

**DRAFT
MINUTES
LOCAL HUMAN RIGHTS COMMITTEE MEETING
24 Clay Street, Martinsville, VA**

August 3, 2010 – 4:00 P.M.

LHRC MEMBERS ATTENDING: Aleen Wilson, Nancy Davis, Jerri Crews and John Potter.

MEMBERS ABSENT: Sharon Shepherd

OTHERS ATTENDING: Sharon Wilson and Molly Hunter-Sloan - Blue Ridge Counseling Services, Jenny Delorenzo Chas Colley and Trish Pendleton - Hope Tree Family Services, Rochelle Bower Potter – Support Systems, LLC, Dianne Hairston and Mary E. Menefee - Mayo Residential, LLC, Ann Minnix, Sonia Herrion and Jeannie Odachowski- Family Preservations Services, Lois Barbour and Cynthia Eberhardt - Pioneer Health, Amanda Craig, Mitzi Tuck and Ericca Newman – It’s About Time, Inc., Cynthia Eply and Sandra Lawson - Claye Corp., Christina O’Keefe and Lewis Walton – East Mental Health, Gary Thomas – Upside to Youth Development, Vicki Adams – Mpowering Kids, LLC, Angie Furrow and Tillie Thompson – Didlake/Rising Opportunities, Henry Ayers – PARC, Gail Ross and Rhonda Stone – Potential LHRC members, Jennifer Jenkins and Keisha Thornton – Intercept Youth, Sherry Miles – Regional Advocate, Becky Lovell, Bill Cook and Jim Tobin - Piedmont Community Services.

I. Next Friend Request (JB)

Aleen Wilson, Chairman, brought the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m. and requested a motion to allow the LHRC to go into closed session for the purpose of hearing a next friend request under Virginia code 2.2-3711-A 15 for the purpose of protecting the privacy of medical records to discuss a next friend request. Nancy Davis made this motion and Jerri Crews seconded it and a unanimous vote followed. After interviewing all parties involved and discussing the matter, Nancy Davis moved that the LHRC reconvene into public session and the motion received a second. A unanimous approval vote followed. Each member certified that to their knowledge only matters lawfully exempted from open meetings were discussed. Aleen Wilson asked for a vote to approve this next friend request and a unanimous approval vote followed.

II. Interview Two LHRC Applicants

Aleen Wilson asked for a motion to allow the LHRC to go into executive session under Virginia Code 2.2-3711 A (4 & 15) for the purpose of interviewing two LHRC applicants. Jim Potter made this motion and the motion received a second. A unanimous approval vote followed. GR and RS were interviewed by the committee and upon completion of the interviews, Chairman Aleen Wilson asked for a motion to return to open

session. Jim Potter moved to reconvene into public session and the motion received a second. A unanimous approval vote followed. Each member certified that to the best of their knowledge only matters lawfully exempted from open meeting requirements under VA Code 2.2-3711 A (4 & 15) regarding interviewing LHRC applicants were discussed and considered.

III. Approval of May 4, 2010 Minutes

After reviewing the minutes from the May 4, 2010 meeting, Chairman Aleen Wilson asked for a motion to approve the minutes as presented. The motion received a second and a unanimous vote followed..

IV. CSB Activities – Becky Lovell

Becky reported that Dr. Patrick W. Ephriam, Deputy Director for Piedmont Community Services, passed away on July 27. Dr. Ephriam had been with the agency since October 2006. He was a hard worker and responsible for many positive changes at the agency. Dr. Ephriam will be missed.

VI. Department of Medical Assistance Services Changes – Jim Tobin

Jim reported that PCS has implemented a new electronic records system, Credible, and has been using it for one year. The new system allows access to all records in Martinsville/Henry County, Patrick County and Franklin County at once. The new systems has and will continue to improve our quality of service. One example of how this system is allowing emergency room and crisis workers to have immediate access to all records that can be accessed thorough the use of a laptop computer.

Jim discussed briefly changes outlined in a recent memo from the Department of Medical Assistance Services. The Department has made several changes, one being that all marketing materials must be approved before being used and copies of current marketing materials must be sent to the Department for approval by the end of August.

Bill Cook, Director for Clinical Services, was introduced to the committee.

VII. Annual Assessment – Aleen Wilson

Aleen led a brief discussion regarding the annual assessment for affiliates. This assessment helps to pay for administrative support, mailings, office supplies, etc. After discussing the matter, Jerri Crews made a motion to assess affiliates \$125 for the current fiscal year July 1, 2010 – June 30, 2011. The motion received a second and a unanimous approval vote followed. The assessment is the same as last year. Becky will send out invoices.

