



SOUTH CAROLINA DEPARTMENT OF MENTAL HEALTH

State Director John H. Magill

WACCAMAW CENTER FOR MENTAL HEALTH

Executive Director Ethel B. Bellamy

January 2015

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



Babcock Building Cupola

DMH
OPERATES A
NETWORK OF
SEVENTEEN
COMMUNITY
MENTAL
HEALTH
CENTERS,
42 CLINICS,
FOUR
HOSPITALS,
THREE
VETERANS'
NURSING
HOMES, AND
ONE
COMMUNITY
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. 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. Since the 1820's, South Carolina state-run hospitals and nursing homes have treated approximately one million patients and provided over 150 million 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 use 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. Since then, the Centers and clinics have served more than three million patients, and provided more than 42 million clinical contacts.

Today, DMH operates a network of 17 community mental health centers, 42 clinics, four hospitals, 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.

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)



Georgetown County Clinic
525 Lafayette Circle - Georgetown, SC 29440



Waccamaw Center for Mental Health
164 Waccamaw Medical Park Drive - Conway, SC 29526



Williamsburg County Clinic
501 Nelson Boulevard - Kingstree, SC 29556

WACCAMAW CENTER FOR MENTAL HEALTH

Waccamaw Center for Mental Health (WCMH) is an outpatient facility of DMH, which provides comprehensive services in Horry, Georgetown, and Williamsburg counties.

The three counties served by WCMH represent the largest geographical area in the community mental health center system in the State, with a combined total population of more than 369,000 residents.

The Center offers an array of mental health services for its patients. Services include crisis intervention, individual, family, and group therapy, psychiatric medication assessment, medication monitoring, and case management.

Each satellite clinic provides similar "core" services of individual, family, and outpatient therapy, while providing additional programs tailored to meet the specific needs of its patient population.

After hours emergency services, provided by mental health professionals, are available in each county.

Since 1967, WCMH has served more than 200,000 children and adults who are impacted by mental illness.

WCMH is accredited by the Commission on Accreditation of Rehabilitation Facilities (CARF).

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ETHEL B. BELLAMY, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Executive Director Ethel B. Bellamy, is a native of Pawleys Island in Georgetown County, South Carolina. She is a Licensed Professional Counselor and Counselor Supervisor. She is also a national consultant for CARF International, a facility which accredits healthcare facilities.

Bellamy has been employed by DMH for more than 30 years. Her roles and responsibilities in mental health have included emergency services, specialized treatment for sexually abused children, and advanced therapy for adults experiencing emotional disruptions.

When she was the George-

town clinic director, she successfully implemented the School-based Mental Health Program in Georgetown County Schools; the HOSTS program, a truancy diversion program in partnership with the School System and the County Solicitors Office; and, in association with Mental Health America of Georgetown County, assisted in the design and construction of Meadowlands Apartments, an apartment complex for persons with mental illness and disabilities. She spearheaded the construction of a new mental health clinic in Georgetown County. Bellamy accepted the position of executive director in 2012.

Bellamy's vision for Waccamaw includes a Center that is not only surviving, but thriving, now and beyond. "The diligence and commitment of the staff to carry out the Center's mission to serve those in need of mental health care remains strong. The Center has maintained its' core services in the face of a rapidly changing healthcare environment; we provide the highest quality services to those whom we are privileged to serve," said Bellamy.

Bellamy is actively involved with her sorority, Delta Sigma Theta, her church, and other community boards and organizations.



Ethel B. Bellamy
Executive Director



CALEP BROWN, WCMH GOVERNING BOARD CHAIR



Calep Brown
Board Chair

WCMH board members work to raise awareness of the importance of mental health services in the community. Calep Brown has been a WCMH Governing Board Member since 1994 and has served as Chair since January 2010.

WCMH board members are extremely committed. They come from diverse backgrounds with unique strengths and knowledge. Brown appreciates their input in discussions, collaboration with stakeholders, and advocating efforts on behalf of those with mental health issues. In the community, the Board is a strong voice for those who have difficulty

speaking for themselves.

Brown feels there should be no stigma attached to mental illness, because it is a medical condition and should be treated accordingly. Mental illness is often shunned, hidden, or ignored in our society. However, it should be accepted with understanding and compassion.

According to Brown, there is a strong need for increased funding. "Continuous dialogue is needed at the state and local levels to address awareness, acceptance, treatment, and adequate appropriations. Lack of funding is detrimental not only to healthcare in general, but also

results in increased cost to many other agencies such as law enforcement and hospitals.

