



ADMH FY15/16 *Annual Report*



Advisory Board of Trustees

The members of the Alabama Department of Mental Health Advisory Board of Trustees are appointed by the Governor and serve terms on a staggered basis. The board advises the Commissioner on issues that fall within the purview of the department’s mission.

Governor Robert Bentley
Appointment: by statute
Ex officio

Lt. Governor Kay Ivey
Appointment: by statute
Ex officio

Speaker Mike Hubbard
Appointment: by statute
Ex officio

Commissioner Jim Perdue
Appointment: by statute
Ex officio

Larry Bailey
Appointment: by governor; 05/19/16 - 04/10/19
Represents the state at large

Jack Biddle
Appointment: by governor; 06/10/08 - 04/10/17
Represents the state at large

Paul Brown
Appointment: by governor; 06/28/13 - 04/10/19
Represents the state at large

David Roberson
Appointment: by governor; 06/27/14 - 04/10/17
Represents the state at large

Dennis Stripling
Appointment: by governor; 05/19/16 - 04/10/18
Represents the state at large

Wade Perry, Jr.
Appointment: by governor; 06/10/08 - 04/10/18
Represents the 1st Congressional District

Wes Allen
Appointment: by governor; 02/18/16 - 04/10/18
Represents the 2nd Congressional District

Laura Phillips
Appointment: by governor; 10/11/12 - 04/10/19
Represents the 3rd Congressional District

Lisa Riley
Appointment: by governor; 02/19/13 - 04/10/19
Represents the 4th Congressional District

Mike McLemore
Appointment: by governor; 02/28/12 - 04/10/17
Represents the 5th Congressional District

Curtis James
Appointment: by governor; 01/12/11 - 04/10/17
Represents the 6th Congressional District

David Bennett
Appointment: by governor; 09/07/12 - 04/10/18
Represents the 7th Congressional District

Letter to the Governor

Following my appointment as Commissioner on July 1, 2015 I experienced the great privilege of celebrating the Alabama Department of Mental Health’s 50th anniversary. As the new guy, the celebration provided an opportunity to meet our dedicated employees. There were many familiar faces from my days as a Probate Judge. I felt right at home. As I learned of the Department’s remarkable history which began in 1861 with Bryce Hospital, my excitement about the future of mental health began to build as we made plans for 2016.

As 2015 closed, the Department completed downsizing of our mental illness facilities with the closure of North Alabama Regional Hospital in Decatur leaving all remaining hospitals located in Tuscaloosa. As we shifted additional resources to the community, community mental health centers faced challenges to adjust to the new Medicaid system of care known as Regional Care Organizations. To remain competitive in the new environment, some community mental health centers decided to merge and many developed a new approach to branding services to compete in the emerging behavioral healthcare market.

The Division of Developmental Disabilities continued with efforts to plan for system adjustments to address the Home and Community Based Services Final Rule. The Rule requires that individuals who are served through the Home and Community Based waiver have full access to the benefits of community living and receive services in the most integrated setting. Adjustments for 2015/2016 included improving the quality of case management services, expanding housing opportunities, and increasing consumer and family input. The transition from sheltered workshop to time-limited prevocational services and employment supports expanded and the number of individuals in self-directed services tripled.

As we began 2016, I identified my top five issues in mental health and built funding priorities around the identified needs. First, I initiated a variety of external communication efforts most notably Town Hall meetings. Important to accomplishing the mission is an opportunity for our community partners to be heard and increased awareness of mental health issues. Much of the discussion focused on early identification of issues including jail diversion programs to prevent incarceration of individuals with mental illness, applied behavioral analysis therapy for individuals with Autism so they can be successful at home, school and work, and crisis intervention training for law enforcement officers to name a few.

As we closed 2016, my focus began to shift to the Opioid epidemic in Alabama. National studies show Alabama prescribers wrote three times as many prescriptions for opioid painkillers as those in the lowest prescribing state of Hawaii. In Alabama, there are 1.2 opioid prescriptions for every Alabama citizen. The next time you are at a football game or your kid’s sporting event look around you and think about this statistic. There can be no debate about the public health crisis we are facing.

I have included the Governor’s Proclamation for the Alabama Department of Mental Health’s 50th Anniversary. Please take a moment to read it. Though much progress has been made, there is much more to be accomplished. I look forward to working together to improve services, demonstrating to those we serve their voices are heard.

