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## SOUTH CENTRAL REGIONAL ADVISORY BOARD MEETING MINUTES

**Meeting Date:** March 25 2025

**Meeting Time:** 3:00pm-4:30pm

**Meeting Place:** Hybrid (In-Person & Virtual 514 E. Main Street, Beulaville NC 28518

**Board Members Attendance:** (Noted present with an "x" mark)

Name	In-Person	Virtual	Absent
<b>Barbara Aycok, Wayne County</b>			<b>X</b>
<b>June Cummings, Lenoir County</b>	<b>X</b>		
<b>Jessie Dowe, Duplin County</b>			<b>X</b>
<b>Charlie Dunn, Jr., Jones County</b>		<b>X</b>	
<b>Justin Edwards, Duplin County</b>			<b>X</b>
<b>Crystal Foster, Carteret County</b>		<b>X</b>	
<b>Shevel Hunt, Craven County</b>	<b>X</b>		
<b>Steve P. Keen, Wayne County</b>	<b>X</b>		
<b>Robin Knapp, Onslow County</b>			<b>X</b>
<b>Janice Nichols, Pender County</b>		<b>X</b>	
<b>Suzanne Nix, Lenoir County</b>		<b>X</b>	
<b>Kari Sanders, Onslow County</b>		<b>X</b>	
<b>JW Simmons, Sampson County</b>		<b>X</b>	
<b>Marianne Waldrop, Carteret County</b>		<b>X</b>	
<b>Lea Wolf, Carteret County</b>		<b>X</b>	
<b>Carli Woolard, Craven County</b>			<b>X</b>

### **Staff:**

**Victoria Jackson, South Central Regional Vice President**

**Terrell Alston, Director of Community Engagement and Empowerment**

**Lisa A. Jarman, Clerk**

**Sean Kenny, Trillium Department of Social Services Engagement Operations**

### **Guests:**

**Holly Connor, South Central CFAC Chair**

**Suzanne Thompson, Community Engagement and Empowerment, DHHS**

**John Sotirkys, Jamie Tripp, Hope Mission of Coastal Carolina**

Member & Recipient Service Line - 877-685-2415

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**Agenda:**

- I. Call to Order
- II. Roll Call
- III. Approval of the January 28, 2024, Minutes
- IV. Adoption of the Agenda
- V. Public Comment (3 minutes per comment)
- VI. Trillium DSS Partnership Presentation
- VII. RAB Bylaws
- VIII. CFAC Report
- IX. Provider Network Council Comments
- X. Regional Vice President Report
- XI. Regional Board Member Comments
- XII. Governing Board Member Comments
- XIII. Chairman Remarks
- XIV. Adjournment

**Minutes:**

<b>I. Call to Order</b>	South Central Regional Advisory Board Chairman, Steve P. Keen called the meeting to order at 3:04pm.
<b>Motion</b>	<b>N/A</b>
<b>II. Roll Call</b>	South Central Regional Advisory Board Clerk, Lisa A. Jarman performed the roll call. Quorum was verified.
<b>Motion</b>	<b>N/A</b>
<b>III. Approval of the January 28, 2025, Minutes</b>	The minutes from the January 28, 2025, meeting were included in the meeting book and presented for approval.
<b>Motion</b>	<b>June Cummings made a motion to approve the January 28, 2025, minutes.</b> Charlie Dunn made a second. The motion carried.
<b>IV. Adoption of the Agenda</b>	The agenda for the South Central Regional Advisory Board meeting of March 25, 2025, was presented for approval.
<b>Motion</b>	<b>June Cummings made a motion to adopt the agenda.</b> Shevel Hunt made a second. The motion carried.
<b>V. Public Comment</b>	None presented.
<b>Motion</b>	<b>N/A</b>

