

**Southwest Alabama Mental Health Consortium
Rural Health Care Pilot Program
Quarterly Report
July 30, 2009**

1. Project Contact and Coordination Information

a. Project Leader and respective business affiliations.

- i. Project Leader: Candace Harden, Executive Director, Southwest Mental Health/Mental Retardation Board, Inc.

b. Address, phone, fax, e-mail responsible administrative official.

- i. P.O. Box 964, Monroeville, Alabama 36461
- ii. Phone 251-575-4203
- iii. Fax 251-575-9459
- iv. Candace@swamh.com

c. Legally and financially responsible organization.

- i. Southwest Foundation for Mental Health and Mental Retardation (“Foundation”)

d. Project Coordination

- i. The project is coordinated by the project leader as identified in 1.a.i. with the assistance of the project consultants Dynamic Strategies, LLC who assist with RHCP Pilot Program submittals. All participating Community Mental Health and Health Care Centers have signed a letter of agency authorizing Candace Harden as Project Leader to act on their behalf before the Federal Communications Commission in matters related to the Rural Health Care Pilot Program. All participants are informed of all matters related to the pilot program requirements and have provided detailed information regarding their site eligibility as well as information for preparing the RFP.

The participating health care facility directors met October 15, 2008 to review the requirements of the pilot program including quarterly progress reporting, coordinating and implementing telemedicine goals and objectives, budgeting and payment of approved services, working with service providers upon approval of bid and periodic progress reporting to participating agency Board of Directors. Other discussion included a review of the RFP process and evaluation of bid proposals. A schedule of quarterly meetings was developed to discuss and document progress toward goals and objectives. The group will meet the second Wednesday of the last month of the quarterly reporting period.

The health care facility directors met for a second quarterly meeting January 14, 2009. During the second reporting period, it was determined that the Charles Henderson Child Health Center is not an eligible site according to FCC rules for the Pilot Program and will not participate in the Pilot funding. The partners agreed that the costs associated with Pilot project will be expensed equally among the four remaining partners. Other discussion included developing a contract between the lead agency and each of the three partners. In addition a reporting process was discussed for reporting how the network has

been utilized to achieve the goals and objectives outlined in the Pilot application. The report format has been sent to each of the agencies for review and comment.

The third quarterly meeting of the members was held on April 8, 2009. Current project status of both the USDA RUS grant and the FCC Pilot Funding was discussed. Each of the members was awarded \$10,000 from the Department of Mental Health for a portion of the matching requirements for the RUS Telemedicine grant. The purchase order for the telemedicine equipment will be issued May 1, 2009. Ms. Kathy Johnson, Governor's Director of Alabama Broadband Initiative and Ms. Bea Forniss, Director of the Governor's Resources for Economic Assistance Programs were present to discuss possible sources of state and or other grant monies available to assist with the FCC match requirements. Member Director's are each reviewing and following-up on the suggestions and sources offered for obtaining match dollars. The next member meeting is scheduled for July 1, 2009.

The July 1, 2009 quarterly meeting was cancelled as outstanding issues with site eligibility were still in question.

2. Identify all health care facilities included in the network.

a. Provide address (including county), zip code, Rural Urban Commuting Area (RUCA) code (including primary and secondary), six-digit census tract, and phone number for each health care facility participating in the network.

The Community Mental Health and Community Health Centers participating in this project are:

- West Alabama Mental Health Board
- East Central Mental Health & Mental Retardation Board, Inc.
- Southwest Alabama Mental Health/Mental Retardation Board, Inc.
- South Central Alabama Mental Health Board, Inc.

As of January 14, 2009, Charles Henderson Child Health Center will not participate in the Pilot Funding.

b. The table below identifies the information required for each facility in the network. Site ID # 2-4, construction is complete on this facility and the new name of the facility is WAMH Lloyd, Matthews-Watkins Life Skills Center. The table below has been updated to reflect all eligible facilities as approved by USAC.

