

**SOUTH CAROLINA DEPARTMENT OF MENTAL HEALTH  
STATE DIRECTOR JOHN H. MAGILL**

**RICHARD M. CAMPBELL VETERANS' NURSING HOME  
NURSING HOME ADMINISTRATOR JAY BLOOMER**

**Spring 2012**

DMH  
OPERATES A  
NETWORK OF  
SEVENTEEN  
COMMUNITY  
MENTAL HEALTH  
CENTERS,  
42 CLINICS,  
FOUR  
HOSPITALS,  
THREE  
VETERANS'  
NURSING  
HOMES, AND  
ONE  
COMMUNITY  
NURSING HOME.

**DMH HOSPITALS  
AND  
NURSING HOMES**

**Columbia, SC**

G. Werber Bryan Psychiatric Hospital

William S. Hall Psychiatric Institute (Child & Adolescents)

Morris Village Alcohol & Drug Addiction Treatment Center

C.M. Tucker, Jr. Nursing Care Center - Stone Pavilion (Veterans Nursing Home)

C.M. Tucker, Jr. Nursing Care Center - Roddey Pavilion

**Anderson, SC**

Patrick B. Harris Psychiatric Hospital

Richard M. Campbell Veterans Nursing Home

**Walterboro, SC**

Veterans Victory House (Veterans Nursing Home)

**DMH HISTORY AND DEMOGRAPHICS**

South Carolina has a long history of caring for those suffering from mental illness. In 1694, the Lords Proprietors of South Carolina established that the destitute mentally ill should be cared for by local governments. The concept of "Outdoor Relief," based upon Elizabethan Poor Laws, affirmed that the poor, sick and/or disabled should be taken in or boarded at public expense. In 1762, the Fellowship Society of Charleston established an infirmary for the mentally ill. But it was not until the 1800's that the mental health movement received legislative attention at the state level.

Championing the mentally ill, South Carolina Legislators Colonel Samuel Farrow and Major William Crafts worked zealously to sensitize their fellow lawmakers to the needs of the mentally ill, and on December 20, 1821, the South Carolina State Legislature passed a statute-at-large approving \$30,000 to build the South Carolina Lunatic Asylum and a school for the 'deaf and dumb'. This legislation made South Carolina the second state in the nation (after Virginia) to provide funds for the care and treatment of people with mental illnesses.

The Mills Building, designed by renowned architect Robert Mills, was completed and operational in 1828 as the South Carolina Lunatic Asylum. The facilities

grew through the decades to meet demand, until inpatient occupancy peaked in the 1960's at well over 6,000 patients on any given day. From 1828 through 2011, South Carolina state-run hospitals and nursing homes treated over 947,000 patients and provided over 148,500,000 bed days.

In the 1920's, treatment of the mentally ill began to include outpatient care as well as institutional care. The first outpatient center in South Carolina was established in Columbia in 1923.

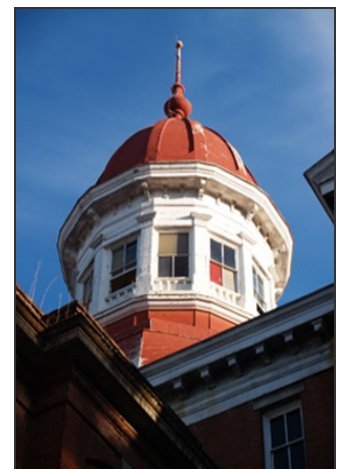
The 1950's saw the discovery of phenothiazines, "miracle drugs" that controlled many severe symptoms of mental illness, making it possible to "unlock" wards. These drugs enabled many patients to function in society and work towards recovery, reducing the need for prolonged hospitalization. Government support and spending increased in the 1960's. The South Carolina Community Mental Health Services Act (1961) and the Federal Community Health Centers Act (1963) provided more funds for local mental health care.

The South Carolina Department of Mental Health (DMH) was founded in 1964. In 1967, the first mental healthcare complex in the South, the Columbia Area Mental Health Center, was built. The centers and clinics have served over 2,800,000 patients, providing over

38,000,000 clinical contacts.

