

Santee-Wateree CMHC Board of Directors Monthly Meeting Minutes

September 1st, 2026, Meeting held by ZOOM.

Mission of Santee-Wateree Community Mental Health Center

“To support the recovery of people with mental illnesses within our communities of Sumter, Clarendon, Kershaw and Lee Counties.”

Attendance: Jason Massey, Lawrence Graham, Mark Champagne, Douglas Mixon, Dr. Lara Kolb, Dr. Helene Guess-Goldsmith, Sylvett Porter, and Belinda Caudle

Topic	Discussion	Follow-Up
Welcome and Introductions	Our Board Chair, Mr. Jason Massey, called the meeting to order at 6:05 PM and welcomed everyone. The meeting was held via Zoom. Mr. Jason Massey gave the invocation.	
Approval of the Minutes	August Minutes were approved. Motion made by Mr. Graham and second by Dr. Kolb.	None
Center Update Dr. Helene Guess-Goldsmith, Executive Director	Dr. Helene Guess-Goldsmith discussed the following: • Dr. Goldsmith wanted to recognize and acknowledge the 86 employees that work hard every day to provide services to our patients with compassion and professionalism. I wanted to take a moment to extend my thoughts and support them during this time, to inform the board we acknowledge staff when they are going through difficult times. • Agency wide for the centers, there are a lot of decisions coming down to us from central office regarding patient care hours, financial stability and staffing as we move forward to ensure that revenue is being generated to maintain the services that we have across our four counties. We have not been given a TMI report that has not had any discrepancies over the past few months. It is significant to Santee Wateree regarding our missed appointments report to make sure that we are compliant to not send out missed visit appointment charges to patients that have not been seen.	Copies of the TMI Report have not been distributed to the Board and staff prior to the meeting.

	• BHDD has provided our center with several reports, and they are continuing to develop reports that would be specific to Santee Wateree, as well as the other centers. • A survey was conducted by BHDD for employees to take to address staff issues by taking meaningful actions to strength and provide a gamut of training for employees. We will have a new OIDD position available. • I had the opportunity to speak with staff at all 4 centers, and I am working on a vision that I have 3 main goals in mind. The 3 main goals will be patient care, our community and the people working for Santee Wateree. I will be submitting this to the board members to review and address any questions or concerns they may have. I will have this vision for you by the end of this month.	
Asst. Deputy Director OMH Report: Deborah Blalock, OMH Deputy Director	• No report for this month.	
Financial Update: Sylvett Porter, Center Administrator	Mrs. Sylvett Porter discussed the following: • Mrs. Porter shared the budget forecast on the screen for the board to review. • We are in our first month of FY27. We should be at about 8%. • We have no revenue for Medicaid. There are still issues with Avatar. We had revenue coming in MCO prior to us going-live in April 2026. • We are projected at a surplus of 454,765. • Compared to last year this time, we have spent less on fixed charges on contractual services, supplies and travel thus far.	Information was sent to participants prior to the meeting.
Patient Care Hours: Dr. Helene Goldsmith, Executive Director	Dr. Helene Goldsmith discussed the following on productivity: • BHDD has not been able to give an accurate report.	
Core Report: Lynn Melton, Sumter Clinic Director	Mrs. Lynn Melton and Mr. Nathaniel Nash discussed the following: • The IPS program is the Individual Placement and Support, Supportive Employment program. This program is for employment support and is needful for the recovery of our patients. It increases their chance of self-actualization	

Nathaniel Nash, IPS	and getting back to that place of normalcy. Mr. Nash shared a PowerPoint with the board members going over the 8 principles of IPS. • Treatment team meetings are held on Wednesdays. We have weekly meetings with the Vocational Rehabilitation job counselor and job coach. We just had a job fair on 08/21/2026 at our Logan Center. • Mrs. Melton stated that this is a fidelity program and the fidelity review is 2 to 3 times a year. We will have a Steering Committee Meeting on November 5th @ 10:00 am at the Myrtis B. Logan Training Center and would like for our board members to attend. Mrs. Belinda Caudle will send an invitation via email to the board members.	
Unfinished Business:	• No report currently.	
Council Reports	• No report currently.	
New Business:	• No report currently.	
Community Update:	• Kershaw County NAMI meets on the 3rd Monday of each month @ 7:00 pm at Grace Episcopal Church in Camden.	
Announcements:	• The NAMI conference will be held on September 3rd in Columbia. • Rev. Massey will begin a new position on October 5th at Crosswell Children's home as the spiritual life and wellness coordinator in Sumter.	
Adjournment	The meeting was adjourned at 6:46 p.m. on a motion by Mr. Mark Champagne, seconded by Mr. Larry Graham.	The next Board Meeting will be held via Zoom @ 6:00pm on October 6, 2026.

NOTES/COMMENTS: Minutes recorded and respectfully submitted by Belinda Caudle.

Approved by: _____

Date: _____