

Hampton Roads Regional LHRC Meeting

May 27, 2009

I. CALL TO ORDER:

The meeting was called to order by Marilyn Copeland at 9:45 AM.

II. INTRODUCTIONS:

Quorum present: Marilyn Copeland, LHRC Vice Chair, Sara Flippens and Doris Peterkin.

Quorum absent: Dr. Roderick Hawthorne

Human Rights Regional Advocate, DMHMRSAS, present: Reginald Daye

Affiliate Representatives: Gilbert Hernandez, Jr., Community Services of Virginia, Inc.; Andrew Clarke, Didlake, Inc.; Joan Whitted, Emerson Place, Inc.; Rodney Hawkins, EVOLVE, LLC; Jeffrey Moore, Juanita Austin and Vanessa Futrell, Family Redirection Institute, Inc.; Michael Zalud, G.R.A.C.E., Inc.; Sandra Pinnock, James Bentley Treatment Program; Kimberly Davis, Northwestern Human Services, Inc.; Aaron Russell, Seeds of Change, LLC; Mary Haywood, Sentara Behavioral Health Services; and Arlethea Evans, Tranquility Manor, LLC.

III. PUBLIC COMMENTS

None

IV. REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

The minutes for the meeting held 02/25/2009 were reviewed. With corrections, the minutes were approved, then forwarded to Margaret Walsh, State Human Rights Director.

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

V. REGIONAL ADVOCATE REPORT

Reginald Daye reported that the LHRC interview had been held with one candidate being considered to serve on this LHRC. He also reported that there would be no Human Rights Conference held this year. Mr. Daye reminded Committee members and providers that the name of the Department of Mental Health, Mental Retardation and Substance Abuse Services will be changed to the Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services, effective 07/01/2009. At this time, there are no changes required to the Human Rights Posters displayed at various service provider locations.

VI. OLD BUSINESS:

Mr. Daye reminded providers that they must submit a letter to the Office of Human Rights whenever they want to add an additional service. A copy of the letter should also be sent to each Committee member. If this is an existing service, the provider should state if the additional service will operate under their existing Human Rights Policy. If this is a new service not currently being provided, a Human Rights Policy must be submitted for the new service. The LHRC requested that providers bring all new and add-on services before the Committee to seek affiliation.

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 remainder of the year.

VII. NEW BUSINESS:

Mr. Daye announced that Marilyn Copeland had served out her term on this Committee (effective 06/30/2009) and that this would be her last meeting. He thanked her for years of able service to the Hampton Roads Regional LHRC.

Ms. Peterkin submitted a reimbursement request for her travel to the LHRC interviews and meetings.

VIII. NEW PROGRAMS REQUESTING AFFILIATION:

Emerson Place, Inc. requested continued temporary affiliation for a new group home at 1806 Lansing Avenue in Portsmouth, VA 23704. The LHRC approved a 90-day continued temporary affiliation for the new group home.

Family Redirection Institute, Inc. requested, and received approval for, continued temporary affiliation for their residential group home, Children's Place, for 12-17 year olds, located in Hampton.

Northwestern Human Services, Inc. requested continued temporary affiliation for their day support program. The Committee approved the temporary affiliation for the day support program.

G.R.A.C.E. Inc. requested, and received approval for, temporary affiliation for a supported in-home service.

Didlake, Inc. requested, and received approval for, temporary affiliation for supported employment services.

EVOLVE, LLC. requested, and received temporary affiliation for after-school day support services for New Hope Church and Woodrow Wilson High School, both in Portsmouth.

IX. PROGRAM REPORTS:

Community Services of Virginia, Inc. – 78 consumers (21 are receiving in-home services, 24 in day support programs, and 33 are group home residents). No complaints, abuse, seclusion, or restraints were reported. However, there had been one serious injury. Since this incident occurred at another program, the Committee did not require any additional information be presented in closed session.

Didlake, Inc. – 26 consumers are in day support. No complaints, seclusion or restraints were reported. One allegation of abuse was reported.

Emerson Place, Inc. – 4 residential consumers. No complaints, abuse, seclusion, or restraints were reported.

Evolve, LLC – 75 consumers are receiving intensive in-home services. No complaints, abuse, seclusion, or restraints were reported.

Family Redirection Institute, Inc. – 198 in-home counseling consumers (84 in Chesapeake, with 33 in day treatment and 114 in Newport News, with 22 in day treatment). No complaints, abuse, seclusion, or restraints were reported.

G.R.A.C.E., Inc. – 11 residential consumers. No complaints, abuse, seclusion or restraints were reported.

James Bentley Treatment Program – 3 residential consumers. No complaints, abuse, seclusion, or restraints were reported.

Northwestern Human Services, Inc. – 19 individuals are in residential support, and 0 are receiving in-home services. No complaints, abuse, seclusion, or restraints were reported.

Seeds of Change – No report because they are not serving any consumers at this time. Mr. Daye stated more specific information was needed in their Policies and Procedures.

Sentara Behavioral Health Services – 26 inpatients. No complaints, abuse, seclusion, or restraints were reported. The provider stated their annual seclusion and restraints report had been submitted.

Tranquility Manor, LLC – 16 residential consumers, and 19 day support consumers (between the three facilities). No complaints, seclusion, or restraints were reported, but there were two allegations of abuse.

X. EXECUTIVE SESSION:

The Committee voted to go back into closed session pursuant to Virginia code 2.2-3711A to review an allegation of abuse at Didlake. 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 recommended that the final report on this incident be provided at the next meeting after all investigation activities are complete.

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 the current behavior plan as written and present an update at the next meeting on Mr. G.

The Committee voted to go back into closed session pursuant to Virginia code 2.2-3711A to review two allegations of abuse at Tranquility Manor. Upon reconvening in open session, each member of the LHRC certified that the only things discussed in closed session were the two allegations of abuse. In regards to the first allegation, the Committee had no further recommendations for Tranquility Manor. In regards to the second allegation, the Committee recommended that a written report/letter be completed on the consumer's "level of functioning", his ability to tolerate being hit pushed or bitten, and the ability of his peers to serve as witnesses.

The next two meetings of the LHRC have been scheduled for Wednesday, August 26, 2009 and Wednesday, November 18, 2009, both at 9:00am sharp at Family Redirection Institute, Inc., 5062 Portsmouth Blvd., Chesapeake, VA 23321.

Respectfully Submitted,

Phillip A. Black
LHRC Program Support Liaison

Dr. Roderick Hawthorne
LHRC Chairman