Site ID #	Name	Address	County	RUCA, primary and, secondary code & census tract POP 2000	Rural Urban Class	Phone Number	Participant Type	Eligibility
1-1 Primary Site	Southwest Alabama Mental Health (SWAMH)	328 W. Claiborne St. Monroeville, AL	Monroe	7,7.0,6959	Rural	251-575-4203	Public Non-profit	Eligible

Southwest Alabama	Administration Office	36461						
1-2	SWAMH Monroe Outpatient Satellite Office	530 Hornady Dr. Monroeville, Al 36461	Monroe	7,7.0,3607	Rural	251-575-4837	Public Non-profit	Eligible
1-3	SWAMH Escambia Outpatient Satellite Office	1321 McMillan Ave. Brewton, Al 36426	Escambia	7,7.0,4516	Rural	251-867-3242	Public Non-profit	Eligible
1-4	SWAMH Escambia Satellite Compass Intensive Outpatient	100 MLK Drive Atmore, Al 36502	Escambia	7,7.0,4496	Rural	251-446-8354	Public Non-profit	Eligible
1-5	SWAMH Clarke Satellite MI Day Program	300 Carter Dr. Grove Hill, Al 36451	Clarke	10,10.6,6076	Rural	251-275-4135	Public Non-profit	Eligible
1-6	SWAMH Clarke Outpatient Satellite	129 Clarke St. Grove Hill, Al 36451	Clarke	10,10.6,6076	Rural	251-275-4165	Public Non-profit	Eligible
1-7	SWAMH Conecuh Outpatient Satellite	416 Magnolia Ave. Evergreen, Al 36401	Conecuh	10,10.0,4925	Rural	251-575-4545	Public Non-profit	Eligible
1-8	SWAMH Conecuh Satellite Activity Center	420 Magnolia Ave. Evergreen, Al 36401	Conecuh	10,10.0,4925	Rural	251-578-1317	Public Non-Profit	Eligible
1-9	SWAMH Conecuh Satellite Compass Intensive Outpatient	101 Perryman St. Evergreen, Al 36401	Conecuh	10,10.0,4925	Rural	251-578-0071	Public Non-Profit	Eligible
1-10	SWAMH Monroe Satellite MI & MR Day Program	845 Agriculture Dr. Monroeville, Al 36461	Monroe	7,7.0,6959	Rural	251-743-3820	Public Non-Profit	Eligible
1-11	SWAMH Escambia Outpatient Satellite	309 E. Ridgeley Atmore, Al 36502	Escambia	7,7.0,4496	Rural	251-368-1675	Public Non-Profit	Eligible
2-1 Primary Site West Alabama	West Alabama Mental Health (WAMHB) Hale Satellite	401 First St. Greensboro, Al 36744	Hale	7,7.3,5792	Rural	334-624-4520	Public Non-Profit	Eligible
2-2	WAMHB Marengo Satellite	1215 S. Walnut Ave Demopolis, Al 36732	Marengo	7,7.0,4693	Rural	334-289-2600	Public Non-Profit	Eligible
2-3	WAMHB Marengo Satellite	1300-A Old Springhill Rd. Demopolis, Al 36732	Marengo	7,7.0,5491	Rural	334-289-3277	Public Non-Profit	Eligible
2-4	WAMHB Lloyd, Matthews-Watkins Life Skills Center	1401 Hwy 80 E. Demopolis, Al 36732	Marengo	7,7.0,9829 (2006 Census Tract)	Rural		Public Non-Profit	Eligible
2-5	WAMHB Choctaw Satellite Office	401 Rogers St. Butler, Al 36904 Choctaw	Choctaw	10,10.0,5188	Rural	205-549-2612	Public Non-Profit	Eligible
3-1 Primary Site East Central	East Central Mental Health (ECMHMR) Admin/Outpatient	200 Cherry St. Troy, Al	Pike	4,4.0,6287	Rural	334-566-6022	Public Non-Profit	Eligible
3-2	ECMHMR Pike Child Outpatient Satellite	1300 US Hwy 231, Troy, Al 36081	Pike	4,4.0,6287	Rural	334-808-2874	Public Non-Profit	Eligible
3-3	ECMHMR Pike	668 N Hwy 231,	Pike	5,5.0,4414	Rural	334-735-5056	Public	Eligible

