

MIDDLE PENINSULA-NORTHERN NECK
LOCAL HUMAN RIGHTS COMMITTEE
MINUTES OF JANUARY 26, 2009

Chairman Frank Jewell called the regular meeting of the Middle Peninsula-Northern Neck Local Human Rights Committee to order at 1:07 p.m. on January 26, 2009, at the Rappahannock Hospital Training Center in Kilmarnock, Virginia. Board members in attendance were: Alice Coates, Carl Gerster, Frank Jewell, Judith Link and Bill Reisner. Agency representatives included: Shannan Rose – Arc of VA Lewis B. Puller Center, David Ware – Blue Ridge Residential Services, Felicia Tyler – Bridges, Mary Hayden – Heart Havens, Joanne Brown and Chuck Walsh – MP-NN Community Services Board, Patrizia Nesbitt - Sola, Inc., Stacy Hardcastle, Raegan Godsey – The Brambles,. Karen Stark - LHRC Administrative Support, Willie Barnes - Human Rights Advocate, were also in attendance.

Approval of Minutes

Mr. Gerster moved that the minutes from the October 27, 2008 meeting be approved with one typographical correction changing “mediation” to “medication”. Ms. Coates seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Program Presentation

Ms. Tyler welcomed everyone to the Bridges inpatient program site. She advised that Ms. Adams has resigned from the outpatient program. Even though the inpatient program is located in Rappahannock General Hospital, it is managed and staffed by Diamond Health Corp. At the inpatient facility, they have a 10 bed locked unit for adults. They provide admission on a 24/7 basis for male and female clients arriving on a temporary detention order (TDO) or who are admitted voluntarily. Their target population is geriatric clients; however, they do accept adults ages 18 and over. Due to the small size of the unit, they try to only accept clients who are not behaviorally dangerous. If a client is brought in on a TDO, their hearing is held at the hospital. They primarily accept clients with a MH diagnosis, but will accept persons who may also have a substance related diagnosis. Their patients primarily come from the MP-NN area, but they accept clients from any location in VA. They currently have part-time psychiatrists at both their inpatient and outpatient facilities, and are actively recruiting for a full-time psychiatrist. Due to the regional need, they are anticipating doubling their inpatient unit by building an addition. This may happen once they have their full-time psychiatrist. Once discharged from the inpatient setting, clients may be referred to the Bridges Outpatient Program where they can receive medication management, and group therapy provided by licensed counselors or social workers. The outpatient program also receives referrals from other hospitals and the community. Transportation can be provided.

Event Report Statistics

Bridges of RGH – Structured Outpatient Unit – Ms. Tyler reported that there were no human rights complaints of a general nature. There was a daily average of 9.14 clients in the Bridges program. The staff to client ratio was 1:2. No restraints were used this quarter.

Bridges of RGH Inpatient Unit – Ms. Tyler reported that there were no human rights complaints of a general nature. There was a daily average of 7.58 clients. The staff to client ratio was 1:3. There were no restraints and no seclusions. They had one elopement, and the patient returned within two hours with no injuries or further incident. Licensure visited the site on October 31, 2008 and renewed their license.

Heart Havens – Ms. Hayden reported that 8 clients were served (4 in Kilmarnock and 4 in Colonial Beach). The staff to client ratio was 2:4 and 1:4. There were no human rights complaints of a general nature. There were no restraints and no seclusions.

Middle Peninsula-Northern Neck CSB – Mr. Walsh reported that 496 individuals were served in the Community Options (formerly known as MR division) and the RISP divisions. The staff to client ratio was 1:1 to 1:7 (depending on an individual's needs) in the Community Options Day Support programs, 1:2 to 1:5 in the residential programs, and 1:1 in the RISP program. There were no person to person abuse incidents this quarter; no incidents of restraint; no human rights complaints of a general nature; and no program changes. There were approximately 2,866 individuals served in the MH/SA division - though this is not an unduplicated count. There was 1 person to person incident. It was determined that neglect did not occur and that staff followed proper procedures. There was 1 complaint of a rights violation. The issue was resolved. There was 1 formal complaint which was resolved. There is 1 formal complaint pending resolution. He further reported that 36,281 dosages of medication were administered with 28 medication errors.

