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PUBLIC NOTICE

<u>Proposed Public Notice for Rehabilitative Behavioral Health Providers-Provider Qualifications</u>

The South Carolina Department of Health and Human Services (SCDHHS) gives notice of the following proposed action to more clearly require compliance with South Carolina health practice acts, ensure consumer protection, and improve utilization and quality of services provided to beneficiaries under the State Plan under Title XIX of the Social Security Act Medical Assistance Program (Medicaid).

Effective on or after April 1, 2016, SCDHHS proposes to amend the South Carolina Title XIX State Plan to clearly require providers not employed by governmental entities who render core treatment services to possess a license to practice in psychology, social work, professional counseling, marriage and family therapy, medicine, or pharmacy and to practice within the licensing requirements.

Providers who are pursuing their independent license during a supervised period of clinical practice may continue to render core treatment services.

Copies of this notice are available at each county SCDHHS office and at www.scdhhs.gov for public review. Additional information regarding this proposed action is available upon request at the address cited below.

Written comments may be sent to Division of Behavioral Health, SCDHHS, Post Office Box 8206, Columbia, South Carolina 29202-8206. Comments may also be submitted to comments@scdhhs.gov. Written and e-mailed comments must be received by close of business, March 17, 2016.

Any written comments submitted may be reviewed by the public at the SCDHHS, Division of Behavioral Health, Jefferson Square Building, 1801 Main Street, Columbia, South Carolina, Monday through Friday between 9:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m.

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Director
South Carolina Department of Health and Human Services