

MINUTES  
TUESDAY, OCTOBER 3, 2023  
REGULAR MEETING  
6:00 P.M.

Colleton County Council  
Council Chambers, Old Jail Building  
109 Benson Street  
Walterboro, SC 29488

Present: Chairman Steven Murdaugh called the meeting to order with Council Members Dr. Joseph Flowers, Phillip Taylor, Bubba Trippe, and Scott Biering in attendance.

Others Included: Kevin Griffin, Meagan Utsey, Sean Thornton, Kaela Brinson, Jon Carpenter, Barry McRoy, Josh Rowland, Sue Keith, Robert Renner, Angie Salley, Mark Wysong, Anderson Grant, Clarence Wiggins, Felicia Johnson, and Lisa Langdale.

Councilman Bubba Trippe gave the invocation and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Approval of Minutes**

- A. Regular Meeting September 5, 2023— Councilman Taylor moved to approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting held on September 5, 2023. The motion was seconded by Dr. Flowers and the motion carried unanimously.

**Appearances & Public Presentations**

- A. SC Department of Mental Health – Angie Salley, Executive Director

Mrs. Salley: Stated, I am Angie Salley, the Executive Director for Coastal Empire Community Mental Health Center, which serves five counties in the Lowcountry area: Colleton, Beaufort, Jasper, Hampton, and Allendale. I am here to give this presentation and to thank this council for your support of Coastal Empire Community Mental Health Center. We consider you one of our strongest community partners and stakeholders. We would not be able to do what we do without the support of this council.

\*\*\* See attached Presentation.

Councilman Taylor: Stated, Mrs. Salley, thank you. I do not think you have mentioned to this body that you are from Oakman Branch/Springtown area.

Mrs. Salley: Stated, yes, I am. I am from Colleton County born and raised and I am very proud of that.

Councilman Taylor: Stated, with the new zero tolerance policy, we are seeing a lot more seventeen-year-olds end up in adult learning, so we may need to have a conversation about that.

Mrs. Salley: Stated, it may not be in your packet, but I asked Andrea to mention to you all that in the past we have collaborated before on some in-service training and meetings between council and myself or Mrs. Miley. If you have any designated committees that are looking at human services in your area or different mental health related issues, we are more than willing to collaborate. If it is not me, we do have a chief of clinical operations, and we also have your local clinic director, Mrs. Andrea Miley. We are willing to designate a time to do that at any point that you all make that request.

Councilman Biering: Stated, I do not have any questions, but Councilman Trippe and I went to the Pillars4Hope event the other night, we've been in the schools, and talked with In His Name Colleton. Your presence is always spoke about in high regard. Thank you for what you do, and your continued support. In today's environment we need more of what you do.

Mrs. Salley: Stated, thank you.

Chairman Murdaugh: Stated, Senator Sandy Senn is not here. She may be running late so we will skip that and come back to it.

### **Administrator's Briefing**

Mr. Griffin: Stated, Council made a decision about five years ago by Dr. Flowers' recommendation, that we invest in the services provided by Coast Empire Community Mental Health Center and it has paid off. I do want to thank you again for all you do for the Sheriff's Department, Fire- Rescue, and across our entire enterprise. We appreciate all the help very much. Mr. Chairman, I only have one item to discuss with you all tonight. We had to go back and rework Item "c", second reading, under "Old Business", which is a plat regarding Mr. Jason McMillan. That is next door to the solid waste site. The surveyor went in and found out that there is about three pieces of land that is in "no mans land" and nobody knew who owned them. We are going to come out better than we originally thought with an additional 4 acres +/- . If you look at the plat and have any questions, I will be glad to answer them. There was a strip along the back side of what was the old Anderson --- plant that went all the way to Cooks Hill Road that nobody really owned, so they Quit Claimed that to us and we Quit Claimed a small triangle portion. It is a little confusing. Meagan and I struggled as we were writing it. If you have any questions I will be glad to answer them.

No questions.

### **Public Hearing**

Dr. Flowers made a motion to move into Public Hearing. Councilman Taylor seconded that motion, and the motion was carried unanimously.

**A. 3<sup>rd</sup> Reading Ordinance 23-O-13, To Ratify FY23 Grant and Budget Resolutions and Related Appropriations for All Funds; To Ratify Transfer and Other Resolutions Previously Authorized by Council; And Other Matters Related Thereto**

No comments were made. Dr. Flowers made a motion to close Public Hearing. Councilman Biering seconded that motion and the motion carried unanimously.

