

LHRC Meeting Minutes

May 10, 2007

LOCAL HUMAN RIGHTS COMMITTEE

<u>Agenda Action Items</u>	<u>Action</u>
Minutes – March 8, 2007	<i>Approved</i>
Lake View Blue Ridge House Rules	<i>Approved</i>
Family Preservation Services Report	<i>Accepted</i>
NRVCS Report	<i>Accepted</i>

Committee Members:

William Fitzpatrick, Chair
Evelyn Gland, Vice-Chair
Jacqueline Fagan-Myal
Pam Tessnear
Yannis Stivachtis

Welcome and Introductions — Chairman Bill Fitzpatrick welcomed everyone and invited those in attendance to join in the introductions.

Minutes: March 8, 2007 - The committee reviewed the minutes for March 8, 2007. Ms. Myal motioned to approve the minutes and Ms. Gland seconded the motion. The minutes were approved unanimously.

Regional Advocate's Report — Nan Neese

Ms. Neese announced that the State MH, MR and SAS Board's 24th Annual Volunteer Luncheon on April 3rd in Staunton, Virginia was very successful. Ms. Myal represented the committee at the luncheon. Ms. Neese also announced that the Human Rights seminar will take place for two days in September. She noted that because the new regulations have been approved by the State Board and is awaiting the Governor's signature, there may be some training available at this seminar. However, that is tentative at this time.

Ms. Neese reminded the Committee of the importance of relaying its expectations regarding behavioral plans. Issues such as limited freedoms of personal objects must come before the Committee. However, the requirements of presentation of other issues are at the discretion of the Committee. Victoria Harding of Lakeview Blue Ridge gave the Committee some insight on an example of limited freedoms such as cigarettes or access to personal food choices that may be unhealthy. Dr. Fitzpatrick explained that he would like to have such restrictions presented to the Committee.

Lakeview Blue Ridge: House Rules—Victoria Harding

Ms. Harding presented the Committee with a list of House Rules for Lake View Blue Ridge's facility. After the Committee reviewed the rules, Ms. Harding led discussion and answered questions regarding this information. Ms. Myal motioned to approve the rules as presented and Dr. Tessnear seconded. The rules were approved unanimously.

Members Present:

Bill Fitzpatrick
Evelyn Gland
Jackie Fagan-Myal
Pam Tessnear
Yannis Stivachtis

Members Absent:

None

Others Present:

Casey Henshaw, Family Preservation Services

Shelly Barry, Wall Residences

Victoria Harding, Lakeview Blue Ridge

Nan Neese, Regional Advocate, DMHMRSAS

Sheila Bertholomey, NRVCS

Human Rights Activity Reports:

Family Preservation Services—Casey Henshaw

Ms. Henshaw began her report by briefly explaining the types of services Family Support Services provides: Intensive In-Home, Therapeutic Day Treatment, and Mental Health Support services. FPS is licensed by the DMHMRSAS and is affiliated with 21 LHRCs in the Commonwealth. The local FPS serves the counties of Montgomery, Floyd, Giles, Pulaski, Bland, and the city of Radford. Ms. Henshaw reported 1 complaint that was followed by an informal investigation and an accepted resolution, and no restraints for January through December 2006. Ms. Myal motioned to accept the report and Dr. Tessnear seconded this motion. The Committee voted unanimously to accept the report as presented.

Virginia Tech Tragedy Update:

At the request of the Regional Advocate, Harvey Barker, Director of Access Services for NRVCS, presented an overview of services and supports provided following the tragic event April 16th. Discussion followed.

Human Rights Activity Reports:

New River Valley Community Services—Sheila Bertholomey

Ms. Bertholomey began her report by briefly explaining how NRVCS staff are extensively trained and annually tested for competency, safety, and job specific duty requirements. She also explained that NRVCS is licensed and in 2006, was reaccredited by CARF for another 3 year term: the maximum accreditation given by CARF. In 2006, the agency had 12 licensing reviews with minimal citations considering the over 4,000 clients it serves. Ms. Bertholomey reported 16 complaints for 2006, 13 of which were resolved to satisfaction. Dr. Fitzpatrick inquired about the 3 complaints that were not resolved to satisfaction. Ms. Bertholomey did not have details of the situations with her but stated that she would get these to the Committee for the next meeting. She also stated that although these 3 complaints were not satisfied, none had appealed the resolution. Ms. Bertholomey went on to report that the agency has one current variance: the limitation of telephone usage. This variance was approved by the Committee in 2006. She also explained that there are 2 current behavioral plans which were recently approved in January's meeting, as well as 50 LAR appointments. Ms. Myal motioned to accept the report and Dr. Tessnear seconded the motion. The Committee unanimously voted to accept this report as presented.

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Jacqueline Fagan-Myal
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Members Present:

Bill Fitzpatrick
Evelyn Gland
Jackie Fagan-Myal
Pam Tessnear
Yannis Stivachtis

Members Absent:

None

Others Present:

Casey Henshaw, Family Preservation Services

Shelly Barry, Wall Residences

Victoria Harding, Lakeview Blue Ridge

Nan Neese, Regional Advocate, DMHMRSAS

Sheila Bertholomey, NRVCS

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 1:40 p.m.