

BEAUFORT COUNTY DISABILITIES AND SPECIAL NEEDS ADVISORY BOARD

100 Clear Water Way

Beaufort, SC 29906

February 17, 2015

MEMBERS PRESENT: Jonathan Brown, Margaret Ann Gatch, David Green, Nancy Pinkerton, George Marshall, Jill Striebinger, Ann Wirz, Gardenia Simmons-White, Morris Campbell (Ex-officio)

MEMBERS ABSENT: Robert Collar, Grace Dennis, DeWayne Frederick, Monica Spells

STAFF PRESENT: Mitzi Wagner, Bill Love, Janice Beach

GUESTS PRESENT: John Gatch

I. CALL TO ORDER – Gardenia Simmons-White, Secretary  
Ms. Simmons-White called the meeting to order at 4:05 p.m.

II. WELCOMING GUESTS  
Mr. Simmons-White welcomed Mr. Gatch.

III. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE JANUARY 20, 2015 BOARD MEETING

MOTION WAS MADE BY NANCY PINKERTON AND SECONDED BY DAVID GREEN TO APPROVE THE JANUARY 20, 2015 MINUTES AS WRITTEN. PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

IV. ADOPTION OF THE FEBRUARY 17, 2015 AGENDA

MOTION WAS MADE BY JILL STRIEBINGER AND SECONDED BY ANN WIRZ TO ADOPT THE FEBRUARY 17, 2015 AGENDA WITH NO ADDITIONS.

V. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT – Gardenia Simons-White, Secretary  
Ms. Simmons-White welcomed everyone. March is Disabilities Awareness Month and she asked volunteers to pick up the proclamations. They are as follows:

City of Beaufort	March 10 @ 7:00	Grace Dennis and Jonathan Brown
Town of Port Royal	March 11 @ 6:30	Ann Wirz and Margaret Ann Gatch
Town of Bluffton	March 10 @ 6:00	Bobby Collar and Dewayne Frederick
Hilton Head	March 03 @ 4:00	Nancy Pinkerton
County Council	March 09 @ 5:00	Gardenia Simmons-White and Jonathan Brown

VI. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT - Mitzi Wagner  
2016 Budget Prep - Ms. Wagner passed out two handouts (which are attached to the minutes), the 2016 SCDDSN budget request and Funding Band A rates. The first is the SC 2016 Budget. This is what has been requested and approved by the commission of SCDDSN. It has not been approved by the legislative delegation. This is only what is being asked for. We have the governor's executive budget and what she put in and her recommendation. It is not all totally approved yet.

Fraser Road – Ivy Replacement -- Fraser Road is our replacement homes for Ivy. I was over there last week and was very impressed. They have done a great job so far. The house looks really good. They are saying we should be closing sometime in March. We can't close until all the renovations are completely done. They have a lot to do to get it ready to close by then. Once we close on the property we have some hoops to jump through before we can move anyone in. We have to have it licensed and to do that we have to have it inspected by the state Fire Marshall, we have to get furnishings for that house, and we have to get a mover to move the things from Ivy that we are going to be able to take with us. That is bedroom furniture, probably a refrigerator, and washer and dryer. I think it will be a great improvement over Ivy. The outside space is looking good. They are working on the gazebo. They don't have all the screens in yet. It is going to give the guys who live there an opportunity to get outside. If you get a chance to go by, Fraser Road is behind the old Burrows High School. We think it is going to be a good thing.

Bluffton Homes Update – We are still waiting on the construction drawings and the architect's estimate of cost so it can go out for bid. Once we get those and we know who is going to do the renovations and what the contract is going to look like we will know what the timeframe is going to be to allow us to move in. We are hoping that it is going to happen soon. The people who are moving in are getting anxious.

