



# SOUTH CAROLINA REVENUE AND FISCAL AFFAIRS OFFICE

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**Date:** November 16, 2023  
Revenue and Fiscal Affairs Office / Microsoft Teams

**Subject:** Minutes of the South Carolina Data Oversight Council Meeting

**Attendees:** *Committee Members* – Dr. Aunyika Moonan – SCHA (*Teams*), Ms. Heather Kirby – DHHS (*Teams*), Mr. Brandt Smith – SCMA (*Teams*), Dr. Abdoulaye Diedhiou – DHEC (*Teams*), Mr. Kevin Tinch – Internetwork Engineering (*Teams*), Ms. Elizabeth Fletcher – Spartanburg Regional Healthcare System (*Teams*), Dr. William Jennings – BlueCross BlueShield of South Carolina (*Teams*)

*Staff* – Ms. Sarah Crawford and Mr. Chris Finney (*Teams*)

*Additional Guests* – Ms. Karen Moore – DHEC (*Teams*)

- I. Ms. Sarah Crawford, RFA Liaison to the DOC, called the meeting called to order at 2:05pm.
- II. Ms. Sarah Crawford presented both the August 17, 2023 regular meeting minutes and the October 26, 2023 special meeting minutes, which previously had been shared with the Members and asked if any Member had edits or questions. Hearing no amendments or objections, Ms. Heather Kirby motioned to approve the minutes; Dr. Aunyika Moonan seconded the motion. With no objections, the minutes were approved as written.
- III. Review of Data Requests
  - A. Request 1: Karen Moore – SC Department of Health and Environmental Control; ‘Trauma Funds Report Distribution’.
    - Ms. Karen Moore, Trauma Manger for DHEC joined the call through Microsoft Teams to address any questions of the council. The DHEC Division of EMS and Trauma is statutorily responsible for the distribution of the State Trauma Care Fund established in Section 44-61-530 of the South Carolina Code of Laws. The budget proviso (34.20) associated with the funds outlines the methodology for distribution. To meet the distribution methods, specific data is required from the RFA.

- **Approved: With no modifications, Ms. Elizabeth Fletcher motioned to approve the request; Dr. Aunyika Moonan seconded the motion. With no objections, the application was approved.**
  - With their application review complete, Ms. Karen Moore thanked the council and left the meeting.
- B. Request 2: Brad Wright – University of South Carolina; ‘Persistent Frequent Emergency Department Users in South Carolina: Who Are They and How Do They Use Other Cross-Sector Services?’ Amendment
- The overall aim of this study is to identify various subgroups of ED users, with a particular focus on persistent frequent ED users. This is an amendment to an application approve by the DOC in the May 18, 2023 meeting. The researcher has amended their application to update the PI for the study from Theodoros Giannouchos to Brad Wrigth and to add an additional data source to the study, Dept. of Disabilities and Special Needs.
  - **Approved: Mr. Brandt Smith motioned to approve the amended application; Dr. Abdoulaye Diedhiou seconded the motion. With no objections, the application was approved without any modifications.**
- C. Request 3: Matilde Machado – Universidad Carlos III de Madrid; ‘Weekend Births and Racial Disparities’
- These objectives of this study are first to document that Blacks are more likely to be born on the weekend than Whites. Also to explore why Blacks are more likely to be born on the weekend and how much this contributes to racial health disparities.
  - Concerns were expressed around the amount of information being requested and the potential for reidentification and about transferring SC hospital data outside of the United States. The DOC decided it would be best to table this request until the review from other agencies was completed and then reevaluate.
  - **Tabled: Dr. William Jennings motioned to table the application; Dr. Abdoulaye Diedhiou seconded the motion. With no objections, the application was tabled pending other state agency review and decisions.**
- D. Request 4: Monika Mitra – Brandeis University; ‘Disparities in Perinatal Care and Outcomes among Black Women and Latinas with Physical Disabilities (R01HD105712)’
- The specific aims for the South Carolina data analyses are to examine prenatal and first year health outcomes, healthcare utilization and costs

for cohorts of women based on race, ethnicity, and physical disability and their infants, and determine if the combined effect of being a Black woman or Latina with physical disabilities is compounded.