Today, DMH operates a network of 17 community mental health centers, 42 clinics, three veterans' nursing homes, and one community nursing home. DMH is one of the largest hospital and community-based systems of care in South Carolina. In FY11, DMH outpatient clinics provided 1,175,482 clinical contacts and DMH hospitals and nursing homes provided nearly 530,000 bed days. Last year, DMH treated nearly 100,000 citizens, including approximately 30,000 children and adolescents.

DMH  
MISSION:  
TO SUPPORT  
THE RECOVERY  
OF PEOPLE  
WITH  
MENTAL  
ILLNESSES.



Babcock Building Cupola



RICHARD M. CAMPBELL  
 VETERANS' NURSING HOME  
 4605 BELTON HIGHWAY  
 ANDERSON, S. C. 29621  
 (864) 261-6734

## RICHARD M. CAMPBELL VETERANS' NURSING HOME

Pride. Dignity. Respect. These three words echo through any conversation with the staff at the Richard M. Campbell Veterans' Nursing Home (Campbell). Located in Anderson, in the northwestern part of South Carolina, Campbell is one of three Veterans' nursing homes operated by the DMH, along with the Veterans' Victory House in Walterboro and Stone Pavilion at Tucker Nursing Care Center in Columbia. The facility is named in honor of Sergeant Richard Michael Campbell, who was killed in action in Vietnam on May 7, 1968. The brother of former Governor Carroll A. Campbell, Jr, he was awarded the Bronze Star and the Purple Heart for his valiant service.

Time and time again, staff talk about the special feeling they have, not just for the veterans they serve, but for the rare privilege they have of being able to pay back those who gave so much in service to our country. Funded by a combination of state and federal funds, the 220-bed facility

was dedicated in 1990 to South Carolina veterans who need skilled nursing home care.

Available to any veteran who has received an other than dishonorable discharge from military service and has been a resident of South Carolina for at least one year, Campbell is operated through a partnership of public and private entities. The facility is owned by DMH, supported by funding from the State and the Veteran's Administration, and since 1998, operated by Health Management Resources Veterans Services, Inc.

Campbell offers trained specialists in a variety of health care disciplines, the latest in medical technology and equipment, full support services on-site, and convenient access to nearby amenities.

Medical care at the facility starts with a fully-licensed primary care physician as medical director. The medical director provides admittance and follow-up annual physical exams and regularly visits residents to

ensure their physical well-being. Nursing care is provided round-the-clock by a team of registered nurses, licensed practical nurses, and certified nursing assistants. The nursing services, supplemented by a full range of occupational, activity, physical, speech, and restorative therapies, are provided by trained therapists. A full time pharmacist and pharmacy technician oversee the needed medication, and the service array is completed by the social work, dietary, and transportation departments.

In addition to the quality comprehensive care, Campbell provides an environment which not only recognizes the unique needs of veterans, but is built around those needs. Many staff have formerly served in the military, come from military families, or continue to be active through the Reserves. Campbell has active involvement from veterans' organizations, including the American Legion and the Veterans of Foreign Wars, as well as other church and civic groups.

CAMPBELL OFFERS TRAINED SPECIALISTS IN A VARIETY OF HEALTH CARE DISCIPLINES, THE LATEST IN MEDICAL TECHNOLOGY AND EQUIPMENT, FULL SUPPORT SERVICES ON-SITE AND CONVENIENT ACCESS TO NEARBY AMENITIES.

CAMPBELL RECEIVES CERTIFICATIONS THROUGH AN ANNUAL CENTERS FOR MEDICARE & MEDICAID SERVICES (CMS) SURVEY AND ANOTHER CONDUCTED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS' AFFAIRS.



William S. Biggs,  
President/CEO,  
HMR Veterans Services, Inc.

AS A VETERAN OF THE UNITED STATES ARMY, HE SEES IT NOT AS A JOB, BUT A PRIVILEGE TO PROVIDE CARE FOR "THE BEST PEOPLE IN THE WORLD."

## WILLIAM S. BIGGS, PRESIDENT/CEO, HMR VETERANS SERVICES, INC.

William S. Biggs is in the business of caring. The example set by his parents gave him the core value of caring for others.

