

DRAFT
MINUTES
LOCAL HUMAN RIGHTS COMMITTEE MEETING
New College Institute - Martinsville, VA
May 10, 2016 – 4:00 P.M.

LHRC MEMBERS ATTENDING: Jim Rountree, Jim Potter, and Sharon Shepherd

OTHERS ATTENDING: Torey Morris, Life Stages; Amanda Christian and Jean Odachowski, Family Preservation; Clarence Shelton, Love and Happiness; Mary Menefee, Mayo Residential, LLC; Cynthia Bradford, Community Alternatives VA; Lewis Walton and Naomi Walton, East Mental Health; Glen Hairston, Choices Family Services LLC; Stephanie Bakely, Strengthening Our System, Inc.; Ashley Callahan and Rochelle Potter, Phoenix, LLC; Tammy Solaria, United Support Services; Tonya Breedlove, Another Beginning, Inc.; Ricketta Ricketts and Rhonda Stone, Goodwill Industries; James Esters and Toni France; Branches of Hope; Sherry Cowan, Blue Ridge Counseling; Antonio McClendon and David Hamton, Calm Source, LLC; Penny Belcher, P/C Development Center; Donna Hodges, Memorial Hospital of Martinsville; Pamela Pritchett, Stepping Stones; Travis Butner, National Counseling Group; Angie Williams, It's About Time; Kimberly Kellam, Trinity Support Services; Kevin Paluszak, ECCO Counseling Services; Becky Lovell, Annie Webster and Ron Hairston, Piedmont Community Services, and Mandy Crowder and Jennifer Kovack, Office of Human Rights/DBHDS.

LHRC MEMBERS ABSENT: Sharon Hooker, Davin Estep and Nancy Sprinkle

I. Call to Order – Jim Rountree, Vice Chairman, called the meeting to order at 4:05 p.m. after verifying that a quorum was present.

II. Closed Session – Consumer Treatment/Behavioral Plan

Vee Gross of Piedmont Community Services reported that she no longer needs to have the LHRC review a Consumer Treatment/Behavioral Plan. The closed session was cancelled.

III. Approval of February 9, 2016 minutes

Upon reviewing the minutes from the February 9, 2016 meeting, Becky noted the addition of an additional affiliate report, “April Pendleton representing Patrick County Development Center reported that they had no incidents to report.” Sharon Shepherd made a motion to approve these minutes as presented with the noted addition. Jim Potter seconded the motion and a unanimous vote of approval followed.

IV. Advocate’s Report – Mandy Crowder

a. Mandy reported that the LHRC will continue to operate as usual until further notice. The Danville and Martinsville Local Human Rights Committees were scheduled to be combined; however, the State LHRC has not yet approved the changes. The State LHRC will meet in June and hopefully approve everything at that time.

Jim Potter voiced his concern that all areas will not be adequately represented after the consolidation because the district will be large and Danville, where the meetings will be held, is on the far side of the district. Mandy assured the committee that all areas will be represented and some of the Martinsville LHRC members may serve on the combined committee. The Danville LHRC committee will have the same make up as the current Martinsville LHRC. Jennifer Kovack said she would pass on these concerns.

Mandy introduced Jennifer Kovack, the new Region Manager for Region 3. Her contact number is 1-877-601-7434, and her email address is Jennifer.Kovack@dbhds.virginia.gov. Jennifer was the advocate for this area prior to Mandy.

Kevin Paluszak, ECCO Consulting Services, advised everyone that they can tract the state's LHRC approval process and changes on the www.townhall.virginia.gov website. He reported that the purpose of the changes was for administration simplification. Kevin offers various human rights training opportunities through his company and was our Human Rights Advocate prior to Jennifer Kovack.

Mandy advised the affiliates that they need to continue their reporting as usual until further notice.