	Satellite MR Day	Business District Brundidge, Al 36010					Non-Profit	
3-4	ECMHMR Bullock Outpatient Satellite	202 Abercrombie St. Union Springs, Al 36089	Bullock	7,7.0,7170	Rural	334-738-5279	Public Non-Profit	Eligible
3-5	ECMHMR Bullock Satellite Spring Manor	209 Abercrombie St. Union Springs, Al 36089	Bullock	7,7.0,7170	Rural	334-738-3970	Public Non-Profit	To be determined
3-6	ECMHMR Macon Outpatient Satellite	103 East Oak St. Tuskegee, Al 36083	Macon	4,4.2,2235	Rural	334-727-7001	Public Non-Profit	Eligible
4-1 Primary Site South Central	South Central Mental Health Board (SCAMHB) Outpatient /Admin	19815 Bay Branch Rd. Andalusia, Al 36420	Covington	Track/RUCA Not available	Rural	334-222-2525	Public Non-Profit	Eligible
4-2	SCAMHB Covington Satellite Office MI/MR/SA	205 Academy Dr. Andalusia, Al 36420	Covington	7,7.0,4005	Rural	334-222-8411 334-427-1832	Public Non-Profit	Not Eligible
4-3	SCAMHB Crenshaw Outpatient Satellite Office	587 Bentley Dr. Luverne, Al 36049	Crenshaw	10,10.0,3434	Rural	334-335-5201	Public Non-Profit	Eligible
4-4	SCAMHB Butler Outpatient Satellite Office	185 Industrial Parkway Greenville, Al 36037	Butler	10,10.0,1928	Rural	334-382-2018	Public Non-Profit	Eligible
4-5	SCAMHB Butler Satellite MR Day	600 Hardscramble Rd. Greenville, Al 36037	Butler	10,10.6,2330	Rural	334-382-2353	Public Non-Profit	Eligible
4-6	SCAMHB Coffee Outpatient Satellite Office	2681 Neal Metcalf Rd Enterprise, Al 36330	Coffee	4,4.2,5556	Urban	334-347-0212	Public Non-Profit	Eligible
4-7	SCAMHB Coffee Satellite Office MR Day	801 Aviation Blvd Enterprise, Al 36330	Coffee	4,4.2,2219	Urban	334-393-1732	Public Non-Profit	Eligible

3. Network Narrative

a. - e. The Foundation and its members intend to seek a leased fiber network solution with 100Mbps to the primary sites as noted in the table above, 10Mbps to each satellite site included, connection to Internet2 and a connection to the public Internet. Since the RFP for the project has not been released, the final network structure has not been determined. The draft RFP has been reviewed and approved with minor changes incorporated. The final RFP, draft 465 and 465 worksheet, LOAs and Assistance Disclosure have been forwarded to USAC for final review and approval.

4. List of Connected Health Care Providers

RFP not yet released.

5. Non-Recurring and Recurring Costs

RFP not yet released.

6. Cost Apportionment and Source of Funds

The Foundation and its members intend to apportion the costs on a site by site basis. Each member will pay their 15% contribution based on the cost of each of the sites operated by the member. Contributions by each member will be from State of Alabama contracted professional services funds; private insurance reimbursements; contributions from city and county government; and Medicare/Medicaid reimbursements as determined by each member.

7. Identify any Technical or Non-technical Requirements for Ineligible Entities

Not applicable. RFP not yet released.

8. Provide an Update on the Project Management Plan

As of this date no changes have occurred to the current leadership, management structure or project plan as developed to date. A detailed project plan will be developed by the service provider in conjunction with the project participants upon award of bid.

a. Project Leadership and Management Structure

The Southwest Alabama Foundation for Mental Health and Mental Retardation (“Foundation”) will serve as the organization that will be legally and financially responsible for the participating mental health agencies and other non-profit organizations included as participants in the project.

Executive Directors at each of the participating four mental health agencies will serve as authorized agents of their respective Board of Directors to oversee all aspects of project implementation.