As president of Health Management Resources Veterans Services, Inc. (HMR), and with more than two decades of health care experience and more than 15 years of serving the healthcare needs of veterans, Biggs oversees the daily operations of the HMR managed facilities, including Campbell. As a veteran of the United States Army, he sees it not as a job, but a privilege to provide care for "the best people in the world."

Originally from Illinois and educated at Southern Illinois University, he worked at various positions in health care management before becoming the first administrator of Campbell. When he first visited the

facility at the request of the late Representative Patrick B. Harris, he got the feeling that Campbell was where he needed to be. A week later he was offered the job and accepted, starting at a time when the facility had only three units open.

With Campbell as their first veterans' nursing home, he and partner Mike McBride formed HMR, which now operates veterans' nursing homes in Maryland and Alabama, as well as two DMH veterans' nursing homes in South Carolina. Key to the operation of a program like Campbell are the relationships formed with the veterans, the associated state agency, and the contractor. "If we all work together, we will all be successful," said Biggs.

A firm believer in the importance of family, Biggs

acknowledges that "Campbell has strong political support but it is the families that make it work." For him, the best part of his job is "getting out in the facilities and talking with the veterans."

Biggs is a former president of the South Carolina Health Care Association and current board member and active member of the National Association of State Veterans Homes and the National Association of State Directors of Veterans Affairs. Additionally, Biggs is involved in the American Legion and the Coastal Carolina University Board of Trustees.

When asked to sum up his philosophy, he quoted John F. Kennedy, "Ask not what your country can do for you, but what you can do for your country." Clearly, Biggs has found what he can do.

## LORETTA TELLEY, C.N.A TEAM LEADER

"I love my job. And I would love to retire here." For Loretta Telley, Certified Nursing Assistant (CNA) team leader, that just about sums it up. "I love the veterans; some days, if I'm feeling down, I talk with the vets and they brighten my day," she said.

As the CNA Team Leader, Telley takes the pressure

off the nurses and monitors the CNAs to make sure they are doing what they need to do and that everyone's personal needs are taken care of. Starting out in housekeeping, she took the CNA class, and in her second year as a CNA, was named CNA of the Year at Campbell. In her 12 years there, she is doing what she has always wanted to do.

"The veterans have done so much for us. I want to be able to give back to them," she said. She still gets excited by the smile on a veteran's face or surprised when a veteran breaks into song at a church service. As she says, "If your heart is not in it, then this is not for you." And it is obvious that Loretta Telley's heart is in it.



Loretta Telley,  
CNA Team Leader



## JAY BLOOMER, CAMPBELL NURSING HOME ADMINISTRATOR

Jay Bloomer, the administrator at Campbell, is new to his job, having only been in South Carolina since January of 2011. But it didn't take him long to realize that Campbell was different from the other places where he has been the administrator over the last decade. According to Bloomer, "Campbell is unique because it has the added element of honor and pride of the military."

From his perspective, Campbell is a great program because of the wonderful community support, the success of the past administrators, and the dedi-

cation of its employees. He notes that there are employees who have been with the program since it opened in 1990.

There are more than 200 vets currently calling Campbell home, with roughly half having served in World War II and about a quarter having served in the Korean War. With this rich legacy of service, Bloomer is actively focused on the future as Campbell prepares to receive veterans from the more recent conflicts in Afghanistan and Iraq. He sees the need to adapt to the changing needs of veterans who are on the

horizon.

Originally from Tennessee, Bloomer's wife is from Anderson, SC, and he is glad to have the opportunity to move to her hometown.

In his role as administrator at Campbell, he feels the need to set the tone for the facility. As a family man, he knows no better way to do that than by bringing his own children to Campbell and letting them meet the residents. As he puts it, "show them what a real hero looks like."



Jay Bloomer,  
Nursing Home Administrator

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## PHILLIPA MCKAY, RN, DIRECTOR OF NURSING

The path from Manchester, Jamaica to Anderson, SC, was anything but straightforward for Phillipa McKay, the director of Nursing at Campbell, and you get the feeling she wouldn't want it any other way.

