



Georgia House of Representatives *2016-2017 House Rural Development Council*

CHAIRMAN TERRY ENGLAND
REPRESENTATIVE, 116
245 STATE CAPITOL
ATLANTA, GEORGIA 30334
(404) 463-2247
(404) 463-2249 (FAX)
terry.england@house.ga.gov

VICE-CHAIR SAM WATSON
REPRESENTATIVE, DISTRICT 172
508-A CLOB
ATLANTA, GEORGIA 30334
(404) 656-0213
sam.watson@house.ga.gov

CHAIRMAN JAY POWELL
REPRESENTATIVE, DISTRICT 171
133 STATE CAPITOL
ATLANTA, GEORGIA 30334
(404) 656-5103
(404) 656-6385 (FAX)
jay.powell@house.ga.gov

2017-2018 House Rural Development Council **July 19-20 Agenda** **Thomasville/Bainbridge, Georgia**

Healthcare and Developmental Disabilities

Wednesday (Thomasville)

Location: Southern Regional Technical College, Building B Auditorium
15689 US Highway 19 North, Thomasville, GA 31792

- 12:30-12:45** Welcome – *Co-chairs Powell and England*
- 12:45 – 1:15** Local Welcome – *Mayor Greg Hobbs; County Chairman Ken Hickey; Shelly Zorn, Economic Development* (discussing state of local businesses)
- 1:15 – 2:15** Department of Behavioral Health and Development Disabilities (closure of hospital, placement of their clientele in community settings)
Judy Fitzgerald, Commissioner
- Are the mobile crisis response teams able to respond to calls for assistance in a timely manner? How are we measuring success?
 - On May 4, 2017 DBHDD was awarded the State Response to the Opioid Crisis Grant by the Substance Abuse and Mental Service Administration (SAMHSA). The funding, totaling nearly \$11.8 million, will support DBHDD and other community providers combatting opioid addiction through prevention, treatment, and recovery services. When, and in what regions of the state, will these funds be expended?
- 2:15 – 2:30** Break
- 2:30 – 3:15** Miller County Hospital –Discussing the challenges and successes at Miller County Hospital
Robin Rau, CEO Miller County Hospital

cont.

- 3:15 – 4:00** Archbold Hospital – Challenges, successes and opportunities related to Behavioral Health and the changes to GDBHDD operations in Southwest Ga that impact their health system and their communities;
Amy Griffin RN, Vice President for Patient Care
- Collaborative network of hospitals, nursing homes and clinics they have put together over the past 30+ years to keep healthcare access readily available in Southwest Georgia
LeDon Toole, VP for Long-term Care & System Affiliates
- Rural Communities continue to face challenges when it comes to recruiting and retaining qualified nursing professionals; What are some strategies being used to retain these professionals?
- 4:00 – 4:30** Law Enforcement; discuss issues facing Law Enforcement in dealing with individuals with developmental disabilities)
Sheriff Carlton Powell, Thomas County SO; and Chief Troy Rich, Thomasville PD
- With the current opioid crisis, not just in Georgia but across the nation, what substance abuse partnerships are available? Are there other possible solutions? (Chief Rich)
- 4:30 – 5:00** Council discussion and questions for presenters
- 5:00** Adjourn

cc: Speaker David Ralston
Bill Reilly, Clerk of the House
Tim Bearden, Director of Member & Administrative Services
House Budget and Research
House Media Services
Majority Caucus
Minority Caucus
Rural Development Council Partners