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July 26, 2019

Mark W. Binkley, Interim Director  
South Carolina Department of Mental Health  
Post Office Box 485  
Columbia, South Carolina 29202

Dear Director Binkley:

On behalf of the Healthcare and Regulatory Subcommittee, thank you, and your staff for your recent presentation to the subcommittee relating to the Department of Mental Health's medical services and administrative services. As a follow-up to the meeting, please respond to the following:

### **Licensing and Certification**

1. For the last five years, provide a list of DHEC licensing citations for DMH facilities licensed in accordance with S.C. Code of Regulations 61-16 (Minimum Standards For Licensing Hospitals And Institutional General Infirmaries), in a table that includes columns for the following:
  - date of the licensing visit resulting in the citation,
  - licensing regulation section number,
  - violation class,
  - summary of the comments, and
  - summary of the associated corrective action plan.
2. Provide a list of immediate jeopardy citations from the last three years. Until six months following approval of the study by the full Committee, notify the Legislative Oversight Committee when one is issued and if the facility's agreement with the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services is terminated.

### **Employees**

3. Provide the number of new hires at G. Werber Bryan Psychiatric Hospital, by month, since July 1, 2018.

### *Discipline*

4. Provide the number of employees suspended at each inpatient facility, divided by major reasons for the suspensions.
5. In the last three years, how many DMH employees have been suspended for failure to use authorized techniques?

### *Training*

6. Confirm that the BEST training cycle is annually in-person and every other year online. If not, please explain the training cycle.
7. When was retraining of current employees on BEST completed? Are there any employees who have not been trained on BEST revisions implemented in 2018?
8. Does internal audit or the risk management office review employee training compliance?

### **Vulnerable Adult Fatalities Review Committee**

9. Who is the agency's current designee for the Vulnerable Adult Fatalities Review Committee? How does that person provide feedback to the administration on the committee's discussions of statistical studies, cross-agency training and technical assistance needs, and service gaps?
10. Please provide the Vulnerable Adult Fatalities Review Committee attendance record of the agency's designee for the last three years.

### **Patient Deaths**

11. How many deaths at DMH facilities were classified as homicides by a coroner in each of the last 3 years?

### **Residencies**

12. What percentage of the agency's current psychiatric staff were residents in the Prisma Health (formerly Palmetto Health) residency program and interacted with DMH during that residency?

### **Physical Plant**

13. What is the exact amount in the deferred maintenance fund (2019-2020 General Appropriations Act Proviso 35.7)? How much of that is uncommitted?
14. Is there anything in the physical plant plan that considers broadband access for new and existing buildings?
15. What percentage of the agency's vehicles are within the service areas of the Columbia and Anderson garages?

Please respond by August 12, 2019. If these questions would yield responses that are not an accurate reflection of the agency or if additional time is needed to respond, please contact Committee staff. Also, please respond to our February 5, 2019, April 11, 2019, May 10, 2019, and July 22, 2019, letters by August 6, 2019. The Subcommittee looks forward to our next meeting on August 12, 2019. Thank you for your service to the citizens of South Carolina and for your continued cooperation with the legislative oversight process.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jay West". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long horizontal stroke extending from the end of the word "West".

Jay West  
Subcommittee Chair

cc: The Honorable Robert L. Ridgeway, III  
The Honorable Bill Taylor  
The Honorable Chris Wooten