

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES  
OFFICE OF DIRECTOR

*Pete  
Sam  
George*

**ACTION REFERRAL**

TO <i>Liggett</i>	DATE <i>6-5-13</i>
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DIRECTOR'S USE ONLY	ACTION REQUESTED
1. LOG NUMBER <i>000380</i>	<input type="checkbox"/> Prepare reply for the Director's signature DATE DUE _____
2. DATE SIGNED BY DIRECTOR  <i>Closed 6/19/13, see note</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Prepare reply for appropriate signature DATE DUE <i>6-17-13</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. <i>[Signature]</i>			<i>6/5/13 Close with conference call held 6/19 at 11am. (appointment attached)</i>
2.			
3.			
4.			

**Jan Polatty**

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**To:** Anthony Keck; Peter Liggett; Sam Waldrep  
**Subject:** A letter from Gerald Bernard, The Charles Lea Center  
**Attachments:** SJSM\_BIC\_0113060414280.pdf

Please see the attached. We will log to Pete for a response to Mr. Bernard. Thanks, Jan.

**RECEIVED**

JUN 05 2013

Department of Health & Human Services  
OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR



RECEIVED

May 28, 2013

JUN 05 2013

195 Burdette Street  
Spartanburg, SC 29307

Mr. Anthony Keck, Director  
South Carolina Health and Human Services  
P.O. Box 8206  
Columbia, S.C. 29202

Department of Health & Human Services  
OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR

RECEIVED

MAY 31 2013

Department of Health & Human Services  
OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR

Dear Tony:

My name is Gerald Bernard and I am the Executive Director of the Charles Lea Center. We are the second largest provider in South Carolina for individuals with developmental disabilities and special needs. I am also a member of the South Carolina Provider Association that you have had the opportunity to meet with on several occasions.

I recently received a copy of the minutes of the Disability and Special Needs Provider meeting with DHHS which was held on May 9, 2013. In those minutes you seem to have articulated several assumptions that may be based on partial information or in some cases inaccurate information that you may have been given.

First, the group that you are meeting with does not represent the interest nor does it speak for the general membership of the association. In fact several of us have asked to be part of the discussions so we can be more informed, but were told that we could not. In addition, a number of us have expressed an interest in exploring the direct billing approach, but have also been cautious since there has not been a lot of information on the model provided. The statement in the minutes suggesting that the "Human Services providers have not shown much interest, while this group has" is not representative of the overall view of the membership. My personal belief is that we have been excluded from these discussions and really have not been encouraged to engage in these important discussions.

Secondly, I have worked in other States where the model you described has proven to be effective and beneficial to the service system. However, I also know that the States that have been successful have engaged in a very open and positive dialogue regarding such an approach. I am concerned that you are being given the impression that we are not interested in participating in such discussions. This assertion is false. For most of us, it has been an effort to garner information and to learn about your vision for the future. I believe many of us would be interested in some of your ideas and would be willing to sit at the table to discuss these.

Finally, the minutes suggest that the group you are working with will be the group that will be primarily responsible for designing and implementing the direct billing system. Again, I must caution you regarding the representative nature of this group. Three of the largest providers (Babcock Center, the Charles Lea Center and Greenville) are not even at the table for these discussions. While I understand



United Way  
of the Piedmont

that several providers have rushed to be at the table, probably fearing that if they don't they will be left out, their focus does not take into account the whole delivery system. My concern is that you are only receiving a very small perspective on this issue and that many providers who can contribute to the important discussions have been left out either intentionally or unintentionally. .

I think we all understand that the current system we have here in South Carolina no longer meets the needs of the citizens of South Carolina. As a provider of services my biggest fear is that we will enter into a new service model that is not well thought out or even dare I say short sighted. Those who will ultimately suffer will be our most vulnerable citizens.

I strongly urge you to reach out beyond the current group you are working with and engage more providers in these very important discussions.

On behalf of those who are less fortunate, I want also thank you for your efforts to improve their lives. I look forward to the opportunity to discuss these important issues with your further.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Gerald Bernard', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Gerald Bernard, Ed.D  
Executive Director



## Annmarie McCanne

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**Subject:** Call Gerald Bernard, The Charles Lea Center - 864-562-2222  
**Location:** J 1119

**Start:** Wed 6/19/2013 11:00 AM  
**End:** Wed 6/19/2013 12:00 PM

**Recurrence:** (none)

**Meeting Status:** Meeting organizer

**Organizer:** Annmarie McCanne  
**Required Attendees:** GEORGE MAKY; Sam Waldrep; Peter Liggett  
**Resources:** J 1119

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**From:** GEORGE MAKY  
**Sent:** Thursday, June 06, 2013 9:25 PM  
**To:** Annmarie McCanne  
**Cc:** Sam Waldrep; Peter Liggett  
**Subject:** FW: A letter from Gerald Bernard, The Charles Lea Center

Annie,  
Would you please try to arrange for a telephone call with Mr. Bernard for Pete, Sam and me next week. thanks.

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**From:** Peter Liggett  
**Sent:** Thursday, June 06, 2013 10:09 AM  
**To:** GEORGE MAKY; Sam Waldrep  
**Subject:** FW: A letter from Gerald Bernard, The Charles Lea Center

Fellas,

I'm wondering if we should contact Dr. Bernard by phone to chat about this. If we can avoid a letter, I'd prefer that.

(p.s., thought I'd try Jeff's greeting...what do you think?)

*-Pete*

Pete Liggett, Ph.D., Licensed Psychologist  
Deputy Director of Long Term Care & Behavioral Health

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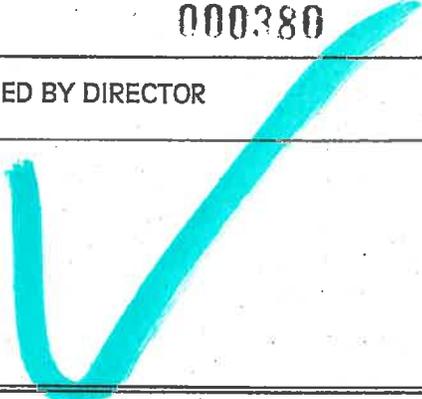
**From:** Jan Polatty  
**Sent:** Wednesday, June 05, 2013 2:48 PM  
**To:** Anthony Keck; Peter Liggett; Sam Waldrep  
**Subject:** A letter from Gerald Bernard, The Charles Lea Center

Please see the attached. We will log to Pete for a response to Mr. Bernard. Thanks, Jan.

**DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES  
OFFICE OF DIRECTOR**

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# The Charles Lea Center



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Gerald Bernard, Ed.D  
Executive Director

Dr. Gerald Beards

The Charles Lea Center

195 Burdette Street  
Spartanburg, SC 29307



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South Carolina Health and Human  
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