In her eight years at Campbell, McKay says she always has a "to-do" list for the next day by the time she is ready to go home. There is always something to throw her off course and she is continually adjusting her priorities. In fact, if she has an easy day, she goes

home worried that she didn't do something that she could have done.

Born in Jamaica, she was raised in England and had to make an early decision about her career path. She picked nursing and has never looked back. She has worked in both Canada and the United States, but especially enjoys the work at Campbell. "The men are so special that you need special people to take care of them. They don't ask for much, just to be cared for."

She provides that care, whether by giving a bath,

feeding, or administering medicine. McKay lives by the rule her mother, who had ten children, gave her: "treat everyone how you would like to be treated."

At the end of the day, McKay wants nothing more than to feel like she's "done something to make someone comfortable – that they are in the right place and that families can feel confident knowing their loved one is well cared for and respected." Oh, and don't forget that "to-do" list for tomorrow.



Phillipa McKay, RN,  
Director of Nursing



William E. Evans, Jr.,  
Director of Pharmacy Services

## WILLIAM E. EVANS, JR., DIRECTOR OF PHARMACY SERVICES

William “Bill” Evans is the director of Pharmacy Services at Campbell. After working in the private sector for over 20 years, he joined Campbell in 1998.

Evans is responsible for the 2,000 medicines that are dispensed on a daily basis, which works out to about ten medicines per resident. Compared to his work in retail pharmacy operations, he discovered many more regulations with lots of folks looking over his

shoulder. But he also gets to have more interaction with staff and a good working relationship with the medical director.

Evans was born in Tokyo, Japan, but was raised in Anderson. He received training at Erskine College, the Medical University of South Carolina in Charleston, the University of South Carolina in Columbia, and received his doctorate in Pharmacy from

the University of Florida in Gainesville.

He has worked in pharmacies across North and South Carolina but finds that his present job is “the most rewarding thing professionally that I’ve done.” He explains that this job makes him feel good every day: “repaying them for the sacrifices that these ladies and gentlemen have made as they can no longer do for themselves is very special.”



Macie G. Wright, LPN,  
CNA Instructor/Restorative  
Coordinator

## MACIE G. WRIGHT, LPN, CNA INSTRUCTOR/RESTORATIVE COORDINATOR

If every military unit has a drill sergeant, Campbell Nursing Home is no exception. Macie Wright’s official title is the Certified Nursing Assistant (CNA) Instructor/Restorative Coordinator, but admits that drill sergeant might be more accurate. With the task of teaching the 50 CNA trainees who come through Campbell each year, she and her four staff make sure that treatments “are done like they are supposed to be.” Wright can quickly reel off the 24 clinical skills a new CNA needs to know before moving on to his or her clinical practicum.

“When a new assistant can help those who can’t do

anything for themselves to stand on their own, that’s a good day,” she says, with a smile that undermines her claim of being a harsh taskmaster.

Wright sees herself as the best advocate for the men and women in her care; in her words, “the responsibility for them falls on us.”

Wright has been at Campbell since a month after the doors opened, and comes from a military family. Patriotism runs deep in Wright; she served in Army hospitals in Louisiana and Germany, her husband was a military man, and her son is currently in the Service. But she also has a personal connection to those needing nursing care. Her

mother has Alzheimer’s, and she has seen the toll that “the disease that takes the mind but leaves the body” can take on the family.

An Anderson native, Wright graduated as an LPN in 1965, and since then she has worked to ensure that anyone she works with knows the values she holds high: “work for a living. Do the very best you can. Don’t expect anyone to hand you anything.” And she *definitely* plans on being at Campbell for the rest of her career. When she says those words, it isn’t hard to see the drill sergeant behind the smile.

## GREG GAMBRELL, DMH PROGRAM COORDINATOR II

Greg Gambrell finished his academic training at Clemson, ready to work in Finance. He was prepared to go work "with the books," instead he found his calling working with people.

In his role as contract monitor, Gambrell is the link between DMH and Campbell. He is often the first person that families contact when trying to find placement for the veteran

in their family who needs nursing home care. He works with families and the Veterans' Administration office to help facilitate that move and steer through the process.

