

**HANOVER LOCAL HUMAN RIGHTS COMMITTEE  
MINUTES**

**DATE:** June 6, 2006

**PRESENT:** **Committee Members:** Elizabeth Harrel, Charlene Leahy, Sharon Taylor and Paula Smith  
**Committee Member Absent:** Dr. Al Watts

**Regional Advocate:** Jim Bowser, DMHMRSAS  
**Human Rights Advocate:** Beverly Garnes, DMHMRSAS

**Affiliate Members:** Nichelle Cooper, Ascending Dove Residential Care  
Diane Winn, Creative Family Solutions  
Recco Greenhow, Dimension Youth  
Fidura 7 Associates, Inc., John Barrett  
Tina S. Dunn, Hanover Adult Center  
Ron Lucas, Hanover Community Services  
Jennifer Allen, Richmond Residential Services  
Barbara Riggins, Riggins Residential  
Ed Bowman, Virginia Baptist Children's Home

**Affiliate Member Absent:** Veldot Residential

**WELCOME:** Elizabeth Harrel called the meeting to order and welcomed all attending.

**AGENDA ITEMS:**

**I. Approval of Minutes:** It was moved that the minutes of the March 7, 2006 meeting be approved as submitted.

**II. Recruitment of New Members:** Elizabeth Harrel reminded the committee about the need for new members and new affiliates. She reported that her prospect for membership had taken a new job and it would probably be the fall of this year before he could consider membership. Ron Lucas reported that at this time the person he had in mind had declined.

**III. Affiliate Reports:**

**a. Ascending Dove Residential Care :** Nichelle Cooper reported that there were no allegations of human rights violations.

There was one program change during the quarter, a new location was opened and licensed on May 1, 2006. The home is in Henrico County and will house five adults needing mental retardation services for residential and respite. A brochure was distributed giving the location and other information regarding the facility. It was moved and seconded that the committee approved the affiliation of the operations of the new facility under the umbrella of Ascending Dove Care Facility.

**b. Creative Family Solutions:** Diane Winn reported that there was one allegation of human rights violations. The allegation occurred when a consumer began pinching, biting, kicking and yelling at the service provider. She responded to this by "showing him a belt and stating that it would be used if he didn't straighten up". A meeting was scheduled with the service provider and she was informed that the allegation was founded and that her employment would be terminated immediately.

There were no program changes for this quarter.

- c. **Dimension Youth Services:** Recco Greenhow reported that there were no allegations of human rights violations. There was a program change during the quarter. Two new residential care counselors have been hired and they meet all licensing requirements.

Mr. Greenhow asked what the process was for adding In-Home counseling at the same facility. Jim Bowser, Regional Advocate, stated that request would have to be presented for changes to be considered for new/additional services and if approved by licensing it would be operated under the umbrella of Dimension Youth Services.

- d. **Fidura & Associates, Inc.:** John Barrett reported that there were no allegations of human rights violations. There were no program changes during the quarter.
- e. **Hanover Adult Center:** Tina S. Dunn reported that there were no allegations of human rights violations. There were no program changes during the quarter.
- f. **Hanover Community Services:** Ron Lucas reported one human rights violation, discovered in a licensure review of the day treatment program, during the quarter. There were no program changes during the quarter.
- g. **Richmond Residential Services, Inc.:** Jennifer Allen reported no allegations of human rights violation. There were two program changes during the quarter. Two resident vacancy's, one at Chenault Way-female home, and one at Boatswaine Lane – male home. Position vacancy's Supervisor and Lead Counselor at Willow Avenue and Assistant Counselor at Boatswaine Lane. New resident at Willow Avenue moved in on May 28, (from SVTC, case management through RBHA).
- h. **Riggins Residential:** Barbara Riggins reported no allegations of human rights violation. There were program change during the quarter. We added a location at 812 Stonemeadow Drive, Glen Allen, VA 23060. Five admissions and two discharges. Three lead Residential Counselor positions were created. Promotions of Staff, Quality Assurance position was created. Staff promotions and two new staff were hired.
- i. **VELDOT Residential Services:** A report for the last quarter was submitted by A. Leavelle Cox on March 7, 2006 and will be reviewed at the September 12, 2006 meeting.
- j. **Virginia Baptist Children's Home & Family Services – DDM:** Ed Bowman introduced guests, Judy Schmidt and Ramona Isley. Ed reported there were no allegations of human rights violations.

There were no program changes during the quarter, but we are currently short three staff members in two of the four homes.

#### **IV. State Human Rights Office/Committee Updates and Announcements:**

Beverly Garnes, Human Rights Advocate, reported that a tentative date of September 7-8, 2006 had been set for the Statewide Human Rights Training. It will be held at the Holiday Inn Select, Kroger Center. Friday there will be a guest speaker and then all participants will break out in work groups.

Jim Bowser, Regional Advocate, reported Revisions for Human Rights Regulations are currently at the Governor's Office for approval. Changes will be in four areas: Format, Administrative, Children's Issues and Seclusion, Restraint and Time-out. When the changes are completed the information should flow together better.

Beverly Games, distributed the Advocate Report to the members of the committee and discussed information regarding the "Virginia Freedom of Information Act".

The **Human Writes Newsletter** will feature an article by Mr. Bowser representing Region 4 in the next issue.

Beverly Games went over revisions for Hanover County Local Human Rights Committee Bylaws:

**Article III – Membership, Section 3**

Members shall attend all regular and special meetings of the LHRC. If a member misses 2 meetings within a 12-month period, he/she shall be subject to a recommendation for removal by a majority vote of the other LHRC members.

**Article V – Meetings, Section 1**

HCLHRC shall meet quarterly on the first Tuesday of March, June, September and December.

**Article VII – Quorum**

A quorum for conducting business shall consist of a simple majority of actually appointed members of the LHRC or SHRC. At no time, however, shall a quorum be less than three members regardless of the number of members on the committee.

It was moved and seconded by the committee that revisions of the Bylaws be approved as Amended.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

Jim Bowser, Regional Advocate, discussed the need for the committee to re-elect Officers. It was moved and seconded that Elizabeth Harrel be re-elected as Chairman.

Also stated there should be a vice-chairman. It was moved and seconded that Dr. Al Watts be elected as vice-chairman.

Charlene Leahy needs to submit documentation to SHRC for re-appointment.

Elizabeth Harrel informed the committee that we were having problems with e-mails not reaching committee members and also e-mails not being received by Ms. Bagby, especially regarding orders for box lunches. It has been suggested that everyone call in their box lunch order to Ms. Bagby at 365-4201 once they receive the list.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:**

None

**NEXT MEETING:**

September 12, 2006

Respectfully submitted by:

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Barbara Bagby, Administrative Support