<b>VI. Trillium DSS Partnership Presentation</b>	<p>Sean Kenny, Head of Department of Social Services Engagement Operations at Trillium, delivered a presentation on DSS engagements and programs. He reviewed the partnership activities and the Trillium teams that coordinate with all forty six Departments of Social Services (DSS) in the Trillium catchment area.</p> <p>Trillium employs a Rapid Access Care Coordination (RACC) team, a Foster Care Management team, a Care Coordination team, and a DSS Engagement team. All teams proactively engage with DSS to ensure that youth are not maltreated further by having any delay in necessary services.</p> <p>Mr. Kenny shared data comparing the number of children staying overnight in a DSS office per week by LME/MCO. Through the partnership Trillium has with DSS offices, Trillium has the least number of youths in DSS offices even though Trillium has the most counties in the state.</p>
<b>VII. RAB Bylaws</b>	<p>Steve Keen asked Shevel Hunt to chair a subcommittee to lead the review of the Advisory Board Bylaws and to ensure that they are in line with the Governing Board Bylaws.</p> <p>Ms. Hunt extended an invitation to Carli Woolard, June Cummings, Lea Wolf, JW Simmons, and Charlie Dunn to participate in the Bylaws Subcommittee and asked if there was anyone else that would like to participate. The subcommittee will meet soon and will report to the Advisory Board during the May 27, 2025, meeting.</p>
<b>Motion</b>	<p>N/A</p>
<b>VIII. CFAC Report</b>	<p>Crystal Foster shared that the Eighth Annual NC State CFAC Legislative Day was held on March 11<sup>th</sup> in Raleigh and that the event was well attended by members, stakeholders, and Legislators.</p> <p>Ms. Foster stated that the 2024 CFAC Annual Report is complete and ready for distribution.</p> <p>Ms. Foster outlined an issue with the Standard Plan not honoring a nursing rate when the nursing agency changed due to a disconnect between the Standard Plan and Trillium. She agreed to place the issue on the Trillium CFAC Feedback Smartsheet Tracking Form to enable monitoring and resolution and to ensure that the issue is addressed with the proper internal subject matter experts.</p> <p>The Governor of North Carolina recently released a proposed budget. Ms. Foster stated that over a year ago the General Assembly deemed the TBI waiver to go statewide from a pilot waiver, but there is no funding allocated</p>

	to support it. Her concern is that there are so few slots to be divided between the LME/MCOs that there will not be network adequacy.
<b>Motion</b>	<b>N/A</b>
<b>IX. Provider Network Council</b>	No report provided.
<b>Motion</b>	<b>N/A</b>
<b>X. Regional Vice President Report</b>	<p>Victoria Jackson provided updates on Tailored Plan, Medicaid Enrollment Data, Mental Health Parity and Addiction Equity Act of 2008 (MHPAEA), Children and Families Specialty Plan, Community Crisis Centers (Facility Based Crisis) and Behavioral Health Urgent Care (BHUC), other Crisis Funding Projects, Trillium Health Resources Board Structure and Initial Appointments, SB425, Local Community Updates, and South Central Regional Advisory Board Clerk.</p> <p><u>Tailored Plan Update/Medicaid Enrollment Data</u> Ms. Jackson reviewed the Tailored Plan Operations Report and the Medicaid Enrollment Data Report that was included in the Advisory Board meeting materials. The report now includes information regarding Trillium's Provider Network. The report also highlights meetings and events in the South Central Region, especially the Crisis Intervention Trainings attendees per month by county.</p> <p><u>Mental Health Parity and Addiction Equity Act of 2008 (MHPAEA)</u> A brief recap of the MHPAEA was provided. In addition, it was shared that effective April 1, 2025, a subset of Trillium's Mental Health and Addiction services will be opened for providers for behavioral health services.</p> <p><u>Children and Families Specialty Plan</u> In January 2025, it was announced that the planned launch date of The Children and Families Specialty Plan is December 1, 2025. Children and families eligible for this plan that are currently served by Trillium Health Resources will transition to this new plan under Blue Cross Blue Shield.</p> <p><u>Community Crisis Center (Facility Based Crisis) and Behavioral Health Urgent Care (BHUC) Update</u> Trillium Health Resources and the North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services (NCDHHS) awarded over \$13 million to four providers to open community crisis centers and behavioral health urgent care centers in Lenoir, New Hanover and Pitt Counties. NCDHHS partnered with Trillium to select RHA Behavioral Health NC in New Hanover County, Easterseals PORT Health in Pitt County, Integrated Family Services in Pitt County, and</p>

S&H Youth and Adult Services, Inc. in Lenoir County as recipients of the funding.

#### Other Crisis Funding Projects Update

Ms. Jackson provided an update on the Onslow County Facility Based Crisis facility. Most major renovations to the facility are complete and Easterseals PORT Health expects to be open for services by the end of March 2025. Ms. Jackson thanked Kari Sanders for her assistance and continuing to provide updates.

Other Funding projects include the Robeson County Behavioral Health Urgent Care, and Hertford County Facility Based Crisis Center.

Monarch, DayMark Recovery, RHA, Cone Health, and Alexander Youth Network who are currently operating FBC and or BHUC were sent notices to apply for NCDHHS Environment of Care funding if any needed upfits and improvements are warranted.

#### Trillium Board Structure and Initial Appointments

Ms. Jackson announced that at the initial Governing Board meeting, Dr. Denauvo Robinson was elected Chair, Ms. Priscilla Little-Reid was elected Vice Chair, Mr. Walter Ferguson was elected Chair of the Finance Committee, and Mr. Wally Overman was elected Vice Chair of the Finance Committee.

