

**HANOVER LOCAL HUMAN RIGHTS COMMITTEE
MINUTES
(DRAFT)**

DATE: September 11, 2007

PRESENT: **Committee Members:** Sharon Taylor, Paula Smith, Dr. Al Watts, Charlene Leahy, and Elizabeth Harrel
Human Rights Advocate: Beverly Garnes, DMHMRSAS
Affiliate Members: Nichelle Cooper, Ascending Dove Care Facility, Inc. Sheila Lewis, Creative Family Solutions, Inc. Recco Greenhow, Dimension Youth Services Inc. John Barrett, Fidura & Associates, Inc. Terry Seward, Hanover Adult Center Florence Watt, Hanover Community Services Larry Wilson, Richmond Residential Services Barbara Riggins, Riggins Residential Leavelle Cox, Veldot Residential Crystal Burgess, Virginia Baptist Children's Home

Absent: Mark Sims, S.H.I.E.L.D. Residential Services, Inc.

WELCOME: Sharon Taylor called the meeting to order and welcomed all attending.

AGENDA ITEMS:

I. Approval of Minutes: Minutes from the June 5, 2007, meeting were approved.

II. OFFICE OF HUMAN RIGHTS/COMMITTEE UPDATES & ANNOUNCEMENTS:
Beverly Garnes, Human Rights Advocate, reported that there will be a 2007 Human Rights Seminar on Friday, September 14, 2007 at the Holiday Inn Select Koger South Conference Center at 1021 Koger Center Boulevard, Richmond, VA for LHRC Members. The Seminar will cover:

- Overview of changes to the Human Rights Regulations
- How to Run a Meeting
- How to Conduct a Hearing
- Consent and Substitute Decision Making
- SHRC Open Forum
- LHRC Reviews and Approvals

The meeting has been opened to LHRC Affiliates as well. Contact Margaret Walsh, Director, Office of Human Rights, DMHMRSAS, at 786-2008 to register.

The Governor Tim Kaine, has signed off on the submitted Revised Human Rights Regulations and if there are no comments or changes by current providers they will be approved on September 19, 2007. From September 19 - December 1, 2007, all current providers will have time for transitioning to the new regulations. On March 1, 2008 compliance of revised regulations will be in effect. You may go on-line at www.dmhmsas.virginia.gov/humanrights to see what changes have been made. There will be three trainings also to go over these changes. They will be announced at a later time.

III. Affiliate Reports:

a. Ascending Dove Residential Care : Nichelle Cooper reported there were two allegations of human rights violations. On June 13, a client had fallen down the stairs on one knee and slid into the wall head first causing a hole in the wall. The Resident Assistant on duty filed an incident report but did not notify the supervisor of the fall, call his Primary Care Physician or call 911 for emergency medical assistance. On June 14, client was taken to St. Mary's Hospital Emergency Room, he was diagnosed with 3 ribs

fractures. On June 18, he was taken again to St. Mary's Emergency Room for re-evaluation and was diagnosed with a broken hip which required a full hip replacement. The client was found to be dehydrated on July 19, and taken to the ER for IV fluids and then discharged.

It was found that The Resident Assistant was neglectful in both of these incidents and was therefore terminated on June 20, 2007.

We had one program change during the quarter. The client left the program at Hill Drive Group Home on August 17, 2007. The Home is currently vacant and has 6 openings.

- b. **Creative Family Solutions:** Shelia Lewis reported that there were no allegations of human rights violations during the quarter and there were no program changes during the quarter.
- c. **Dimension Youth Services:** Torecco Greenhow reported that there were no allegations of human rights violations during the quarter. There were no program changes. We had an audit on June 15, 2007. There were 4 violations. (1) Assurance of Rights were not displayed in areas designated. (2) All facts and circumstances surrounding an emergency were not documented in individual's service record. (3) Posting of Providers Rules of Conduct not posted. (4) Competency training of staff on regulations upon employment not given. All violations have been corrected.
- d. **Fidura & Associates, Inc.:** John Barrett reported that there was one allegation of human rights violations during the quarter and since it is pending he will report on it at the December meeting. There were no program changes during the quarter.
- e. **Hanover Adult Center:** Terry Seward reported that there were no allegations of human rights violations during the quarter. There were program changes during the quarter. Tin There was one participant discharged and one new participant arrived.

On August 23, 2007, Licensing Specialist made an unannounced inspection visit from VA DMHMRSAS - there were no violations cited and she is recommending a 3-year license.

- f. **Hanover Community Services:** Florence Watt reported there were no allegations of human rights violations during the quarter and there were no program changes during the quarter.
- g. **Richmond Residential Services, Inc.:** Larry Wilson reported there was one allegation of human rights violations during the quarter. The right to be treated with dignity. There was a program change during the quarter. An employee was hired on August 15, 2007, to oversee program operations at the Willow Avenue home.
- h. **Riggins Residential:** Barbara Riggins reported one allegation of human rights violations for the quarter. The Lead Residential Staff at Stone Meadow Group Home was reported for grabbing a resident and shoving her out the door while resident was helping bring fans into home (air condition was not working at that time). This incident was founded and staff member was terminated.

There were four program changes during the quarter. One staff member left employment, one staff member terminated, and two staff members were moved from part-time to full-time employment

- i. **VELDOT Residential Services:** A. Leavelle Cox reported one allegation of human rights violations during the quarter of the right to not be abused. This allegation was unfounded. There were no program changes during the quarter.
- j. **Virginia Baptist Children's Home & Family Services – DDM:** Crystal Burgess,

reported there was one allegation of human rights violations during the quarter. The Right to be treated with dignity has been undetermined at this time. We will report on the outcome of this incident at the December meeting

There were program changes during the quarter. Crystal Burgess has been hired as the Area Coordinator and will be working primarily with the Heinrich and Waldbauer Homes. She will also be the representative at all future HLHRC meetings. We had a visit from licensing and are awaiting approval to open a fifth home in the Richmond Area. We have started expanding our in-home services as staff is available.

OLD BUSINESS: None

NEW BUSINESS: None

PUBLIC COMMENT: None

DISCUSSION: The committee members Beverly Garnes discussed a letter addressed to Elizabeth from Tony Wilbourne, Area Director for HopeTree Family Services regarding temporary affiliations with HLHRC for a period of not more than one year. After discussion it was found that HopeTree Family Services would fall under the umbrella of Virginia Baptist Children's Home & Family Services. Elizabeth will contact Mr. Wilbourne regarding this.

ADJOURNMENT: Meeting adjourned.

NEXT MEETING: **December 4, 2007 – Winter Meeting 4:45 p.m.**
March 4, 2008 – Spring Meeting 4:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by:

Barbara Bagby, Administrative Support