



State of South Carolina
Department of Mental Health

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Kenneth M. Rogers, MD
State Director

November 9, 2021

Dr. Edward Simmer
State Director
SC Department of Health & Environmental Control
2600 Bull Street
Columbia, SC 29201

Dear Dr. Simmer,

The South Carolina Mental Health Commission was pleased to receive a copy of the Final Report of the SHaPE SC Task Force, Subcommittee on Behavioral Health prior to our meeting of November 5, 2021. This afforded our members the opportunity to review the behavioral health recommendations and offer any suggestions deemed sufficiently salient to be addressed before the DHEC Board reviews the report for a final endorsement.

One of the most notable characteristics of the Subcommittee on Behavioral Health was the exceptionally diverse, cross section of talented behavioral health leadership from across South Carolina recruited to serve on this subcommittee. We feel that a report generated and endorsed by this group of highly credentialed professionals certainly merits strong consideration as accurately documenting the state of behavioral health care in South Carolina.

After individual review, the Draft Report of the Subcommittee on Behavioral Health, SHaPE SC Task Force was placed on the table for consideration by the full SC Mental Health Commission on Friday, November 5, 2021. A Motion was made and seconded to approve the report as distributed. The vote to approve was unanimous with all members voting.

Please accept the Commission's appreciation for providing the SC Department of Mental Health the opportunity to partner with you in addressing the health needs of the citizens of South Carolina through this current endeavor. We pledge to you and your Board our willingness to engage in continued partnerships whenever possible beginning with many of the recommendations found in the SHaPE SC report.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "L. Gregory Pearce, Jr.", is written over a faint, larger version of the same signature.

L. Gregory Pearce, Jr.
Chair
South Carolina Mental Health Commission