

DRAFT
MINUTES
LOCAL HUMAN RIGHTS COMMITTEE MEETING

November 16, 2010 – 4:00 P.M.
24 Clay Street, Martinsville, VA

LHRC MEMBERS ATTENDING: Aleen Wilson, Nancy Davis, Jerri Crews and Rhonda Stone

OTHERS ATTENDING: Mitzi Tuck and Jennifer Oakes, It's About Time, Dianne Hairston and Mary Menefee, Mayo Residential, Sharon Wilson and Sherry Cowan, Blue Ridge Counseling, John Weatherspoon, Intercept Youth Services, Donald Wheeler, ATIBA, Cynthia Epley and Richard Wagoner, Clay Corp, Sonia J. Herron and Jean Odachowski, Family Preservation Services, Sharon Buckman, Piedmont Community Services, Cynthia Eberhardt and Lois Barbour, Pioneer Behavioral Health Services, Bobbie Jo Seamster, National Counseling Group, Bonita Vipperman, Piedmont Community Services, Lewis Walton and Naomi Walton, East Mental Health, Len Wiley, ATIBA, and Donna Hodges, EHS Support Services.

MEMBERS ABSENT: Sharon Shepherd, John Potter and Gail Ross

I. Welcome new LHRC members – Aleen Wilson

Aleen Wilson brought the meeting to order and welcomed Rhonda Stone as a new LHRC member. Gail Ross, also a new member, was not able to be at the meeting.

II. New College Institute BSW Degree Program – Janie Brazier

Janie Brazier, Norfolk State University Social Work Program Coordinator, made a presentation on social work degrees offered by Norfolk State University at the New College/Martinsville campus. The Department of Behavioral Health now requires that people in certain positions have a degree. Employees currently in these positions are “grand-fathered” meaning that they are not required to get a degree as long as they stay in their current position. If they want to move into another position within their company, they will be required to have a degree. Ms. Brazier explained that classes for the social work degree at Norfolk State University could be taken at the New College/Martinsville campus. They also offer a master’s degree in social work at New College, also through Norfolk State.

III. Approval of the August 3, 2010 minutes – Aleen Wilson

The minutes from the August 3, 2010 meeting were approved as presented.

IV. CSB Activities – Becky Lovell

Becky reported that construction on PCS’ new group home in Franklin County should be complete in February/March 2011. The new home is located on West Church Street near the agencies’ Herrick House Group Home. Residents of Herrick House will apply for residence at the new group home. An open house will be held early in the spring.

V. Annual Assessments

Becky reported that she has not received checks for the annual assessment from two affiliates. These need to be sent in as soon as possible to maintain affiliation.

VI. Regional Advocate's Report

a. Sherry met earlier today with one new LHRC member for training. One of the two new members was unable to attend due to foggy weather in Patrick County. Becky was asked to send her a "blue book" and some other information to review prior to the next meeting. Aleen Wilson and Becky Lovell also attended the training for review purposes.

b. Sherry stressed the importance of thorough documentation. She advised that if something is not written down in the progress notes, it is as if it never happened.

VII. Affiliation requests:

a. EHS Support Services, LLC – Donna Hodges requested affiliation for an additional location for her company in Martinsville, located at 801 Starling Avenue. This location will serve as space to provide mental health support services. EHS anticipates having 17 employees there to serve clients. A motion was made, and received a second, to approve this request as presented. A unanimous vote of approval followed.

b. Blue Ridge Counseling Services – Sherry Wilson requested affiliation to provide mental health support services for adults (parents of the children she serves) as wrap around services to help parents. She plans to increase her staff by one part-time employee to allow her to provide this additional service. A motion was made to approve this request as presented. The motion received a second and a unanimous vote of approval followed.

c. Piedmont Community Services – Sharon Buckman requested that the LHRC approve an additional outpatient location for PCS at Ferrum College. An outpatient counselor will be at that location and will refer clients to the Rocky Mount office for additional services when necessary. Ms. Buckman also requested the addition of two therapeutic day treatment locations at Franklin County High School and Axton Elementary. A motion was made to approve these two requests as presented. The motion received a second and a unanimous vote of approval followed.

d. Clay Corporation – Richard Wagoner requested approval of an additional group home for adults with intellectual disabilities. This location was previously licensed in 2000 but not used. It was therefore, discontinued. They have recently realized a need for the home to serve three men and have a maximum capacity of six clients. The home would also serve as a respite care site. It is located at 306 Minor Street in the City of Martinsville. A motion was made to approve this request as presented. The motion received a second and a unanimous vote of approval followed.

VIII. Other:

a. The following affiliates gave brief reports:

It's About Time – Jennifer Oakes reported that they have had no incidents and that they are serving one individual in Rocky Mount.

Mayo Residential – Diane Hairston reported that they serve five individuals and provide day support services.

Blue Ridge Counseling – Sharon Wilson reported that they currently have approximately 20 clients.

Intercept Youth Services – John Weatherspoon reported that they are providing in-home and mental health support to adults and children in the Rocky Mount area.

Claye Corporation – Cynthia Epley reported that they have had no incidents and that they recently had a site review that went well.

ATIBA – Donald Wheeler reported that they currently have 12 clients and a staff of five in this area. They are based in Richmond and also serve consumers in the nearby Danville area.

EHS Support Services – Donna Hodges reported that they have approximately 150 clients. They had one complaint regarding a confidentiality issue and it has been resolved.

National Counseling – Bobbie Seamster reported that they have 15 counselors and that they have not had any reported incidents.

East Mental Health – Lewis Walton reported that they have two consumers in Rocky Mount and that they have had no reported incidents.

Pioneer Behavioral Health Services – Cindy Epley reported that they are serving seven outpatients clients currently. They serve older adults with mental illness.

Family Preservation Services – Jean Odachowski & Sonia Herron – Ms. Odachowski reported that they are currently advertising two position. Sonia Herron introduced herself as the new director and announced that Ann Minnix, the previous director, has been promoted.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:05 p.m.

The Committee scheduled the following 2011 meetings:

- February 8, 2011 (snow date is February 15), 4-6:00 p.m., 24 Clay Street
- May 10, 2011 (meeting at 4:00 p.m. and Annual Appreciation Dinner to follow), Dutch Inn, Collinsville
- August 9, 2011, 4-6:00 pm, 24 Clay Street
- November 15, 2011, 4-6:00 pm, 24 Clay Street

Respectfully submitted by:

Becky Lovell