

S. C. MENTAL HEALTH COMMISSION MEETING
Waccamaw Center for Mental Health
164 Waccamaw Medical Park Drive, Conway, SC 29526
June 7, 2019

CALL TO ORDER

The June 7, 2019 meeting of the South Carolina Mental Health Commission was called to order at 10:15 a.m. by Dr. Alison Evans, Chairperson, in the Upstairs Conference Room A at the Waccamaw Center for Mental Health (WCMH) 164 Waccamaw Medical Park Drive, Conway, SC. WCMH board member Carolyn Hickman-Williams provided the invocation.

INTRODUCTION OF VISITORS

Dr. Evans welcomed Williamsburg County Probate Judge Betty F. Matthews and WCMH board members: Greg Kirk, Joyce Phillips, and Carolyn Hickman-Williams.

PRESENTATION OF RESOLUTION

Dr. Evans presented a resolution from the Commission upon the retirement of WCMH Director Ethel B. Bellamy. Ms. Bellamy's resolution read as follows:

Whereas: The South Carolina Mental Health Commission and the State Director of the South Carolina Department of Mental Health recognize the retirement of Ethel B. Bellamy; and

Whereas: Mental health is critical to the well-being and vitality of all South Carolinians; and

Whereas: Mental illness affects people regardless of age, gender, race, ethnicity, religion or economic status; and

Whereas: The service of Ethel B. Bellamy has improved the lives of individuals living with mental illness. Her roles in mental health have included emergency services, advanced therapy for adults experiencing emotional disruptions, and school mental health services; and

Whereas: Ms. Bellamy for 39 years has embodied the Mission of the Department of Mental Health, to support the recovery of people with mental illnesses; and

Whereas: The South Carolina Mental Health Commission and the State Director of the South Carolina Department of Mental Health recognize Ms. Bellamy not only for her distinguished service as Executive Director of Waccamaw Center for Mental Health, but also as an accomplished Licensed Professional Counselor and Counselor Supervisor; and

Now, therefore: We express our profound appreciation to Ms. Bellamy for her dedicated service to the mentally ill and her invaluable service to the South Carolina Department of Mental Health; offer her our sincere gratitude and best wishes; and order that a copy of this Resolution be made a part of the Commission's permanent records.

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APPROVAL OF AGENDA

On a motion by Mr. Greg Pearce, seconded by Ms. Louise Haynes, the Commission approved the Agenda for today's Business Meeting.

All voted in favor to the above motion; motion carried.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

On a motion by Mr. Hiott, seconded by Dr. Evans, the Commission approved the Minutes from the Business Meeting of May 3, 2019.

All voted in favor to the above motion; motion carried.

MONTHLY/QUARTERLY INFORMATION REPORTS

Mr. Alan Powell presented the items listed under Monthly/Quarterly Informational Reports, copies of which had been provided to the Commission.

Mr. Powell, via conference call, reported a total of 19 pending SLED investigations: four (4) were assigned to SLED, ten (10) were assigned to Long-term Care Ombudsman Office, four (4) were assigned to the Attorney General's Office, and one (1) was assigned to local law enforcement. The patient advocacy report remains substantially the same from month-to-month.

DEPARTMENTAL OVERVIEW AND UPDATE

Community Update/Dashboards

Ms. Deborah Blalock presented the Community Dashboard spreadsheets, copies of which had been provided to the Commission.

Ms. Blalock thanked Ethel Bellamy for her years of service and announced Ms. Jacqueline "Jackie" Brown, with 24 years of service with DMH, has been promoted to serve as the new Center Director of WCMH.

Lexington County Community Mental Health Center (LCCMHC) Director Rick Acton is retiring August 2, and the position will be filled by Ms. Sarah Main Protheroe.

The Greater Greenville Mental Health Center merger is going well and is on track to be complete by July 1, 2019.

Ms. Blalock reported that the only Center projected to end the fiscal year in a deficit will be Lexington, primarily as a result of the Center's continuing difficulty to adjust to the \$650,000 appropriations cut by Lexington County, which took place four years ago. The Center's deficit has lessened significantly each of those four years and management is taking steps towards having no deficit next year.

A per capita funding report was provided to the Commission. The report is being analyzed by management and the DMH Division of Financial Services to determine an equitable method of distribution of State funds to the Mental Health Centers.

Forensic Waiting List Update

Dr. Versie Bellamy reported that as of this morning there were thirty-nine (39) patients on the Forensic Waiting List. The Forensic Program is continuing to strive to keep the waiting times under 30 days.

Senior leaders and others recently met to review the Forensic Action Plan and made some modifications to the plan. Dr. Bellamy has recommended a work collaborative to develop necessary resources and the expansion of services to continue to move patients across the care continuum. Dr. Bellamy is excited about the expansion of transition services and stated Ms. Tracy Richardson is instrumental in supporting these initiatives.

