

BLUE RIDGE REGIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS COMMITTEE MINUTES APRIL 6, 2009

The Blue Ridge Regional Human Rights Committee met Monday, April 6, 2009 at 3:30 PM at Blue Ridge Behavioral Healthcare, located at 3517 Brandon Avenue.

MEMBERS PRESENT

Rebecca Baker, Chair
Lynn Lawson
Geraldine Cleary
Nancy Fields
Jay Fields
Linda Peters

DMHMRSAS-OHR STAFF

Adrien Monti

MEMBERS ABSENT

Preston Boggess

ADMINISTRATIVE SUPPORT STAFF

Betsy Walker

AFFILIATES REPRESENTED

Blue Ridge Behavioral Healthcare – Betty Bingham – Tim Steller –Helen Lang
Blue Ridge Support Services – Juli Larson
Braley and Thompson – Lisa McDowell
Cee-Breeze – E. Abbott
Centra Health – Jom Hutson
CHIP – Ali Hamed-Moore
Didlake – Robin McHurst
EHS – Quill Giles – Crystal Floyd – Ashley Lucas
Family Preservation Services – Ann Minnix – Andi Carter
Family Services of Roanoke Valley – Vickie Haynie – Leah Hatcher
Fidura – John Barrett – Cassie Husky – Jennifer Fidura
Hall Community Services – Cathy Cummings
Hope Tree Family Services – Linda Hammed – Will Childers
ICS, Inc – Bo Miller
Lamano Agency – Eric Gordon – Rebecca Drinkard
Mayo Residential Services - Gabrielle Jones
Mt. Regis – Ronda Boutte'
National Counseling Group – Nick Ptacek
Support Systems – Jennifer Gobble – Denise Chockley –Ashley Callahan

1. Call to Order/Welcome

Rebecca Baker, Chair called the meeting to order at 3:30 pm.

2. **Introductions**

Committee members, Advocate, affiliates and guests introduced themselves.

ACTION AGENDA

3. **Approval of February 9, 2009 minutes**

Lynn Lawson moved that the minutes of the February 9, 2009 meeting be accepted as presented: Gerri Cleary seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

INFORMATION AGENDA

4. **Advocate Report**

Adrien reported that the State Human Rights Committee has appointed a new human rights committee in the Roanoke area; the name of the committee is the Roanoke Local Human Rights Committee. The Committee is currently comprised of five members, one of whom is a former chairperson of the BR RHRC. The six affiliates of the Roanoke LHRC are former affiliates of the BR RHRC and are listed below:
Alleghany Highlands Community Services Board
Austin Residential and Mental Health Support Services
Key Living Options
It's About Time
Dominion Day/Youth Services
United Support Services

Since these providers have transferred affiliation, the number of affiliates of the BR RHRC has now been reduced to 37.

5. **Annual Reports**

Fidura & Associates
Cee-Breeze
CHIP
Didlake, Inc
Family Preservation Services
Hall Community Services
Innovative Community Solutions (Also notice of new home opening)
Mt. Regis

The above affiliates presented their written Annual Reports to the Committee for review. They gave an overview of the services they offer and answered questions from the committee members.

6. **Blue Ridge Support Services – Rewritten Service Description update**

Juli Larson submitted the revised service description as recommended by the Committee. At this time they are not serving anyone in this area.

7. **Correspondence**

- Letter from State Human Rights Committee
- Letters from providers who have transferred affiliation

The letter from the State Human Rights Committee encourages Local Human Rights Committees to accept new providers as needed; Adrien pointed out that BR RHRC has always demonstrated strong willingness to accept new affiliates.

Providers who are now currently affiliated with the Roanoke LHRC wrote to thank the BR RHRC for their years of oversight and assistance.

There were also letters from Centra Health and New Hope Support Services informing the Committee that they have been fully licensed to begin providing services.

8. **Review of draft provider annual report**

Adrien introduced the newly revised reporting form, and asked the committee whether they would like to request that providers begin using it for annual reports. Benefits of the new format are that it has been updated to be in compliance with the current regulations, and also has more space and is easier to read. Adrien noted that some providers expressed concern that the revised form contains a section for providers to include optional additional information for the committee; she proposed moving this section to the end and labeling it as clearly optional. After discussion Ms. Baker, Chair asked for a motion to adopt the new annual report form, with the changes Adrien suggested, for use to begin in 2010. The motion was seconded and it carried unanimously.

9. **Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) training**

Adrien conducted the annual training for the Committee.

10. **Other Business**

Betsy distributed the expense report for the Committee to review and answered their questions.

There was a request to see a copy of the Affiliation Agreement that providers sign, because newer committee members may not be familiar with this form. This will be included in the mailing for the next meeting.

11. **Adjourn**

The meeting adjourned at 5:30 PM

Rebecca Baker, Chair

Date signed

Betsy Walker, Recorder

Date signed