Sincerely,



James V. Perdue, Commissioner

Establishment and Anniversary of the Department of Mental Health

A bill whose fate was decided in the waning hours of the 1965 Legislature marked a milestone in the history of care for the mentally ill and mentally retarded in Alabama. With Governor George Wallace's signature September 3rd, years of work by proponents of a Department of Mental Health had finally come to fruition.

Act 881 provided for the establishment, as of October 1, 1965, of a State Department of Mental Health and defined and prescribed its functions, powers and duties in relation to state mental health services and programs. Further, the Act abolished the Board of Trustees of Alabama State Hospitals, the Board of Managers for Partlow State School and Hospital, the Commission on Alcoholism and the divisions of Mental Health Planning and Mental Hygiene of the State Board of Health and provided for continuance of their functions under the jurisdiction and control of the new department. According to the law, the department would be composed of the Alabama Mental Health Board, the State Mental Health Officer, and such divisions and administrative sections as the Board may direct. It placed personnel in the abolished agencies under the authority of the new Board of Trustees and gave the State Mental Health Officer the authority to combine or abolish positions and recognize overall activities for greater efficiency and economy.

Associate Commissioners Kim Boswell, Beverly Bell-Shambley, Courtney Tarver and Board of Trustees member Paul Brown looked on with Commissioner Jim Perdue as Governor Bentley signed a proclamation celebrating the 50th Anniversary of the Alabama Department of Mental Health.



ADMH Commissioner Perdue unveiled a commemorative coin at the proclamation signing honoring the 50th Anniversary.

In addition to the ceremonial proclamation signing, there was a celebration at the ADMH central office in Montgomery and at each of the state-operated facilities in Tuscaloosa.

ADMH historian Steve Davis spoke at each celebration for the three state-operated facilities in Tuscaloosa.



Brian McKenny, Deaf Services, translated the opening prayer delivered by Jewell Pitts, Children/Adolescent Services, at the celebration in the ADMH central office.



Facility Director Beverly White made opening remarks at the Mary Starke Harper Geriatric Psychiatry Center.

Associate Commissioner Beverly Bell-Shambley helped hand out employee recognitions at each celebration, shown here at the Harper Center.



Junior ROTC Color Guard from Holt High School performed at the celebration in the lobby of Taylor Hardin Secure Medical Facility.

Facility Director Dr. Barbara Jackson made opening remarks at Taylor Hardin.



Facility Director Shelia Penn made opening remarks at Bryce Hospital.

After employee recognitions at each celebration, Commissioner Perdue gave a commemorative coin to each employee in attendance, shown here at Bryce Hospital.

FY15

Expenditures and Encumbrances

Community Programs	
Mental Illnesses	265,581,054 ↑
Developmental Disabilities	460,755,798 ↑
Substance Use Disorders	41,037,483 ↑
	\$ 767,374,335 ↑
Facilities	
Bryce Hospital	\$ 44,925,641 ↓
Mary S. Harper Geriatric Psychiatry Center	23,394,094 ↑
North Alabama Regional Hospital	9,165,912 ↑
Taylor Hardin Secure Medical Facility	15,374,287 ↑
UAB Adolescent Unit	1,300,000 -
	\$ 94,160,934 ↓
Administration	
Central Office	19,414,616 ↑
Special Services	17,579,160 ↑
	\$ 36,993,776 ↑
Total	\$ 898,529,045 ↑

General Operating Revenue

State Revenue	
Cigarette Tax	\$ 5,308,163 ↑
Mental Health Fund	198,545,092 ↓
Education Trust Fund	44,202,347 -
General Fund	105,672,249 ↑
Other State Revenue	3,531,858 ↓
(Including Indigent Offenders Treatment, Judicial Fines, State Match Funds-DHR and Tobacco Settlement)	
	\$ 357,259,710 ↑
Federal, Local, Misc.	544,844,742 ↑
Other Items	1,500,000 -
Total	\$ 903,604,451 ↑

Service Statistics

5,865 ↑ distinct individuals received services in the community	151 ↑ direct contractors and subcontractors assisted in providing those services	337 ↑ distinct individuals were taken off the waiting list	DD
104,156 ↑ distinct individuals received services in the community	26 ↓ direct contractors and subcontractors assisted in providing those services	1,179 ↓ distinct individuals received services in our facilities	MI
22,407 ↑ distinct individuals received services in the community	62 ↑ direct contractors and subcontractors assisted in providing those services	75,000 - possible individuals received prevention services	SUD
132,428 ↑ distinct individuals received services in the community	205 ↑ direct contractors and subcontractors assisted in providing those services	208,607 ↑ possible individuals received mental health services	ALL

