

**APPROVED**  
**Heartland Regional**  
**Local Human Rights Committee**  
Meeting Minutes  
April 16, 2007  
6PM  
Greater Purpose Center  
Rice, VA

Members Present: Virginia Berkley, Aaron Myers, Sisty Cersley, and Royce Cersley

Members absent: Darin Knicely

Others Present: Richard Gilman & Julie McKenzie-Blue Ridge Services, Ed Helton, Mike Helton & Mattie Walker-Helton House, Tony Wilbourne-Hope Tree Family Services, Gail Worrall-Family Preservation, and Dorsey Drawhorn & Nina Baskerville, Amelia Residential Estates

Others absent: Deborah Berkley, PhD -Madeline Center At Home, Vanessa Harvey-VP&J Services, Mary Taylor-Mary's Rest Home, Michael Jordan-Next Level Residential, and Stacia Macklin-United Methodist Family Services

Virginia Berkley, Chair called the meeting to order.

**Minutes**

The January 29, 2007 draft minutes were approved as written.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

**The Committee went into Executive Session to interview candidates for vacancies on the Heartland Regional LHRC Committee. The motion was made and passed that the Heartland Regional LHRC go into closed session pursuant to Virginia Code §2.1-344 A (15) for the purpose of interviewing for a member vacancies.**

Upon reconvening in open session, the Committee unanimously passed a motion to nominate applicants JoAnn Torrence and Bettie Hazelwood for membership to Heartland Regional LHRC.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

**The motion was made and passed to go into Executive Session pursuant to Virginia Code, 2.2-3711 (15), for the purpose of discussion or consideration of the behavioral plan for JG (Helton House). This review necessarily involved discussion and consideration of mental and medical records excluded and information excluded from the Freedom of Information Act. Members present were Virginia Berkley, Aaron Myers, Royce Cersley, and Annette Cersley.**

Michael & Ed Helton and Mattie Walker of Helton House briefly reviewed the behavioral plan for JG, originally presented to the members on January 29, 2007. Helton House updated the committee on JG's progress and will do so again at the July and October 2007 meetings.

**Upon reconvening to open session, the Committee voted to continue the behavioral plan for JG as written until the review scheduled for July, 2007 meeting.**

**Recruitment**

Sherry Miles advised the Committee that if the SHRC approved the two nominees for membership, the Committee remains functional. However, the Committee still needs to recruit for four members: one consumer, one health care professional and two professionals. Affiliates were strongly encouraged to continue recruiting for these positions.

**Affiliation Request**

Richard Gilman from Blue Ridge Residential Services requested affiliation with this Committee as he is expanding his services into this region. Currently, his agency is developing a sponsored residential home in Phenix. The Committee granted the affiliation request.

**Regional Advocate Report**

Sherry advised the Committee of the smoking ban effective October 10, 2007 in all State facilities. As well, she advised the Committee of the status of the human rights regulations and discussed the tentative human rights training in September 2007. Royce and Sisty Cersley and Sherry attended the annual DMHMRSAS volunteer luncheon and each reported on their experience. The Committee will decide on a location to place to award received for the Committee at the luncheon. She reminded programs to report serious injuries to Office of Licensing and Office of Human Rights.

**Affiliate Reports**

**Family Preservation Services**

Gail Worrall reported the program has added a school support program at Cumberland Middle School, which is helping to decrease student suspensions from school. There have been no other changes in the program.

**Helton House**

Ed Helton reported the all buildings are receiving fresh coats of paint. Since the last meeting, no new consumers have been placed in the program.

**Mary's Rest Home**

Absent

**Next Level Residential Services**

Absent

**VP&J Services**

Absent.

**Hope Tree Family Services/Virginia Baptist Children's Home**

Tony Wilbourne reported having five consumers in the program including a respite consumer with two openings. He reported the program has changed its name to Hope Tree Family Services. The program has one staff vacancy, which is close to being filled.

**United Methodist Family Services**

Absent

**Madeline Center at Home**

Absent

**Amelia Residential Estates**

Dorsey Drawhorn reported having three consumers in his program with one vacancy. He reported learning to deal with some challenging client behaviors. No other changes in the program were reported.

**Member Recognition**

Virginia Berkley, Aaron Meyers, and Sisty Cersley were presented with certificates of appreciation for their years of service to the Committee. Each will be missed!

**Next Meeting**

The next meeting is scheduled for July 16, 2007 at 6PM at the Greater Purpose Center in Rice, Virginia.

With no other information to be discussed, the meeting adjourned.