

Hampton Roads Regional LHRC Meeting

August 15, 2007

I. CALL TO ORDER:

The meeting was called to order by Dr. Hawthorne at 9:37 AM.

II. INTRODUCTIONS:

Quorum present: Dr. Roderick S. Hawthorne, LHRC Chairman, Mary Baylor, and Marilyn Copeland.

Quorum absent: Sara Flippens.

Human Rights Advocate, DMHMRSAS, present: Gianna Mitchell.

Affiliate Representatives: Phil Black, Commonwealth Support Systems; Gilbert Hernandez, Jr., Community Services of Virginia, Inc.; Joan Whitted, Emerson Place, Inc.; Juanita Austin & Jeffrey Moore, Family Redirection Institute, Inc.; Ethel Heyward, G.R.A.C.E., Inc.; Courtney Pinnock, James Bentley Treatment Program; Kimberly Davis, Northwestern Human Services, Inc.; Joanna Stinespring, Sentara Behavioral Health Services; Joanna Stinespring, Sentara Senior Behavioral Health Services; Arlethea Evans, Tranquility Manor, LLC; and Cynthia Whitehead, Unique Friends, LLC.

III. REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

The minutes for the meeting held 5/30/07 were approved as written (with minor corrections) and forwarded to Margaret Walsh, State Human Rights Director.

A hard copy of the minutes will be mailed to Reginald Daye, Regional Advocate.

IV. OLD BUSINESS:

The Local Human Rights Committee (LHRC) conference is scheduled for 9/13-14/07 in Richmond.

Competency-based training is required annually. Expect unannounced site visits.

There is currently one vacancy for a committee member on this LHRC.

The minutes approved at the current meeting will be forwarded to Margaret Walsh, State Human Rights Director, to be posted on the state website (margaret.walsh@co.dmhmrsas.virginia.gov) within three (3) business days. A draft of the current minutes will be forwarded to Margaret Walsh for posting on the website within ten (10) business days of the Committee meeting. The “Freedom of Information Act” mandates that all service providers post at each of their sites the date, time, and location of all scheduled LHRC meetings. This posting will include a list of all meetings scheduled for the remaining year (11/28/07, and 2/27/08).

A reminder was provided to affiliates of their responsibility to notify the Office of Human Rights in writing when intending to open a new group home. The Office of Human Rights will determine whether new policies are required. This must be established prior to presenting a request to the LHRC.

V. NEW BUSINESS:

Gianna Mitchell encouraged members and providers to look at the revised Human Rights regulations at <http://dmhmrsas.virginia.gov/OHR-default.htm#revised>.

The role of making LHRC meeting reminder/notification calls is rotated among all the affiliates. Sentara Behavioral Health Services, Inc. is responsible for notifying affiliates and committee members of the LHRC meeting scheduled for 11/28/07.

Bill Miller, currently managing the finances, reported a balance of \$2,193 as of 8/15/07.

VI. NEW PROGRAMS REQUESTING AFFILIATION:

Emerson Place, Inc. requested a renewal of their temporary affiliation for supportive/in-home services. The Committee voted and approved to continue their temporary affiliation for supportive/in-home services.

Family Redirection Institute, Inc. requested permanent affiliation for their children’s group home in Hampton. The Committee voted and approved permanent affiliation for the group home. They also requested a renewal of their temporary affiliation for their substance abuse services in both locations. The Committee voted and approved to continue temporary affiliation for the substance abuse services in both locations.

James Bentley Treatment Program requested a renewal of their temporary affiliation for the Haven House for Girls (a residential program for 12-17 year old females with behavioral issues, which mirrors the current program for adolescent males). The Committee voted and approved to continue temporary affiliation for the adolescent female residential program.

Northwestern Human Services, Inc. requested a renewal of their temporary affiliation for an additional group home and day support program. The Committee voted and approved to continue temporary affiliation for the additional home and day support program.

VII. PROGRAM REPORTS:

Commonwealth Support Systems – 26 individuals are in day support, and 4 are receiving in-home residential support. No complaints, abuse, seclusion, or restraints were reported.

