

# **BLUE RIDGE REGIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS COMMITTEE MINUTES DECEMBER 10, 2007**

The Blue Ridge Regional Human Rights Committee met Monday, December 10, 2007 at 3:30 PM at The Burrell Center at 611 McDowell Avenue.

## **MEMBERS PRESENT**

Rebecca Baker, Chair  
Christene Montgomery  
Lynn Lawson  
Geraldine Cleary

## **REGIONAL ADVOCATE**

Nan Neese, Advocate

## **AFFILIATES REPRESENTED**

Alleghany Highlands CSB – Betty Crance  
AMRSS – Tina Austin  
Blue Ridge Behavioral Healthcare – Betty Bingham – Tim Steller – Helen Lang  
Braley Thompson – Lisa McDowell  
Carilion – Mala Kessler  
Cee-Breeze – Tameka Walloe – Marc Buch  
Dominion Day Service – Shannon Raybok – Dwayne Lynch  
Family Preservation Services – Ann Minnix  
Family Services Roanoke Valley – Vickie Haynie  
Intercept Youth Services – Joe Morris – Steve Benasher  
Key Living Options – Linda Puckett  
Mayo Residential – Lanell Otey  
Mt. Regis Center – Rhomda Boutee'  
National Counseling – Deborah Lewis  
Roanoke League of Therapists – Gail Paysour  
Roanoke Treatment Center – Letitia Malone – Dona Blair

## **AGENDA**

See attached

## **MINUTES**

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

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

## 2. **Introductions**

Committee members and audience introduced themselves.

Nan Neese, Regional Advocate with the Office of Human Rights announced the resignation of Sonia Smith, Advocate that has been with the Office of Human Rights for 17 years.

## ACTION AGENDA

### 3. Approval of minutes of October 8, 2007

Geraldine Cleary moved the minutes be approved as circulated; Lynn Lawson seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

## INFORMATION AGENDA

Addition to agenda: Key Living Options

Linda Puckett appeared to inform the Committee of the fourth home they are opening in Salem on January 8. They will be providing the same services and will house 3 residents.

### 4. Intercept Youth Services – update and program progress – Brian Chizuk

Brian Chizuk and Steve Benasher, Program Manager appeared before the Committee to report Anita Shelton has visited the site and they have been granted a temporary license; She will return in 6 months for consideration of permanent license. The site is located at 1301 3<sup>rd</sup> Street and they are serving 1 client at this time, but anticipate being full by the end of January. They will accommodate 8 for full capacity.

The temporary affiliation will continue until April at which time they will return to request permanent affiliation.

Nan Neese noted that ownership of this company had changed. Mr. Chizuk explained it was reorganization and the same people are involved. She requested he provide the “letter of notice” that was sent to the Department for the committee at the April meeting.

Nan Neese reminded affiliates that she must received written notification of any changes in programs or addition of new services and the Committee must also receive written notification.

5. Carilion – Clarification of item from Annual Report – Mala Kessler

Ms. Kessler returned with clarification of a restraint issue from the Annual Report.

Ms. Kessler reported they will be opening a new unit for Child & Adolescent in April. She will be presenting information to the Committee at the February meeting.

6. Cee – Breeze Personal Care Services – 2 month temporary affiliation Extension; status update on progress; corrective action plan – E. Abbott and T Walloe

The Corrective Action Plan was not available for the Committee to review before this meeting. Lynn Lawson moved the temporary affiliation be extended until February; Geraldine Cleary seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. The Corrective Action Plan will be reviewed by the Committee and Cee Breeze will return for the February meeting

The Mission Statement and program description was provided however there was not discussion.

7. Hall Community Services – Work incentive Program information

Mr. Hall was ill and could not attend.

8. Dominion Day Services – Information regarding Day Treatment - Shannon Raybok

Requesting a temporary affiliation for a new service they will be providing; Intensive in-home Service for child and adolescent. They are already affiliated and the service just needs to be added to that affiliation.

9. Lewis Gale Restraint Policy changes – Leigh Frazier

Due to illness Ms. Frazier could not attend and this issue will be on the February agenda.

10. Annual Reports

**National Counseling Group** – Debra Lewis presented the report and gave a brief overview of the services they provide.

**Strategic Therapy Associates** – Information has not been provided for the Committee. Action to dismiss will be taken in February.

11. Roanoke Treatment Center – update on new services – Dona Blair

Ms. Malone reported they have added outpatient and Intensive Outpatient Service at the Roanoke site. Information was provided for Committee review.

The regular session of the meeting was adjourned to enter into closed session.

Mrs. Brickey was in attendance to make a statement to the Committee in regards to the response to a letter she had sent to Tim Steller, Executive Director of Blue Ridge Behavioral Healthcare in regards to a hearing that has been before the Local Human Rights Committee and the State Human Rights Committee upheld the finding of the facts of the local committee. The recommendation was for Blue Ridge Behavioral Healthcare to make a specific apology for not informing her prior to consequences implemented for her child on October 26, 2006.

A copy of the apology that Mr. Steller sent to Ms. Brickey is included in the Committee's packet for review. She feels the apology is not compliant as to what the SHRC requested of Mr. Steller. She is requesting this Committee reinforce the findings of fact and recommendations and enforce an apology for the denial of the rights of her child's dignity.

Becky Baker moved that the Blue Ridge Regional Human Rights Committee go into Executive Session pursuant to VA Code 2.2-3711.A for the protection of privacy of individuals in personal matters not related to public business namely for the purpose of discussing a case that was previously heard and ruled on pursuant to the regulations.

The local Human Rights Committee unanimously certifies that to the best of each member's knowledge, only private business matters lawfully exempted from statutory open meeting requirements and only private business matters identified in the motion to convene in the Executive Session were discussed.

The meeting adjourned at 4:25 pm.

Next meeting scheduled for Monday, February 11, 2008.

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Rebecca Baker – Chair

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Date signed

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Recorder

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Date signed