

LHRC Meeting Minutes

March 18, 2010

NEW RIVER VALLEY LOCAL HUMAN RIGHTS COMMITTEE

Welcome and Introductions: Chairman Yannis Stivachtis called the meeting to order at 12:10 p.m. He welcomed everyone and led introductions.

Minutes:

There being no discussion regarding the minutes from the January 21, 2010 meeting, Mick motioned to accept the minutes as presented. Chase Niedermayer seconded the motion. It was unanimously approved.

Regional Advocate's Report: Nan Neese, Regional Human Rights Advocate, noted that they are coming to a close on the budget cycle. The apparent impacts on this region are the closing of the Adolescent unit at Southwestern Virginia Mental Health Institute. They will also be closing most, if not all, of the geriatric unit at the same facility effective July 2011. These cuts will continue to leave an advocate position open at Catawba Hospital. Neese plans to spend more time in that office as well.

Neese noted that she made this region's annual report to the state human rights committee last week. Neese noted that she stressed to the committee the importance of coverage and oversight when an entity has a designee for human rights needs.

Neese said, very strongly, that providers need to recruit. The committee still has two vacancies.

Human Rights Activity Reports: Lakeview Blue Ridge presented the first human rights activity report. They noted that the company was purchased by Mentor ABI earlier this year. They noted that it has been a very positive change and transition. A brief overview of their services and population served was provided to the committee. At the conclusion of the report, Beth Deskins motioned to accept the report as presented. Mick seconded the motion, which was unanimously approved.

Scott Worley of Creative Family Solutions presented the annual report to the committee. After a brief overview of services and a couple of questions, Chase Niedermayer motioned to accept the report as presented. Deskins seconded the motion which was unanimously approved.

Vena Duncan of DePaul Community Resources presented very briefly their annual report. Duncan noted that they only served two individuals in the New River Valley in the past year. There being no questions for Duncan, Niedermayer motioned to accept the report as presented. Mick seconded the motion which was unanimously approved.

Duncan proceeded to ask for the conclusion of their affiliation with this committee due to the very low number of individuals served in the New River Valley. Deskins motioned that DePaul Community Resources conclude their affiliation with the NRV committee and be subject to the oversight of the Blue Ridge committee. Rhonda Quesenberry seconded the motion, which was unanimously approved.

Prior to the update from Tim Lewellyn with Camelot of VA, Mick stressed the importance of being able to read all reports prior to meetings. Mick strongly suggested that agencies get their reports into Kerri Beasley, by email prior to the meetings.

Committee Members

Yannis Stivachtis
Chase Niedermayer
Lori Mick
Rhonda Quesenberry
Beth Deskins

Members Present:

Yannis Stivachtis—Chair
Lori Mick
Rhonda Quesenberry
Chase Niedermayer
Beth Deskins

Members Absent:

Others Present:

Keri Basham—Wall Residences Inc.
Tim Lewellyn—Camelot of VA
John Weatherspoon—Intercept Youth Services
Vena Duncan—DePaul Community Resources
Ivan Velickovic—Mentor
Teresa Poole—Mentor
Michael Turner—Carilion Clinic
Scott Worley—Creative Family Solutions
Kristen Rush—Creative Family Solutions
Nan Neese—DBHDS
Kerri Beasley—Secretary

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Lewellyn, and all other affiliates agreed to this request. Lewellyn gave an update on Camelot of VA and the running of the group home in Radford. With no questions, Mick motioned to accept the update as presented. Deskins seconded the motion, which was unanimously approved.

Requests for Affiliation: Kerri Beasley with NRVCS offered notification of closure of the Nancy Hoback Home. Stephanie Woolwine with NRVCS requested that the committee extend affiliation to three new HART homes; Jessica Stevers Home at 707 Main Street, Narrows, VA 24124; Melanie Kimrey Home at 165 Scaggs Creek Trail, Riner, VA 24149; and Megan Propps Home at 115 3rd Street, Radford, VA 24141. Niedermayer motioned to accept notification of closure of the Hoback home and extend affiliation to the Stevers, Kimrey and Propps homes. Mick seconded the motion, which was unanimously approved.

Scott Worley with Creative Family Solutions requested that the committee extend the affiliation to the services provided in the Covington and surrounding Alleghany County area. Following a brief discussion Niedermayer motioned to extend affiliation to the services provided in those areas. Mick seconded the motion, which was unanimously approved.

Policy and Procedure Review: None

Closed Session: Quesenberry motioned that the committee convene in a closed meeting pursuant to Virginia Code § 2.2-3711 A(4) and (15) for the protection of the privacy of individuals in personal matters not related to public business and the discussion of medical and mental records, namely to conduct a review of an individualized service plan. Deskins seconded the motion and the motion was approved unanimously by roll call.

Following a period of discussion, Quesenberry made a motion that the committee reconvene into public session. Deskins seconded the motion, which was approved unanimously by roll call. Upon reconvening in open session, the members individually certified that only such public business matters identified in the motion for closed session were heard, discussed, and considered

Back in open session, the committee requested that NRVCS bring their plan back for review at the May meeting. The committee also approved continuance of the plan reviewed by Wall Residences, and asked for another review one year from now.

Adjournment: There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 2:10 p.m. The next LHRC meeting is scheduled for May 13, 2010 at 12:00 p.m. An e-mail confirmation will be distributed to members and affiliates closer to the date of the meeting.