

ANDERSON-OCONEE-PICKENS MENTAL HEALTH CENTER

MISSION

- In partnership with clients, families, and communities, the Center supports the recovery of persons with mental illnesses.

VALUES

■ RESPECT FOR THE INDIVIDUAL

Each person who receives services is treated with respect and dignity, and is a partner in achieving recovery. We commit ourselves to services that:

- honor the rights, wishes and needs of each individual;
- promote each individual's quality of life;
- focus on individual strengths in the context of his or her own culture;
- foster independence and recovery
- demonstrate the value of family inclusion and the benefits of strong family support.

■ SUPPORT FOR LOCAL CARE

We believe that people are best served in or near their own homes or the community of their choice. We commit to the availability of a full and flexible array of coordinated services in every community, and to services that are provided in a healthy environment. We believe in services that build upon critical local supports: family, friends, faith communities, healthcare providers and other community services that offer employment, learning, leisure pursuits, and other human or clinical supports.

■ COMMITMENT TO QUALITY

We are an agency worthy of the highest level of public trust. We provide treatment environments that are safe and therapeutic, and work environments which inspire and promote innovation and creativity. We hire, train, support and retain staff who are culturally and linguistically competent, who are committed to the recovery philosophy, and who value learning and research. We provide services efficiently and effectively, and strive to provide interventions that are scientifically proven to support recovery.

■ DEDICATION TO IMPROVED PUBLIC AWARENESS

We believe that people with mental illnesses, trauma victims, and others who experience severe emotional distress, are often the object of misunderstanding and stigmatizing attitudes. Therefore, we build formal partnerships with the state's educational leadership and institutions, including both K-12 and institutions of higher learning, to enhance curriculum content on mental health. We work with employers, sister agencies, and public media to combat prejudice born of ignorance about mental illnesses. And we expect our staff to be leaders in the anti-stigma campaign.

PRIORITIES

- Priority is given to adults, children and their families affected by serious mental illnesses and significant emotional disorders. We are committed to eliminating stigma and promoting the philosophy of recovery, to achieving goals in collaboration with stakeholders, and to assuring the highest quality of culturally competent services possible.