

LHRC Meeting Minutes

September 12 , 2013

NEW RIVER VALLEY LOCAL HUMAN RIGHTS COMMITTEE

Welcome and Introductions:

Chairman Yannis Stivachtis called the meeting to order at 12:05 p.m. Stivachtis welcomed attendees and led introductions.

Public Comment:

None.

Approval of Agenda:

NRVCS requested one addition to the agenda: extension of affiliation for a new outpatient location at 824 W. Main Street, Radford, VA 24141. Intercept requested the addition of one item to the agenda: extension of affiliation for TDT at a new school (Virginia Heights Elementary). Wall Residences requested one addition to the agenda: an extension of affiliation to add a new home (Hollish Home). Beth Deskins moved to approve the agenda with the additions as requested. Chase Niedermayer seconded the motion which was unanimously approved.

Minutes:

Committee members received in their packets the minutes from the July 11, 2013 meeting. Lori Mick moved to approve the minutes with one correction. Chase Niedermayer seconded the motion which was unanimously approved.

Regional Advocate's Report:

Nan Neese, Human Rights Advocate, presented her report. Neese announced the State Human Rights Committee will be hosted by NRVCS tomorrow. Most of the meeting tends to be closed session, but it appears there may be an open session period beginning at 9:30 a.m. Neese encouraged committee members and affiliates to attend if schedules permit. The committee will have a special meeting this afternoon at 3:00 p.m. followed by a visit to the START program in Radford.

Neese announced Yannis Stivachtis was appointed to the State Human Rights Committee and this will be his last meeting as chair of the NRV LHRC. Neese thanked Stivachtis for his years of service. Neese noted state committee members are encouraged to attend local meetings.

Neese discussed the CHRIS electronic reporting system. There has been no resolution to ongoing technological issues. There are many cases in the system that are pending closure by the Advocate. Providers were directed to complete all tabs within the allegation reporting tool to ensure proper reporting. Separate investigation reports are still required prior to closure due to an inability to attach reports in the system.

Neese announced Stivachtis has recruited a new applicant to the committee and the committee hopes to have the applicant join the meeting today. Neese also noted there is still another vacancy on the NRV LHRC and providers are encouraged to solicit members.

Annual Human Rights Activity Reports:

Committee members received in their packets, the 2012 Annual Human Rights Activity Reports of Family Preservation Services and NRVCS. Yannis Stivachtis reminded committee members all annual report activities have previously been reported during the provider's corresponding quarterly report.

Committee Members

Yannis Stivachtis
Jeanetta Beamer
Beth Deskins
Lori Mick
Chase Niedermayer
Rhonda Quesenberry

Members Present:

Yannis Stivachtis, Chair
Jeanetta Beamer
Beth Deskins
Lori Mick
Chase Niedermayer

Members Absent:

Rhonda Quesenberry

Others Present:

Keri Basham
Wall Residences Inc.

Hattie Savage, Matt Milovich
Intercept Youth

Stephanie Bakely
Strengthening our System

Melissa Jackson,
Lucy McCandlish
NRVCS

Tami King, Laura Taylor,
Dustin Jessee
Family Preservation Services

Lisa Bond
NeuroRestorative

Nan Neese
DBHDS

Joanna Vernon, Stephanie Lane
Creative Family Solutions

Bobbi Weeks, Michael Turner
Carilion St. Albans

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Tami King presented the 2012 Annual Report for Family Preservation Services along with an overview of their services. In response to a question from Nan Neese, King noted reports for the Covington and Alleghany areas will begin in the 3rd quarter. Chase Niedermayer moved to accept the report. Lori Mick seconded the motion which was unanimously approved.

Lucy McCandlish of NRVCS presented their 2012 Annual Report, along with a summary of services. Nan Neese discussed the advantages seen by providers like NRVCS who chose to designate a single internal advocate for the purposes of conducting human rights investigations. In response to a question from a committee member, McCandlish noted the agency's growth in 2012 can be partially attributed to significant program expansion in children's services. Jeanetta Beamer moved to accept the 2012 Annual Report as presented. Beth Deskins seconded the motion which was unanimously approved.

Quarterly Human Rights Activity Reports:

Committee members received in their packets, the 2013 2nd Quarterly Reports for all affiliates.

Mike Turner of Carilion Saint Albans presented their report. Beth Deskins moved to accept the report. Lori Mick seconded the motion which was unanimously approved.

Joanna Vernon of Creative Family Solutions presented their report. Vernon noted there were no allegations during the quarter and discussed staff training efforts, human rights education for clients and regular follow up with clients. Chase Niedermayer moved to accept the report as presented. Beth Deskins seconded the motion which was unanimously approved.

