

Carolina Health Centers



Board of Directors Meeting

Date: August 25th, 2025

Attending Chair: Abby Banks

Meeting Minutes by:

Takeria Jones

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<u>Board of Directors:</u>			<u>Staff</u>		
Name:	Present	Absent	Name:	Present	Absent
Banks, Abby – Chairperson	X		Veer, Sue		X
Britt, John – Vice Chair		X	Simons, Locke	X	
Brown, Rodriguis	X		Ferguson, Miriam	X	
Bullard, Greg (ex-officio)		X	Mellette, Dominic	X	
Ferguson, Gail	X		Clem, Chris	X	
Gale, Julian	X		Fabiyi, Yomi	X	
Jennings, Sojourner	X		Manner, Rachel	X	
Kapetanakos, Kimberly	X		Jones, Takeria	X	
Luna, Mario	X				
O’Neal, Malcolm	X		<u>Guests:</u>		
Otabor, David	X				
Ramage, Bonnie (Boo)	X				

<u>Agenda Item</u>		<u>Discussion</u>	<u>Decision/Action</u>
Call to Order	Abby Banks	Ms. Banks called the meeting to order at 6:00pm	
Invocation	Malcolm O’Neal	lead with a brief invocation.	
Attendance	Takeria Jones	The quorum was confirmed.	
Approval of Board Minutes		Approval of July 2025 Meeting Minutes.	The motion to approve July 2025 Minutes was made by David O. and seconded by Boo Ramage. The board unanimously voted to approve the motion.

Leadership Team Reports:

Acting CEO Report	Miriam Ferguson, COO	<p style="text-align: center;">External Updates</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Changes to South Carolina Medicaid Managed Care Plans 	
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		<p>could lead to a 23% reduction in revenue from 340B medications.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Regarding grant funding, all grant objectives must be met. If all objectives are not met, there could be a decrease in funding. • South Carolina is now to second highest ranking for UDS measures. <p style="text-align: center;">Early Childhood Services</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MIECHV Award Overview <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The MIECHV Fiscal Year is from October 1st – September 30th. ○ We have received a total of \$1,401,043 of awards. This amount was granted on July 29th. ○ Funding is divided into three programs: Healthy Families America, Parents as Teachers, and Nurse Family Partnership. ○ Individual budgets for the home visiting program (HFA, PAT, and NFP) were submitted last week. ○ MIECHV Budget & Contracts for the next fiscal year are pending. ○ The HRSA ECD Grant funds Pediatric Care Coordinators for all Pediatrics sites and supports Healthy Steps Program. ○ The Greenwood Women Care Grant supports Nurse Family Partnership. CHC was awarded \$5,000 in October 2024. ○ First Steps Program has lost funding for both Saluda and Edgefield. Lost funding does not mean CHC is losing staff. ○ Both counties and the state is struggling with difficulties with referrals 	
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		<p>and enrollments. Increased outreach efforts are in effect.</p> <p>A copy of the full report will be retained with the official copy of the minutes.</p>	
<p>Organizational Performance Report (Monthly)</p>	<p>Chris Clem, CPA</p>	<p>Chris Clem provided the monthly Organizational Performance Report by covering the Total Encounters, Average Visits, Collections, Days in Total Accounts Receivable, Prescriptions Filed, FQHC Vs. Retail, Profit/Loss, and Cash on Hand.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr. Clem has stated that positive trends have been recorded in the Profit and Loss Year-to-Date. • CHC has had 557 additional encounters for the month. • There has been a 4.4 % decrease in Pediatrics encounters. • In total we had 14 average Family Medicine visits and 12 average Pediatrics visits. • CHC has 24 days for AR. The collecting has increased, which is a good sign. • 56% of CHC prescriptions are in retail. • There are 52 days cash on hand. 60 days cash on hand is considered good. • Grant dollars are pulled down, which is the result of net income and pharmacy revenue have increased. • Department budgets are being finalized. Very robust department budget project process will start in February and March. • Audit processes are completed; final copy will be presented to the board next month. <p>A copy of the full report will be retained with the official copy of the minutes.</p>	

<p>CMO Report (Monthly)</p>	<p>Dr. Locke Simons</p>	<p>Dr. Simons has presented the board with his monthly CMO Report.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The quality metrics are improving. There has been a slight change within W30. There is a new reporting baseline. Insurance looks at these measurements to make it clearer. • The Quality Improvement Committee has met their goals. There is a new Quality Care Manager in Saluda. This is to help the office follow quality measures. • The Risk Management Committee has met their goals. The Risk Assessment is going a major revision due to a Infectious Disease policy. • The Risk Management Dashboard may not be accurate due to implementing the new incident report system. • Visits by BH Staff are down, but new BH Staff are being brought on. <p>A copy of the full report will be retained with the official copy of the minutes.</p>	<p>Action Items:</p> <p>Dr. Locke Simons is seeking appointments and granting privileges for the providers listed below:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Brooklyn Leopard, FNP at TCC. She starts in August 2025. • Pollyanna Lam, DO at TCC. She is a rehire and worked previously with CHC from March 2020 through March 2022. She starts in November 2025. <p>The motion to approve the granting of privileges was made by Mario Luna and seconded by David Otabor. The board unanimously voted to approve the motion.</p>
<p>Quarterly Report: Human Resources Department</p>	<p>Yomi Fabiyi, CHRO</p>	<p>Mr. Yomi Fabiyi presented his first report on updates regarding human resources.</p> <p>Recruitment and Retention Data</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CHC has had 54 new hires in FY25, and 6 new hires in FY26. New charts have been added show this change as well. Julian Gale, Chair of Strategic and Program Planning, Committee, suggested adding 	

