

Carolina Health Centers



Meeting Minutes by:

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Board of Directors Meeting

Date: February 17th, 2025

Attending Chair: John Britt, Vice Chair

Board of Directors:			Staff		
Name:	Present	Absent	Name:	Present	Absent
Banks, Abby – Chairperson		X	Veer, Sue	X	
Bishop, Johanna	X		Simons, Locke	X	
Britt, John – Vice Chair	X		Ferguson, Miriam	X	
Brown, Rodriguis	X		Grogan, Paul	X	
Ferguson, Gail	X		Holloway, Brooke	X	
Gale, Julian		X	Mellette, Dominic		X
Jennings, Sojourner		X	Manner, Rachel		X
Kapetanacos, Kimberly		X	Jones, Takeria	X	
Luna, Mario	X				
O’Neal, Malcolm	X		Guests:		
Otabor, David	X				
Ramage, Bonnie (Boo)	X				
Bullard, Greg (ex-officio)		X			

<u>Agenda Item</u>		<u>Discussion</u>	<u>Decision/Action</u>
Call to Order	John Britt	Mr. Britt called the meeting to order at 6:08pm	
Invocation	Malcolm O’Neal	Mr. O’Neal led with a brief invocation.	
Attendance	Takeria Jones	The quorum was confirmed.	
Approval of Board Minutes		Approval of January 2025 Meeting Minutes.	Unanimously approved on a motion by Mario Luna and seconded by Gail Ferguson.

Leadership Team Reports:

President’s Report (Monthly)	Sue Veer	Ms. Veer started off her monthly report by monitoring the new administration actions: <u>Advocacy & Health Policy Federal & State Focus</u>	
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		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The current “ask” for the Community Health Center Program is \$5.5 billion. • Currently following proposals for Medicaid savings. • Several people from Carolina Health Centers represented CHC at the NACHC P&I conference. • Sheri Biggs, the newly elected Congresswoman, has plans for a third District Office in Greenwood. Ms. Veer is hoping to work with Rachel Manner for a possible site visit for Sheri Biggs. • The current 340B “State of Play” suggests that a SUSTAIN ACT 2.0 will be introduced by a reconstituted Senate Gang of Six. • Sue Veer and Rudy Williams were among the members of the 340B Working Table making eight Hill visits to House members offices, introducing the possibility of a House companion bill based on the principles in the SUSTAIN Act. • South Carolina is looking to become 16th or 17th state to protect 340B Pharmacy Programs. Sue Veer is serving on a statewide coalition providing assistance to the legislators in the development of the bill. <p><u>Strategic & Operational Updates</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Leadership sensitive to the impact of the “noise” associated with the current political climate. Due to the political climate, several employees expressed concerns about the stability of values and corporate culture here at CHC. • The main Admin Office is being renovated due to the growth of the admin staff. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ New furniture and paint have been installed throughout the building. ○ New carpets will be installed in March for certain offices. 	
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		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Kim Anderson, Project Manager, has been updating the staff about any updates regarding the renovation. ● The Ryan White team at Hope Health in Florence met with CHC's leadership to provide information that will assist the Pharmacy and Infectious Disease Services in building relationships with community partners in the HIV/AIDS space. ● The full Executive Committee for 2024-26 Term is now complete. The current focus is to build and develop the Board of Directors to its full potential. <p><u>External Partnerships, Affiliations, and Civic Activities</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Two community health centers have reached out to CHC to provide consulting services. ● Due to the risk of duplicate discounts, CHC has declined to serve as a contract pharmacy. ● Self-Regional CEO, Matt Logan, is still interested in working with CHC in the collaboration with Ware Shoals. ● Dominic Mellette and Sue Veer will be attending the 340B Coalition 2025 Winter Conference in February. They are both panelists in the Coalition. ● Currently learning how to optimize OCHIN to its full potential. <p>A copy of the full report will be retained with the official copy of the minutes.</p>	
Organizational Performance Report	Paul Grogan	Mr. Grogan provided the Organizational Performance Report covering the following metrics: Total Encounters, Average Visits, Collections, Days in Total Accounts Receivable, Prescriptions Filled, FQHC Vs. Retail, Profit/Loss, and Cash on	

