemann, and Joel Hughes.

***RECOGNITION OF ACHIEVEMENT***

Dr. Versie Bellamy was recognized and awarded a certificate of congratulations by Dr. Alison Evans and Mr. Magill for completion of her Doctorate of Nursing Degree.

***APPROVAL OF AGENDA***

*On a motion by Ms. Sharon Wilson, seconded by Ms. Louise Haynes, the Commission approved the Agenda for today's Business Meeting.*

*All voted in favor to the above motions; all motions carried.*

***APPROVAL OF MINUTES***

*On a motion by Mr. Bob Hiott, seconded by Ms. Sharon Wilson, the Commission approved the minutes from the Facility Presentation of April 6, 2018.*

*On a motion by Ms. Louise Haynes, seconded by Mr. Bob Hiott, the Commission approved the Minutes from the Business Meeting of April 6, 2018.*

*All voted in favor to the above motions; all motions carried.*

***MONTHLY/QUARTERLY INFORMATION REPORTS***

Mr. Mark Binkley presented the items listed under Monthly/Quarterly Informational Reports, copies of which had been provided to the Commission. It was noted by Ms. Rochelle Caton that the increase in the number of SLED investigations which involved C. M. Tucker is attributable to the backlog of the Ombudsman's schedule. She also stated that if the cause of a resident injury cannot be determined, it is reported to SLED and SCDHEC, also inflating the number of reports.

***DEPARTMENTAL OVERVIEW AND UPDATE***

***Overview of Metropolitan Children’s Advocacy Center (Met CAC) – Dr. Alicia Benedetto***

Dr. Benedetto stated that the majority of clients are referred by Richland County law enforcement and DSS. The Met CAC Program is one (1) of seventeen (17) Children’s Advocacy Centers in the State and is the only one that is a State Program. Previously, the program was called the Assessment & Resource Center (ARC), but was renamed in 2017. She stated that Children’s Advocacy Centers (CAC) are child-focused centers that coordinate the investigation, prosecution, and treatment of child abuse and follow a Multidisciplinary Team (MDT) approach which includes sharing and collaborative action plans with:

- Richland County Sheriff’s Department
- Columbia Police Department
- Forest Acres Police Department
- Irmo Police Department
- Richland County DSS
- Fifth Judicial Circuit Solicitor’s Office

There are approximately fifteen (15) staff members, including a Child-Life Specialist that prepares children for interviews and exams. Dr. Benedetto stated that the services provided include forensic interviews and evaluations, medical examinations, expert testimony, assessment of emergent mental health needs and referrals to selected community partners for evidence-based treatments, training, and coordination of Richland County MDT. In 2017, one thousand four hundred and fifty-five (1,455) children were served by the program. She stated that since 2001, Met CAC has partnered with Children’s Law Center to provide ChildFirst training to child abuse investigative professionals statewide and that through May, 2018, over one thousand (1,000) individuals have attended the training. Dr. Benedetto stated that the Child and Family Traumatic Stress Intervention (CFTSI) Program provides trauma symptom reduction to both children and their parents during the peritraumatic period following disclosure. April 3, 2018 marked the 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Richland County MDT Rededication and Protocol Signing Ceremony. It was noted that Ms. Heather Smith, Met CAC Interviewer, was named as the 2017 Distinguished Humanitarian of the Year by the Lexington County Solicitor’s Office for her work in the interview room and in the courtroom.

***Report of the Inpatient Facilities Governing Body Meeting of April 11, 2018 and Approval of Minutes***

Ms. Versie Bellamy presented the Inpatient Facilities Governing Body Meeting minutes from the April 11, 2018 meeting, copies of which had been provided to the Commission.

***On a motion by Ms. Sharon Wilson, seconded by Ms. Bob Hiott, the Commission approved the Governing Body Meeting minutes from the April 11, 2018 meeting.***

***Legislative/Budget Update***

Mr. Mark Binkley highlighted several items from the Legislative News publication, dated June 1, 2018, copies of which had been provided to the Commission. He stated that the FY2019 budget for the State has not been finalized and is currently under consideration by the Conference Committee.