There is a saying, 'We cannot control events that will happen in society, but we can control our response to them.' We should do everything possible to prevent future events that would negatively reflect on mental health. Again, mental illness is a medical condition. Like heart disease, anyone can develop a mental illness; we may not be able to prevent it, but with proper acceptance, diagnosis, medication, and treatment, recovery is possible," said Brown.

DR. RUPA SHETTY, MEDICAL DIRECTOR



Dr. Rupa Shetty
Medical Director

Rupa Shetty, MD, has been the medical director for WCMH since July 2013. She originates from Mumbai, India and became a licensed, practicing physician at the age of 23.

After moving to the United States, she attended and completed her residency in Psychiatry from the Medical College of Georgia. At the conclusion of her residency, she went completed her Fellowship in Child and Adolescent Psychiatry and served as Chief Resident.

Dr. Shetty is one of roughly 7,000 psychiatrists in the United States who holds Board Certification in General Adult Psychiatry and Adolescent Psychiatry. She has more than 15 years of experience in mental health,

psychiatry, and substance abuse treatment. She brings concepts of Cognitive Behavioral Therapy/Trauma Focused Therapy for adolescents, an approach that focuses on a system of evidence-based treatments for behavior modification.

Dr. Shetty has been instrumental in recruiting and retaining an excellent team of physicians and a nurse practitioner. She has identified strengths and weakness of each clinic and works with staff to implement systems to make the Center successful. "Our team of physicians work closely with clinicians and nurses on a regular basis which helps prevent crises and improves the Center's overall functioning and pa-

tient satisfaction," said Dr. Shetty.

Dr. Shetty is striving for the WCMH to be the first choice for Outpatient Psychiatry and Behavioral Health issues in the community. WCMH physicians have developed a training program, which focuses on psychiatric illnesses and new treatment approaches. Dr. Shetty, along with the Executive Director Bellamy, wants to connect with the nursing homes in the area to provide psychiatric care to the elderly population.

Another area of interest for Dr. Shetty is the homeless program, which she would like to see grow. She possesses an excellent system; a patient-centered approach coupled with a great sense of empathy.

LORI CHAPPELLE, CONWAY CLINIC DIRECTOR

From the time she was in middle school, Lori Chappelle knew she wanted to be a therapist. Her husband's career as a golf instructor brought her to the area, but the scope and depth of treatment available for children and families with mental illness kept her here.

She began her employment at WCMH in 2001, as the Family Preservation Coordinator and became the Child, Adolescent, and Families (CAF) Director in 2003, after demonstrating excellent leadership abilities. In 2013, Lori became the clinic director for the Conway office overseeing programs for children, youth, and adults.

DMH State Director John H. Magill has said WCMH has one of the best CAF and School-based programs in the State. The WCMH School-based Program currently serves approximately 1,500 children in 36 schools in three counties. School-based pro-

grams work by embedding mental health professionals in schools to be easily accessible to children and their families in the local community. The mission of the School-based Program is to identify and intervene at early points in emotional disturbances, and assist parents, teachers, and counselors in developing comprehensive strategies for resolving those difficulties. 75% of the children served by WCMH are served through the Center's school-based services.

During FY14, the State Legislature provided funding to support the expansion of School-based programs across the State. Due to the continued success of the Program, WCMH has received funding to hire seven additional school-based counselors.

In addition to the funding provided by the State, WCMH requests funding from the local school districts to help support services pro-

vided to uninsured and underinsured children and youth.

In conjunction with the University of South Carolina, WCMH is honored to be part of a National Institute of Health grant, conducting a study to recognize School-based Counseling as a best practice.

"It is important to have school-based services available in the community, even if we are not able to provide all of the services or we have to provide them in a different manner. My goal is to sustain school-based services in any way I can. We are looking for new funding opportunities: grants, 501(c)3s, and partnerships, whatever it takes. Relationships and partnerships are critical. We must find ways to connect with others; we have to evolve, identify needs, and find ways to meet them," said Chappelle.



Lori Chappelle
Conway Clinic Director
for Adults, Children,
Adolescent, and Families

THE WCMH
SCHOOL-BASED
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WCMH'S OUTSTANDING PROGRAMS

WCMH has many outstanding programs, including:

School-based Services, where more than 1,500 children and their families are served by counselors located within schools throughout the three counties.

The Housing Program has grown to include more than 125 recipients of permanent housing, where clients and family members are provided with intense support services

to bolster their independence within the community.