As contract monitor, Gambrell is responsible for being the extra set of eyes and ears on the care being provided at Campbell, making sure that everyone is on the same page taking care of veterans. He credits

his Christian faith with giving him the values he uses as a foundation for his work, the value of encouraging and helping each other. To him, what makes this job special is the people. He said, "It's a blessing to hear their stories, they are as much a blessing to me as I am to them. It's a privilege to be part of the Campbell team."



Greg Gambrell,  
DMH Program Coordinator II

## SAMMY LEWIS, SC VETERANS' AFFAIRS DIRECTOR, ANDERSON COUNTY

Sammy Lewis is a proud Marine. He lives by the motto "Semper Fi" (Latin for "Always Faithful") as much now as when he served in Vietnam. Returning home in 1970 after being wounded in action, he saw how Vietnam veterans were treated. For the last 17 years, he has worked in county Veterans' Affairs, making sure the treatment that veterans get now is better than what he saw when he came home.

His relationship with Campbell is part of that effort. Lewis visits the residents of Campbell frequently. He is quick to praise the staff and administration at Campbell for their efforts to provide care for the veterans who need

it. Lewis said, "I believe Jay Bloomer is doing a great job. He's caught on quickly; Campbell has great leadership," said Lewis.

To make things better, Lewis would love to see another 44-bed unit added to the facility. He is quick to suggest other ideas that would make life better for his fellow veterans. He wants educational credit for the training they received while in the service, added employment and housing opportunities for veterans, and educational opportunities for veteran's spouses and children.

Lewis often works with veterans to help them make claims and enroll in the VA process so they can get

medical coverage and/or into Campbell.

Raised by strong parents with a deeply religious upbringing, he easily identifies his values as "God, Corps, and Country." And true to his word "If the Lord grants me the days, Campbell is where I want to be." Semper Fi.



Sammy Lewis,  
SC Veterans' Affairs Director,  
Anderson County

### M. J. "Dolly" Cooper Veterans Cemetery

Located adjacent to Campbell, on property donated by DMH, is the first state owned and operated veterans' cemetery in the history of South Carolina, the M. J. "Dolly" Cooper Veterans Cemetery. The State of South Carolina partnered with the United States' Departments of Veterans' Affairs, and the federal government provided a grant of \$5.1 million to construct and initially equip the cemetery. With 59 acres, it is designed to be the final resting place for more than 16,000 veterans, their spouses and dependents.



TO SUPPORT THE RECOVERY OF  
PEOPLE WITH MENTAL ILLNESSES.

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VETERANS' NURSING HOME**  
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**RESIDENT SPOTLIGHT: JOHN B.**

John B. faced many obstacles before arriving at Richard Campbell Veterans' Nursing Home (Campbell). John was living at home alone when his children noticed something was happening to him. John said that he would sleep all the time and was always very weak. He knew something was wrong, but felt he had no control over what was going on. After many hospital visits, John was diagnosed with Parkinson's Disease, and knew that he would no longer be able to live alone.

John's wife of 56 years passed away in April of

2005. He has four very supportive children who have always been very active in his care. John says that his decision to live at Campbell was made when he found he could no longer walk or transfer himself due to his Parkinson's Disease.

John served in the Army under General Douglas MacArthur in the Philippines during WWII. When he found out he could come to Campbell to live because he was a veteran, he prayed that the Lord would open doors for him to be a beneficial part of this home because he did not want to sit

around depressed and bored.

John loves people and wants to do things for others. He feels the Lord put him here for a reason and is very active in helping plan activities. John is the director/planner of the Campbell Choir, which does many events at Campbell and other facilities in the community. He has started a Midday Prayer Warrior Group and loves to ride his scooter throughout the facility visiting other veterans.

John says even though he would rather live at home, he feels very satisfied living at Campbell because

he is very busy, has made many friends, and gets to do things he likes to do. He loves the staff and says the best part of living at Campbell is the secure feeling of having all his needs met and not having to worry about being a burden.



John B.