## MINUTES THE BEHAVIORAL HEALTH TREATMENT ACCESS LEGISLATIVE TASK FORCE

MAY 1, 2015

The Behavioral Health Treatment Access Legislative Task Force met at 10:00 a.m., on Friday, May 1, 2015, in Room B-MAC, Little Rock, Arkansas.

Task Force members present: Senator Scott Flippo, Representative Clarke Tucker, Carol Baxter, Ann Brown, Dan Honey, Kevin Murphy, David Sterling, Mark Thurman, and David Williams (via conference call).

Non-member legislators present: Senator Jonathan Dismang; Representatives Charlotte Vining Douglas and Betty Overbey.

Senator Flippo called the meeting to order and asked that members introduce themselves and state what they wish to accomplish by serving on the task force.

Representative Tucker and Senator Flippo provided an overview of Act 895 of 2015, which created the Behavioral Health Treatment Access Legislative Task Force. The task force is charged with ensuring that persons in the criminal justice system who have demonstrated a need for behavioral treatment have access to treatment and to:

- facilitate access to behavioral health treatment programs;
- coordinate with other public and private entities to develop and promote access;
- take steps to reduce costs and encourage evidence-based care;
- assess feasibility and make recommendations for changes to state programs to improve access;
- prepare and submit an annual report by December 1 of each year to the Governor and the Legislative Council; and
- meet at least quarterly at the call of the co-chairs or a majority of the members.

## **Action/Requests**

Upon motion by Kevin Murphy, and seconded by David Sterling, the Behavioral Health Treatment Access Legislative Task Force Rules of Procedure were adopted.

Upon motion by Kevin Murphy, and seconded by Mark Thurman, Senator Flippo and Representative Tucker were elected co-chairs of the task force.

With no further business, the meeting adjourned at 10:15 a.m.