- The council suggested a couple modifications to the request:
    - They requested that you limit the record pull from the all-payer hospital data to the prenatal period through one year post delivery.
    - Also, all dates will be provided a month and year and RFA will provide the necessary flags.
  - **Approved: With these modifications, Dr. Aunyika Moonan motioned to approve; Ms. Elizabeth Fletcher seconded the motion. With no objections, the application was approved with the specified modifications.**
- E. Request 5: Orgul Ozturk – University of South Carolina; ‘Education and Birth Outcomes - Evidence from SC Accountability Programs and Policies’.
- The proposed project aims to examine the relationship between educational policies and long-run outcomes. There are two tracks: one focused on the intergenerational transmission of education and infant health, and the other on evaluating the effectiveness of educational policies in shaping labor market outcomes and adult health.
  - **Approved: Mr. Brandt Smith motioned to approve the application; Dr. Abdoulaye Diedhiou seconded the motion. With no objections, the application was approved without any modifications.**
- F. Request 6: Yanfeng Xu – University of South Carolina; ‘The Use of Tele-mental Health Services Among Foster Children in Rural South Carolina: A Mixed-Methods Study’.
- The purpose of this project is to describe the rate of Tele-Mental Health (TMH) use, examine disparities in using TMH services, and investigate factors associated with the use of TMH among DSS foster children in SC from January 2020 to January 2023.
  - **Approved: Dr. Abdoulaye Diedhiou motioned to approve the application contingent on approval from other agency requests; Mr. Brandt Smith seconded the motion. With no objections, the application was approved contingent on other agency approvals.**
- G. Request 7: Dulaney Wilson – Medical University of South Carolina; ‘The South Carolina Traumatic Brain Injury Surveillance System’.
- The South Carolina TBI Surveillance System (SC TBISS) will provide a better understanding of TBI incidence, prevalence and predicted outcomes to inform efforts to: 1) improve the service delivery activities in

South Carolina, 2) initiate secondary prevention programs targeting unmet service needs, and 3) enhance understanding about the public health and economic impact of TBI.

- The DOC expressed concerns over releasing actual dates and requested for RFA to create a timing variable in place of releasing actual dates.
- **Approved: Dr. Abdoulaye Diedhiou motioned to approve the application with the suggested modification; Dr. Aunyika Moonan seconded the motion. With no objections, the application was approved with the modification the specified modification.**

H. Request 8: Kalyani Sonawane – Medical University of South Carolina;

‘Examining cancer disparities in South Carolina across the Disease Continuum’.

- The proposed study will utilize data from the Integrated Data System to help uncover cancer disparities in the state. The overarching goal of this proposal is to generate actionable data and evidence for achieving cancer health equity in SC.
- The DOC expressed concerns about the possibility of reidentification due to the request of actual service dates, patient date of birth and patient zip code.
- **Tabled: Due to the concerns expressed Dr. Abdoulaye Diedhiou motioned to Table the application pending other agency approval; Ms. Elizabeth Fletcher seconded the motion. With no objections, the application was tabled pending other agency approval.**

I. Request 9: Jennifer T. May – University of South Carolina; ‘Healthcare utilization among transgender adults in South Carolina’.

- The purpose of this request is to explore the use of healthcare services within the state of South Carolina by transgender adults.
- The DOC wanted to ensure that RFA only released encrypted patient zip code and encrypted healthcare facility ID. They also requested that the five-year age groups be provided and not the individual ages.
- **Approved: Dr. Abdoulaye Diedhiou motioned to approve the application with the above stipulations; Ms. Heather Kirby seconded the motion. With no objections, the application was approved with the specified stipulations.**

IV. General Discussion

- A. RFA staff updated the DOC on the status of the Civil Investigation Demand from the Federal Trade Commission. With no objections from the DOC, RFA has provided the requested data to the Federal Trade Commission.

- B. RFA staff has proposed modifications to the restricted application for the Uniform Billing (UB) all-payer hospital data.
  - With researchers often requesting restricted elements provided as encrypted or with dates shifted, it was decided that it would be helpful to modify the application to allow for selection of the different formats for these restricted variables.
  - **Approved: Ms. Elizabeth Fletcher motioned to approve the modifications to the UB Restricted Data Application; Dr. Abdoulaye Diedhiou seconded the motion. With not objections, the revised data application was approved.**
- C. Meeting schedule for 2024
  - The DOC was presented with the proposed meeting schedule for the 2024 calendar year.
  - **Approved: The DOC approved the 2024 schedule.**
- D. No other items were brought to the Council for discussion. The next meeting is scheduled for February 16<sup>th</sup>, 2024 at 2:00pm.
- V. Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 3:21pm.

Public Notice of this meeting was posted at: <https://rfa.sc.gov/boards-committees/dataoversight>.

The minutes were approved on February 15, 2024

Sarah Crawford *Sarah Crawford*