Tami King of Family Preservation presented their report. Lori Mick moved to accept the report. Beth Deskins seconded the motion which was unanimously approved.

Matt Milovich presented the reports of Intercept Youth and Intercept Carriage House. Beth Deskins moved to accept the reports. Chase Niedermayer seconded the motion which was unanimously approved.

Lisa Bond of NeuroRestorative presented their report. Lori Mick moved to accept the report. Chase Niedermayer seconded the motion which was unanimously approved.

Lucy McCandlish of NRVCS presented their report. Beth Deskins moved to accept the report. Chase Niedermayer seconded the motion which was unanimously approved.

Stephanie Bakely of Strengthening Our System presented their report. Bakely reported Michael McGee will soon rejoin their agency as the mental health coordinator. Chase Niedermayer moved to accept the report as presented. Lori Mick seconded the motion which was unanimously approved.

Keri Basham of Wall Residences presented their report. Chase Niedermayer moved to accept the report. Jeanetta Beamer seconded the motion which was unanimously approved.

Nan Neese directed affiliated to review complaints to determine whether there was a related violation. Neese noted the automated system requires such designation.

Requests for Affiliation:

Tami King of Family Preservation Services requested extension of affiliation for psychosocial rehab services in Abingdon, VA. FPS was unable to confirm affiliation at the last meeting of the Southwest LHRD due to a lack of quorum. Nan Neese recommended the NRV LHRC to offer affiliation as requested to avoid delay of service in that area. Beth Deskins moved to extend affiliation until affiliation can be confirmed with another committee. Lori Mick seconded the motion which was unanimously approved.

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Jennifer Sherman of Intercept Youth requested extension of affiliation to four new locations for therapeutic day treatment at Lincoln Terrace Elementary School, Wasena Elementary School, Stonewall Jackson Middle School, and Virginia Heights Elementary School. Chase Niedermayer moved to extend the affiliation as noted. Lori Mick seconded the motion which was unanimously approved.

Lucy McCandlish of NRVCS requested extension of affiliation to add a service location for a new sponsored residential provider (McCroskey Home), a new HART sponsored home (Walker Home), and a new children's outpatient location at 824 W. Main Street, Radford, VA 24141. Chase Niedermayer moved to extend the affiliation as noted. Lori Mick seconded the motion which was unanimously approved.

Keri Basham of Wall Residences requested extension of affiliation to two new locations (Lolley Home and Hollish Home). Chase Niedermayer moved to extend affiliation as noted. Beth Deskins seconded the motion which was unanimously approved.

Notice to Conclude Affiliations:

None.

Policy and Procedure Review:

Chairman Stivachtis noted the planned agenda item to review Pulaski Medical's handbook. Nan Neese announced Pulaski Medical offered notice of their inability to attend today's meeting. The practice opened for services this week and has experienced a high volume of clients. Neese reported Pulaski Medical was advised affiliate attendance is required at LHRC meetings.

Elections:

Nan Neese noted a need to appoint a new chair to the NRV LHRC to replace exiting chair Yannis Stivachtis. The committee discussed options for such appointment and agreed to take nominations from the floor. Beth Deskins nominated Lori Mick for Chair of the NRV LHRC. Mick respectfully declined the nomination. Chase Niedermayer nominated Beth Deskins for Chair of the NRV LHRC. Deskins accepted the nomination and the committee voted unanimously to appoint Deskins as Chair. Deskins nominated Chase Niedermayer as Vice Chair and Lori Mick as Secretary of the NRV LHRC. Niedermayer and Mick each accepted the nominations and the committee unanimously voted to appoint Niedermayer as Vice Chair and Mick as Secretary of the NRV LHRC.

Closed Session:

Jeanetta Beamer moved to convene in a closed meeting pursuant to Virginia Code 2.2-3711 A(1) to discuss the appointment of specific individuals to the New River Valley Local Human Rights Committee. Chase Niedermayer seconded the motion which was unanimously approved.

After a period of discussion, Jeanetta Beamer moved to reconvene into public session. Beth Deskins seconded the motion which was unanimously approved. Each member then certified that to the best of their knowledge only matters lawfully exempted from open meeting requirements were heard, discussed, or considered.

Nan Neese was directed by the committee to forward the application of Sandy Via to the state committee with the NRV LHRC's recommendation for appointment.

Adjournment:

There being no further business, Jeanetta Beamer moved to adjourn the meeting at 2:01 p.m. Lori Mick seconded the motion which was unanimously approved. The next LHRC meeting is scheduled for November 14, 2013 at 12:00 p.m. An e-mail confirmation will be distributed to members and affiliates closer to the date of the meeting.