		<p>separations to the new hires FY25&FY26 charts.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CHC has had 51 Separations in FY25, and 9 separations in FY26. • Reasonings for separations have been suggested to add to the report as well. <p style="text-align: center;">Human Resources</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The HR Generalist position has been posted. So far, 72 candidates have applied for this position. Screening and interviews are coming soon. • New platforms – Job Architect & Comp Analyst, have been of interested as of late. This is to see what companies are offering salaries wise and to see what our competition. • Looking into job fair tracking such as: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Seeing what job fairs work and what doesn't. ○ Evaluating resumes and candidate pools. ○ Seeing how many applications we get at each job fair, then tracking who gets hired from these job fairs. <p>A copy of the full report will be retained with the official copy of the minutes.</p>	
Distribution Only:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> I. President's Report II. Quality and Population Health Measures III. Monthly RX Dashboard 		
Committee Reports:			
Executive Committee	Abby Banks	No Report.	

Development and Advocacy Committee	David Otabor	Included in the Standing Agenda Items.	
Finance Committee	Boo Ramage	No Report	
Strategic and Program Planning Committee	Julian Gale	No Report.	
Discussion Action Items: Standing Agenda items			
Development, Communications, And Grassroots Advocacy Report	Rachel Manner	<p>Mrs. Manner presented the board with quick updates throughout CHC.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rachael Arnold, Marketing and Media Coordinator, has compiled a Staff video of all the sites and employees. Some employees gave out their testimonials about their time at the company. • NCHW 2025 was a success! The sites participated in many ways: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Site lobby decorations. ○ Gift cards. ○ Daily Trivia. ○ Site staff photos and videos. • The food truck, Soul'd Out Food Truck, are making rounds at the site. This is a partnership with our fellow CHC staff, Nikki Covington. • The Ceremonial Groundbreaking has concluded, and Congresswoman Sheri Briggs has made an appearance and spoke at the event. <p style="text-align: center;">Advocacy</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Advocacy is more important now than ever. Rachel mentioned that we're about to push state advocacy like never before. • The Big Beautiful Bill exempts FQHCs from imposing cost-sharing requirements on primary care, behavioral health, or substance use disorder services. • A massive \$50 billion Rural Health Transformation Fund will be administered by CMS from 2026 - 2030. Each state must submit 	

		<p>Rural Health Transformation Plans (RHTP) by December 31, 2025.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Although this bill provides funds for rural health, it will create large spending cuts to Medicaid and SNAP. Almost all of South Carolina State Reps are on the Medical Affairs Committee. <p>A copy of the full report will be retained with the official copy of the minutes.</p>	
Review of Corporate Policies	No Report.		
Old Business	No Report.		
New Business	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> I. Attest 2019 Bylaws are still current. II. Board officer elections. III. Vote for Chris Clem to be Authorizing Official for Grant. IV. Review Pharmacy Policy. 	<p>With the Current Bylaws in effect, the term limits of board officers are ending. These term limits are being evaluated currently.</p>	<p><u>Action Items</u></p> <p>#1 - Miriam Ferguson presented to the board the Current Bylaws and to Attest that the Current Bylaws are still in effect.</p> <p>The motion to approve the Current Bylaws was made by Malcolm O’Neal and seconded by Julian Gale. The board unanimously voted to approve the motion.</p> <p>#2 – Miriam Ferguson is now the Project Director; however, the project director cannot be the same person as the Authorized User. With the board’s approval, Miriam Ferguson wants to appoint Chris Clem as the Authorized User for the EHB Grant.</p>

			<p>The motion to approve Chris Clem as authorized user was made by Malcolm O’Neal and seconded by Rod Brown. The board unanimously voted to approve the motion.</p> <p>#3 – Dominic Mellette presented the pharmacy policy for Affordable 340B Insulin & EpiPen for Low-Income Individuals to the board. This policy is required for the upcoming grant application.</p> <p>The motion to approve the pharmacy policy was made by David Otabor and seconded by Malcolm O’Neal. The board unanimously voted to approve the motion.</p>
Executive Session		<p>At 7:14 PM, David Otabor moved to go into executive session pursuant of the by-laws to discuss personnel matters.</p> <p>The motion was seconded by Malcolm O'Neal and the board approved the motion unanimously.</p> <p>David Otabor made the motion to increase Miriam Furguson's base compensation by 15% while acting as the interim CEO of Carolina Health Centers.</p> <p>The motion was seconded by Gail Ferguson, and the board approved the motion unanimously.</p>	

Next Meeting	September 29th, 2025	The next regular meeting of the Board of Directors for Carolina Health Centers will be on Monday, September 29th, 2025, at 6pm.	
Adjournment			
Board Chairman Abby Banks	Electronic Signature		