

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

BETWEEN

Arras Foundation*
Catawba Community Mental Health Center
Chester County School District*
Chester Healthcare Foundation*
Fairfield County School District*
Good Samaritan Medical Clinic
Mid-Carolina AHEC
Midlands Public Health Region - SCDHEC
Midlands Technical College
MUSC Health – Chester and Lancaster Medical Centers
MUSC Health - Midlands
North Central Family Medical Center Chester
Prisma Health Family Medicine - Winnsboro
South Carolina Office of Rural Health*
USC Lancaster
And
York Technical College

I. PURPOSE:

The above listed entities (hereafter referred to as the Upper Midlands Rural Health Network), hereby enter into this Memorandum of Understanding (hereafter MOU) for the purpose of outlining roles and responsibilities of each member in the Upper Midlands Rural Health Network. The goal of this Network is to establish a formal collaborative among key provider organizations across a geographical area that includes Chester, Fairfield, and Lancaster counties in South Carolina that will work strategically to achieve efficiencies and effectiveness; expand access to, coordinate, and improve the quality of essential health care services; and to strengthen the rural health care system as a whole. Characteristics of the Network partnership shall include commitment to a mutual relationship and goals; a jointly developed structure and shared responsibility; mutual authority and accountability for success; and sharing of resources and rewards.

II. PURPOSE AND ACTIVITIES:

The purpose of the Upper Midlands Rural Health Network is to 1) help smaller rural health care providers align resources and strategies, 2) achieve economies of scale and efficiency, and 3) address challenges more effectively as a group than as single providers.

The Upper Midlands Rural Health Network is working to strengthen the local healthcare environment by maintaining partnerships and convening like-minded leaders. The Network continuously facilitates work around priority health issues, seeks evidence-based policies and programs relevant to the local needs, and identifies funding sources for implementation.

*Affiliate Member

III. TERMS AND CONDITIONS:

A. Effective Dates

This MOU shall be effective on November 2, 2022 or when all parties have signed, whichever is later, and remain in effect until modified or rescinded by joint action of Network members.

B. Termination

Subject to the provisions contained below, any member may withdraw from the Network by providing thirty (30) days advance written notice of termination.

C. Amendment

Any changes to this MOU, which are mutually agreed upon by each member, shall be incorporated in written amendment to this MOU and will not become effective until the amendment is signed by at least two-thirds of the members.

D. Governance

This MOU shall be construed and enforced in accordance with the bylaws of the Upper Midlands Rural Health Network.

IV. RESPONSIBILITIES:

Under the terms of the MOU, the Upper Midlands Rural Health Network members shall be responsible for:

A. Financial

Each member shall bear and be responsible solely for its own costs and expenses necessary to comply with this MOU.

B. Participation

Each member shall be actively involved in the needs assessment and strategic planning process that will provide the shared direction for Network partnership as well as identify potential opportunities for integration or collaboration around selected clinical, financial, technical, or administrative functions. When appropriate, Network members should consider input of other community entities for the benefit of the three-county region.

C. Voting and Benefits

Membership entitles member to one vote, unless designated as an affiliate member. Affiliate members do not hold a voting seat.

D. Officers and Terms

The officers of the Network may consist of a Chair, Vice Chair, and Secretary/Treasurer. The officers will be elected every two years by the full Network membership by December of the designated year to take office on January 1st of the following year. Non-voting members are not eligible to be officers nor to participate in the election of officers.

E. Committees

Members will have active involvement in implementation of Network work plans and strategic plans. Where appropriate, members will serve on one of the Network's committees.

F. Staff and Resources

The Network shall maintain a full-time Network Director to coordinate efforts on behalf of members and partners.

G. Frequency of meetings

Meetings will occur monthly, unless needed more frequently to ensure the long-term success and viability of the Network.

H. Support and Consensus of Network Member Organizations

Members will respect and support the autonomy and individual needs of each member, while working together strategically to address the common needs of the Network and the health care system as a whole.

I. Disclosure

Parties to this MOU confirm they are not presently debarred, suspended, proposed for debarment, declared ineligible, or voluntarily excluded from participation by any federal department or agency. If this status should change, member must disclose this information to stay in compliance with Federal guidelines and regulations.

Each party is committed to achieving efficiencies; expanding access to, coordinating, and improving the quality of essential health care services; and strengthening the rural health care system as a whole and recognize the inherent value and unique opportunities working together in a formal, strategic manner afford.

Members:

DocuSigned by:

 Pam Temple
 Special Projects
 Arras Foundation

11/16/2022
 Date

DocuSigned by:

 Buck Wilson
 Public Health Director
 Midlands Public Health Region - SCDHEC

11/10/2022
 Date

DocuSigned by:

 Tamara Edrington, MS, MFT, CPM
 Executive Director
 Catawba Community Mental Health Center

11/3/2022
 Date

DocuSigned by:

 Ray Wiegner
 Environmental Health Manager
 Midlands Technical College

11/7/2022
 Date

DocuSigned by:

 Jeannie Ligon
 Director of Special Services
 Chester County School District

11/14/2022
 Date

DocuSigned by:

 J. Scott Broome, MHA, MAIS,
 FACHE
 CEO
 MUSC Health – Chester Medical Center and
 Lancaster Medical Center

11/3/2022
 Date

DocuSigned by:

 Bill Bundy
 President
 Chester Healthcare Foundation

11/12/2022
 Date

DocuSigned by:

 Joe Bernard, MHA
 Division Chief Operating Officer
 MUSC Health - Midlands

11/2/2022
 Date

DocuSigned by:

 Webster Anderson II
 Director of Student Services
 Fairfield County School District

11/9/2022
 Date

DocuSigned by:

 Ernest Brown, MPH
 Executive Director
 North Central Family Medical Center
 Chester

11/2/2022
 Date

DocuSigned by:

 John R. Hart, III
 Executive Director
 Good Samaritan Medical Clinic

11/2/2022
 Date

DocuSigned by:

 Mark Shaffer, MD
 Director
 Prisma Health Family Medicine
 Winnsboro

11/11/2022
 Date

DocuSigned by:

 Cheri C. Plyler, MBA
 Director
 Mid-Carolina AHEC

11/2/2022
 Date

DocuSigned by:

 Graham Adams, Ph.D.
 Executive Director
 SC Office of Rural Health

11/12/2022
 Date

DocuSigned by:

Susan Elkins

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Susan Elkins, Ed.D.
Chancellor, Palmetto College
University of South Carolina

11/14/2022

Date

Dr. Stacey Moore
President
York Technical College

Date