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

Healthcare and Developmental Disabilities

Thursday, Bainbridge

Location: Bainbridge State College
2500 E. Shotwell St., Bainbridge, GA 39819

8:00 – 8:15 Welcome – Co-Chairs England and Powell

8:15 – 8:45 Local Welcome – Mayor Edward Reynolds; County Chairman Pete Stephens; Rick McCaskill, Director of Economic Development

8:45 – 9:15 FQHC (Federal Qualified Health Centers): what they do in underserved areas of state
Becky Ryles, Contract Counsel for Community Health Centers;
Duane Kavka, Executive Director for the Georgia Association for Primary Health Care;
R.B. Tucker Jr., CEO, South Central Primary Care Center, Inc. (Ocilla, Ga);
Ann Addison, PhD, CEO, Primary Care of Southwest Ga., Inc. (Blakely, Ga)
- What does FQHC do in underserved areas of the state?
- How could FQHC mission be expanded for greater impact (ex. residency training and mental health services?)

9:15 – 9:45 Department of Community Health
Frank Berry, Commissioner
- How has DCH engaged with Georgia’s rural population to educate on Medicaid eligibility? How can this be improved?
- On June 7, 2017, Governor Deal announced the creation of the Commission on Children’s Mental Health. Since most children’s mental health flows through Medicaid and not Behavioral Health, what are some of the key areas that should be reviewed that will help service delivery in Rural Georgia?
9:45 – 10:00  Break

10:00 – 10:45  Bainbridge Hospital – issues and challenges in healthcare  
*Sen. Dean Burke; Gregg Magers, Interim CEO; Glennie Bench, Board Chairman*

10:45 – 11:15  Hometown Health – Jimmy Lewis – Layout what the rural hospitals are doing (challenges and successes)  
• What do you see as the number one reason for rural hospitals struggling/failing? Solutions?  
• What are the successful rural hospitals doing that could be duplicated in other rural areas?  
• What can the state do to create a successful environment for rural hospitals? Are there programs to be enhanced or regulations to be changed that could make a positive difference?

11:15 – 11:35  Georgia Board of Physician Workforce - Health Care Data Reports; Medical Education Funding; Cancelable Loan Repayment Programs; Policy Proposals  
*Lasharn Hughes, Executive Director*  
• Which type of providers are most needed and in which areas of the state?

11:35 – 12:00  Council Discussion and info on next meeting

12:00  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