

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

June 2, 2023

Pee Dee Mental Health Center – Virtual Presentation

ATTENDANCE

Commission Members:

Mr. Greg Pearce, Chair, Dr. Elliott Levy, Dr. Carl Jones, and Mr. Bobby Mann were present, in person. Dr. Crystal Maxwell 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>
Dr. Patricia Handley	Deborah Blalock	Dr. Maryjane Hicks	Vicki Redden
Dr. Ralph Pollock	Patrick Bresnan	Keith Jackson	Vicki Redding
Tracy Richardson	Jackie Brown	Charice Jones	Chaplain Kynan Robinson
Bonita Shropshire	Patricia Brown	Jim Langlois	Anne Summer
Brett Williams	Jennifer Brush	Tracy LaPointe	Cathy Timmons
	Peter Camelo	Bill Lindsay	Eric Turner
	Leigh Ann Chmura	Sarah Main	Susan von Schenk
	Gail Cordial	Kathy Martin	Lindsay Walker
	Melanie Gambrell	Margaret Meriwether	Steve Williams
	Dr. Kelly Gothard	Laura Moss	Dr. Sheena Willis
	Jeffery Ham	Sylvett Porter	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, June 2, 2023, at 9:30 a.m. Chairman Pearce welcomed everyone to the meeting and turned the meeting over to Mr. Patrick Bresnan, Executive Director, Pee Dee Mental Health Center (PDMHC).

PRESENTATION

Mr. Bresnan welcomed everyone. He said the PDMHC provides mental health services to adults, children and families of Florence, Darlington and Marion Counties. Services are provided to approximately 4,000 individuals annually; and provides approximately 90,000 services on an annual basis.

Mr. Bresnan introduced the following members of his leadership team: Ms. Cathy Timmons, Director of Community Integration Program; Ms. Vickie Redden, Program Coordinator, Nextgen Individual Placement Services (IPS) Program; and Mr. Steve Williams, MHP, Jail Program, First Responder Support Team (FRST), and Eye Movement Desensitization and Reprocessing (EMDR).

Ms. Timmons, who has been with PHMHC for 31 years, gave an overview on their Community Integration Services (CIS). CIS provides the resources and support to help mental health patients in their needs in order to live successfully in the community. Some of the components of CIS are: Community Mental Health Liaison (works with the Community Residential Care Facilities); supportive housing (assists patients with their rent); community housing (assists patients with their everyday needs to live independently in the community); Homeshare Program; Silver Years Program (assists older adults with symptoms of early dementia in addition to mental illness); Peer Support Program (PDMHC currently has three part-time peer support specialists on staff and is in the process

of hiring one fulltime peer support specialist); Prevention & Recovery in Early Psychosis (PREP); Individual Placement Services (IPS); Intensive Community Treatment Program; NextGen IPS Program; Jail Program; First Responder Support Team (FRST); and Eye Movement Desensitization and Reprocessing (EMDR).

Ms. Redden, who has been with PDMHC for 34 years, talked about the Next Generation of Enhanced Employment Strategies (NextGen) Project, a research project conducted by Mathematica and funded by the Social Security Administration and the Department of Health and Human Services. The goal of the NextGen Project is to identify and study innovative employment programs for people facing complex employment challenges. These challenges may be physical and mental health conditions, criminal justice system involvement, or limited work skills and experience. Five programs were selected to participate in the NextGen Project: two programs in Oklahoma, one in Illinois and Tennessee; and the Individual Placement and Support (IPS) for Individuals with Justice Involvement program at PDMHC. The IPS program at PDMHC began in 2003 and in 2016 received the Individual Placement and Support (IPS) Dartmouth Achievement National Award. Ms. Redden reported a total of 126 enrollees in the program with a goal of 275 enrollees by the end of the project, which is in June 2024. Mr. Bresnan reported the research project provides a \$3,200 stipend for each enrollee in the IPS program.


Mr. Williams gave a presentation on PDMHC's Jail Program, FRST, and EMDR, a copy of which is filed with the minutes in the Office of the State Director. Following are highlights from the presentation:

- Mr. Williams is the MHP embedded in the Darlington County and Marion County Detention Centers. Presently, Darlington County jail has 132 inmates with 13 inmates on his caseload; Marion County jail has 139 inmates with 12 inmates on his caseload, and is in the process of adding two more inmates. Incarcerated patients receive assessments and individual therapy, as well as psychiatric medical assessments from a PDMHC medical doctor or nurse practitioner. Medications are prescribed and the detention centers are responsible for ensuring med compliance. The MHP follows up on inmate grievances to determine if individuals need mental health services.
- The FRST provides counseling services to state law enforcement, EMS, fire department, and dispatch workers. Services include short-term counseling; assessment and referral; medical consultation when needed; individual, couples and family counseling; and EMDR.
- EMDR is a mental health treatment technique with the goal of helping a patient heal from trauma or other distressing life experience(s). Mr. Williams reported that over the last year, he has successfully treated four patients with EMDR therapy.

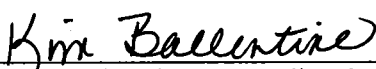
Mr. Bresnan said the announcement of the Florence Behavioral Health Hub is scheduled on Thursday, June 15, 2023. Governor Henry McMaster and House Speaker Murrell Smith will be in attendance. The location of the new facility will be approximately two blocks from PDMHC.

Mr. Bresnan announced that he attended a Memorial Day event at Veteran Village this past Monday. He said the veterans nursing home is an incredible resource for the area and one that the veterans deserve.

On behalf of the Commission, Chairman Pearce thanked Mr. Bresnan and the leadership team for their continued services and for the very informative presentation. The center presentation concluded at 10:05 a.m.



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



Kim Ballentine, Recording Secretary
SC Mental Health Commission