

**HANOVER LOCAL HUMAN RIGHTS COMMITTEE  
MINUTES**

**DATE:** December 5, 2006

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

**Human Rights Advocate:** Beverly Garnes, DMHMRSAS

**Affiliate Members:** Nichelle Cooper, Ascending Dove Residential Care  
Sheila Lewis and Dee-D Miller, Creative Family Solutions  
Recco Greenhow and Rachel Hartwell, Dimension Youth Services Inc.  
Fidura & Associates, Inc., John Barrett  
Tina Dunn and Dorothy Shaphen, Hanover Adult Center  
Jennifer Allen, Richmond Residential Services  
Barbara Riggins, Riggins Residential  
Ed Bowman, Virginia Baptist Children's Home  
A. Leavell Cox, Veldot Residential

**Absent:** Ron Lucas, Hanover Community Services

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

**AGENDA ITEMS:**

**I. Approval of Minutes:** It was moved and seconded that the minutes of the September 12, 2006 meeting were approved as corrected.

**II. STATE HUMAN RIGHTS OFFICE/COMMITTEE UPDATES & ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

Beverly Garnes, Human Rights Advocate, introduced Carrie Flowers, Human Rights Advocate who is new to our meeting. Everyone attending introduced themselves and what affiliate they represented.

Beverly reported that the State Board public hearings on proposed regulations, in the seven locations throughout the state, was very light. Information gathered from those meetings will be compiled by Margaret S. Walsh, Director, Office of Human Rights, DMHMRSAS.

Beverly distributed the Advocate Report and The Human Writes Newsletter to committee members.

**III. Affiliate Reports:**

**a. Ascending Dove Residential Care :** Nichelle Cooper reported there were two allegations of human rights violations. One was founded and reported, and staff person was immediately terminated. The second allegation was unfounded. There was one program change. A new client was admitted to the home on Hill Drive.

**b. Creative Family Solutions:** Shelia Lewis reported that there were no allegations of human rights violations for the quarter. The following program changes occurred during this quarter. An office was opened in Abington, VA; Dyane Winn was promoted to Director; Sheila Lewis was promoted to project manager. Dee-D Miller was hired as a Unit Supervisor.

- c. **Dimension Youth Services:** Recco Greenhow reported that there was one allegation of human rights violation during the quarter. Mr. Greenhow discussed the violation and was advised by Beverly Garnes, Human Rights Advocate that reference to the human rights policies and procedures is very helpful in reporting incidents such as the one reported on. There were no program changes.
- d. **Fidura & Associates, Inc.:** John Barrett reported that there were no allegations of human rights violations for the quarter. 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 during the quarter. There were program changes during the quarter. The facility added four full time participants and added days to the four current participant schedules. No audit was conducted during the quarter.
- f. **Hanover Community Services:** No report.
- g. **Richmond Residential Services, Inc.:** Elizabeth Poe reported no allegation of human rights violations during the quarter. There was one program change during the quarter. Jennifer Allen resigned her position as County Program Director. Lisa Poe, RRSI Executive Director will be Acting Program Director while the position is vacant. Interviews for the position will start in about two weeks.
- h. **Riggins Residential:** Barbara Riggins reported one allegation of human rights violations during the quarter. The violation was founded. It was concluded that the violation did not occur at this resident's home. There were two program changes during the quarter. One staff person left, and one person was hired.
- i. **VELDOT Residential Services:** A. Leavell Cox reported no allegations of human rights violations during the quarter. There were no program changes.
- j. **Virginia Baptist Children's Home & Family Services – DDM:** Ed Bowman reported there were no allegations of human rights violations during the quarter. There were no program changes during the quarter.

We are currently 5 staff members short – 2 in one men's home and 1 in each of our three other homes. We are using relief staff to cover the shortages.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:** None

**OLD BUSINESS:** None

**NEW BUSINESS:** A suggestion to move the meeting to an earlier time in the day was discussed and it was decided that the next meeting will be at 4:30 p.m. on a trial basis to see if it will work with everyone's schedules.

**NEXT MEETING:** March 6, 2007 – Spring Meeting at 4:30 p.m. at the Ashland Library  
June 5, 2007 – Summer Meeting time to be set at the March meeting

Respectfully submitted by:

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Barbara Bagby, Administrative Support