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October 2, 2017

Dr. Beverly Buscemi, State Director
South Carolina Department of Disabilities and Special Needs
3400 Harden Street Extension
Columbia, South Carolina 29203

Dear Dr. Buscemi:

On behalf of the Healthcare and Regulatory Subcommittee, thank you and your staff for sharing your time and knowledge with the Subcommittee, during the September 18, 2017 meeting. As a follow up to the meeting, the Subcommittee members requests additional information. Please provide responses by October 10, 2017.

Board Governance

- For each recognized county board, please provide the following information in a tabular format:
 - Board name, counties served as the statutory county board, appointment ordinance, and appointing authority.

DDSN Organizational Structure

- Could changes to the Department of Disabilities and Special Needs (DDSN) organizational structure allow the agency to better serve its clients? If so, please provide potential options to do this.

Services (DDSN and Provider Network)

- Has a service needs assessment been conducted for each county? How does the agency ensure appropriate services are available in each county?
- What services are not covered by Medicaid? For each listed service, was the decision to provide the service based on statute? If not, what was it based on?
- What services would DDSN offer if there were infinite resources?
- What other states exemplify service to populations served by DDSN? Why are those states successful?
- How many people are housed at the regional centers? What are the mean and median lengths of residence for consumers at the regional centers?

Finances

- What specific items are included in the room and board paid by DDSN consumers? Please provide the types of income sources used to pay the room and board.
- What are the anticipated impacts of changes to Medicaid? What innovations could be achieved if Medicaid funding was in the form of a block grant?
- Please provide a breakdown of each county board's budget, including but not limited to, direct and indirect costs. Please define direct and indirect costs in the context of the county board's budgets.

Turnover Rates

- Please provide a chart of Turnover by Reason for FY 14-15, FY 15-16, and FY 16-17. Include all reasons for turnover applicable to DDSN. Also, do providers (boards and private providers) maintain data on the reasons why employees conclude their employment with the organization?

Provider Oversight

- Provide the policy that explains the management/administrative review processes that occurs in cases of alleged abuse, neglect, or exploitation. If the provider requests to reinstate an employee as a result of the provider's review but prior to the conclusion of an investigating agency's review, what authority does DDSN have to refuse to allow reinstatement of the employee?

If these questions would yield responses that are not an accurate reflection of the agency, please contact Committee staff. The Subcommittee looks forward to the next meeting on October 10, 2017, at 10:00 a.m. in Room 110.

Sincerely,



Phyllis Henderson
Subcommittee Chair

Cc: The Honorable William K. Bowers
The Honorable MaryGail Douglas
The Honorable Bill Taylor