**Forensic Waiting List Update**

Dr. Versie Bellamy stated that there are currently twenty-two (22) on the Forensic waiting list and Mr. Mark Binkley stated that some of the individuals are out on bond. She stated that there has been a thirty-seven percent (37%) decrease in the average length of stay since May of 2017. The wait time for patients requiring longer term treatment has decreased by approximately fifty-three percent (53%) and the waitlist for restoration patients has decreased to approximately fifteen (15) days.

**Update of VA Nursing Home Grants Applications**

Mr. Mark Binkley stated that funding has been appropriated for the construction of three (3) additional State Veterans Nursing Homes and that deadlines must be met for the State to receive the federal funds. Environmental assessments and partially completed designs for the three (3) facilities must be completed by August 1, 2018 and that DMH is currently two (2) weeks ahead of schedule. Mr. Binkley stated that the addition of three (3) nursing homes will employ approximately three hundred (300) staff. An Advisory Committee Meeting has been held in Columbia and meetings are scheduled in Cherokee and Florence counties. It was noted that some of Senator Lindsay Graham's staff are planning to attend the Advisory Committee Meeting in Florence and have offered assistance if needed.

**Bull Street Update**

Mr. Mark Binkley stated that the Bone-In Barbeque Restaurant is open. Mr. Magill stated that other projects that are underway are the condominiums, which are approximately sixty percent (60%) complete, Senior Living Center, and City Park.

**Financial Status Update**

Mr. Mark Binkley highlighted certain information on the SCDMH Financial Report, dated April 30, 2018, copies of which had been provided to the Commission. It was stated that Dave Schaefer has retired from the position of Director, Financial Services and that the job advertisement for that position closes on June 6, 2018.

**Issue Action Papers**

Mr. Mark Binkley presented an Issue Action Paper to approve surplus and disposal of the Carter Street Complex in Columbia, copies of which had been provided to the Commission.

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*On a motion by Ms. Sharon Wilson, seconded by Ms. Louise Haynes, the Commission approved the Issue Action Paper regarding the Carter Street Complex.*

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Mr. Magill stated that a forum is scheduled at the Columbia Area Mental Health Center on June 15, 2018. He stated that The Duke Endowment has awarded DMH with two (2) additional grants for additional staff in the Telepsych Program and for a School Health Project which includes pediatrics and dentistry in Darlington County Middle Schools. He expressed his appreciation for all of the funding that has been provided by The Duke Endowment which totals approximately \$ 13M. The dedication for the Santee-Wateree MH Center will be held on July 19, 2018. Mr. Magill stated that a DMH Leadership Management Meeting was held on May 30, 2018 and that State Director's Awards were presented to Mr. Stewart Cooner, Ms. Melanie Gambrell, and Dr. Kimberly Rudd. Mr. Magill and Ms. Deb Blalock were plenary speakers at the Southeastern Symposium that was recently held in Greenville. It was noted that active meetings are being held with the Greenville Hospital System leadership to collaborate in the expansion of crisis services in the Upstate.

**NOTICE/AGENDA**

A notice and agenda of the meeting were sent out to all individuals and news media who requested information, in accordance with State law.

**ADJOURNMENT**

*At 11:45 a.m., on a motion by Mr. Bob Hiott, seconded by Ms. Louise Haynes, the Commission entered into executive session to receive legal advice concerning pending litigation. Upon convening in open session at 12:30 p.m., it was noted that only information was received; no votes or actions were taken.*

**ATTENDANCE**

**Commission Members**

Dr. Alison Evans, Chair  
Bob Hiott

Sharon Wilson, Vice-Chair  
Louise Haynes

**Visitors/Staff**

Dr. Versie Bellamy  
Dr. Kimberly Rudd  
Val Perkins  
Rochelle Caton  
Alan Powell  
Christian Barnes-Young  
Dr. Alicia Benedetto

Deborah Blalock  
Jeff Ham  
Pete Creighton  
Jennifer Roberts  
Michele Reeder  
Michele Murff

Mark Binkley  
Bill Lindsey  
Kimble Carter  
Thornwell Simmons  
Andrew Lindemann  
Joel Hughes

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**APPROVALS**



**Alison Y. Evans**  
**PsyD, Chair**



**Terry Davis**  
**Recording Secretary**