**Old Business**

**A. 3<sup>rd</sup> Reading Ordinance 23-O-13, To Ratify FY23 Grant and Budget Resolutions and Related Appropriations for All Funds; To Ratify Transfer and Other Resolutions Previously Authorized by Council; And Other Matters Related Thereto**

Councilman Taylor moved to approve 3<sup>rd</sup> Reading of Ordinance 23-O-13, To Ratify FY23 Grant and Budget Resolutions and Related Appropriations for All Funds; To Ratify Transfer and Other Resolutions Previously Authorized by Council; And Other Matters Related Thereto The motion was seconded by Councilman Trippe. The motion carried unanimously.

**B. 2<sup>nd</sup> Reading Ordinance 23-O-14, to Amend Title 2 – Administration and Personnel, Chapter 2.30 – County Council, Section 2.30.030 – Meetings and to Add Title 2 – Administration and Personnel, Chapter 2.30 – County Council, Section 2.30.070 – Electronic/Virtual Meetings of the Colleton County Code of Ordinances**

Councilman Taylor moved to approve 2<sup>nd</sup> Reading Ordinance 23-O-14, to Amend Title 2 – Administration and Personnel, Chapter 2.30 – County Council, Section 2.30.030 – Meetings and to Add Title 2 – Administration and Personnel, Chapter 2.30 – County Council, Section 2.30.070 – Electronic/Virtual Meetings of the Colleton County Code of Ordinances. The motion was seconded by Councilman Biering. The motion carried unanimously.

**C. 2<sup>nd</sup> Reading Ordinance 23-O-15, To Approve a Corrected Plat Related to the Sale of a Portion of Real Property Owned by Colleton County, South Carolina to Mr. Jason McMillan for the property identified by TMS No. 195-00-00-181.000 on Cooks Hill Road; and Other Matters Relating Thereto**

Dr. Flowers moved to approve 2<sup>nd</sup> Reading Ordinance 23-O-15 To Approve a Corrected Plat Related to the Sale of a Portion of Real Property Owned by Colleton County, South Carolina to Mr. Jason McMillan for the property identified by TMS No. 195-00-00-181.000 on Cooks Hill Road; and Other Matters Relating Thereto. The motion was seconded by Councilman Trippe. The motion carried unanimously.

**D. 2<sup>nd</sup> Reading Ordinance 23-O-16, To Amend Colleton County’s 2030 Comprehensive Plan to Create a Heavy Industrial District**

Councilman Taylor moved to approve 2<sup>nd</sup> Reading Ordinance 23-O-16, To Amend Colleton County's 2030 Comprehensive Plan to Create a Heavy Industrial District. The motion was seconded by Dr. Flowers. The motion carried unanimously.

Chairman Murdaugh:

Mr. Griffin:

Mr. Rowland:

**E. 2<sup>nd</sup> Reading Ordinance 23-O-17, To Amend Title 14 – Land Management, 14.08 – Zoning, to Coincide with the Amendment of the 2023 Colleton County Comprehensive Plan**

Councilman Taylor moved to approve 2<sup>nd</sup> Reading Ordinance 23-O-17, To Amend Title 14 – Land Management, 14.08 – Zoning, to Coincide with the Amendment of the 2023 Colleton County Comprehensive Plan. The motion was seconded by Councilman Biering. The motion carried unanimously.

Chairman Murdaugh: Asked, do we have a routine schedule that we look at the Comprehensive Plan to determine if there are amendments needed?

Mr. Griffin: Stated, Josh Rowland, our planning director can speak to that.

Mr. Rowland: Stated, typically once a year we will look at it. That does not always mean that changes will happen. Obviously, things happen, and things change. Traditionally, you can see updates every five years. However, the staff and planning commission take a look once or twice a year to review and see if there are any changes needed.

No further questions.

**New Business**

**A. Resolution 23-R-59, To Amend the Colleton County Record of Roads to Include Wasson Lane**

Dr. Flowers moved to approve Resolution 23-R-59, To Amend the Colleton County Record of Roads to Include Wasson Lane. The motion was seconded by Councilman Taylor. The motion carried unanimously.

