

# **BLUE RIDGE REGIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS COMMITTEE MINUTES AUGUST 11, 2008**

The Blue Ridge Regional Human Rights Committee met, Monday, August 11, 2008 at 3:30 PM at the The Burrell Center located at 611 McDowell Avenue, SW Roanoke, VA.

## **MEMBERS PRESENT**

Rebecca Baker, Chair  
Lynn Lawson  
Geraldine Cleary

## **DMHMRSAS-OHR STAFF**

Nan Neese  
Adrien Monti

## **ADMINISTRATIVE SUPPORT STAFF**

Betsy Walker

## **AFFILIATES REPRESENTED**

Alleghany Highlands CSB – Betty Crance  
Avenues To Recovery – Wren Starkey  
Blue Ridge Behavioral Healthcare – Betty Bingham  
Blue Ridge Residential Services – Kelly Murphy  
Braley & Thompson – Valerie Koeppel/Lisa McDowell  
CHIP – Ali Hamed  
Didlake – Robin M. Hurst  
Dominion Day Service – Dianna Parrish/Shannon Raybuck/Dwayne Lynch  
EHS – Quill Giles  
East Mental Health – Dean East/ Joann Patterson  
Family Services Roanoke Valley – Vicki Haynie/Leah Hatcher  
Goodwill of the Valleys Roanoke – Linda St. Clair/Lynda Edgehill  
Hall Community Services – Cathy Cummings  
Hope Tree/VBCS – Will Childers/Linda Hammed  
Key Living Options – Linda Puckett  
Lamano Agency – Diane Exner/Rebecca Drinkard  
Mayo Residential Services – Linda & Joseph Mayo  
National Counseling Services – Tony Romon  
New River League of Therapists – Hollie Stephens  
Roanoke League of Therapists – Nichole Weiler  
The Madeline Center – Justin Berkley

## **GUESTS**

Mitzi Tuck  
Mark & Tammy Solari  
Dawn Laprad  
Jennifer Gobble

## **MINUTES**

### **1. Call to order/welcome**

Rebecca Baker, Chair, called the meeting to order at 3:35 pm.

**2. Introductions**

Committee members, advocates, affiliates and guests introduced themselves.

**ACTION AGENDA**

**3. Approval of minutes of June 9, 2008**

Geri Cleary motioned the minutes be accepted as presented, Lynn Lawson seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

**4. It's About Time, Inc – Mitzi Tuck – Request for affiliation**

Ms. Tuck appeared before the Committee to request affiliation for her Day Support Program. She gave an overview of the services the program will provide and answered questions from committee members.

Geri Cleary motioned affiliation be accepted; Lynn Lawson seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

**5. Support Systems LLC – Jennifer Gobble – Request for affiliation**

Ms. Gobble appeared before the Committee to request affiliation for her Mental Health Supports Program. She reported she had made a change to her service description and distributed a new first page to her packet. She gave an overview of the services she will provide and answered questions from committee members.

Lynn Lawson motioned the affiliation be accepted; Geri Cleary seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

**6. Braley & Thompson – Valerie Koeppel – Notification of new service**

Ms. Koeppel appeared to report to the Committee a new service her agency will begin providing. They are requesting affiliation for their Mental Health Support Services Program.

They are already affiliated with BR-RHRC; Lynn Lawson motioned the affiliation be extended to cover the new service; Rebecca Baker seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

**7. A Shining Light, Inc – Dawn Laprad – Request for affiliation (no information received)**

Dawn Laprad appeared before the Committee to request affiliation for her program. She distributed material for the Committee to review. She gave an overview of the services that will be provided and answered questions from committee members.

Geri Cleary motioned affiliation be accepted and Lynn Lawson seconded the motion; it carried unanimously.

**8. United Support Services, LLC – Mark & Tammy Solari (no information received)**

Tammy and Mark Solari appeared before the Committee to request affiliation. They distributed material for review by the Committee. Ms. Solari gave an overview of services (Mental Health Support Services) their agency will provide and answered questions from committee members.