There was much discussion regarding the reporting of medication errors following Mr. Walsh's report. Ms. Coates clarified that the key components of medication errors are: medication being provided out of the prescribed time frame; missed dosage; wrong dosage; wrong medication administered; and medication errors with a negative outcome. Ms. Barnes clarified that the prescribed time frame is inclusive of 1 hr. before to 1 hr. after the prescribed time. Mr. Gerster moved that medication errors using the criteria described above be reported at each quarterly meeting. Ms. Link seconded the motion which passed unanimously. Ms. Stark will e-mail the above information to all of the affiliates tomorrow.

Sola, Inc. – Ms. Nesbitt reported that there are 4 persons receiving residential services at Sola, Inc. The staff to resident ratio was 1:3 or 2:4. There were no human rights complaints, no incidents of seclusion or restraint, and there were no program changes. No medication errors.

She also reported that they had a visit from licensure last week and got approval for their Valley Day program effective 2/2/09. She requested something in writing from Ms. Trestral to support this, but was advised she did not need it. She requests permanent affiliation for this program. Mr. Reisner moved to approve permanent affiliation for the Sola, Inc. Valley Day Program contingent upon written confirmation of licensure approval. Ms. Coates seconded the motion which passed unanimously. Ms. Nesbitt will request written confirmation from Licensure. The Board members require that in the future all affiliates inform licensure that they need a written confirmation of approval. An e-mail would suffice for this purpose.

The Brambles – Ms. Hardcastle reported the residential program has 16 clients. The staff to client ratio was 1:5. The staff to client ratio at Day Support is 1:5. There are currently 15 clients three days per week, and 14 clients two days per week. There was one reported incident to APS regarding a family member. The Brambles followed the appropriate actions according to their P&P manual. There were no medication errors. There were no incidents of restraint or seclusion.

Blue Ridge Residential Services – Mr. Ware reported that there were no program changes. They have 2 locations in the MP-NN LHRC area; one is serving a client and the other is not. There have been no human rights complaints. There were no medication errors.

Arc of VA – Puller Center – Ms. Rose reported they currently serve 14 individuals in the Medicaid Waiver Day Support Program. The staff to consumer ratio is 2:14 in the waiver program; 2:18 in industrial services. There were no human rights complaints filed this quarter. There were no incidents of restraint or seclusion.

New Business

None

Old Business

None

Open Forum

Mr. Jewell identified that during the program reports an affiliate discussed old or new business which they did not submit for the agenda. He asks that all affiliates submit items, when requested, to be added to the agenda in the appropriate area so that all participants have an opportunity to be prepared for the meeting.

Mr. Walsh questioned whether a private provider offering a program in our catchment area could be affiliated with a LHRC in another region. Ms. Barnes clarified that they are required to seek affiliation in the region where the service is being provided – even if their primary location is elsewhere.

Ms. Barnes reports that there is a vacancy in their department which is approved to be filled. They are short-handed at this time.

Ms. Nesbitt reports that the client who had a behavioral plan in place no longer has this plan.

Executive Session

On the motion of Mr. Gerster, seconded by Ms. Link, the LHRC voted to go into executive session per VA Code Section 2.2-3711A(4) for the protection of the privacy of individuals in personal matters not related to public business, namely for the purpose of [hearing of authorized representatives, hearing of behavior modifications and/or conducting a hearing] pursuant to the regulations. The affiliate to be heard from is MP-NN CSB.

Upon returning to public session, each member of the Committee certified that to the best of each member's knowledge, only private business matters lawfully exempted from statutory open meeting requirements and only private business matters identified in the motion to convene the executive session were discussed in executive session.

The next LHRC meeting is scheduled for April 27, 2009 at 1 p.m. at MP-NN CSB Discovery II.

There being no further business, Mr. Gerster motion that the meeting adjourned. Mr. Reisner seconded the motion which was approved and the meeting adjourned at 3:10 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Karen Stark ☺

LHRC Administrative Support