**B. Resolution 23-R-60, To Authorize the Expenditure of Funds Related to Special Projects as Recommended by the Colleton County Accommodations Tax Committee from the State Accommodations Tax Fund – Fund 152 During the Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 2023 and Other Matters Related Thereto**

Councilman Biering moved to approve Resolution 23-R-60, To Authorize the Expenditure of Funds Related to Special Projects as Recommended by the Colleton County Accommodations Tax Committee from the State Accommodations Tax Fund – Fund 152 During the Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 2023, and Other Matters Related Thereto. The motion was seconded by Councilman Trippe. The motion carried unanimously.

**C. Resolution 23-R-61, To Authorize the Council Clerk to Advertise for Board Vacancies**

Councilman Taylor moved to approve Resolution 23-R-61, To Authorize the Council Clerk to Advertise for Board Vacancies. The motion was seconded by Councilman Biering. The motion carried unanimously.

**D. Resolution 23-R-62, To Appoint Members to Board Vacancies**

Councilman Biering moved to approve Resolution 23-R-62, To Appoint Members to Board Vacancies. The motion was seconded by Councilman Taylor. The motion carried unanimously.

The following appointments were made by acclimation: – Colleton County Keep Colleton Beautiful: Darrie Levine, Colleton County Recreation Commission: Clarence Wiggins, and Colleton County Resource and Development Board: James Warner, Anderson Grant, and William Scott Catterton.

**Public Comment**

Felicia Johnson: Stated, this is not my first time coming up here about this ditch situation. I first started coming up here must be 15 years ago. I first started with SCDOT about these ditches and someone from there put me on to coming here. I don't know if you all go out and only look by my house or go look in my area. All behind me on Pine Needle, Gadsden Loop, and King Street. When you pass by Family Dollar and by Councilman Taylor's church, you can barely see the drainpipes. At one point you could barely see them at all because of the dirt. All they did was come in our neighborhood and dug the ditches deeper then put bricks around the drainpipes for decoration. My insurance nor my neighbors covered it when our houses flooded out in 2021. The light situation is getting worse. My road is not a street, it is a drag strip. They were just racing the other day. If the Sheriff's Department wants to make money, come sit over by me, they can make plenty. They do not respect where I live. Like I said, it is just dark shadows at night. If my neighbor doesn't turn on her porch light, you can not see anything. Thank you, Lord, for what happened to me. In a way I like it and, in a way, I don't like it. They put a camera up right in front of my house where a young man killed somebody last year. My church sister told me they put a streetlight over by her and I said, "Well thank God for you, because we need it by us." I am riding a bicycle tonight. When these poles went in, you can't ride a bicycle on Jefferies Blvd at night. There was a lady in a wheelchair who had to go on the street because you can't ride on these sidewalks no more. I can't ride my bicycle anymore so I had to figure out which way I was coming tonight. I had to come

from that way, because like I said you can't ride your bike or wheelchair on these sidewalks anymore. She could've been killed. Then I see you all lining up trees and that is a hazard too. If a storm comes through and those trees end up in the road, then that will cause a wreck. If you all want to beautify Walterboro, come to these neighborhoods, and do something about these ditches. There used to be a ton of green stuff in the ditches on Green Pond. The mosquitos are bad, and I don't want to find out what else is in the ditch. I looked yesterday and the water is finally drained out and the ditch is dry. Thank God I didn't see any snakes this year because I normally see them. The water does not leave out of those ditches right there, especially on our front. I broke my ankle in that ditch too. We need help in our community. A lot of the drainpipes you can't even see because they are covered in dirt. We need help, thank you. I know that you have to go through the DOT, but that's where I started from.

Clarence Wiggins: Stated, I have been receiving texts wondering why we are not live streaming.

Chairman Murdaugh: Stated, I will respond during council time. Are there any further comments?

No further comments.

### **Council Time**

Councilman Biering: Stated, Mrs. Felicia, we have talked before. You said Mr. Murdock at DOT sent you to us. I am going to send you back to them. I am just joking. We will get in touch with you. A couple of us have already called about the lights. There is only so much that we are able to do with a state/DOT deal. We may be able to push a little further. I will follow up with you on those safety concerns. You are not being ignored. There are certain things we have control over and certain things we do not. We will go and help as much as we can to help find the right path. I wanted to let you know that you are not being ignored.