The Toward Local Care Program is a leader among other mental health centers in its aggressive approach to in-home services provided to clients with severe and persistent mental disorders who are discharged from state inpatient facilities.

The Homeless Outreach Program, in partnership with Little River Medical

Center, assists homeless individuals, those with mental illness as well as those with co-occurring (COD) substance abuse disorders, in accessing needed services.

The Individual Placement Support Program, which works collaboratively with SC Department of Vocational Rehabilitation to assist persons with mental illness to obtain meaningful and competitive employment.

JACKIE BROWN, DIRECTOR OF SPECIAL SERVICES AND HOUSING/HOMELESS PROGRAM COORDINATOR



Jackie Brown
Director of Special Services
and
Housing/Homeless
Program Coordinator

THE GOAL OF THE HOUSING/HOMELESS PROGRAM IS TO PROVIDE HOMELESS PSYCHIATRIC CLIENTS AND THEIR FAMILIES A WAY TO OBTAIN SAFE, DECENT, AND AFFORDABLE HOUSING.

Jackie Brown is in her 20th year at WCMH. She assumed the role of director of Special Services in 2013 and remains the coordinator of the Housing/Homeless Program at WCMH. Shortly after she joined the Agency in 1994, Brown established a program that provides an opportunity for homeless clients with co-occurring psychiatric and substance disorders to obtain safe, decent, and affordable housing.

Recognized for her passion and devotion to her work with the chronically homeless population, Brown's dedication has led to the development of many partnerships within the community. Under her leadership, WCMH partners with Swansgate Apartments, Porter Place Apartments, The Alliance Inn, Meadowlands, Balsam Place Apartments, and Halyard Bend.

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The Homeless Outreach Program, in partnership with Little River Medical Center, assists homeless individuals, those with mental illness as well as those with co-occurring (COD) substance abuse disorders, to access needed services.

Through Brown's efforts, the Center was instrumental in

obtaining a Shelter Plus Care Grant, which provides rental assistance vouchers to individuals and families who are homeless in Horry, Williamsburg, and Georgetown counties.

Brown participated in a 10-year collaborative plan to end homelessness in Horry County.

Brown's community service includes :

- Serving as Chair of Eastern Carolina Homelessness Organization (ECHO), a non-profit organization formed by homeless providers throughout a 12 county area in South Carolina.
- Serving as Chair of the Grant Selection Committee, which is responsible for rating and ranking projects that will be funded through HUD.
- A recent appointment to the Horry County Affordable/Workforce Housing Commission for a three-year term.
- Serving as President of the local chapter of South Carolina State Employees Association.

Additionally, Brown serves on several other boards at both local and state level.

Honors and Awards:

- Certificate of Recognition for participation in implementing evidenced-based Supported Employment Program.

- 2009 Horry County Clinic Outstanding Employee.
- Appreciation Award for loyal service as President of Total Care for Homeless Coalition.
- Certificate of Completion of the SCDMH Community Mental Health Center Executive Leadership Development Program.

WCMH Partners:

Swansgate Apartments, Myrtle Beach, provides 14 one-bedroom units of affordable housing.

Porter Place Apartments, Williamsburg County, provides 20 one-bedroom units for the homeless.

The Alliance Inn, Myrtle Beach, provides 54 one, two, and three-bedroom units.

Meadowlands, Andrews, provides 12 one-bedroom free standing units.

Balsam Place Apartments, Myrtle Beach, provides 25 single-room units for chronically homeless and disabled males.

Halyard Bend, Horry County, provides 8 one and two-bedroom units.

WCMH PARTNERS WITH COMMUNITY AGENCIES

The established legacy of community-based partnerships continues through collaborative expansions and the development of new partnerships. These partnerships tend to increase quality of service delivery while reducing waste of resources.

WCMH's relationship with Lighthouse Care Center of Conway, Palmetto Low Country, and Any Length Recovery Center are examples of public-private relationships resulting in local acute care for patients.

Eight local hospitals in the Waccamaw service area either have, or are in the process of installing, Telepsychiatry as part of the Duke Endowment Grant given to DMH for the purpose of providing psychiatric consultations to local hospital emergency departments.

WMHC Crisis Stabilization initiatives include implementing Center-to-Clinic Telepsychiatry. It has proven useful and effective throughout the Center in that it provides psychiatric services to all counties in the Center's service area. This includes Williamsburg, the most remote of its catchment area.

The development of the Hospital Telepsychiatry Case Coordinator position has enhanced continuity of care between the emergency room and the local mental health center by working with patients who are evaluated overnight and referred to the Center for follow-up. An expansion of the Crisis Stabilization initiative is the addition of cost-shared positions with local hospital emergency departments. WCMH professionals are co-located in local

emergency rooms and WMHC to assist in response to behavioral health patients.

