

LHRC Meeting Minutes

September 16, 2010

NEW RIVER VALLEY LOCAL HUMAN RIGHTS COMMITTEE

Welcome and Introductions: Chairman Yannis Stivachtis called the meeting to order at 12:03 p.m. He welcomed everyone and led introductions. Keri Basham with Wall Residences introduced Amanda Craig as the most recently hired Program Manager with Wall Residences. Intercept Youth and Creative Family Solutions asked to be added to the agenda under activity reports.

Minutes: There being no discussion of change to the minutes from the July 8, 2010 meeting. Lori Mick motioned to accept the minutes as presented. Rhonda Quesenberry seconded the motion, which was unanimously approved.

Regional Advocate's Report: Nan Neese, regional human rights advocate, reminded providers to please notify both herself and Kerri Edwards, in writing of changes in personnel matters that may occur to keep up with everyone.

Neese, also noted that the State Human Rights Committee met last week and was hosted by NRVCS. Neese distributed the latest newsletter from the SHRC to the committee members today. They also reviewed the memo sent out a few months earlier about reviewing the structure of local committees which includes recruiting. Neese encouraged providers to continue to recruit for this committee's two vacancies.

As a region, Neese noted that she is continuing to look at where organizations are affiliated to see if there is a better way to organize providers. She also noted the rebirth of the Computerized Human Rights Reporting Information System. The state has reimplemented the data entry point in the state facilities first, but will eventually open up to all providers. This will be a point where providers would enter complaint and allegation information that would automatically notify Nan, and would allow her to track progression of the process from the providers.

Notification of Services: None

Human Rights Activity Reports: Edwards notified the committee of a founded neglect case that was investigated several months back. She noted that she was the investigator and found several untruths within the provider's report. The extent of the violation resulted in the immediate closure of the sponsored home.

John Weatherspoon with Intercept Youth distributed a letter to committee members officially notifying them of a personnel change. Casey Henshaw has been hired as the clinical supervisor for this region and will be the representative for the LHRC. Weatherspoon also noted that the crisis intervention training for staff has undergone a complete transformation. He notified Neese, and the committee that all direct care staff are now trained in the Crisis Wave program.

Scott Worley with Creative Family Solutions reported on two specific complaints that he and his staff have addressed in the recent past. In both situations the complaint was resolved to the client's satisfaction.

Committee Members

Yannis Stivachtis
Chase Niedermayer
Lori Mick
Rhonda Quesenberry
Beth Deskins

Members Present:

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

Members Absent:

Others Present:

Keri Basham—Wall Residences Inc.
Stephanie Bakely—Wall Residences Inc.
Amanda Craig—Wall Residences Inc.
Casey Henshaw—Intercept Youth
Scott Worley—Creative Family Solutions
Kristin Rush—Creative Family Solutions
Renee Williams—Family Preservation
Mike Turner—Carilion St. Albans
John Weatherspoon—Intercept Youth
Teresa Poole—Neuro Restorative
Lucy McCandlish—NRVCS
Nan Neese—DBHDS
Kerri Edwards—Secretary

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Requests for Affiliation: Renee Williams with Family Preservation Services requested an extension of affiliation to Therapeutic Day Treatment at Rural Retreat Middle School. Quesenberry motioned to grant extension of current affiliation. Mick seconded the motion, which was unanimously approved.

Edwards with NRVCS requested extension of current affiliation to Wiscarson Home at 600 Snidow St., Pembroke, VA, as well as to the HART home service to include respite care. After Edwards answered a few questions about age of children in the HART Homes, Mick moved to extend current affiliation to both services. Deskins seconded the motion, which was unanimously approved. Edwards also offered notification of closure of the Lanoue home. Lucy McCandlish, director of Adult and Family Services, offered that the closure was voluntary.

As a result of the LHRC's previous knowledge of this particular service, Deskins questioned the LHRC's authority and mission. Discussion followed about the Committee's role in the protection of individuals balanced with a philosophy of support for the provision and success of community-based services. Deskins encouraged the membership to do this in a manner that is helpful and effective.

Keri Basham with Wall Residences offered the committee notification of the closure of the Pat Spears service. She also notified the committee of the change of primary care provider at the group home located at 2739 Grandin Rd., Roanoke, VA.

Teresa Poole with Neuro Restorative Virginia notified the committee that they have officially changed their name. This notification was given in writing as well.

Policy and Procedure Review: The committee received, in their packets, the copy of NRVCS's Behavior Management policy. Due to current clarification issues within the Office of Human Rights, Neese has asked that this policy review be tabled until further notice. The committee agreed with this recommendation.

Closed Session: None

Adjournment: There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 12:55 p.m. The next LHRC meeting is scheduled for November 18th, 2010 at 12:00 p.m. An e-mail confirmation will be distributed to members and affiliates closer to the date of the meeting.