Chairman Murdaugh: Stated, Mr. Wiggins, there is an item on the agenda tonight that some what answers your question. The live streaming of council meeting was something that was done as a result of covid. Like most county councils, we do have a provision that allows us to do it, but it is really only for when we are in an emergency situation. We planned to discontinue sooner than we did. The only time that a meeting can be streamed live is in some sort of an emergency situation. So, we have discontinued that. That is what council has decided to do.

Before we go into executive session, I would like to make a comment. We did have Sandy Senn on the agenda tonight. I have not heard from her, but she was coming to address us. She is the South Carolina State Senator for District 41. Some of you may know her. The district lines are scheduled to be redrawn and take effect for the next election. She will be representing a good portion of the eastern district which could cross into the western district. Her district will be in Colleton County during her next election. I think her intentions for coming out tonight was to make citizens aware that part of her district will be in Colleton County next election, sort of educate individuals on district lines.

### **Executive Session**

Dr. Flowers moved to go into executive session to discuss the following: Real Estate – Rural Carolina Community Development Corporation. Councilman Biering seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Councilman Taylor moved to exit executive session. Dr. Flowers seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

Councilman Biering: Stated, I would like to make a motion that we join into a joint land agreement with the Rural Carolina Community Development Corporation on Barracada Road. Councilman Taylor seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.

**Adjournment**

Dr. Flowers moved to adjourn the meeting, Councilman Trippe seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

This 7<sup>th</sup> day of November 2023.

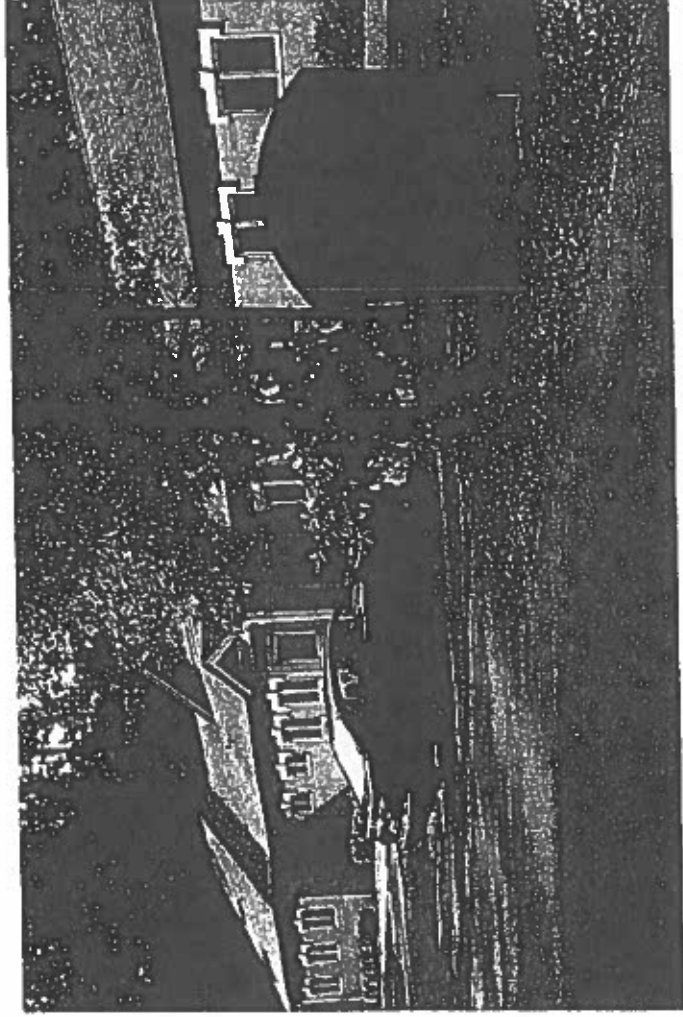
  
Steven D. Murdaugh, Chairman

ATTEST:

