

**DRAFT
MINUTES
LOCAL HUMAN RIGHTS COMMITTEE MEETING
& ANNUAL APPRECIATION DINNER**

**May 5, 2009 – 4:00 P.M.
Quality Inn/Dutch Inn, Collinsville, VA**

ATTENDING: Aleen Wilson, Nancy Davis, Jerri Crews, Jim Potter and Jerry Womack

OTHERS ATTENDING: Lynda Edgehill (Goodwill), George Martin and Douglas R Jones (The Lamano Agency), Sharon Wilson (Blue Ridge Counseling Services), Jennifer DeLorenzo and Stephanie Milikin (Hope Tree Family Services), Donald Wheeler, Arthur Peebles and Leonard Wiley (ATIBA Youth Intervention Services), Sandra Tolliver (Alliant Consortium), Bobbie Jo Seamster (National Counseling Group), Jennifer Gobble, Rochelle Potter, Denise Chockley and Ashley Callahan (Support Systems, LLC), Mary E. Menefee and Dianne Hairston (Mayo Residential, LLC), Donna Hodges, Jessica Moricle, Don Blankenship and Carla Yopp (EHS Support Services), Jean Odachowski and Ann Minnix (Family Preservations Services), Richard Wagoner and Cynthia Foley (Claye Corp.), Teresa Carter, Raymond Tayag, Janet York and Kerry Smith (Branches of Hope), Tim Hairston, Brandon Hudson, Robert Gay and Fred Hairston (Upside to Youth Development), Keri Basham and Cheryl Ann McGovern (Wall Residences), Nan Neese (Regional Advocate), Adrien Monti (Office of Human Rights), and Jim Rountree, Lynne Smith, Shannon Clark, and Becky Lovell (Piedmont Community Services).

MEMBERS ABSENT: Sharon Shepherd and Peggy Ferguson

I. Welcome - Chairman Aleen Wilson brought the meeting to order and welcomed everyone to the LHRC meeting and appreciation dinner.

II. Introduction of new Regional Advocate – Aleen Wilson

Nan Neese was introduced as the new regional advocate. Nan has been with the Office of Human Rights for 30 years and has an office in Marion. She expressed her appreciation to the Human Rights Committee for their commitment and for the work they are doing. Nan also introduced Adrien Monti who is with the Office of Human Rights in Roanoke.

III. Approval of February 3, 2009 minutes – Aleen Wilson

After reviewing the minutes of the February 3, 2009 meeting, a motion was made, seconded and passed to approve the minutes as presented.

IV. CSB Activities

a. Jim reported that Virginia is facing serious times with their budget. PCS has been able to respond to budget cuts through attrition and has not had to lay anyone off.

He does not expect any layoffs at this time. PCS is in better shape financially than many other CSBs.

b. The new Cottage Place group home is almost complete. The new facility offers a single floor plan arrangement and will accommodate six individuals. The six-bedroom home is located on Church Street Extension across from the city park. Consumers are scheduled to move in during the end of June.

c. The Healing Arts Exhibit is scheduled May 8 thru June 8 at Piedmont Arts Association. The exhibit consists of canvas artwork by consumers in the Horizons programs. An artist's reception will be held Friday, May 15, 12:00 Noon – 2:00 p.m. Everyone is invited to attend.

V. Annual Assessment – Aleen Wilson

Aleen led a discussion regarding the LHRC Annual Assessment. The assessment is currently \$125 per year and according to Becky, this amount should be sufficient for the coming year. A motion was made, seconded, and passed to continue the \$125 annual assessment. Becky will send out invoices in June and are due July 1.

VI. Regional Advocate's Report – Nan Neese

1. Nan reported that the Department of Mental Health, Mental Retardation and Substance Abuse Services is changing its name to the Department of Behavioral Health and Development Services. This change is effective July 1.

2. Anyone needing copies of reporting forms should contact Nan.

3. Nan discussed changes in the Office of Human Rights regions and expressed her desire to be available when people need her.

4. Nan advised affiliates that the rules and procedures are changing and asked for everyone's patience through this process. She indicated that licensing would be the most structured change.

5. The department will be reviewing the need for multiple affiliations. She will keep everyone informed of any changes.

VII. Affiliate Requests:

1. Upside to Youth Development – Brandon Hudson, Executive Director for Upside to Youth Development, LLC, introduced Robert Gay, Tim Hairston and Fred Hairston, also with Upside to Youth Development. Mr. Hudson explained that Upside to Youth Development is currently licensed by the Virginia Department of Mental Health, Mental Retardation and Substance Abuse Services and has been in business since September 8, 2008. They provide Intensive In-Home services and currently serve 60 consumers ages 5-21 years of age. They are located in Hopewell, Virginia, and have opened an office on Starling Avenue in the City Martinsville. This location was licensed March 9, 2009. After discussing this request to affiliate, a motion was made, seconded and passed to approve Upside to Youth Development for affiliation.

VIII. Other:

1. Ann Minnix, Executive Director for Family Preservation Services, reported that they have been in business for five years and provide day treatment services in Franklin County. Family Preservation Services has filed an application with the Department of Mental Health to add Intensive In-Home Services and Mental Health Support Services at their Franklin County office. They have been serving Franklin County with these services out of their Roanoke office but feel this would allow for more

localized administration of services. A motion was made, seconded and passed to approve to extend current affiliation to cover these services in Franklin County.

IX. Affiliate Reports:

LHRC members heard brief reports from the following affiliates:

Mayo Residential – No changes to report.

Branches of Hope – They are waiting for the final inspection of their 601 Starling Avenue location.

Goodwill of the Valley – Reported that they have had a lot of changes in services.

EHS Support Services – They are expanding their Franklin County office and looking for office space in Martinsville.

Family Preservation Services – They are expanding services in Franklin County and working to grow services.

Hope Tree Family Services – they have two residents who may move to their Roanoke/Salem facility. This will create two openings for residential and respite services.

Blue Ridge Counseling – Sharon Wilson reported that she is just getting started as a provider and doing well.

Alliant Homecare Services – They continue to grow and hope to get paperwork completed to expand mental health support services in Martinsville and Henry County.

Support Systems, LLC. – Reported that they are growing and doing well providing out-patient support services.

National Counseling – They are providing Intensive In-Home support.

The Lamano Agency - No changes to report.

Wall Residences – No changes to report.

Becky suggested that an informational survey be done to determine what services are being provided by the affiliates. The number of affiliates has increased dramatically recently and this would help the LHRC learn more about the affiliates. Aleen and other LHRC committee members agreed that it would be helpful to have a list of current services being provided by the affiliates. Becky, Nan and Aleen will work on this.

X. Executive Session - The Committee went into Executive Session to review a request by Wall Residences to implement a Behavioral Plan.

A motion was made and passed that the Piedmont Community Services LHRC go into closed session pursuant to Virginia Code §2.1-344A for the purpose of reviewing a closed record and discussion regarding this request.

A motion was made, seconded and passed to approve the behavioral plan and implementation of the plan as presented by Wall Residences. Representatives of Wall Residences will give a progress update at the next scheduled meeting (August 4, 2009).

Members present: Aleen Wilson, Jim Potter, Jerri Crews, Jerry Womack and Nancy Davis.

A motion was made, seconded and passed to return to open session.

Each LHRC member presented was certified.

The meeting was adjourned and the annual appreciation dinner for the LHRC committee members followed.

UPCOMING MEETINGS:

Tuesday, August 4, 2009 – 4:00 p.m. – 24 Clay Street

Tuesday, November 10 – 4:00 p.m. – 24 Clay Street

Respectfully submitted by:

Dr. James E. Rountree, Sr.