The partnership between local Housing Coalitions is now a part of ECHO, the regional task force for community housing.

The Center's relationship with local primary healthcare entities continues to grow through the provision of integrated services via a Transformation Transfer Initiative Grant, the Homeless Outreach Program, and sharing psychiatric services.

A planning committee made up of community leaders and agency heads, led by the Horry County Sheriff's Department, has organized to pursue the establishment of a much needed mental health court in Horry County.

GEORGETOWN COMMUNITY CARE NETWORK

WCMH partners with the Georgetown Community Cares Network (GCCN) and AccessHealth-Horry to provide quality medical care for under and uninsured residents of the two counties.

GCCN was established in 2011 as an AccessHealth-SC initiative in partnership with Georgetown Hospital System and The Duke Endowment.

GCCN's purpose is to ensure uninsured individuals between the ages of 19 and 64 in the area, have access to health care. GCCN and community partners are committed to ensuring each person in

the community has a medical doctor he or she can afford, access to ordered medication, and a way to get to medical appointments.

"As a community of hospital partners, medical providers, community agencies, and behavioral health partners, we are working to manage the high prevalence of chronic disease in our community," said Linda Bonesteel, director of GCCN.

The Healthy Outcomes Program gives community members extra support and health education about diabetes, high blood pressure, asthma, and congestive heart failure.

Funding for this work comes from the Duke Endowment, Georgetown Hospital system, Georgetown Hospital Foundation, and the Department of Health and Human Services.

In February 2014, GCCN was among only five programs in the nation selected as a "Program of Promise" by the 2013 Hospital Charitable Service Awards, which honors programs with a clear vision for addressing underserved community health needs and singles them out as models for other programs.



Linda Bonesteel
Director of Georgetown
Community Care Network



TO SUPPORT THE RECOVERY OF
PEOPLE WITH MENTAL ILLNESSES.

**SC DEPARTMENT OF
MENTAL HEALTH**

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Columbia, South Carolina 29201

Phone: (803) 898 - 8581

WWW.SCDMH.ORG

Waccamaw Center for Mental Health

www.waccamawmentalhealth.org

Horry County Clinic

164 Waccamaw Medical Park Drive
Conway, SC 29526
(843) 347-4888

Georgetown County Clinic

525 Lafayette Circle
Georgetown, SC 29440
(843) 546-6107

Williamsburg County Clinic

501 Nelson Boulevard
Kingstree, SC 29556
(843) 354-5453

RECOVERY SPOTLIGHT – BY SANDY R.

My name is Sandra, but mostly people call me Sandy!

I'm a former client of the Waccamaw Center for Mental Health (WCMH). Around March 2012, I began to seek counseling at WCMH. At that time I was unemployed and financially depressed. I was unhappy with my life. I felt a failure at being a mother and a wife because I was unable to help my spouse provide for our family.

My counselor at the time was Sherri Walker. She was always nice, easy to talk to, and very encouraging. After a few sessions, she referred me to Individual Placement Support. I soon met two very nice people, Diane

Bromwell and Mike Desire, for an intake assessment.

While the intake assessment was in process, the unexpected happened! Constance Busbee, the supervisor of the Supportive Employment Program, also known as Progress Place, happened to overhear me expressing my job skills and hobbies. At that time she was looking for a seamstress, and fortunately, I knew how to sew. She hired me as a seamstress, and good things began to happen for me.

I still ran over a few road bumps. Help was granted by resources of the Care Coordinator Services and the staff of the Toward Local Care program. So I was able to ride on the road to success.

I had some unknown talents and skills that changed my job title to Seamstress/Clerical Staff. Often at times, my peers and some staff would jokingly say, "Well, you're just a Jack-of-all-trades." Eventually, I landed a full-time Temp Position in the Business Office at WCMH.

If you ask me, everything happens for a reason. It was meant for Constance Busbee to be in the room at the same time of my intake assessment.

So at this time, I thank Sherri Walkier, Diane Bromwell, Mike Desire, Rita Tahan, Willie Shaw, Director of Special Services Jackie Brown, and most of all, Constance Busbee for helping me



Sandy R.

gain the confidence to get my life back on track. The Supportive Employment Program is where I got stated and I will NEVER forget Progress Place. I'm grateful that I had the opportunity to receive the support and services provided to me at WCMH.

Thank You.

Sandy