

**DRAFT MINUTES
LOCAL HUMAN RIGHTS COMMITTEE MEETING**

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

LHRC MEMBERS ATTENDING: Aleen Wilson, Sharon Shepherd, John Potter, Jerri Crews and Jerry Womack

MEMBERS ABSENT: Nancy Davis

OTHERS ATTENDING: Tim Hairston and Gary Thomas - Upside to Youth Development, Sharon Wilson - Blue Ridge Counseling Services, Dianne Hairston and Mary E. Menefee - Mayo Residential, LLC, Lynda Edgehill – Goodwill of the Valleys, Jenny Deloranzo - Hope Tree Family Services, Ann Minnix - Family Preservations Services, Bobbie Seamster - National Counseling Group, Cynthia Eply and Sandra Lawson - Claye Corp., Jason Everson - A New Inspiration, Leah K. Riddle - Memorial Hospital, Donald Wheeler, Leonard Wiley and Arthur Peebles - ATIBA Youth Intervention Services, Rhoda Hurst – Pioneer Health, Rhonda Hopkins, BV, and Reeci Williams, Sherry Miles - Regional Advocate, Becky Lovell - Piedmont Community Services.

Note: This meeting was originally scheduled for February 2, 2010, however, due to inclement weather, it was rescheduled for February 16, 2010.

Aleen Wilson, Chairman, brought the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m. Committee members welcomed Sherry Miles back as the Regional Advocate for our region.

I. EXECUTIVE SESSION

The motion was made and passed to go into Executive Session pursuant to Virginia Code, 2.2-3711 (15), for the purpose of a Next Friend Hearing for BV. This review necessarily involved discussion and consideration of mental and medical records excluded and information excluded from the Freedom of Information Act. Members present were Aleen Wilson, Jim Potter, Jerry Womack, Sharon Shepherd and Jerri Crews. Others present were Sherry Miles, Becky Lovell, Rhonda Hopkins, Reeci Williams and BV

Upon reconvening in public session, the Piedmont Community Services Local Human Rights Committee unanimously certified that to the best of each Local Human Rights Committee member's knowledge, only public business matters lawfully exempt from statutory open meeting requirements, and only public business matters identified in the motion to convene the Executive Session were discussed in the Executive Session.

The motion was made and unanimously passed to appoint Rhonda Hopkins to serve as BV's Next Friend.

II. Approval of November 11, 2009 Minutes – Aleen Wilson

After reviewing the minutes from the November 11, 2009 meeting, a motion was made, seconded and passed to approve the minutes as presented. Becky sent copies of the November 11 meeting with meeting notices for today's meeting.

III. CSB Activities – Becky Lovell

- a. Becky Lovell told committee members that the PCS is looking at all avenues to cut costs due to expected state budget cuts in funding. She reported that PCS might have to cut staff positions. The amount of the expected budget cuts is not known at this time. PCS has been able to make adjustments for the first two rounds of cuts but they feel it will directly affect staffing this time.
- b. PCS and the Piedmont Autism Action Group co-hosted an Autism Roundtable Discussion on January 21. Approximately 60 people attended. Guest speakers were from the Virginia Department of Developmental Disabilities. It was a good opportunity to network with other groups and to learn more about Autism and available resources.

IV. Regional Advocate's Report – Sherry Miles

- a. Sherry passed out information to use to update Human Rights Posters to reflect the change in the Regional Advocate.
- b. A new monthly reporting form was emailed to everyone and this form should now be utilized for the monthly reports regarding complaints, etc.
- c. Sherry spoke briefly about the state budget cuts and indicated that these cuts will be in place for a long time.
- d. Sherry stressed the importance of good documentation. Some agencies have had to return Medicaid funds due to poor documentation. She also stressed the importance of making sure that staff has the required qualifications for a job when they are hired and have the qualifications for the job they were hired to perform. She gave an example of an agency that had to return over one million dollars because they billed for services performed by employees who were not qualified.
- e. Affiliates are now required to have only one affiliation per region where they provide services.
- f. The Censes process will begin soon. There is no decision on what to do as far as providing information in residential programs because of confidentiality, but Sherry will pass on related information as soon as it is received.

V. Recruitment - Aleen Wilson

Aleen reported that the LHRC needs to fill the vacant position created by the recent resignation of a member. The committee also needs to fill Jerry Womack's position because he is not eligible to serve another term.

Becky reported that she has been in contact with a potential new committee member. She is waiting to receive the completed application. Becky talked to the potential member and she is excited about the opportunity to serve on the committee as a consumer and also to represent the Patrick County community. The committee agreed to conduct the interview at the May 4 meeting rather than to have a special meeting. Becky will contact the potential member to see if she is available to come to the May 4 meeting. Becky also encouraged affiliates to make recommendations for committee members.

VI. Affiliation Requests

1. ATIBA - Donald Walker of ATIBA requested LHRC approval to provide Therapeutic Day Treatment services, a new service for this provider. This service allows ATIBA to provide psychosocial services for children with mental and emotional problems during school hours, after school and during the summer months. He advised the committee that they get referrals from the schools. ATIBA will serve the schools in Danville and Pittsylvania County. A motion was made to approve this additional affiliation. The motion received a second and passed.

2. Upside to Youth – It was determined that there was no need for further action.

3. Pioneer Health Services of Patrick County – Committee members received a copy of Pioneer Health’s Policies & Procedures in with their packages to review prior to the meeting. After discussing the matter, a motion was made, seconded and passed to grant Pioneer Health Services of Patrick County permanent affiliation. They received a temporary affiliation at the November meeting pending review of their policies and procedures.

VII. Other:

a. Due to scheduling conflicts the meeting originally scheduled for November 9 has been rescheduled to November 16.

b. Affiliates gave the following reports:

Pioneer Health – Rhoda Hurst reported that they are now providing services to two individuals. They have had no complaints.

Blue Ridge Counseling - Sharon Wilson reported that they are serving Meadows of Dan Elementary School and Blue Ridge Elementary with day treatment services. She reported that the schools have been closed and delayed due to the recent weather which has impacted the program’s ability to provide services.

F/C Family Preservation Services – Ann Minnix reported that schools have been out in Franklin County due to the weather and this has impacted the program’s ability to provide services. They serve all the elementary schools and the high school in Franklin County. They have had no complaints.

Goodwill of the Valleys – Lynda Edgehill reported that her office has been moved to Roanoke.

Upside to Youth Development – Tim Hairston reported that they are still in the licensure process for their Martinsville location.

Mayo Residential – Reported that things are going good there.

Hope Tree – Jenny Deloranzo reported that they will soon have two openings in their Martinsville group home. Two residents there will be moving to their facility in Salem.

Memorial Hospital of M/HC – Leah Riddle reported “no changes” at the hospital.

Claye Corporation – Cynthia Eply reported “no changes”.

National Counseling – Bobbi Jo Seamster reported that they are serving 30 mental health support adults and providing intensive services to 20 children. They have had no complaints.

A New Inspiration – Jason Everson reported that they are now serving 13 clients and have a staff of ten. They have had no complaints.

ATIBA – Donald Wheeler reported that they have 20 clients and a staff of ten. They have had no complaints.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:55 p.m.

Upcoming Meeting Dates:

- May 4, 2010 (meeting at 4:00 p.m. and Annual Appreciation Dinner to follow), Dutch Inn/Quality Inn, Collinsville
- August 3, 2010, 4-6:00 pm, 24 Clay Street
- November 16, 2010, 4-6:00 pm, 24 Clay Street

Respectfully submitted by:

Dr. Patrick W. Ephriam