

# **BLUE RIDGE REGIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS COMMITTEE MINUTES AUGUST 9, 2010**

The Blue Ridge Regional Human Rights Committee met on Monday, August 9, 2010 at 3:00 p.m. at Blue Ridge Behavioral Healthcare, located at 3517 Brandon Avenue, Roanoke, VA.

## **MEMBERS PRESENT**

Rebecca Baker – Chair  
Joann Baker  
Geraldine Cleary  
Jay Fields  
Nancy Fields  
Martha Pillow

## **DBHDS-OHR STAFF**

Nan Neese – Advocate

## **MEMBERS ABSENT**

Joseph Kinchloe

## **ADMINISTRATIVE SUPPORT STAFF**

Betsy Walker

## **AFFILIATES REPRESENTED**

A Better Life Counseling – Shenetta Reid  
Blue Ridge Behavioral Healthcare – Betty Bingham, Helen Lang, Tim Steller  
Blue Ridge Support Services – Maureen Chulewski  
Centra Health – Kelly Eitani  
Cee-Breeze – Emize Abbott  
East Mental Health – JoAnn Patterson  
EHS – Katye Hale, Mike Abajar, Quill Giles  
Family Preservation – Ann Minnix  
Family Service of Roanoke Valley – Vickie Haynie  
Fidura & Associates – Jennifer Fidura, Cassie Huskey  
Hopetree Family Services – Will Childers, Linda Hammed  
Lamano Agency – Eric Gordon, Stanley Cousins  
Lutheran Family Services – Gary Wilburn  
Minnix Education Center – Gary Wilburn  
National Counseling Group – Pam Brandt  
New River League of Therapists – Brian Hoff  
Roanoke League of Therapists – Gail Paysour, DeWayne Yopp  
Support Systems – Jennifer Gobble, Denise Chockly  
Total Life Counseling – Steve Price

### **1. Call to Order**

Rebecca Baker, Chair called the meeting to order at 3:05 p.m.

2. Introductions

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

**ACTION AGENDA**

3. Approval of June 14, 2010 minutes

At the request of the Advocate revisions were made to the Advocate Report and revised minutes were distributed.

Geri Cleary motioned the minutes be approved with the revisions; Jay Fields seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

**INFORMATION AGENDA**

4. Advocate Report

Nan reported that the Office of Human Rights has gotten the new and improved CHRIS (Computerized Human Rights Information System) system up and running in the state facilities; there is hope that it will be expanded to the community providers in the near future. The system would allow providers to enter allegations and complaints into the system and would automatically notify Nan that something is in the works. This would be a more consistent way of looking at complaints and allegations.

Nan reminded providers she will be on vacation starting August 13 and returning on the 23<sup>rd</sup>; Deborah Jones and B.J. McKnight will be covering while she is away. She requested emails and faxes be held until her return.

Nan reminded providers they cannot begin a new service or location until it has been approved by licensing.

Again Nan reminded providers to remove names from reports when submitting them to the Committee. All confidential information in today's packet will be collected at the end of the meeting to be shredded.

5. **Annual Reports**

The following providers presented their Annual Reports. They also gave an overview of the services they provide, the populations they serve and answered questions from the committee members.

East Mental Health

EHS (RKE & NRV)

Family Services of Roanoke Valley

Lamano Agency & other updates – **Request for extension of affiliation to cover new Host Home. Jay Fields motioned to extend the affiliation to cover the Host Home and it was seconded by Nancy Fields; the motion carried unanimously.**

League of Therapists (RKE & NRV) – **Gail Paysour's staff presented a demonstration of Therapeutic Option of VA; this is the behavior management system utilized by this organization and the DBHDS.**

National Counseling Group

Total Life Counseling, Inc.

6. Blue Ridge Behavioral Healthcare – Notification of discontinuance of programs.

Betty Bingham submitted a letter of notification to the committee that three programs have ceased providing services as of July. The discontinuation of services was due to increases in operating expenses and changes to the Medicaid fee structure. All individuals affected have been informed and have been given access to support in their search for services.

7. Family Preservation Services – Notification of Summer Program Rules

Ann Minnix submitted the Summer Program Rules for the Committee's review; however they were received after the June meeting. The program will be ending August 13, but Nan noted they had been reviewed by most of Region III Human Rights Committees and had been approved.

Joann Baker motioned the Program Rules be accepted as presented; Geri Cleary seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

8. Braley & Thompson – request for affiliation extension for Radford & Lebanon offices.

Staff was not available for presentation. Nan noted that she does have concerns about how this would affiliation will work due to the distance to Lebanon and clients having access to the committee.

After discussion Jay Fields recommended the committee extend the Affiliation on the condition that Braley and Thompson staff attend the October meeting to present information regarding the Lebanon affiliation request. Nancy Fields seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

9. MANDT (behavior management training) presentation

Staff was unable to attend due to illness; this will be rescheduled for

October.

10. The Chair, Rebecca Baker moved the committee go into closed session pursuant to VA Code §2.2-3711. A (4) and (15).

Fidura and Associates – Review of Human Rights Investigations/Violations

Lamano Agency – Serious Incident Report

Geri Cleary moved to reconvene the Regional Human Rights Committee into public session; this was seconded by Nancy Fields and each member certified that to the best of their knowledge only matters lawfully exempted from open meeting requirements were heard, discussed or considered. Each member so certified.

11. Next committee meeting – October 4, 2010.

12. Meeting adjourned at 5:10 p.m.

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Rebecca Baker, Chair

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Date approved

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Betsy Walker, Admin Support