Therap – Therap is the new healthcare system that SC has contracted with to provide all the Medicaid reporting that we need for all the healthcare records. It is going to begin to be utilized in April and they are going to be phasing it in. The first two programs are going to be day and residential. I think it is going to be exciting and it is going to be a challenge. There are some things we are going to have to learn. We were able to send four people to a conference in Atlanta and they came back very enthusiastic. It is a good thing they came back positive because that spreads quickly. We have arranged to have the Therap representative here for training march 2, 3, & 4. It is a two hour training and every employee will be trained during that period of time. It is just an introduction to the system and will help people get logged in. It includes every phase of our work from budget to incident reporting. WE received a \$12,500 grant from SC to purchase hardware. We are looking at mobile devices which can be used in certain areas.

100 Women Who Care – came to the last ABLE meeting and presented us with \$12,300 to ABLE for Camp Treasure Chest. We talked about what a big role Grace played in getting that to happen. It was a really great thing to happen for ABLE and shows how attuned Grace is to our needs and took advantage of what she saw and made it happen.

#### VII. DEPUTY DIRECTOR'S REPORT – Bill Love

Hurricane Prep - Mr. Love said that hurricane season is from June to November every year. We have to begin to prepare how we would evacuate the area in case of a hurricane. It requires us to do a number of things. We have to make contact with other Boards away from the coast that will accommodate us in case of a hurricane. Mitzi has contacted three Boards willing to accommodate us. We are in the process of taking a look at the things we need to do internally to make sure we are prepared for an evacuation. We have a planning meeting tomorrow afternoon to take a look at who will be evacuated, who at our residences and the community, and what we need to take with us. We have until March 9<sup>th</sup> to submit our plan.

Scott Insurance – Scott Insurance is an insurance company that is working with us to take a look at our workman’s comp issues. We are the county department with the highest number of workman’s comp cases. We have seen a significant number of changes and decreases since working with them. They are helping staff by showing them a better, safer way to do things. We had a meeting with them and representatives from Doctor’s Care to go over some of the problems we are having. Doctor’s Care sends staff back on light duty thinking they are helping us, not knowing they are hurting us because we don’t have light duty work.

Lastly, if you get a chance, take a minute to go look at our Black History Month display in the Day Program. The ladies that put it together are getting a little notoriety for what they have done. We had a bus come today from Senior Citizens in Ridgeland to look at it. It is very impressive.

Mitzi added that looking around the room some of you have been with us for a long time. One of the guys, Billy, who has been with us for a long time passed away last week. He started out at Port Royal, went from there to a CTH II, then to Support Living where he had his own apartment. He was there for a few years and developed a heart condition and had to have a pacemaker put in. They said he couldn’t live alone so he moved back to a CTH II. He started with Alzheimer’s and dementia and moved back to Port Royal. He was back there for three or four years and the dementia got to a point we couldn’t care for him and he went into a nursing home. He was there about a month when he died.

We have also had a couple of other issues come up. Another young lady at Port Royal health condition got so bad we could not care for her. She was in and out of the hospital in ICU. Coastal Center agreed to take her. They have nursing staff 24 hours a day. They did not expect her to live a long period of time. Our third consumer has been living by herself. Fred worked real hard to help get her a trailer a few years ago. We have been concerned about her for quite a while because she was so frail but she didn’t want to leave her property and her family didn’t want her to leave. We found her where she had been for a couple of hours and couldn’t get up. She was in the hospital and came back home. Her sister found her over the weekend in the same condition. She was hospitalized again. We had a vacancy at Port Royal and were planning on putting her there but the hospital said she was not going to make it and she needed skilled nursing care. We would not be able to provide the kind of care she needed.

VIII. POLICY COMMITTEE, Grace Dennis

Grace was not present so there were no policies reviewed.

IX. COMMITTEE REPORTS

- Hospitality Committee – nothing to report
- Personnel Committee, Jonathan Brown, Chair – nothing to report
- Public Relations/Legislative Committee, David Green, Chair
  - ~Mr. Green said he has tried to get in touch with Representative Shannon Erickson but has not been able to reach her. Mitzi will get the local number for her. She mentioned that Mr. McBride is a big advocate for the agency. She took a new council member on a tour of Port Royal and the CTH’s.
- Informing Parents, Communication with Transitions, Bobby Collar, Chair
  - Mr. Collar had a meeting at the school and was not present.

