

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES
OFFICE OF DIRECTOR

ACTION REFERRAL

EA

TO <i>Liggett</i>	DATE <i>9-10-14</i>
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DIRECTOR'S USE ONLY	ACTION REQUESTED
1. LOG NUMBER <i>000060</i>	<input type="checkbox"/> Prepare reply for the Director's signature DATE DUE _____
2. DATE SIGNED BY DIRECTOR <i>cc: Mr. Keck</i> <i>Per Dr. Peter no response necessary</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Prepare reply for appropriate signature DATE DUE <i>9-22-14</i>
	<input type="checkbox"/> FOIA DATE DUE _____
	<input type="checkbox"/> Necessary Action

APPROVALS (Only when prepared for director's signature)	APPROVE	* DISAPPROVE (Note reason for disapproval and return to preparer.)	COMMENT
1.			
2.			
3.			
4.			

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SEP 10 2014

Suzanne Johnson
250 Autumn Lane
Moncks Corner, Sc 29461

Department of Health & Human Services
OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR

Mr. Anthony Keck
SCDHHS
Columbia, SC, 29202

September 8, 2014

Dear Mr. Keck,

As you can see by my letter to Mr. Goodell, I'm not a person who likes to say "I believe people are better off in the community." That's because I've seen what really happens out here and Coastal Center has for years been the place that cares for people with complex medical and behavioral problems and we consider ourselves part of the community. The last person admitted before the freeze was a young woman who had been a hospital in Horry County for 2 weeks because no one would take her and I've been told that people are calling every week looking for placement. I also know the people who have been in group homes and keep coming back to the center for a number of reasons but mostly due to behaviors. I'm convinced that regional centers are essential and should be adequately funded.

What I'm asking of you is to consider changing the way business is done since the present system isn't working anymore. If DDSN isn't able to give us enough of the per diem provided maybe they shouldn't be in charge of the centers. Everyone knows that the MFI has hurt us badly but nothing has been done to abolish it. It could be changed to a system that is really about the individual instead of a block of beds.

My son has been a Coastal Center resident for more than 30 years and I have been involved with the parents group there for many years. I would really like you to come and see for yourself what we have here. My mailing address is above and my email is 1994johnson@homesc.com.

Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,



Suzanne Johnson

Suzanne Johnson
250 Autumn Lane
Moncks Corner, S.C. 29461

David Goodell
3440 Harden Street Ext
P.O. Box 4706
Columbia, S. C. 29240

August 14, 2014

Dear Mr. Goodell,

A few of us Coastal Center parents had a meeting last week about the austerity measures [my words] also known as Coastal Center Budget Management Plan. I realize that finance is not your area of responsibility but I chose to write you because you have known us for a long time and you've been our most frequent visitor over the years.

We are wondering why now when we've been told that the state has been very generous to disabilities and I don't believe they intended the regional centers to be left out. Most of us remember the years when Coastal was the only center that was solvent and sent money back to the central office. We also remember when we had no cable TV, the minimum activities required by law, frequent restraint use, problem surveys, more overtime for HSAs and high workman's comp claims. Coastal Center has become closer to the setting where we hoped our son could live out his life and this will set us back to where we were 15 years ago regarding activities and behavior management. It will also increase segregation from the community, the very thing we are criticized for.

It's not so terrible to close a building or freeze admissions temporarily but losing staff is a very bad thing for the well-being of our residents. Our parents group spends more than \$12,000/year on activities but we can't do it without adequate staff to bring the people out. Our activity facilitators are not just extra staff. They help in the cottages when there are call-ins or one-on-one situations as well as help with activities, feeding and bathing of our total care people. People should not have to sit in the buildings with nothing to do on weekends and nights. Would you find this acceptable if your child was here?

We know very well that a center can't be closed without the approval of the legislature but a center can be made an unsafe and unpleasant place to live or work. This would make a closing more acceptable to them.

I feel confident that the DOJ will not find any violations of the Olmstead Act here. Coastal Center has been moving people into the community for years without help from a central office employee.

I don't believe that our central office has used the money given wisely. You've created positions and bought programs that have benefited hardly anyone while Coastal

Beverly A. H. Buscemi, Ph.D.
State Director
David A. Goodell
Associate State Director
Operations
Susan Kreh Beck
Associate State Director
Policy
Thomas P. Waring
Associate State Director
Administration



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William O. Danielson
Katherine W. Davis
Katherine Llamas Finley
Harvey E. Shiver

To: Mr. Larry Mattive
Facility Administrator, Coastal Regional Center

From: Mr. Rufus Britt, III *R. Britt*
District II Director

Re: Coastal Center Budget Management Plan

Date: August 1, 2014

Larry:

The following is a plan to address the anticipated budget shortfall at Coastal Regional Center. As you are aware, Coastal Center has expended in excess of their budget for consecutive fiscal years. The courses of action to strengthen the solvency of Coastal Center are as follows:

1. Effective immediately, a "freeze" is in effect on new admissions, short term and regular, to allow for the closure of dorm 220. The closure will result in the elimination of 25 FTEs (19 HSAs, 3 HSSs, 1 LPN, 1 RN, 1 Program Coord.). Individuals identified to transition to existing dorms has occurred and movement is expected to be complete by August 29, 2014. Estimated savings is \$834,992.
2. Restructure overall agency staffing to include maintaining an adequate number of vacancies to ensure there's no deficit in personnel services. Reassign activity coordinators to fill existing Human Services Assistant vacancies. Enabling the escrow of 5 FTEs, resulting in an estimated savings of \$142,527. Restructure nursing coverage minimums, enabling the escrow of 2 RNs by September 15, 2014. Estimated savings is \$128,352.
3. Effective immediately, a "freeze" has been placed on all purchase orders for non-consumer related expenditures. Operate on a "run to failure" equipment plan.

DISTRICT I

P.O. Box 239
Clinton, SC 29325-5328
Phone: (864) 938-3497

Midlands Center - Phone: 803/935-7500
Whitten Center - Phone: 864/833-2733

9995 Miles Jamison Road
Summerville, SC 29485
Phone: 843/832-5576

DISTRICT II

Coastal Center - Phone: 843/873-5750
Pee Dee Center - Phone: 843/664-2600
Saleeby Center - Phone: 843/312-4104

Suzanne Johnson
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Moncks Corner SC 29461-9486



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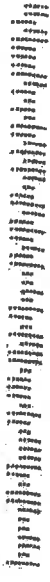
Mr Anthony Keck

5C D HHS

PO Box 8206

Columbia SC 29202-8206

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Suzanne

Suzanne Johnson

9-11-14
Jan will
talk to Mr Keck -
maybe on Monday
before he can
see it. She will
get back to me.
-12

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Chairman
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Vice Chairman
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