  
Kaela Brinson, Clerk to Council

Coastal Empire Community  
Mental Health Center

# Colleton County Clinic



Physical Address:  
507 Forest Circle  
Walterboro, SC 29488



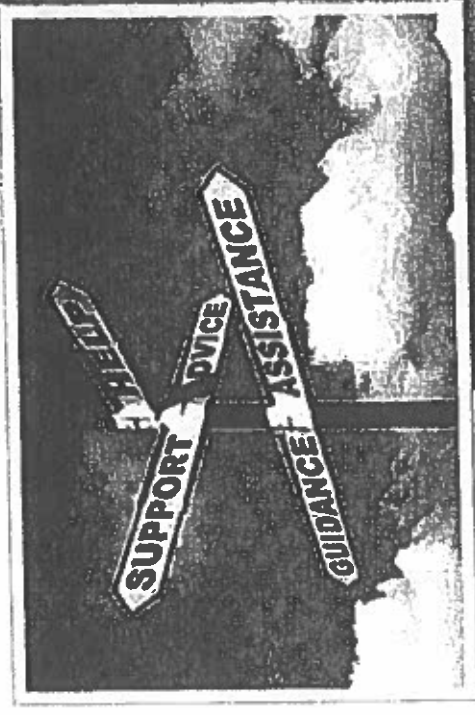
# Our mission ...

“To support the recovery of people with mental illnesses.”

Priority is to treat adults with serious and persistent mental illnesses and children with severe emotional disturbances.

# Services we provide...

- Clinic Based Outpatient
- Services at the Schools
- Consultation to Detention Center
- Consultation to Medical Center
- Community Education
- Community Support
- Mobile Crisis 24/7



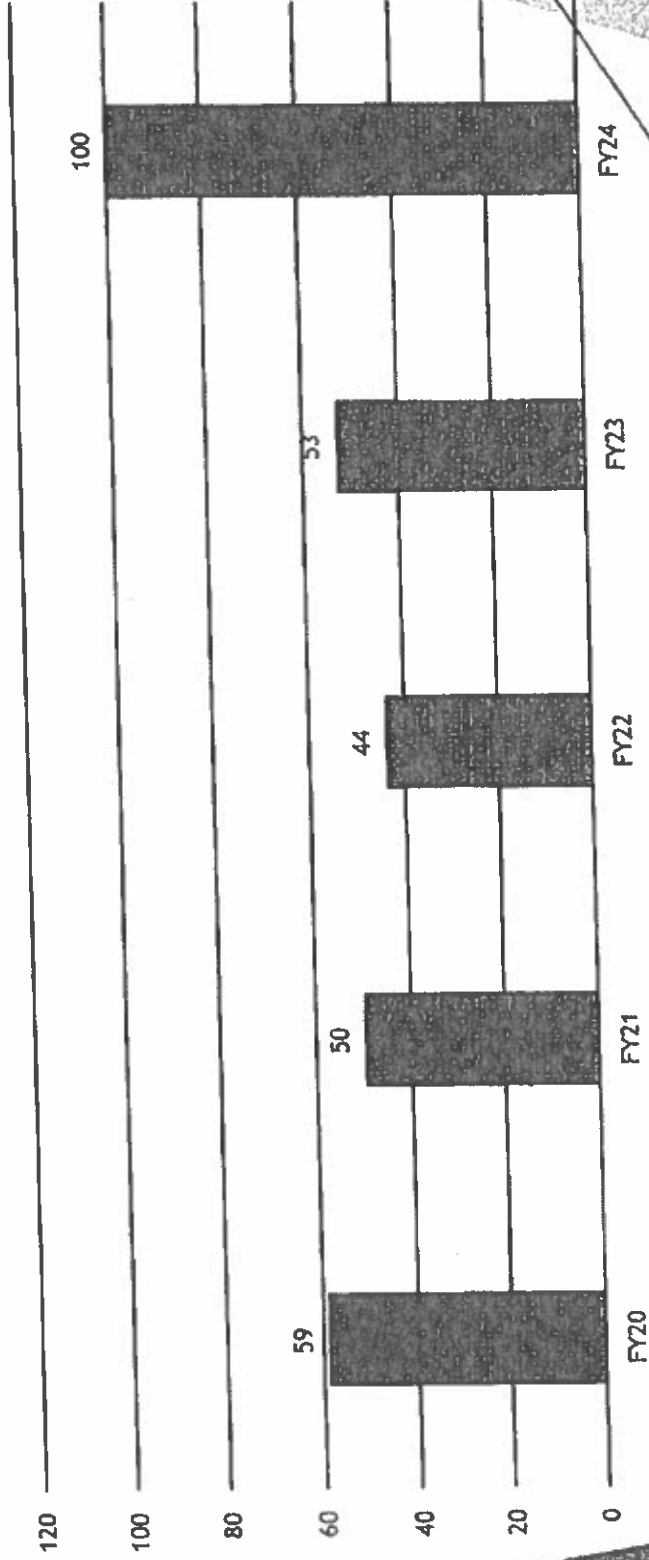
## Community Collaboration . . .