Community Services of Virginia, Inc. – 84 consumers (32 are receiving in-home services, 18 in day support programs, and 34 are group home residents). No seclusion or restraints were reported, but one allegation of abuse was reported.

Emerson Place, Inc. – 3 residential consumers. No complaints, abuse, seclusion, or restraints reported. A progress report of an approved behavioral plan that includes the use of a protective device must be presented to the LHRC at each quarterly meeting.

Family Redirection Institute, Inc. – 86 in-home counseling consumers (44 in Portsmouth and 42 in Newport News). No complaints, abuse, seclusion, or restraints were reported.

G.R.A.C.E., Inc. – 10 residential consumers. No seclusion or restraints were reported, but one allegation of abuse and one allegation of peer-to-peer abuse were reported.

James Bentley Treatment Program – 7 residential consumers. No complaints, abuse, seclusion, or restraints reported.

Northwestern Human Services, Inc. – 20 individuals are in residential support, and 1 is receiving in-home services. No seclusion or restraints were reported, but one allegation of abuse was reported.

Sentara Mental Health Services – 27 inpatients. One restraint was reported (which requires follow-up at the next meeting), but no complaints, abuse, or seclusion were reported.

Sentara Senior Behavioral Health Services – 26 outpatients. No complaints, abuse, seclusion, or restraints were reported.

Tranquility Manor, LLC – 13 residential consumers, and 17 day support consumers (between the three facilities). No complaints, abuse, seclusion, or restraints were reported.

Unique Friends, LLC – 0 consumers are in residential support, and 1 is receiving in-home services. No complaints, abuse, seclusion, or restraints were reported.

VIII. EXECUTIVE SESSION:

The Committee voted to go into closed session pursuant to Virginia code 2.2-3711A to review an allegation of abuse at Community Services of Virginia, Inc. Upon reconvening in open session, each member of the LHRC certified that the only thing discussed in closed session was the allegation of abuse. The Committee had no further recommendations for Community Services of Virginia, Inc.

The Committee voted to go back into closed session pursuant to Virginia code 2.2-3711A to review a behavior plan submitted by Emerson Place, Inc. Upon reconvening in open session, each member of the LHRC certified that the only thing discussed in closed session was the behavior plan. The Committee recommended that Emerson Place, Inc. continue with the behavior plan as currently written.

The Committee voted to go back into closed session pursuant to Virginia code 2.2-3711A to review an allegation of abuse and an incident of peer-to-peer abuse at G.R.A.C.E., Inc. Upon reconvening in open session, each member of the LHRC certified that the only thing discussed in closed session was the allegation of abuse and an incident of peer-to-peer abuse. The Committee had no further recommendations for G.R.A.C.E., Inc.

The Committee voted to go back into closed session pursuant to Virginia code 2.2-3711A to review an allegation of abuse at Northwestern Human Services, Inc. Upon reconvening in open session, each member of the LHRC certified that the only thing discussed in closed session was the allegation of abuse. The Committee had no further recommendations for Northwestern Human Services, Inc.

The Committee voted to go back into closed session pursuant to Virginia code 2.2-3711A to review a restraint at Sentara Behavioral Health Services. Upon reconvening in open session, each member of the LHRC certified that the only thing discussed in closed session was the restraint. The Committee recommended that Sentara Behavioral Health Services report back at the next meeting with answers to numerous questions regarding the restraint incident.

The Committee voted to go back into closed session pursuant to Virginia code 2.2-3711A to follow-up a previous allegation of abuse at Unique Friends, LLC. Upon reconvening in open session, each member of the

LHRC certified that the only thing discussed in closed session was the allegation of abuse. The Committee had no further recommendations for Unique Friends, LLC.

The next LHRC meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, August 15, 2007, 9:30 AM sharp at Family Redirection Institute, Inc., 3401 County Street, Portsmouth, VA 23707 (757-398-0200).

Respectfully Submitted,

Joanna Stinespring, RNC
LHRC Program Support Liaison

Dr. Roderick Hawthorne
LHRC Chairman