The Division of Inpatient Services (DIS) management continues to assess, identify, and address the barriers to the timely admission to and discharge from Forensic Services. Maintaining adequate staffing levels continues to be an ongoing challenge, especially the recruitment and retention of psychiatrists. Telepsychiatry may soon be utilized to help address this challenge.

Clinical Contract Monitoring Update

The Division of Inpatient Services (DIS) contracts with a variety of companies to help DIS meet its service provision, staffing, and operational goals. DIS has hundreds of contracts for outsourced services. Each contract is monitored for compliance to ensure that services are provided in accordance with the contract, and to ensure that patients and residents who receive care and treatment from contract providers are being well cared for. The larger the contract, the greater the need for robust administrative oversight. DMH's four largest contracts are with HMR Services for the operation of the Richard M. Campbell Veterans Nursing Home (Campbell) and Veterans Victory House (VVH) Nursing Home and with Wellpath, formerly Correct Care Recovery Solutions, for the operations of Bryan Psychiatric Hospital Forensic Services and the Sexually Violent Predators Treatment Program. DMH is ultimately responsible for the provision of quality services to patients and residents and the oversight of all its contracts which requires an infrastructure for close monitoring, active involvement, and objective separation and evaluation. DIS endeavors to ensure compliance with regulatory standards at all times.

Key priorities of DIS are to ensure quality patient/resident centered services are provided, contract compliance, and fiscal accountability/solvency. The annual cost of the four largest contracts is approximately \$90 million, which represents 40% of DIS operating expenses. In addition to requiring various reports from its contract partners, DIS contract monitoring staff are on-site at all four programs. The Division of Inpatient Services' success in continuing to provide good care to its patients and residents depends upon adequate oversight of its contracts, auditing, and planning to meet future needs.

Financial Status Update

Ms. Debbie Calcote highlighted certain information on the monthly financial report, copies of which had been provided to the Commission. Ms. Calcote reported DMH is projected to end the fiscal year with a positive balance of approximately \$5 million.

Legislative Update

Per Ms. Calcote, there has been no change in legislative news since the last Commission meeting.

The final FY20 State budget for DMH included additional recurring funds of \$400,000 for Crisis Stabilization Units, and an additional \$875,000 for community supportive housing. To meet the desired goal of continuing to increase

the number of Crisis Stabilization units, DMH through its Mental Health Centers will continue to meet with community stakeholders, such as local community hospitals, to provide support.

State employees will receive a two percent cost of living adjustment. State employees earning \$70,000 or less will also receive a one-time \$600 bonus.

Compliance Report

Melba Arthur, Office of Quality Management, presented the DMH Compliance Program Review. DMH is committed to ensure the promotion of full compliance and the prevention and detection of accidental and intentional noncompliance with all applicable legal and ethical responsibilities. The Compliance Program helps DMH maintain its integrity and ensure the agency is doing what it is supposed to do. The Compliance Program maintains a close relationship with the Office of General Council.

The Director of Quality Management and Compliance Areas of Responsibility are: Quality Assurance (QA), Credentialing & Privileging, Compliance, HIPAA Privacy, and Integrated Care.

DMH Compliance History:

- 1998- created Office of Corporate Compliance (CC)
- 1999- Initial Directive and CC Plan Education, Reporting and Response, Crosswalks and QA Audits
- 2001- Agency-Wide Committee replaced Office of Corporate Compliance
- 2003- Medical Director was appointed as Director of Quality Management and Compliance
- 2004- DMH Director Quality Management & Compliance Officer appointed

Components of the Compliance Program are: Auditing & Monitoring, Billing & Coding, Education, HIPAA Compliance, Investigation & Remediation, and Compliance Reporting. Sources of reports include: the DMH Compliance Hotline, the DMH Compliance Officer, Community Mental Health Center or Facility Compliance Officers, findings from QA and Utilization Review audits, findings from credentialing audits, SC DHHS Program Integrity, and other external auditors. Each Community Mental Health Center (CMHC) is scheduled to be monitored for compliance at least once every 18 months.

YTD FY'19 Accomplishments:

- DIS compliance audit
- Creation and utilization of the CMHC Compliance Audit Dashboard
- CMHC compliance audit scoring
- Increased accountability for follow-up and corrective action planning (Compliance Report and Compliance Audit follow-up)
- Improved timeliness of resolution of compliance reports (Average 116 days to 62 days)
- Training compliance (Average 79% FY'18 to 88% FY'19)
- Billing system enhancements regarding No Charge Options and Medication billing (injectables)

In-Progress Initiatives:

- Central Office Compliance Audit
- Expand use of performance data: Compliance Dashboard
- Additional EMR Technical Safeguards – cloning prevention
 - Overlapping services
 - Same day services
 - Medicare provider eligibility
- Training Compliance – utilize compliance alerts and SharePoint

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- Minimize turn-around time for resolution

From July – April 2019, there have been 93 compliance reports filed, 49 of them pertain to external auditing activity. This reflects the number of reports filed, but not necessarily founded.