- Colleton County Probate
- Colleton Medical Center
- Walterboro Public Safety
- Colleton Pillars 4 Hope
- Lowcountry Community Agency  
Shelter Safe Haven
- In His Name Colleton Shelter
- Colleton County School District
- Department of Social Services
- Private Physicians in the Community

# Admissions ...

**47% Increase  
Over Last Year**

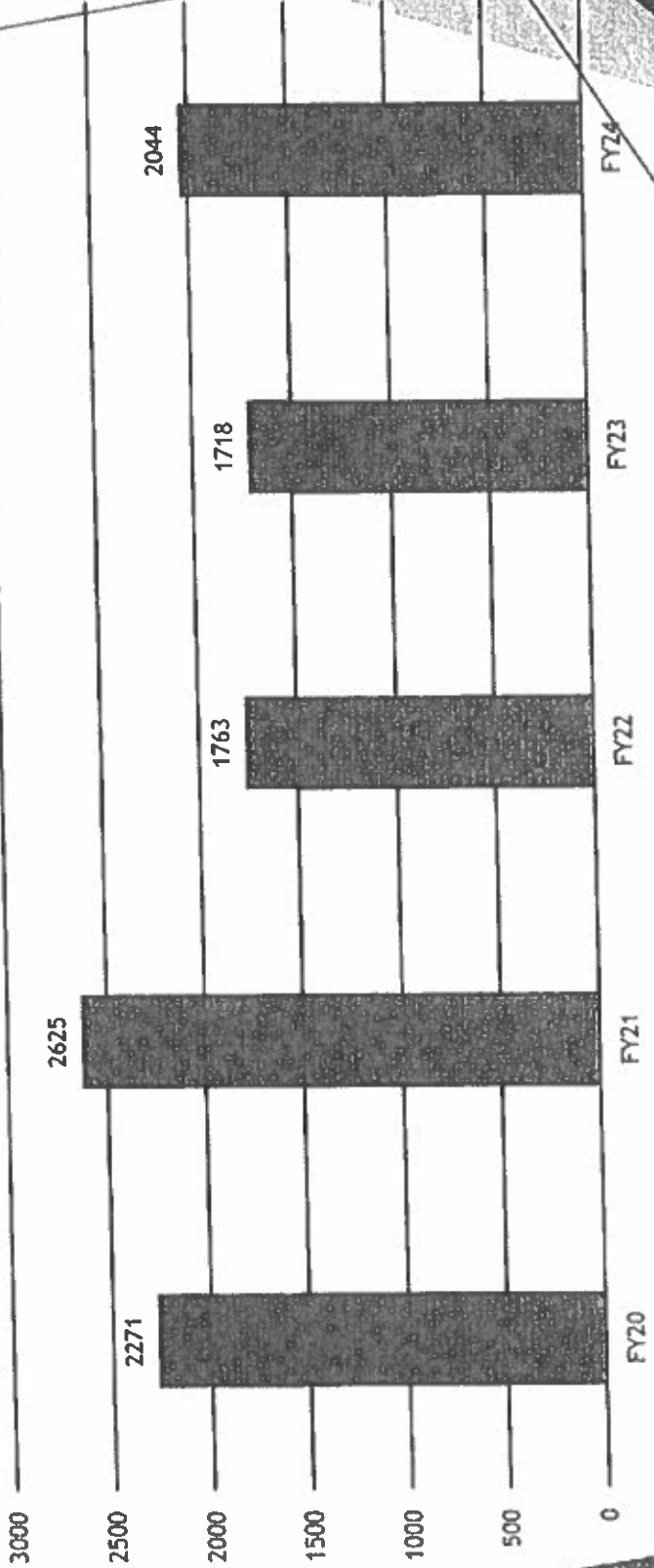
Coastal Empire CMHC Walterboro Clinic First Quarter Admissions  
Comparison of Fiscal Years



