**A** **SENATE RESOLUTION**

TO CONGRATULATE BEHAVIORAL HEALTH SERVICES OF PICKENS COUNTY ON BEING RECOGNIZED FOR ITS TIRELESS CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE PROTECTION OF ABUSED CHILDREN BY THE FRIENDS OF PICKENS COUNTY GUARDIAN AD LITEM.

Whereas, every year, the Friends of Pickens County Guardian ad Litem honors an individual or organization that has worked tirelessly in the field of child abuse prevention. In 2018, the Friends will culminate its annual observance of Child Abuse Prevention Kick‑off Week with a luncheon, during which this year’s honoree, Behavioral Health Services of Pickens County, will be recognized; and

Whereas, Behavioral Health Services of Pickens County, or BHSPC, was originally founded in 1973 as the Pickens County Commission of Alcohol & Drug Abuse, one of the county’s alcohol and drug abuse authorities. In subsequent years, BHSPC responded to community needs to provide a broader range of services and now has more than forty employees; and

Whereas, BHSPC is dedicated to the treatment of substance use issues, with outpatient services, an intensive outpatient program, and a robust medical department, which provides medication-assisted treatment. BHSPC also has a strong, community-focused prevention department, which is integrated into schools, churches, and other community alcohol and drug abuse prevention endeavors. With an eye to the future, BHSPC’s research department is a Community Treatment Program Research Site for the National Clinical Trials Network and has participated in ten trials since 1999; and

Whereas, for many years, BHSPC has expanded the measure and scope of services to children and families as a direct response to community needs. In 2017, BHSPC served 727 clients under the age of seventeen. Its six‑member child and adolescent department serves referrals from the Pickens County School District, including the Alternative School, the Pickens County Department of Social Services, the Department of Juvenile Justice, and the latter’s residential facility, Camp Gigahu. Counseling services are provided on‑site at Miracle Hill Children’s Home; and

Whereas, BHSPC is governed by a nine‑member Board of Directors representing a wide variety of experience and interests; and

Whereas, BHSPC is dedicated to the common goal of providing the best service possible in meeting the behavioral, alcohol, and drug needs of the citizens of Pickens County and the State of South Carolina; and

Whereas, the members of the South Carolina Senate appreciate the dedication and commitment of the Behavioral Health Services of Pickens County and the Friends of Pickens County Guardian ad Litem. Now, therefore,

Be it resolved by the Senate:

That the members of the South Carolina Senate, by this resolution, congratulate Behavioral Health Services of Pickens County on being recognized for its tireless contributions to the protection of abused children by the Friends of Pickens County Guardian ad Litem.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be presented to Behavioral Health Services of Pickens County.

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