#### SB425

Ms. Jackson provided an update on the Guilford County lawsuit that was filed in an attempt to maintain the status quo and block the implementation of Senate Bill 425. On March 7, 2025, a proposed Scheduling order was provided to the Court on the Motion to Dismiss that was filed by Trillium on February 6, 2025. The report details the Scheduling Order deadlines.

#### Local Community

Participation in local community meetings continues through the Regional Vice President, Director of Community Engagement and Empowerment, and the Community Liaison Coordinators. For the month of January, approximately 457 engagements were completed across the 46-county catchment area and approximately 117 engagements were completed in the South Central Region.

The counties of Jones, Sampson, and Wayne have been selected to move forward in Trillium's inclusive playground grant. The hope is that all the playground designs will be approved by late April and that checks can be issued to the counties soon afterwards with the playgrounds fully completed by December 2025.

	<p>Ms. Jackson expressed her appreciation to clerk Lisa Jarman for successfully scheduling the annual Trillium presentations for all counties in the South Central Region. The presentations update the commissioners on projects, initiatives, and data around members served in that particular county.</p> <p><u>South Central Regional Advisory Board Clerk.</u></p> <p>Ms. Jackson announced that Lisa Jarman has accepted a new position within Trillium as the clerk to the Governing Board and the Executive Assistant to Trillium's CEO, Joy Futrell. Ms. Jarman will continue in the current role until a replacement has been hired and trained.</p> <p>A detailed Regional Vice President's report was included in the board meeting materials. The board materials also included a report on the trainings and events that are happening in the South Central Region.</p>
<b>Motion</b>	<b>N/A</b>
<b>XI. Regional Board Member Comments</b>	<p>June Cummings thanked Ms. Jackson for responding to questions that Michael James, Lenoir County Manager, posed. Mr. James was complimentary to Ms. Jackson and stated he appreciated her assistance.</p> <p>Kari Sanders provided an update on the Dix Crisis Center. Licensure processes are underway for Easterseals PORT Health with an anticipated opening date of Mid-April.</p> <p>Shevel Hunt welcomed new Regional Advisory Board member, Commissioner Marianne Waldrop of Carteret County. Commissioner Waldrop introduced herself and provided information on her background.</p> <p>Charlie Dunn expressed his appreciation to Trillium for the opportunity to build an inclusive playground in Jones County.</p>
<b>Motion</b>	<b>N/A</b>
<b>XII. Governing Board Member Comments</b>	<p>Janice Nichols stated that prior to the beginning of the March 13<sup>th</sup> Governing Board meeting, Ms. Kelly Crosbie, Director, Division of Mental Health, Developmental Disabilities, and Substance Use Services delivered a presentation on North Carolina's Public Mental Health, Substance Use, Intellectual/Developmental Disability, and Traumatic Brain Injury System.</p> <p>Ms. Nichols also mentioned the presentation on Kratom that was delivered by Mr. Jason Swartz, Trillium's Senior Pharmacy Director, during the Governing Board Meeting.</p>

	<p>Holly Connor added that Kratom is an unregulated substance that is found in local stores and in over the counter products. The concern is that there is no regulation over the synthetic version and that children and adults have easy access to it.</p> <p>Ms. Connor reviewed how the Governing Board will receive information from the regional level. The Governing Board passed a motion that all approved regional board minutes will be presented on the consent agenda.</p> <p>Shevel Hunt reviewed some of the issues with Kratom that are being brought to her attention by her constituents in Craven County. June Cummings added that the only agency authorized to enter and regulate the vape shops in Kinston where Kratom is sold is the Trademark Enforcement Division. She continues to advocate to legislators the need for regulation.</p>
<b>Motion</b>	<b>N/A</b>
<b>XIII. Chairman Remarks</b>	Steve Keen thanked clerk, Lisa Jarman, for her dedication and hard work as the clerk to the South Central Regional Advisory Board and stated that she will be an asset to the Governing Board.
<b>Motion</b>	<b>N/A</b>
<b>XIV. Adjournment</b>	Chairman Keen asked for any further business to be brought before the board. As there was none, the meeting adjourned at 4:30pm
<b>Motion</b>	<b>Shevel Hunt made a motion to adjourn the March 25, 2025, South Central Regional Advisory Board meeting. June Cummings made a second. The motion carried.</b>

  
 Steve P. Keen, South Central Advisory Board Chairperson

5-27-25  
 Date

  
 Lisa A. Jarman, Clerk to the Board

5-27-2025  
 Date