

# History

The Kershaw County Commission on Alcohol and Drug Abuse operates under the name of ALPHA Behavioral Health Center in Kershaw and Chesterfield Counties, and The Lee Center in Lee County. Since its inception, ALPHA Behavioral Health Center has come to meet a broad range of community needs. The Commission was established by state law on March 5, 1973 as a county organization dedicated exclusively to the prevention and control of all forms of substance abuse. It began operating as The ALPHA Center in 1989 and by 1993 its expanding area of service encompassed Chesterfield County, and in July 1996 included Lee County as well. Today it is known as ALPHA Behavioral Health Center and offers many innovative and effective treatment, intervention and prevention programs designed to reduce the impact of alcohol, tobacco and other drugs of abuse, as well as behavioral health needs for citizens in Kershaw, Chesterfield and Lee Counties.

A private non-profit organization, ALPHA Behavioral Health Center operates as a standalone non-profit solely under the direction of a self-perpetuating Board of Directors. The agency receives the majority of funding from State and Federal alcohol and drug abuse programs. The agency also contracts with local governmental, private businesses and other stakeholders to administer specific prevention, intervention and treatment programs. Private donations and grants are received for specialized programs. ALPHA Behavioral Health Center does not deny anyone services based on the inability to pay. A sliding schedule fee system is established based upon the Federal poverty guidelines and all persons served are informed of the sliding scale system. Self-paying clients are provided with a payment agreement plan. South Carolina Department of Health and Human Services (DHSS), the state's Medicaid authority, contracts with ALPHA for the reimbursement of treatment services to Medicaid recipients. The agency currently accepts over six different private insurances and is actively being credentialed by other insurance providers to increase accessibility for persons served.

## Mission Statement-Purpose

ALPHA seeks to provide quality services to individuals and their families/support systems to reduce problems associated with substance misuse/use, behavioral/mental health needs and co-occurring disorders, in an accessible outpatient setting.

- Provide the best services available for each person and their families/support systems in need prevention, intervention, treatment, and recovery for

substance misuse/use, behavioral/mental health needs and/or co-occurring disorders.

- Incorporate each person's abilities, strengths, needs and preferences in their services.
- To facilitate healthy lifestyle changes.
- Utilize Best Practices

## **Vision Statement**

To deliver a complete range of needs-based, effective services in an efficient manner to the citizens of Kershaw, Chesterfield and Lee counties.