FY16

Expenditures and Encumbrances

Community Programs	
Mental Illnesses	255,269,186 ↓
Developmental Disabilities	484,506,672 ↑
Substance Use Disorders	44,998,057 ↑
	\$ 784,773,915 ↑
Facilities	
Bryce Hospital	\$ 47,309,231 ↑
Mary S. Harper Geriatric Psychiatry Center	22,949,882 ↓
NARH closed	0 ↓
Taylor Hardin Secure Medical Facility	16,231,279 ↑
EAMC Adolescent Unit	1,300,000 -
	\$ 87,790,392 ↓
Administration	
Central Office	21,634,704 ↑
Special Services	17,176,278 ↓
	\$ 38,810,982 ↑
Total	\$ 911,375,289 ↑

General Operating Revenue

State Revenue	
Cigarette Tax	\$ 5,106,742 ↓
Mental Health Fund	199,838,142 ↑
Education Trust Fund	44,327,347 ↑
General Fund	106,071,435 ↑
Other State Revenue	2,338,825 ↓
(Including Indigent Offenders Treatment, Judicial Fines, State Match Funds-DHR and Tobacco Settlement)	
	\$ 357,682,491 ↑
Federal, Local, Misc.	550,985,394 ↑
Other Items	1,500,000 -
Total	\$ 910,167,885 ↑

Service Statistics

5,823 ↓ distinct individuals received services in the community	159 ↑ direct contractors and subcontractors assisted in providing those services	288 ↓ distinct individuals were taken off the waiting list	DD
108,542 ↑ distinct individuals received services in the community	26 - direct contractors and subcontractors assisted in providing those services	936 ↓ distinct individuals received services in our facilities	MI
24,114 ↑ distinct individuals received services in the community	60 ↓ direct contractors and subcontractors assisted in providing those services	75,000 - possible individuals received prevention services	SUD
138,479 ↑ distinct individuals received services in the community	212 ↑ direct contractors and subcontractors assisted in providing those services	214,415 ↑ possible individuals received mental health services	ALL



State of Alabama Proclamation by the Governor

WHEREAS, the need for a state psychiatric facility in Alabama was recognized, and legislation was passed in 1852 to establish what is presently known as Bryce Hospital; and

WHEREAS, in 1900, legislation was passed to establish a second facility to serve a more Alabamians. Utilizing the Mount Vernon Arsenal land deeded by the federal government to the State of Alabama for public use purposes, this second psychiatric facility became known as Searcy Hospital; and

WHEREAS, in 1919, legislation was passed to establish a facility to care for individuals with mental retardation. The facility was named W.D. Partlow Developmental Center; and

WHEREAS, in 1965, the Alabama Department of Mental Health was created to coordinate mental health care services statewide; and

WHEREAS, in 1967, a statewide network of community care was needed and the Alabama Legislature passed legislation to enable local governments to form public corporations to provide mental health services in the community; and

WHEREAS, the lack of minimal standards of care, in addition to the rising demand for services, eventually reached a crisis point in the department. The hospitals and residential facilities were overcrowded, short staffed and underfunded. In 1970 the lawsuit, Wyatt v. Stickney, was filed in federal court and became the catalyst for change in the delivery of mental health services in Alabama and across the nation; and

WHEREAS, the Wyatt case concluded and 33 years of federal oversight ended in 2003. Key changes with the end of the Wyatt case included: mandated minimum standards of care, established basic patient rights, encouraged the development of the community mental health system as an alternative to institutionalization and reduced the patient population in the facilities; and

WHEREAS, the Department of Mental Health in Alabama is an example, known throughout the United States, for treating individuals with mental illnesses with dignity and respect, as envisioned by Dr. Peter Bryce, Alabama's first psychiatrist to work at Bryce Hospital; and

WHEREAS, the Department of Mental Health embraces community living for as many as possible through the expansion of services and funding to its statewide network of service providers and the deinstitutionalization of all individuals with intellectual disabilities:

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Robert Bentley, Governor of Alabama, do hereby commend

*The Alabama Department of Mental Health
on its 50th Anniversary.*