# Services ...

**15.95% Increase  
Over Last Year**

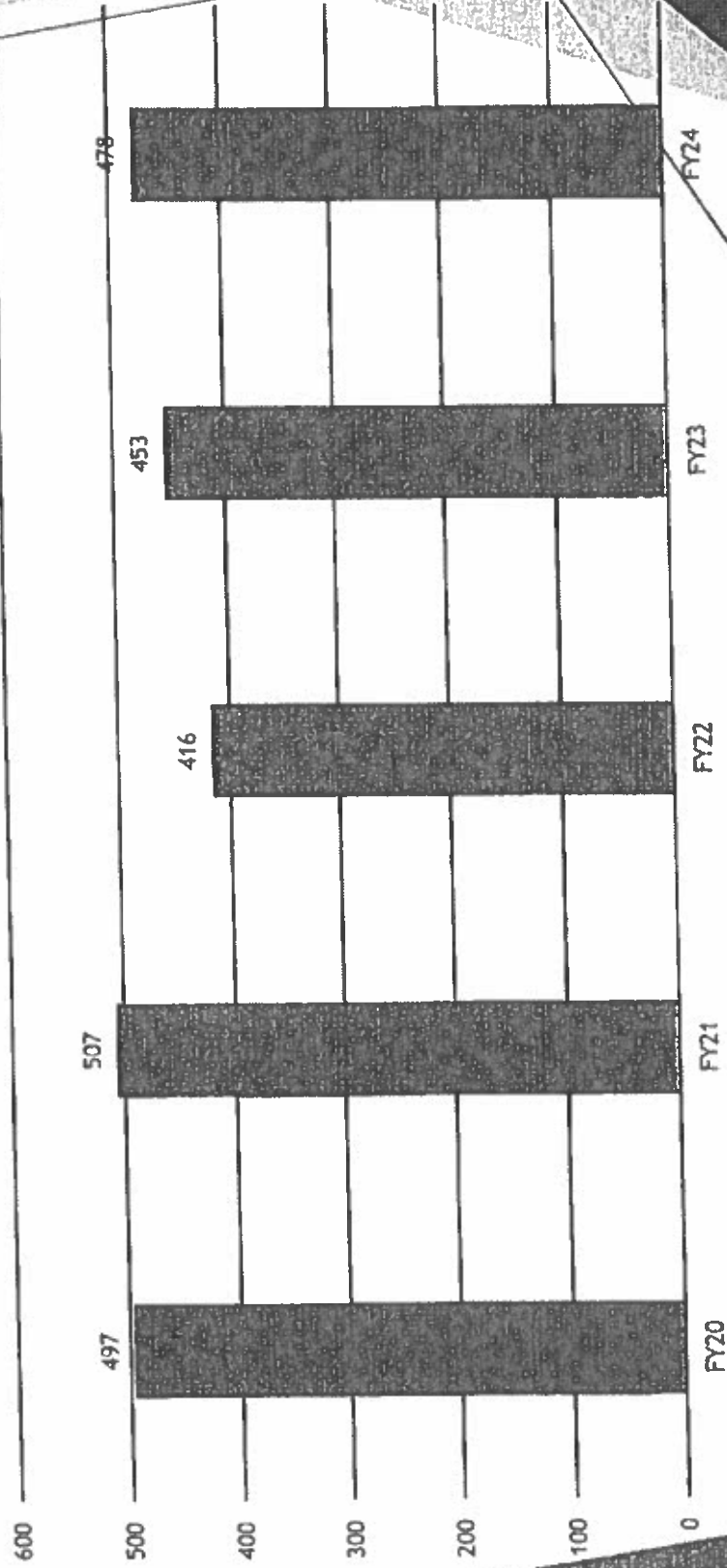
Coastal Empire CMHC Walterboro Clinic Services Provided - Comparison of Fiscal Years, First Quarter



# Patients...

**5.23% Increase  
Over Last Year**

Coastal Empire CMHC Walterboro Clinic Fiscal Year Comparison of Persons Served, First Quarter



# County Support is important . . .

- ▶ Population growth increasing Mental Health demand
- ▶ Untreated Mental Illnesses can lead to tragedy the community
- ▶ Law Enforcement/Detention Center/Probation/need us
- ▶ DSS needs us....
- ▶ Schools need us...
- ▶ Hospitals needs us...
- ▶ Our community needs us...
- ▶ You need us.

# THANK YOU



**Andrea Miley, M.A.**  
**Colleton Clinic Director**