

Spartanburg Area Mental Health Center Board Meeting Minutes

June 4, 2026

Meeting held in person and by Zoom

Attendance:

Board Members: Jennifer Parker, Gayle Singletary, Brooke Henderson, Vanessa Thompson, Miriam McCall

Members Excused: Cecilia Cogdell, Rob Usry

Members Unexcused:

Staff Members: Ebony Gaffney, M.D.; Deborah Blalock, Deputy Director Services LaRonda Frye, Anne Blackwood, Tamer Elshennawy, Carrie Pettit

Topic	Discussion	Follow-Up
Welcome and Introductions	Brooke called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m.	None.
Approval of the Minutes	The minutes of the May 5, 2026, meeting were approved by unanimous consent.	None.
Board Orientation: Anne Blackwood	• MDFT (Multidimensional Family Therapy) • A family-centered treatment program designed to help adolescents and young adults (ages 10 to 26). • MDFT has over 78 programs in the US and over 315 therapists.	None.
Finance/Budget/Building & Grounds Tamer Elshennawy Ebony Gaffney, MD	• Budget Forecast for FY 26 shows \$218,000 surplus is expected, billing continues to be investigated due to new EHR Avatar. More to come on revenue as we learn more. • Our budget this year has made major improvements since last year and we have really monitored our revenue. • The billing department continues to streamline revenue and work with quality to maximize accounts receivable. • Building & Grounds: The City of Spartanburg issued a letter to clean our retention pond by June 6, this was completed on June 3rd.	Continue to follow.

Quality Assurance Coordinator Carrie Pettit	- Our state audit for FY 26 3rd quarter score was 82%. The Medicare audit score was 67% compared to 44% last year and the Medicaid was 91% compared to 87% last year. - Challenges we are working on are updating Plans of Care annually, completing Progress Summaries on time, Releases of Information and the Diagnostic Assessments in a timely manner.	None.
Legislative Cecilia Cogdell	No discussion	Continue to follow.
Nominating Brook Henderson	Brook discussed the following: Nothing new to report	Continue to follow.
Personnel Ebony Gaffney, M.D.	No discussion. <u>New hires:</u> Emma Cowley 5/1 (Clinic Director of Spartanburg) <u>Resignations:</u> Kristi White 5/1, (external position offer) Heather Eravi 5/1, (voluntary resignation) Michelle Shaw 5/29 (external position offer) <u>Retirees:</u> None.	Continue to follow. New Hires, Resignations, and Retirees are also listed on agenda.
Executive/Medical Director's Report Ebony Gaffney, M.D.	Dr. Gaffney discussed the following: (Power Point attached to original copy of minutes) - New Program Updates - Program Highlights – Service Delivery - CAF/FOCUS Grant-NCE ends August 2026, Advisory Board Meeting 7/23 @10:30 am - Mental Health Fair is scheduled for Saturday May 22, 2027 - Family Focused Programs- CPP, PCIT, BDFT, MDFT - Implementation Roadmap	Continue to follow.
Community Events	- SIM Mapping Workshop- September 9 & 10, 2026. - Stakeholder Meeting June 11, 2026	None.
Comments from Central Office	Deborah discussed the following:	Continue to follow.

Deborah Blalock, Deputy Director	• Staff in IT, Physical Plant, HR and Finance were notified they would have new supervisor due to the merge as of June 2, 2026. • Staff were also told there would be reduction in force in some of these work areas. We do not know who the center Administrators will report to at this time. • Dr. Bank retired as of May 29, 2026, Dr. Kimberly Rudd is the current Acting Office Director. • BHDD has posted a job for the Chief Medical Officer. • General Assembly has not finished the budget; we have been told it will not be over 23 million for BHDD.	
Adjournment	The meeting was adjourned at 6:00 p.m.	Next meeting – August 6, 2026 @ 5:00 p.m. at the Spartanburg Area MHC.

Respectfully submitted,
Amber Alverson, Accounting