So far this year, DMH has had 31 HIPAA events reported, the majority of which relate to unauthorized disclosure, zero have required reports to the Office of the Inspector General.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mental Health Advocacy Day was held on the steps of the Capital on May 8th. Mr. Pearce was in attendance, and gave remarks, as did Interim State Director Mark Binkley. A number of members of the General Assembly participated. Mr. John H. Magill was in the audience and was recognized. DMH will be encouraging the Advocates to consider holding the event earlier in the legislative session next year, possibly February, inside the Capital building.

A relatively new group in South Carolina, the Infant and Early Childhood Mental Health Association, held its first Statewide conference on May 9th. Mr. Binkley and the new DSS Director, Michael Leach, participated in a panel discussion. That same afternoon, Governor McMaster convened the leaders of all the State agencies and Emergency Management personnel at the State fairgrounds for the annual hurricane exercise. DMH is very experienced in responding to hazardous events, including supporting DMH facilities which are affected, and is prepared to do so again should that be necessary.

Senior Management will continue the Succession Planning practice begun by Mr. Magill. In September, there will be another SCDMH Executive Leadership Class comprised of promising mid-level management staff from the Community, Inpatient, and Administrative Divisions. Two physicians will also participate in the SCDMH Executive Leadership Class.

MHA-South Carolina had their 65th birthday celebration on May 16th. A number of DMH staff were recognized, including, Dr. Kimberly Rudd (Psychiatrist of the Year), Mallory Miller, Noni Richards (NGRI Outreach), and Kathy Timmons.

Mr. Binkley gave a presentation at the Southeastern Symposium on Mental Health in Greenville on May 17, 2019. The next day, at the symposium, Mr. Magill was presented an Outstanding Community Mental Health Advocate award.

Memorial Day observances were held at all three DMH Veteran Nursing Homes. Mr. Binkley and his wife, Laura, attended the event at Veteran's Victory House.

DMH leadership met with DSS leadership, including DSS Director Michael Leach, on May 29th, with plans to meet periodically on an ongoing basis.

There are four Governor's Roundtable meetings scheduled weekly during the month of June. All the Directors of child-serving agencies are invited to discuss improving services for children in South Carolina.

A new State agency, The Department of Children's Advocacy, created by the General Assembly, will come into existence July 1, 2019. The Governor named former DSS attorney, Amanda Whittle, the first "State Child Advocate," to lead the new agency. How DMH will interface with the new agency is being discussed.

The next House Legislative Oversight Committee subcommittee meeting with DMH is scheduled for June 20, 2019.

A work group, led by Mr. Binkley, to address transportation of emergency admissions scheduled to meet on June 28th. The workgroup will address potential revisions to current methods of transportation of patients to inpatient hospitals. The Sheriff's Association, Police Chief's Association, Probate Judges, NAMI, and others have been invited to join the workgroup. Mr. Pearce requested the Commission be kept informed about when meetings will take place, who attends, and any progress made.

Presentations on *Forensic Services - its history and current situation*, and *The Status of the Agency's Strategic Plan* are scheduled for the July Commission meeting.

Dr. Evans announced Sharon Wilson is stepping down from the Commission after the July Commission meeting.

The Commission will elect its officers, Chair and Vice-chair, during the July Commission meeting. Dr. Evans stated she will remain on the Commission but will not seek re-election to Chair.

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 11:36 a.m., on a motion by Ms. Haynes, seconded by Mr. Hiott, the Commission adjourned the Business Meeting and entered into Executive Session to discuss a personnel matter and the recruitment for a permanent State Director. Upon convening in open session at 12:31 p.m., it was noted that information was received; no votes were taken. The Commission decided to move forward with advertising the State Director position. Beginning the week of June 10th, the State Director position will be advertised through August 1, 2019.

ATTENDANCE

Commission Members

Dr. Alison Y. Evans, Chair
Louise Haynes

Robert Hiott
Greg Pearce

Sharon Wilson, Vice-Chair, attended
via conference call

Visitors/Staff

Dr. Robert Bank
Dr. Versie Bellamy
Debbie Blalock
Debbie Calcote
Eleanor Odom
Ernestine Middleton
Dr. Kimberly Rudd
Melba Arthur
Alan Powell, via conference call

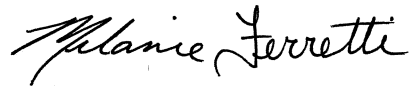
Ethel B. Bellamy
Jackie Brown
Jasmine Glover
Betty F. Matthews
Tom Ryba
Lori Chappelle
Helen Wells
LaQuana McFadden
John Wellerdieck

Carolyn Hickman-Williams
Joyce Phillips
Greg Kirk
William Polk
Corrie Farrar
Kelly Kaminski
Naomi Kent
Lena Spain
Cicely Glasgow-Obidah
Dave Moen

APPROVALS



**Alison Y. Evans
PsyD, Chair**



**Melanie Ferretti
Recording Secretary**

