

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

December 2, 2022

Orangeburg Area Mental Health Center – Virtual Presentation

ATTENDANCE

Commission Members:

Mr. Greg Pearce, Chair (arrived at 10 a.m.), Dr. Alison Evans, Dr. Carl Jones, Mr. Bobby Mann, and Dr. Crystal Maxwell were present. Dr. Elliott Levy was present virtually via zoom.

Staff/Visitors:

Dr. Robert Bank	<i>Present virtually via Zoom</i>	<i>Present virtually via Zoom</i>	<i>Present virtually via Zoom</i>
Debbie Calcote	Jennifer Alleyne	Beth Franco	Vicki Redding
Dr. Patricia Handley	Janet Bell	Melanie Gambrell	Shawnta Reeder-Locks
Eleanor Odom-Martin	Erin Bramlitt	Keith Jackson	Angie Salley
Wanda McMichael	Mirtha Brown	Charice Jones	Susan von Schenk
Denise Morgan	Pete Camelo	Tracy LaPointe	Lindsay Walker
Chaplain Stokes	Gail Cordial	Sarah Main	Dr. Sheena Willis
Brett Williams	Robin Crawford	Margaret Meriwether	Kevin Woods

A meeting of the S.C. Mental Health Commission was held in Room 320 at the S.C. Department of Mental Health Administration Building on Friday, December 2, 2022, at 9:30 a.m. Vice Chair Dr. Elliott Levy welcomed everyone to the meeting and turned the meeting over to Bryant Williams, Chief of Staff, Orangeburg Area Mental Health Center (OAMHC).

PRESENTATION

Mr. Williams welcomed everyone and introduced the OAMHC leadership team: Ms. Teresa Gadson, Individual Placement & Support (IPS) and Peer Support Supervisor; Ms. Jasmine Carter, Adult Mobile Crisis Services Supervisor; and Ms. Chelsea Hilliard, MHP at Claflin University.

Ms. Gadson gave a presentation on the IPS program. A copy of the presentation is filed with the minutes in the Office of the State Director. Following are highlights from the presentation.

- IPS is a model of supported employment for people with serious mental illness and helps individuals living with behavioral health conditions work at regular jobs of their choosing.
- IPS Team members: Demetrius Henderson, IPS Program Manager; Kevin Crosby and Donyelle Williams, Employment Specialists; Le Roy Simmons, Peer Support Specialist; Gabrielle Washington, Vocational Rehabilitation Job Coach; Marquita Huggins, Vocational Rehabilitation Counselor.
- Principles of IPS:
 - Competitive Employment
 - Rapid Job Search
 - Benefits Planning
 - Systematic Job Development
 - Integrated Services
 - Zero Exclusion
 - Time-Unlimited Supports
 - Worker Preferences

- Benefits of employment include increased income, improved self-esteem, increased social and quality of life, better control of symptoms, reduced substance use, and reduced hospitalization.
- Ms. Gadson talked about the IPS Team Level of Care System.
- Dr. Levy asked how many patients are admitted to the program. Ms. Gadson explained the program is referral based. She reported there are 26 patients currently in the program and 15 patients working. Dr. Evans said the IPS program addresses a critical component to recovery. Dr. Jones commended Ms. Gadson for her good work. He said there is a strong relationship between success, work, and personality development. He commended Ms. Gadson for her good work.

Dr. Natasha Smith, Executive Director, reported OAMHC has 79 employees, nine supervisors, one medical chief, two contract APRNs, two contract psychiatrists; one nurse supervisor, one RN, and one LPN. OAMHC serves 2,100 patients.

Ms. Carter gave an overview on Mobile Crisis Services. OAMHC receives about 15 crisis calls per week. The use of fulltime employees and dual employee clinicians provide 24-hour coverage for the Center's catchment area.

Ms. Hilliard talked about the telehealth services provided by Ehrhardt Pharmacy during the pandemic to the patients in rural areas with little or no internet service. Telehealth gave them the opportunity to connect to their physician from the pharmacy and get the medicines they need. The pharmacy also connected patients to their behavioral health providers for regularly scheduled appointments through DMH and OAMHC. Dr. Jones stated there are a number of students on school campuses across the state that could benefit from the services rendered at local mental health centers. He expressed appreciation for mental health service presence at Claflin University.

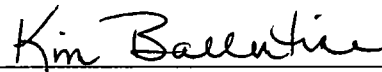
Mr. Bryant reported OAMHC has mental health service contracts with ten schools in the Orangeburg County School District, a contract with Calhoun County School District One, Claflin University, Denmark Technical College, and Orangeburg County Detention Center. Additionally, a contract with Orangeburg County Detention Center for Long Lasting Injectables (LAI) for inmates. A mental health services contract is pending with the South Carolina State University. Mr. Bryant announced the Regional Medical Center (RMC) merged with MUSC. Dr. Smith was selected as a member on the new 18-Member Advisory Board.

Dr. Jones thanked Dr. Smith and the staff for hosting him recently on his first tour of sites around the state.

On behalf of the Commission, Chairman Pearce thanked Dr. Smith and the leadership team for their continued 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