

**WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT BOARD**  
**Priority Populations Committee Meeting Minutes**  
**SC Works Clemson Comprehensive Center at East Park**  
**Thursday, March 30, 2017**  
**3:00 – 4:00 pm**

Members Present

Lisa Gillespie                      Pat Pruitt                      Edgar Brown                      Chris Sparrow (via telephone)  
Susan Stockton

Members Absent

Billy Gibson

Staff Present

Windy Graham                      Meredith Durham

Guests

Renee Alexander                      Susanna Deming

**I. Welcome and Introductions**

Lisa Gillespie, Committee Chair called the meeting to order at 3:02 p.m. and announced a quorum was present for conducting the business of the committee and the meeting was being recorded for processing of minutes. Introductions were made of everyone attending.

**II. Approval of the January 12, 2017 Minutes**

The minutes from the 01/12/2017 meeting were emailed with the meeting notice and included in the meeting packet. Chair Gillespie called for any corrections or amendments to the minutes.

**ACTION TAKEN: Pat Pruitt made a motion to approve the minutes as submitted, seconded by Susan Stockton. The motion carried with a majority vote.**

**III. Committee Education**

Chair Gillespie introduced Susanna Deming with Behavioral Health Services of Pickens County.

Ms. Susanna Deming explained that Behavioral Health Services of Pickens County is a private, nonprofit 501(c)(3) organization and provides affordable and accessible prevention, intervention, and treatment services to residents of Pickens County. BHS serves as the alcohol and drug agency for Pickens County. The office is located in downtown Pickens at 309 East Main Street, Pickens, SC 29671. There will be a biopsychosocial assessment for any individual interested in services. After the assessment is completed, a treatment team decides which

treatment plan is best for each individual. Both walk-ins and referrals are accepted. Walk-in assessments are available Monday-Thursday at 8:30 a.m. Clients should arrive before 8:30 a.m. as the assessments are on a first-come first-serve basis.

Prevention services include:

- Community Prevention, Employee Assistance, and Outdoor Adventure Programs
- Building Resilient Families class
- Adolescent and Adult Anger Management classes (in the evening once a week)
- Tobacco Education

Intervention services include:

- Alcohol and Drug Safety Action Program (ADSAP)—requirement for individuals convicted of driving under the influence (DUI) who are seeking to reinstate their driver's licenses.
- Offender Based Intervention (OBI)—provides education, counseling, and treatment for individuals who are involved in and referred from the legal system (attorneys, court/judges, Dept. of Probation and Parole)

Treatment services include:

- Intensive Outpatient Services—provides help for those with substance abuse problems
- Community Based Treatment—focuses primarily on individual and group counseling related to a wide range of issues
- School Counseling Program—provides counseling and education for children, adolescents, and their family members within the school setting and at BHS. Students may be referred by teachers, guidance counselors, administrators, and other school personnel
- \*\*Any medication treatment must include therapy in the treatment plan

All services have a fee based on family income, and there are some funds available for individuals with no income. All major insurances are accepted. Each treatment term is based on the needs of the individual. Ms. Deming will email specific information on each program to the Priority Populations committee.

#### **IV. WorkLink's Data**

Ms. Windy Graham referred to pages 4-7 for the targeted population summary reports for the WorkLink region, adding that the community profile was included. Ms. Graham stated that the workforce investment area has changed since July 2016. Chair Gillespie requested to identify wage information to see if there is a need to target certain areas. Ms. Graham referred to page 13 of the packet, which showed characteristics of unemployed insurance claimants. There were 177 females and 232 males receiving unemployment insurance during February 2017. Ms. Graham added that the rate is the same, but wages for females is lower in the WorkLink region. Lorraine Faulds, South Carolina Employment and Workforce (SCDEW) Workforce Intelligence Coordinator in Labor Market Information may be able to provide more insight. Mr. Brown gave insight that South Carolina is one of the few states left that does not have a law for equal pay for male and female genders. Mr. Brown stated that H. Bill 3599, SC Equal Pay for Equal Work

Act, was brought to the state house by Representative Gilda Cobb-Hunter, District 66 - Orangeburg County, to try to pass the equal wage law. Chair Gillespie stated that community profiles are on target for the WorkLink area. Chair Gillespie requested community profiles be available at each meeting. Ms. Graham stated that there is also an accessible web version that she emailed out. Ms. Graham stated Committee members should let her know if there is any information they wish to see included on the reports going forward.

**V. Other Business**

Chair Gillespie called for other business.

Chair Gillespie stated that on the next meeting date, May 11, the Department of Probation and Parole will be the speakers on special populations.

**VI. Adjourn**

Chair Gillespie adjourned the meeting at 3:37 p.m., noting the next meeting date of May 11<sup>th</sup>.

*Respectfully submitted by Meredith Durham.*