IV. Affiliation Requests:

a. Branches of Hope – Toni France, manager for the Branches of Hope's Psychosocial Rehabilitation Program, requested affiliation for their psychosocial program located at 200 Beaver Hills Road in Martinsville. They will be open 8:30 am – 3:30 pm, Monday – Friday, and have four full-time staff that can serve up to 50 persons diagnosed with serious mental illness. Sharon Shepherd made a motion to approve this request as presented. Jim Potter seconded the motion and a unanimous vote of approval followed.

b. Calm Source – Antonio McClendon reported that Calm Source has just received their license to provide mental health skill building services at 701 Patton Street, Danville, 7 am – 7 pm, Monday – Friday. This program will serve adults 18 years and older and can provide services to 30 clients. Their location is near the House of Hope, a shelter serving the homeless population in the Danville area. They have a staff of six full-time positions that provide services to both adults and children. Sharon Shepherd made a motion to approve Calm Sources' request. Jim Potter seconded the motion and a unanimous vote of approved followed.

V. Other:

a. Affiliate reports:

Piedmont Community Services – Ron Hairston reported that PCS had one complaint involving a violation of confidentiality. This incident was investigated and resolved.

Family Preservations Services – Amanda Christian reported that they are adding a school in Patrick County for three weeks during the summer. They will use a local church beginning in July when the school is not available. Amanda had no incidents to report.

Branches of Hope – James Ester reported that they had no incidents.

Another Beginning, Inc. – Tonya Breedlove had nothing to report.

It's About Time – Angie Williams reported that they had a death that occurred at Morehead Hospital. The client had been in declining health for the past 4-6 months.

Goodwill Industries – Recketta Ricketts reported that they had no incidents to report. She also reported that Goodwill will be providing a new service, non-centered based services, to

their license. This service provides community engagement and coaching for the ID consumers they currently have.

Community Alternatives – Cindy Bradford reported that they had four incidents; (1) one Peer-to-Peer incident, an altercation with no injury, (2) a female client had to be taken to ER for an ear infection, (3) a client who is in declining health had a seizure, and (4) a male consumer learned to pop a wheely in his wheelchair and fell backwards. He was taken to ER but had no injuries. He now has another wheel chair with safety supports on the back to keep this from happening again.

Piedmont Community Services – Annie Webster, PSR Coordinator, introduced herself.

Memorial Hospital of Martinsville – Donna Hodges reported that she had no incidents to report.

Patrick County Development Center – Penny Belcher had nothing to report. They are in the process of adding non-center based services.

Stepping Stones – Pam Pritchett had nothing to report. She is in the process of working on non-centered based services also.

National Counseling – Travis Butner had nothing to report. They are working to provide Crisis Intervention services in Lynchburg.

Mayo Residential – Mary Menefee reported that they had one peer-to-peer incident with no injuries.

Trinity Support Services – Kimberly Kellam reported that they have moved to 32 Broad Street. She had nothing else to report.

East Mental Health – Lewis Walton had nothing to report.

Strengthening Our System, Inc. – Stephanie Bakely reported that they had nothing to report.

Phoenix, Inc. – Ashley Callahan had nothing to report.

United Support Services - Mark Solaria reported that she had no complaints. They are getting ready to provide summer programs at four Bedford area schools.

Choice Family Services – Glen Hairston had nothing to report.

Blue Ridge Counseling – Sherry Cowan had nothing to report.

Life Stages, Inc. – Torey Morris had nothing to report.

Calm Source, LLC - Art McClendon had nothing to report. He introduced David Hamton, QA Director for Calm Source.

Love and Happiness – Clarence Shelton had nothing to report.

b. LHRC Annual Assessment – Due to delay in consolidating the LHRC with the Danville LHRC, Becky led a discussion regarding the annual assessment. It appears that the consolidation will not take place until the end of 2016. After discussing the matter, all the affiliates attending unanimously voted to approve billing one-half the annual assessment (\$125 Annual Assessment) which would be \$62.50 to compensate PCS for Becky's administrative assistance through the end of 2016. She will send everyone an invoice in June that will be due in July.

c. Becky reported that the Annual LHRC Committee Appreciation Dinner will take place immediately following the meeting at Rania's Restaurant on Main Street.

VI. Public Comments

Kevin Paluszak from ECCO Consulting Services advised everyone that her provides training opportunities and professional development to help affiliates keep informed and up-to-date on new policies and procedures such as the Waiver redesign. He will have some flyers available after the meeting and interested parties can sign up for his email updates.

VII. Upcoming 2016 LHRC Meeting Dates:

August 9, 2016 – 4:00 pm., New College Institute, Room 303
November 15, 2016, 4:00 pm., New College Institute, Room 303

Respectfully submitted by:

Becky Lovell