

# Highlights from the South Dakota Benefits Specialist Network

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BROOKE LUSK, BS, RN

DIVISION DIRECTOR

BLACK HILLS SPECIAL SERVICES COOPERATIVE

# Overview

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- Provide planning and guidance to SSI and SSDI beneficiaries to understand how employment will affect their benefits.

## Services:

- Information and referral
- Benefits planning and counseling
- Benefits Summary and Analysis
- Trouble shooting issues such as overpayments
- Utilization of work incentives to maintain employment
- Long-term support to maintain employment

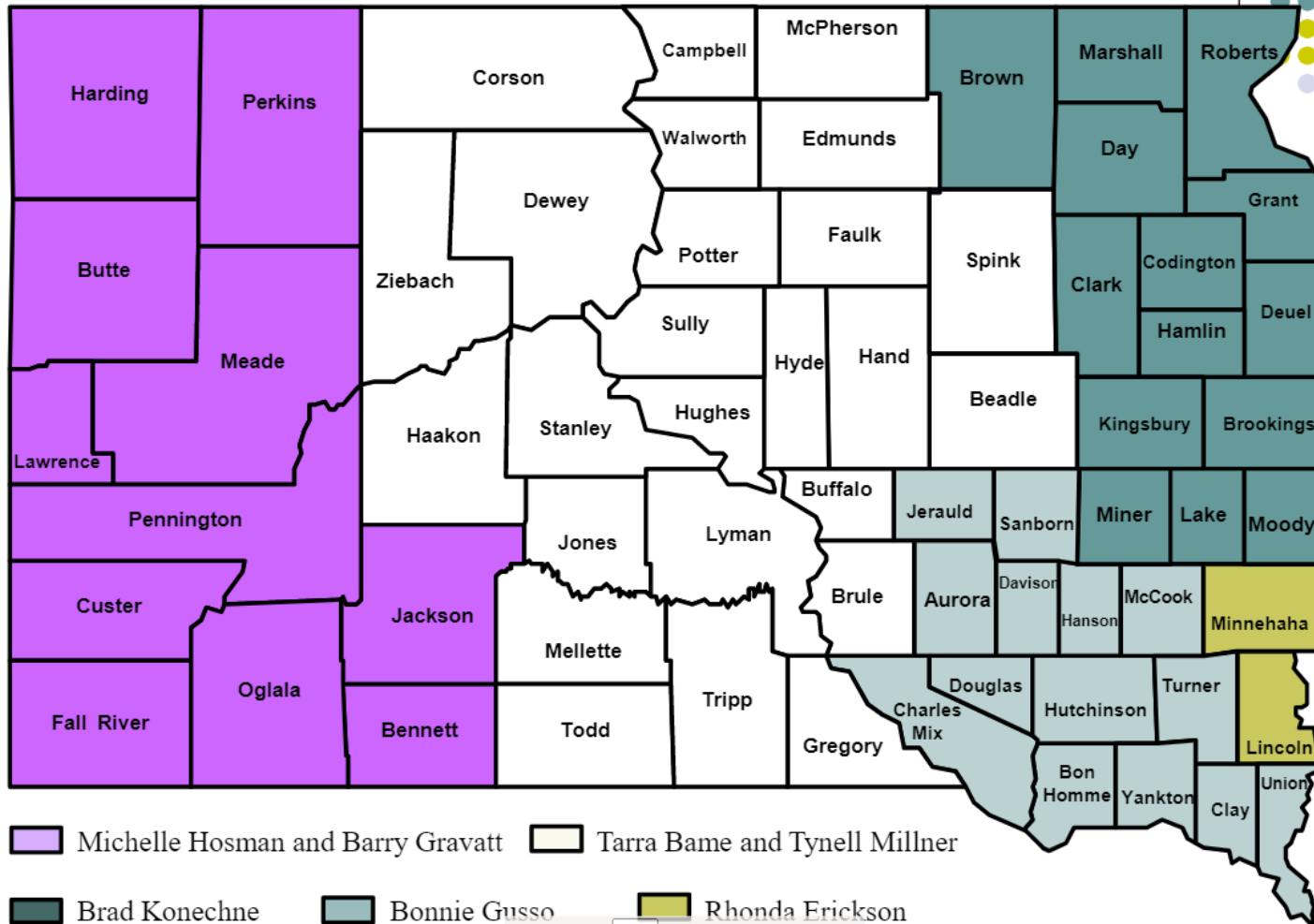
# Statistics

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- Established in 2001
- Funded by SD Division of Rehabilitation Services and Social Security Administration (through June 2021)
- 6 Benefits Specialists and Program Director
- Beneficiaries receiving services July 2020 – March 2021: 807
- 76% of referrals from Vocational Rehabilitation



# SD Benefits Specialist Network Coverage



Michelle Hosman and Barry Gravatt    Tarra Bame and Tynell Millner

Brad Konechne    Bonnie Gusso    Rhonda Erickson

# Recent Changes

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- Funding
- Eligibility
- Referral process

# Help Spread the Word!

<HTTPS://WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/SDBENEFITSSPECIALISTNETWORK>

<HTTPS://WWW.BSNSD.ORG>

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