Major responsibilities include:

- Establishing a legal partnership establishing Southwest Alabama Foundation as the lead agent in the project.
- Following established FCC and USAC Rural Health Care Guidelines for securing Telecommunication and Internet services included in the project design.
- Working with selected service provider(s) to establish a time frame for installation and upstart of all approved services.
- Coordinating necessary training to implement Telemedicine Goals/Objectives.
- Budgeting and ensuring payment for approved services.
- Serving as the Project’s Executive Leadership Team to ensure that goals/objectives of the project are completed in an effective and timely manner.
- Coordinating the sharing of available mental health and other health personnel to provide the most effective treatment services for clients.
- Coordinating professional development services for health workers.
- Periodically reporting project progress to their Board of Directors.

The participating agency directors have established a quarterly meeting schedule to review progress and implementation to meet the goals and objectives of the project.

b. Project Plan and Schedule

The Southwest Alabama Mental Health Consortium intends to proceed with a project plan as outlined below; specific dates are not included at this time. The Form 465, RFP and other required documents were posted for review to the USAC SharePoint site 7/20/2009. The timeline below will be updated upon USAC posting to the RHC Pilot Program Site.

- 1) Draft RFP review complete with all participants. Sites have been designated by priority for completion. -Complete
- 2) RFP review by USAC-Complete
- 3) Finalize RFP pending USAC review completion.-Complete
- 4) Release RFP. -Pending USAC Approval for Posting
- 5) Estimate 45 days from date RFP released to award.
- 6) Estimate 30 days from award to contract signed.
- 7) Estimate 15 days from signed contract to FCC Form 466-A submittal.
- 8) Estimate 30 days from approved Funding Commitment Decision Letter to start construction.

9. Network Self Sustaining

Each agency, their Director and Board of Directors has made a commitment to budget resources to continue this valuable project. By letter of agency signed and on file with USAC the agency members are committed to completion and sustainability of the network. Additional grants have and will be sought for improving and expanding Telemedicine/Distance Learning capabilities to connect with schools, hospitals and psychiatrists to provide onsite professional development, mental health educational services for students as well as face-to face psychiatric services for patients. Each agency will continue to take advantage of the Rural Health Care Program beyond the Pilot Program by filing for assistance annually to support funding a portion of the project under the FCC guidelines.

The Foundation and its members intend to apportion the costs on a site by site basis. Each member will pay their 15% contribution based on the cost of each of the sites operated by the member. Contributions by each member will be from State of Alabama contracted professional services funds; private insurance reimbursements; contributions from city and county government; and Medicare/Medicaid reimbursements as determined by each member. The non-eligible site included in the network will be paid by the member at 100% of the cost of the network to the site. The members intend to lease a fiber Wide Area Network, Internet, Internet2 Interconnect, and Associated Services managed service to enable communications between sites and distribute Internet, Internet2, and associated services to the end user level of member facilities.

Since the July 30, 2008 quarterly report, the participants have been awarded a USDA Distance Learning and Telemedicine grant that will allow each agency to purchase end-user equipment to further the goals

and objectives of the pilot program funding. The total amount of the grant award is \$409,078. In addition to this grant, the consortium has requested additional funding from the Alabama Department of Mental Health to assist with funding.

Prior to submission of the Pilot Funding application, the consortium worked with a consultant to provide a Return on Investment Evaluation of our proposal to determine feasibility of the project. The analysis provided a direct comparison between the current costs to support and maintain the current telephony equipment and data services and the cost associated with the implementation, support, and maintenance of the broadband data network and IP voice technology. The report indicated following implementation of the new technology each agency would benefit from significant cost savings from their current systems. In addition to the savings that will be provided by these technology and system management improvements a more reliable and flexible network will be provided with improved performance, significantly higher available bandwidth and redundancy that does not exist in the systems currently deployed. With this analysis the consortium believes that the costs savings from the deployment of the new network can be sustained from current funding sources and discounts applied from the RHC Service Program. It should be noted that until the RFP can be released and proposals have been received a complete budget and plan for sustainability can not be prepared.

10. Network- Advanced Telemedicine Benefits

a.-e. Not applicable at this time.

11. Compliance with HHS Health IT Initiatives

a.-f. Not applicable at this time.

12. Coordination with Health and Human Services (HHS) and Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)

Not applicable at this time.

Candace Harden
Executive Director
Southwest Alabama Mental Health