Lynn Lawson motioned affiliation be accepted; Rebecca Baker seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

**9. Advocate Report**

Adrian Monti presented the Advocate Report and below are the highlights of the report:

- Every complaint is a complaint and every complaint needs to be reported
- A training to address what constitutes a complaint will be held at Lewis Gale Pavilion on September 25. All affiliates are invited and an invitation will be sent.
- Monthly reports that are sent to the Advocate can be emailed and this is the preferred method. Contact information is available at the sign-in sheet.
- Referrals for additional Committee members requested; committee is not fully staffed and has not been for some time. Consumer members are needed.

Nan Neese distributed a draft of the revised Monthly/Annual Reporting Form for review and comment. She requested comments be sent to Adrian 2 weeks before the next meeting in October. When it is finalized it will be emailed to everyone to have electronically.

**10. Annual Reports**

**Avenues to Recovery** – Wren Starkey appeared before the committee to

present the annual report. She gave a brief overview of the services provided. She reported there were no incidents to report. It was noted they are a private facility and attendance is voluntarily so if someone is not happy with services they will usually just leave rather than complain. Perhaps the information that could be given the committee is successes; terminations.

### **Blue Ridge Residential Services – Jennifer Jenkins**

Jennifer Jenkins gave an overview of the services provided and presented the annual report. Questions from committee members were answered.

### **Dominion Day Services – Dwayne Lynch**

Mr. Lynch gave an overview of services provided and presented the annual report. Questions from the committee were answered. He also reported that Dominion Day Services would be moving and information would be forthcoming.

Nan suggested that in the future all Dominion Services reports be presented at the same time.

### **EHS – Quill Giles**

Mr. Giles reported there had been revisions to the annual report and distributed the revised report. He answered questions from committee members.

### **East Mental Health – Dean East/Joann Patterson**

Ms. Patterson gave an overview of the services provided by the program and presented the annual report.

### **Family Services of Roanoke Valley – Vicki Haynie/Leah Hatcher**

Ms. Haynie gave an overview of the services of the agency and presented their annual report. She introduced Leah Hatcher. She answered questions from the committee members.

### **Goodwill of Valleys Roanoke- Linda St. Clair/Lynda Edgehill**

A letter of apology was presented to the Committee from Linda St. Clair. Lynda Edgehill was introduced to the committee; she will be replacing Ms. St. Clair. The annual report was revised and a copy was provided. There is some confusion over the reports; the second report will be reviewed today. Ms. Neese will discuss this issue with Ms. St. Clair and they will return to the next mtg.

At the last meeting Goodwill's affiliation was removed due to failure to appear three times to present their annual report. Lynn Lawson moved Goodwill be re-affiliated with the Human Rights Committee; Geri Cleary seconded the motioned and it carried unanimously.

**Intercept Youth Services –**

No show, they will be put on the October agenda.

**Lamano Agency – Diane Exnor/Rebecca Drinkard**

Ms. Exnor gave an overview of the agency's services and discussed the annual report. She distributed brochures. Questions from committee members were answered.

**National Counseling Services - Tony Romo**

Mr. Romo gave an overview of services provided by the agency. He presented the annual report.

**Roanoke League of Therapists/New River League of Therapists – Nichole Weiler/Gail Paysour**

Ms. Weiler gave an overview of the programs provided. The annual report was reviewed. Questions from committee members were answered.

**The Madeline Center – Justin Berkley**

Mr. Berkley gave an overview of the services being provided by The Madeline Center, however, services are not being provided in Roanoke. Services are being focused in the Danville/Pittsylvania area. Questions from committee members was answered.

**11. Adjournment**

The meeting for public matters was adjourned at 5:30 pm.

In accordance with Virginia Code 2.2-3711.A - 14 & 15 the Code of Virginia to protect the privacy of individuals and personal matters not related to public business, including the review and consideration of health records, namely to conduct a fact-finding hearing the BR RHRC went into closed session at 5: 35 pm. The session was ended at 6:10 pm.

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Rebecca Baker, Chair

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Date signed

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Recorder

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Date signed