

**SOUTH CAROLINA MENTAL HEALTH COMMISSION**  
**SCDMH Administration**  
**2414 Bull Street, Columbia, South Carolina 29201**

**June 3, 2022**

**Santee-Wateree Mental Health Center – Virtual Presentation**

**ATTENDANCE**

**Commission Members:**

Mr. Greg Pearce, Chair, Dr. Carl Jones, Dr. Elliott Levy, and Mr. Bobby Mann were present. Dr. Alison Evans and Dr. Crystal Maxwell were present virtually via Zoom.

**Staff/Visitors:**

Louise Johnson	<i>Present virtually via Zoom</i>	<i>Present virtually via Zoom</i>	<i>Present virtually via Zoom</i>
Wanda McMichael	Janet Bell	Ashlei Hart	Valarie Perkins
Eleanor Odom-Martin	Deborah Blalock	Charice Jones	Sylvett Porter
Greer Pickett	Dr. Robert Breen	Tracy LaPointe	Vicki Redding
Dr. Kenneth Rogers	Jacqueline Brown	Bill Lindsey	Dr. Kimberly Rudd
Brett Williams	Rochelle Caton	Patrice Lloyd	Irene Thornley
	Belinda Caudle	Sarah Main	Eric Turner
	Dr. Eve Fields	Lynn Melton	Roslyn Sanders
	Melanie Gambrell	Denise Morgan	Lindsay Walker
	Jeffery Ham	Paul Morris	Keisha White
	Dr. Patricia Handley	Nathaniel Nash	

A meeting of the S.C. Mental Health Commission was held in Room 323 at the S.C. Department of Mental Health Administration Building on Friday, June 3, at 9:30 a.m. Chairman Pearce welcomed everyone to the meeting and turned the meeting over to Mr. Jeffery Ham, Executive Director, Santee-Wateree Community Mental Health Center (SWCMHC).

**PRESENTATION**

Mr. Ham welcomed everyone. He introduced Ms. Sylvett Porter, Center Administrator, and facilitator for today's presentation. Ms. Porter introduced members of the leadership team: Ms. Belinda Caudle, Executive Administrative Coordinator; Ms. Roslyn Sanders, IPS Program Coordinator; Mr. Mark Bellamy, Community Outreach Director, and Ms. Keisha White, ROI Program Director. Ms. Porter gave an overview on the services and programs provided by SWCMHC. Team members talked about their areas of responsibilities. Following are highlights from the presentation.

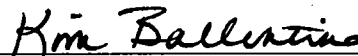
- Ms. Roslyn Sanders gave a presentation on the Individual Placement and Support Program (IPS). A copy of the powerpoint presentation is filed with the minutes in the Office of the State Director.
  - Employment and Quality Affordable Housing have long been viewed as an essential component to helping people in their recovery from mental illness. Every mental health center under DMH has an IPS program.
  - Since the Pandemic, IPS programs collectively helped over 700 patients obtain competitive employment in the community.
  - SWCMHC and Anderson-Oconee-Pickens Mental Health Center IPS programs participated in the Supported Employment Demonstration (SED) study. This study helped people with disabilities who were initially denied social security benefits obtain gainful employment. The study ended in January 2022.

- As of third quarter of FY 2022, the employment rate for individuals enrolled in SCCMHC's IPS services is 49%. The national IPS average is 46%. Employment rates for all patients enrolled in South Carolina's community mental health centers is 16%.
- SWCMHC was one of 20 sites around the country chosen to participate in a SED study and received over \$1 million for their participation in the national study.
- Mr. Edwards, an individual enrolled in the IPS service, shared how the benefits of the program has affected his life.
- Ms. Keisha White gave a presentation on Healthy Transitions: Roads of Independence (ROI) program. A copy of the powerpoint presentation is filed with the minutes in the Office of the State Director.
  - The mission of the ROI program is to support the recovery of youth and young adult with mental illnesses and to promote their successful transition.
  - Membership criteria for the ROI program is any youth and young adult between the ages of 16-25 and at least one of the following: mental health history, current presentation or at-risk for mental illness, foster care experience, involvement with criminal justice, homelessness or at risk of homelessness, substance abuse, or in need of transition support.
  - ROI Drop-In Centers are located in Sumter, Lee, and Kershaw Counties.
  - The ROI program is in its fourth year of its five-year grant. Current focus is on sustainability for the program. Additional funding has been acquired to build additional programs within the ROI program.
    - BRIDGES program. The BRIDGES program will increase access to mental health services and supports to youth and young adults whose behavior puts them in direct contact with the justice system; provide transition services and peer support services in assisting youth and young adults in making the transition to adulthood and self-sufficiency; provide a comprehensive diversion option and an alternative to detention to prevent young offenders from escalating into chronic and habitual criminality; and train law enforcement professionals and other stakeholders on mental health first aid, cultural competency, and/or trauma-informed care practices.
    - ROADS 2 program will improve access to mental health services and transition support of young adults who reside in Clarendon County
  - Community involvement and partners are vital to ROI success. Because of the community partnerships, a total of 844 referrals have been received since inception of the program.

On behalf of the Commission, Chairman Pearce thanked Mr. Ham and the leadership team for their services and for the very informative presentation. The center presentation concluded at 10:10 a.m.



L. Gregory Pearce, Jr., Chair  
SC Mental Health Commission



Kim Ballentine, Recording Secretary  
SC Mental Health Commission