

BLUE RIDGE REGIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS COMMITTEE MINUTES DECEMBER 14, 2009

The Blue Ridge Regional Human Rights Committee met Monday, December 14, 2009 at 3:30 p.m. at Blue Ridge Behavioral Healthcare, located at 3517 Brandon Avenue.

MEMBERS PRESENT

Rebecca Baker – Chair
Geraldine Cleary
Nancy Fields
Jay Fields

DBHDS-OHR-STAFF

Nan Neese – Advocate

ADMINISTRATIVE SUPPORT STAFF

Betsy Walker

GUESTS

Terri Wilder
Joseph Kinchloe
Joann Baker

AFFILIATES REPRESENTED

Blue Ridge Behavioral Healthcare – Betty Bingham
Blue Ridge Residential Services – Maureen Cholewka
Braley & Thompson – Lisa McDowell
Cee – Breeze – Emize Abbott
East Mental Health – Christina O’Keefe
Family Preservation Services – Ann Minnix
Goodwill – Lynda Edhill
Hall Community Services – Adrien Monti; Steve Collins
Hope Tree Family Services – Will Childers
Lutheran Family Services – Gary Wilburn
Mayo Residential Services – Joseph Mayo
Minnick Education Center – Gary Wilburn
National Counseling Group – Heather Burns
Roanoke Treatment Center – Letitia Malone

1. Call to order/welcome

Becky Baker, Chair called the meeting to order at 3:30 p.m.

2. Introductions

Members of the Committee and Providers attending the meeting introduced themselves.

ACTION AGENDA

3. Approval of October 5, 2009 minutes

Geri Cleary moved the minutes of the October 5, 2009 be accepted as presented; Nancy Fields seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

Approval of November 18, 2009 sub-committee meeting

Nancy Fields moved the minutes of the November 18, 2009 sub-committee meeting be accepted as presented; Jay Fields seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

4. Hope Tree Family Services – Next Friend – Authorized Representative Will Childers (closed session)
5. Request for Extension of Complaint Process – Hall Community Services – Adrien Monti (closed session)

Becky Baker, Chair called for a motion to convene into closed session in accordance with §2.1344.A (4 and 15) of the Code of VA to protect the privacy of individuals in personal matters not related to public business; and the discussion of medical and mental records mainly to consider the designation of Next Friend – Authorized Representative. Also to be considered is a request to extend the regulatory time frame of the Complaint Process to allow additional opportunity for formal resolution but preserve the right to petition for a hearing.

Geri Cleary so moved, the motion was seconded and it carried unanimously.

Becky Baker, Chair reconvened the public meeting. Again Geri Cleary moved that only the matters lawfully exempted from open session were heard, discussed and considered by the Committee.

Each member certified to the best of their knowledge that only matters lawfully exempted from open meeting requirements and identified in the motion above, were heard, discussed and considered by the BR RHRC.

RE: Hope Tree Family Services' petition to approve the designation of the Next Friend – Authorized Representative.

After hearing testimony from all parties involved and conducting an interview with the proposed Authorized Representative, the Committee finds that Ms. Hammed has provided support to the individual for a period of nine years. She has agreed to accept the responsibility associated with this designation.

Based on these findings Becky Baker, Chair, called for a motion to approve the designation of Cynthia Hammed as the Next Friend Authorized

Representative for the purpose of consenting and authorizing the disclosure of health information; Jay Fields seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

Becky Baker, Chair, called for a motion to approve the request for a 30 day extension of the complaint process; Geri Cleary seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

INFORMATION AGENDA

6. Advocate Report

Nan Neese, Advocate reported that as of January 1, 2010, Piedmont Community area will return to Region 6 of the Office of Human Rights.

Nan stated that on behalf of the Committee she would be emailing the new Human Rights Affiliate Report Form to providers. She discussed the changes that have been made to the form.

Nan recommended to the BR RHRC that the Committee consider reducing the membership from nine to seven members; this would leave two vacancies. The vacancies would have to be recruited from consumers.

The By Laws will need to be amended to reflect the change in membership and submitted to the State Human Rights Committee.

Becky Baker, Chair requested that Nan Neese make the necessary changes to the By Laws to reflect seven committee members rather than nine effective January 2010 and submit them to the State Human Rights Committee; the motion was seconded by Geri Cleary and carried unanimously.

7. Family Preservation Services, Inc – Notice of intent to add Therapeutic Day Treatment sites for schools in Covington, VA – Ann Minnix – Regional Manger

Ms. Minnix appeared before the Committee to answer questions after submitting a Letter of Intent. She stated this is not a new license; they are already serving in other schools.

8. East Mental Health Services, LLC – Notice of application for Crisis Stabilization and Outpatient Services license – Christine O'Keefe

Ms. O'Keefe submitted information pertaining to the new service they wish to start providing and requested extended affiliation for this service.

Geri Cleary motioned the affiliation be extended to cover the new license; Jay Fields seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

9. Hope Tree Family Services – Update re new home opening – Linda Hammed

Ms. Hammed was unable to attend today; however Will Childers reported there will be a final walk through on January 7 and at that time they should open.

10. Revised Affiliation Agreement – Discussion/Approval

Ms. Baker reported there was a sub-committee meeting on November 18 to specifically address the Affiliation Agreement. There is a copy of the revised agreement included in Committee packets with the revised areas highlighted. Nan requested a change in the language of IV, A – 1 d; these changes will be made before the Agreement is sent to providers.

Geri Cleary motioned to accept the revised Affiliation Agreement; Nancy Fields seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

11. Affiliate Fee Accounting

A copy of the Affiliate Fee Accounting was submitted for review.

12. Other information items

None

13. Next Committee meeting date – February 8, 2010

14. The meeting adjourned at 4:30 p.m.

Rebecca Baker
Chair

Date approved

Betsy Walker
Admin Support