X. PUBLIC COMMENT

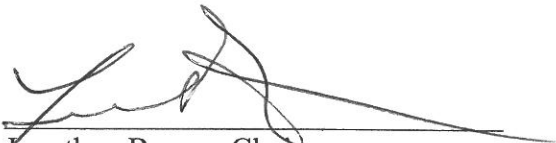
No comments

The next board meeting will be held on **Tuesday, March 17, 2015** at 4:00 p.m. at:  
Disabilities and Special Needs Department  
100 Clear Water Way, Beaufort, SC 29906

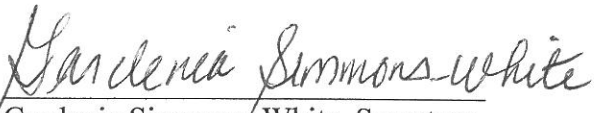
XI. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION WAS MADE BY NANCY PINKERTON AND SECONDED BY DAVID GREEN TO  
ADJOURN THE FEBRUARY 17TH MEETING. PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:10 p.m.

  
Jonathan Brown, Chairman

March 17, 2015  
Date

  
Gardenia Simmons-White, Secretary

March 17, 2015  
Date

	Program Need	Budget Request for FY 2015-2016	New Services By Individual Based on FY 2016 Request	Governor's Executive Budget
1	<p>Service funding rates must be sufficient to cover the actual cost of care as a maintenance of effort to the providers of services. If not funded, local community providers will not be able to continue to provide the same level of service or maintain quality as there are no automatic increases to cover increased operational expenses. Over the past years the costs of gasoline, food, electricity, medical professionals and other goods and services have increased significantly.</p>	\$5,000,000	Statewide	\$2,000,000
2	<p>Provide individuals with severe disabilities on waiting lists with in-home supports and services necessary to keep them at home with family and prevent unnecessary and expensive out-of-home placements. This request will provide approximately 1,650 children and adults with severe disabilities on waiting lists with in-home supports and services necessary to maximize their skill development, help them live at home with family and prevent unnecessary and expensive out-of-home placements. Supports improve developmental achievement, strengthen the family and allow family caregivers to remain employed. Provide necessary residential supports and services for 125 individuals living with aging caregivers. As of June 30, 2014, there were over 1,200 individuals with severe disabilities living with parents/caregivers age 70 and over. More than 450 of these caregivers are at least 80 years old. The requested funds will provide residential and day supports and services for 125 individuals.</p>	\$10,500,000	1,650 In-Home Supports  125 Out-of-Home Residential	\$1,209,600  100 In-home Slots State Funded  \$6,989,467 to DHHS  1,600 In-home Slots Waiver Funded
3	<p>Employment initiative that represents the state's need to develop school to work transition for individuals aging out of the public school system and the need to establish job recruitment, job coach and job retention for adults with disabilities currently receiving day supports or on the waiting list. A two-prong approach, \$600,000 of this new funding will provide employment services for approximately 75 adults with an intellectual disability, autism, traumatic brain injury or spinal cord injury and \$500,000 of this funding will allow approximately 50 younger individuals to transition from public school to employment.</p>	\$1,100,000	125	
4	<p>Increase and improve access to respite services critical to helping parents and other family caregivers cope with the stress of providing daily care and supervision to their loved one. DDSN needs to increase the hourly rate that is paid to respite caregivers. The hourly rate that DDSN pays for this service has been increased only once during the last twelve years, a \$1.00 increase two years ago. DDSN is requesting new state funds to further increase the hourly rate by an additional \$2.00, for a total hourly rate of \$11.30. This increase will provide better access to this valuable service by identifying more caregivers as well as attracting more providers on a statewide basis who will qualify to provide this important service.</p>	\$1,000,000	Statewide	
5	<p>Provide for the increased cost of providing care and addressing nursing and supervision needs of consumers. Address workforce issues to recruit and retain quality staff that provide essential 24/7 nursing care and direct supervision and care of consumers. Quality cannot be reduced and staffing ratios must meet compliance standards and be maintained. Wage compression exists where longtime quality employees make the same wage as new hires. Loss of longtime quality employees due to wage levels not keeping up with industry benchmarks increases turnover, affects the quality of consumer care, results in higher contract cost and increases the cost of training new staff to perform these vital services.</p>	\$1,000,000	Statewide	\$1,000,000