		<p>Hand.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Total collections are low due to weather delays and closures. Hoping to hit budget within four months, at the end of fiscal year. Mr. Grogan has sent out the 990 forms to the board for review. <p>A copy of the full report will be retained with the official copy of the minutes.</p>	
CMO Report	Dr. Locke Simons	<p>Dr. Simons started his brief monthly CMO Report with:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Quality metrics have mixed results, some up and some down. This could be in result to “new year” issues. The QI Committee last meeting was on December 31, next meeting is on February 25. Risk Management Committee last meeting was on December 17, next meeting is on February 18. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The final improved training completion rate through course completion rate is 98.66%. Risk Management Goals include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Risk Management plan and training are in place. Training completion rate is >95%. Quarterly risk assessments are completed. The annual Risk Management Report has been completed since August 2024. Dr. Simons also presented the Risk Management Dashboard. He pointed out that one claim was submitted to HHS, Health & Human Services. Dr. Simons also presented Visits by Behavioral Health between 4/1/2023 and 1/31/2025. With 	<p>Action Item:</p> <p>Dr. Simons is seeking appointments and granting privileges for Alice Rodriguez, FNP at Hometown Pediatrics and Shannon Clark, MSW Mental Health Counselor for Calhoun Falls FP.</p> <p>The appointment and granting privileges For Alice Rodriguez and Shannon Clark were approved on a motion by Malcolm O’Neal and seconded by David Otatur.</p>

		<p>the new grant funded positions for BH, visits and referrals have gone up significantly.</p> <p>A copy of the full report will be retained with the official copy of the minutes.</p>	
Quarterly Report: Operations Division	Miriam Ferguson	<p>Ms. Ferguson started her report by updating the Board of Directors on the Operation, Information Technology, and Facilities.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tim Anderson is now the Chief Information Officer. Five people, including the new PC Tech, are now reporting to Tim. • The current projects they are currently working on are <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Looking for a more streamlined way to help manage faxes and scanned documents. ○ New patient questionnaires and check-ins will be implemented soon. • Joe Eiland is the Facilities Manager. He has two people reporting to him. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Generators are now going to Lakelands, Saluda, and Ridge Spring. ○ Ridge Spring renovations are complete. Ms. Ferguson presented a slide show to show the before and after of the offices. • The operations meeting with the new Director of Family Medicine, Dr. Lance Braye, has been set up. • The Policies and Procedures platform should be live soon. • Monthly meetings have been set up with Operations, QI, and medical leadership. • Shelly Nicholson, Director of Early Childhood Services, will be returning soon from maternity leave. • Looking into hiring a part time 	

		<p>person to float between Hometown and Lakelands.</p> <p>A copy of the full report will be retained with the official copy of the minutes.</p>	
Distribution Only:	<p>i. Quality and Population Health Measures</p> <p>ii. Monthly RX Dashboard</p> <p>iii. Behavioral Health Reports</p>		
Committee Reports:			
Executive Committee	Abby Banks	No Report.	
Development and Advocacy Committee	David Otabor	No Report.	
Finance Committee	Boo Ramage	Mrs. Ramage stated that the Finance Committee have reviewed the Sliding Fee Discount Program, and that no changes are recommended.	The Board approved the recommendation unanimously.
Strategic and Program Planning Committee	Julian Gale	No Report.	
Discussion Action Items: Standing Agenda items			
Grassroots Advocacy Report	Team report on NACHC 2025 Policy and Issues Forum	<p>Ms. Veer and Ms. Ferguson commented on the value of having an integrated clinical team, Dr. Braye, Dr. Mellette, and Jessica Jacobs speak on behalf of CHC during the NACHC P&I conference. The following individuals attended the conference and represented CHC during Hill visits:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sue Veer, CEO • Miriam Ferguson, COO • Dominic Mellette, PharmD, CPO • Brooke Holloway, Chief Development and Corporate Officer • Rachel Manner, Communications and Development Manager • Jessica Jacobs, Director of Behavioral Health • Dr. Lance Braye, Director of Family Medicine. 	

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Rudy Williams, CHC Government Consultant 	
Review of Corporate Policies	No Report.		
Old Business	No Report.		
New Business	Proposed 2025 Board Calendar	Ms. Veer presented to the board the 2025 Proposed Board Calendar.	The 2025 Board Calendar was approved on a motion by Malcolm O'Neal and seconded by Gail Ferguson.
Next Meeting	March 24th, 2025	The next regular meeting of the Board of Directors for Carolina Health Centers will be held at the Inn on the Square Monday, March 24, 2025, with a virtual option on Teams.	
Adjournment			The board unanimously voted to adjourn on a motion by Malcolm O'Neal and seconded by Gail Ferguson.
Board Chairman Abby Banks	Electronic Signature		