VIII. Regional Advocate's Report – Sherry Miles

- a. Sherry reported that Branches of Hope has closed because they could not find residential consumers for their program. They will be removed as an affiliate.
- b. Sherry spoke briefly about the recent memo from the Department of Medical Assistance and recommended that everyone review staff qualifications. Affiliates were also advised that if they use the "crisis wave" method of restraint, they are required to have new training.
- c. Local Human Rights Committees around the state are having trouble recruiting. The number of programs continues to grow and the State Human Rights

Committee is in the process of revamping the system. Information about changes should be available October 1. Any suggestions regarding the LHRC changes are welcomed and can be made through their website.

- d. Affiliates were reminded to make sure that the documentation in their progress notes is thorough. Nothing your staff does or does not do can be proven without proper documentation.

V. Affiliation requests:

1. It's About Time, Inc. – Mitzi Tuck, representing It's About Time, requested LHRC affiliation in order to serve one person under an ID waiver in Rocky Mount. It's About Time serves both adults and children. They have a day support center in Roanoke and have 17 employees and 48 clients. Jerry Crews made a motion to grant affiliation to It's About Time and the motion received a second. A unanimous approval vote followed.
2. East Mental Health – Lewis Walton, representing East Mental Health, requested affiliation for his company to provide services in the Rocky Mount area. His company is based in Roanoke and has a clinical staff of 75 (1/2 full-time and 1/2 part-time). They serve 315 consumers and want to start providing services in Franklin County on September 1. They get referrals from CSBs, Catawba hospital, family members, word of mouth and jail related referrals. Nancy Davis made a motion to approve East Mental Health for affiliation and the motion received a second. A unanimous approval vote followed.
3. Intercept Youth Services – In representing Intercept Youth Services, Keisha Thornton told LHRC members that they are also affiliated with the New River LHRC and provide intensive in-home services in that area. They plan to open an office in Rocky Mount in the future, however, they plan to provide services through their Roanoke office now. They have six pending referrals and want to begin serving these consumers as soon as possible. Their Roanoke office opened in July 2009 and their New River office opened in January 2009. Nancy Davis made a motion to extend affiliation to Intercept Youth Services and the motion received a second. A unanimous approval followed.
4. Blue Ridge Counseling, LLC – Sharon Wilson of Blue Ridge Counseling told LHRC members that she currently provides services in two schools in Meadows of Dan and requests an extension to also include Patrick County High School. She want to be able to continue services to her consumers as they move up to the high school level. Jim Potter made a motion to extend this affiliation to include Patrick County High School. The motion received a second and a unanimous approval followed.
5. Rising Opportunities – Angie Furrow advised the LHRC that Didlake is transitioning into Rising Opportunities. She has been an employee of Didlake and plan to continue her employment with Rising Opportunities. Didlake was planning to close their doors in Franklin County after operating there for five years. They currently provide day support services to 15 consumers. Jim Potter asked to be removed from this vote because he currently serves on their Board of Directors for Rising Opportunities. The LHRC granted this request. Jerri made a motion to approve this affiliation request and the motion received a second. A unanimous approval followed.

VI. Affiliation Reports –

- 1. Support Systems** – No changes reported.
- 2. Mayo Residential** – No changes reported.
- 3. Hope Tree** – Jenny Delorenzo reported no changes in her program; however they do have two openings at their Martinsville home due to residents relocating to other Hope Tree homes. Trish Pendleton was introduced as the new Horne Home manager.
- 4. Rising Opportunities** – Tillie Thompson introduced herself as a member of the Rising Opportunities Board.
- 5. PARC Workshop** – Henry Ayers reported no changes in his program.
- 6. Claye Corporation** – Cindy Eply reported they have had no incidents nor changes in their program.
- 7. Pioneer Behavioral Health** – Lois Barbour introduced Cynthia Eberhardt who recently joined Pioneer Behavioral Health and is working with in-patient consumers.
- 8. MPowering Kids** – Vicki Adams reported that they have had their on-site review and that report is pending.
- 9. Family Preservation Services** – Ann Minnix reported that they have just successfully completed their summer programs. Jennie Odachowski reported that Ann has been promoted to Assistant State Director for Family Preservation Services.
- 10. Blue Ridge Counseling Services** – Sharon Wilson reported that she has had some small incidents reported and a couple of peer-to-peer incidents but things have calmed down.
- 11. Upside to Youth Development** – Gary Thomas reported that they had one reportable incident and that it has been resolved.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:40 p.m.

Upcoming Meeting Dates:

- November 16, 2010, 4-6:00 pm, 24 Clay Street

Respectfully submitted by:

Becky Lovell