**South Carolina Department of Disabilities and Special Needs**  
**FY 2015 – 2016 Budget Request in Priority Order**  
**Approved by Commission on September 25, 2014**

	Program Need	Budget Request for FY 2015-2016	New Services By Individual Based on FY 2016 Request	Governor's Executive Budget
6	Boost the continued transition of individuals with very complex needs from institutional (ICF/ID) settings to less restrictive community settings, while maintaining quality care. DDSN has managed this movement within its own resources for 19 years. With increasing cost of care for those individuals leaving the regional centers, new state funds are necessary to allow individuals with the most complex medical and behavioral challenging needs to move without jeopardizing their health and safety. This request also maintains the provision of quality care at the regional centers as required. Funds requested will allow 40 individuals to move to community settings.	\$1,200,000	40	\$600,000
7	Increase access to post-acute rehabilitation that is specialized for traumatic brain or spinal cord injuries. This request will fund specialized rehabilitation for 8 to 10 individuals who are uninsured or underinsured.	\$500,000	8-10	\$500,000
8	Maintain and expand statewide access to genetic services provided by Greenwood Genetic Center. New state funds are required to replace resources no longer available to maintain current service levels. New funds will also be used to expand the metabolic treatment and genetic counseling services.	\$565,000	Statewide	
9	Improve IT/Data Security statewide, replace obsolete systems, create a bridge to address BabyNet requirements and make system modifications related to Medicaid requirements to include data security and HIPAA compliance. The intended impact is to protect personal and healthcare data, to create efficiencies in DDSN's statewide network and to meet new demands required by external entities.	\$1,000,000	Statewide	\$250,000
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>\$21,865,000</b>		<b>\$5,559,600</b>

**Pending Issues with Fiscal Impact for FY 2015 - 2016:**

- Change in Interpretation of DDSN Eligibility for Individuals Determined Incompetent to Stand Trial
- Change to Administrative Cost as it relates to Medicaid
- Changes and Implementation of Waiver Case Management

**CONSUMER DRIVEN MODEL  
OF  
CONSOLIDATED STATE FUNDED COMMUNITY SUPPORTS**

**FUNDING BAND A - EFFECTIVE DECEMBER 1, 2014**

**FUNDING AVAILABLE**

Community Support Services	\$ 12,624.00
State Funded Case Management	\$ 1,341.36
Financial Manager Activity	<u>\$ 950.00</u>
<b>Total Package</b>	<b>\$ 14,915.36</b>

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**SERVICES AVAILABLE BASED ON ASSESSED NEED**

	<u>Unit Cost</u>	<u>Unit</u>
<b><u>DAY SUPPORTS</u></b>		
Individual Employment Services	\$ 67.29	Hour
Day Supports	\$ 22.00	Half day
Adult Day Health Care	\$ 45.00	Day
Adult Day Health Care - Transportation	\$ 7.50	One way
Adult Day Health Care - Nursing	\$ 15.00	Day
<b><u>OTHER SERVICES</u></b>		
Personal Care	\$ 4.00	15 minutes
Respite and In Home Supports		Manual Price
Incontinence Supplies		Manual Price
Assistive Technology		Manual Price
Environmental Modification		Manual Price
Private Vehicle Modification		Manual Price
Personal Emergency Response - Installation	\$ 30.00	Item
Personal Emergency Response - Recurring	\$ 30.00	Month
Behavior Supports	\$ 30.00	30 Minutes

**NOTE: Individuals receiving the Consolidated State Funded Community Supports are not eligible to receive State Funded Family Support/Respite.**