

## ***Hampton Roads Regional LHRC Meeting***

**August 23, 2006**

### **I. CALL TO ORDER:**

The meeting was called to order by Marilyn Copeland at 9:35 AM.

### **II. INTRODUCTIONS:**

Quorum present: Marilyn Copeland, Sara Flippens, and Wanda Ward.  
Quorum absent: Dr. Roderick S. Hawthorne, LHRC Chairman, and Mary Baylor.

Regional Advocate, DMHMRSAS, present: Reginald Daye.

Affiliate Representatives: Phil Black, Commonwealth Support Systems; Gilbert Hernandez, Jr., Community Services of Virginia, Inc.; Joan Whitted, Emerson Place, Inc.; Jeffrey Moore & Vanessa Futrell, Family Redirection Institute, Inc.; Ethel Heyward, G.R.A.C.E., Inc.; Chrystal Miller, James Bentley Treatment Program; Kimberly Pervall, Northwestern Human Services, Inc.; Bill Miller, Sentara Behavioral Health Services; Joanna Stinespring, Sentara Senior Behavioral Health Services; Chiara Worthey, Tranquility Manor, LLC; and Cynthia Whitehead, Unique Friends, LLC.

### **III. REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

The minutes were approved after several corrections to the original draft for the meeting held on 5/31/06. The approved minutes were forwarded to Margaret Walsh, State Human Rights Director, on 9/11/06.

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

### **IV. OLD BUSINESS:**

There are no vacancies for committee members on this LHRC.

Existing human rights regulations are in a draft format. The changes (marked through) are available for comment by the general public. The revised regulations can be viewed on the web:

<http://www.dmhmrzas.virginia.gov/documents/OHR-RevisedRegulations.pdf>

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.dmhmrzas.virginia.gov](mailto:margaret.walsh@co.dmhmrzas.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 (11/29/06, and 2/28/07).

The Local Human Rights Committee (LHRC) conference, scheduled for September 7–8, has been canceled and will be rescheduled during the spring of 2007. The cancellation is a result of the feedback from the survey sent to the committee members. Many members are requesting training on any approved revisions of the human rights regulations. Since the revision process will not be completed prior to the scheduled seminar, it has been decided to postpone this event until next year.

**V. NEW BUSINESS:**

The role of making LHRC meeting reminder/notification calls is rotated among all the affiliates. Family Redirection Institute, Inc. is responsible for notifying affiliates and committee members of the LHRC meeting scheduled for 11/29/06.

Bill Miller, currently managing the finances, reported a balance of \$1,943 as of 8/23/06.

**VI. NEW PROGRAMS REQUESTING AFFILIATION:**

Community Services of Virginia, Inc. failed to request continuation (in May) of a temporary affiliation status for their two additional facilities. Both facilities became licensed in June. Therefore, the Committee voted and approved permanent affiliation this date for the additional facilities.

Family Redirection Institute, Inc. requested a renewal of their temporary affiliation for their children’s group home in Hampton. The Committee voted and approved to continue the temporary affiliation for this facility.

## **VII. PROGRAM REPORTS:**

Commonwealth Support Systems – 28 individuals are in day support, and 5 are receiving in-home residential support. No complaints, abuse, seclusion, or restraints reported.

Community Services of Virginia, Inc. – 86 consumers (32 are receiving in-home services, 19 in day support programs, and 35 are group home residents). No complaints, abuse, seclusion, or restraints reported, but two serious injuries were 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. – 54 in-home counseling consumers (31 in Portsmouth and 23 in Newport News). No complaints, abuse, seclusion, or restraints reported, but one serious injury was reported.

G.R.A.C.E., Inc. – 6 residential consumers. One restraint reported, but no complaints or abuse reported.

James Bentley Treatment Program – 3 residential consumers. No seclusion or restraints reported, but three incidents of peer-to-peer abuse were reported.

Northwestern Human Services, Inc. – 24 individuals are in residential support, and 0 are receiving in-home services. No seclusion or restraints reported, but two allegations of abuse and four incidents of peer-to-peer abuse were reported.

Sentara Mental Health Services – 28 inpatients. One seclusion reported, but no complaints, abuse, or restraints reported.

Sentara Senior Behavioral Health Services – 24 outpatients. No complaints, abuse, seclusion, or restraints reported.

Tranquility Manor, LLC – 14 residential consumers, and 16 day support consumers. No complaints, abuse, seclusion, or restraints reported.

Unique Friends, LLC – 6 consumers are in residential support, and 2 are receiving in-home services. No complaints, abuse, seclusion, or restraints reported.

## **VIII. EXECUTIVE SESSION:**

The Committee voted to go into closed session pursuant to Virginia code 2.2-3711A to review two serious injuries that occurred 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 serious injuries. A pending APS report (from a previous case) will be presented at the next meeting. 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 current plan as previously proposed.

The Committee voted to go back into closed session pursuant to Virginia code 2.2-3711A to review a serious injury that occurred at Family Redirection Institute, Inc. Upon reconvening in open session, each member of the LHRC certified that the only thing discussed in closed session was the serious injury. The Committee had no further recommendations for Family Redirection Institute, Inc.

The Committee voted to go back into closed session pursuant to Virginia code 2.2-3711A to review three incidents of peer-to-peer abuse at James Bentley Treatment Program. Upon reconvening in open session, each member of the LHRC certified that the only thing discussed in closed session was the incidents of peer-to-peer abuse. The Committee had no further recommendations for James Bentley Treatment Program.

The Committee voted to go back into closed session pursuant to Virginia code 2.2-3711A to review two allegations of abuse and four incidents of peer-to-peer 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 allegations of abuse and the incidents of peer-to-peer abuse. Regarding the first allegation of abuse, the Committee recommended that Northwestern Human Services, Inc. provide better management and training (to include a health care professional, policy and procedure changes, forms reflecting the changes, and staff signatures reflecting the additional training). A follow-up report is to be presented at the next meeting. Regarding the second allegation and the peer-to-peer incidents, the Committee recommended that Northwestern Human Services, Inc. continue to provide support.

The next LHRC meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, November 29, 2006, 9:30 AM sharp at Family Redirection Institute, Inc., 3401 County Street, Portsmouth, VA (398-0200).

Respectfully Submitted,

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Joanna Stinespring, RNC  
LHRC Program Support Liaison

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Dr. Roderick Hawthorne  
LHRC Chairman