

Petersburg Regional
Local Human Rights Committee Meeting Minutes
October 8, 2008

Committee Members Present:

Dr. Lee Ann Binger, LHRC Member
Isabel Vartanian, LHRC Member
Michael McKeever-Davis, LHRC Member
Mike Nichols, LHRC Member
Steve Watkins, LHRC Member

Committee Members Absent

John Vartanian, LHRC Member

Affiliate Members Present:

Samuel Onadipe, Savannah's House, LHRC Affiliate
Lashanda Powell, Triumph Residential Services, LHRC Affiliate
Catherine Harrison, Jireh House, LLC., LHRC Affiliate
Rudy Jackson, Empowerment Clinical Consulting Services, LHRC Affiliate
Lakia Gilliam, FamMat Services, LLC., LHRC Affiliate
Daniel Herr, Gateways Homes, LHRC Affiliate
Kimberly Lindblad, Specialized Youth Services of Virginia, Inc., LHRC staff support and
Affiliate
JosLynn Napper, Poplar Springs Hospital, LHRC Affiliate
James Hunter, III, Poplar Springs Hospital, LHRC Affiliate
Linda Wallace, River City Residences, LLC, LHRC Affiliate
Ronald Wallace, River City Residences, LLC, LHRC Affiliate
Brenda Hill-Bland, River City Residences, LLC, LHRC Affiliate

Affiliate Members Absent:

Victoria Gbadebo, Amazings Grace, LLC., LHRC Affiliate
Khafilat O. Arcapolano, Amazings Grace, LLC, LHRC Affiliate

Others Present:

Ansley Perkins, Regional Advocate, Office of Human Rights
Carrie Flowers, Residential Advocate, Office of Human Rights

I. Call to Order

- a) Dr. L. Binger called the meeting to order at 6:02pm.

II. Approval of the minutes

- a) Mr. Steven Watkins motioned to approve the minutes from the August 2008 meeting. Mr. Michael Nichols seconded the motion.

III. Public Comments

- a) There were no public comments

IV. New Business

- a) Poplar Springs shared their request for a renewal of the Variance to the Time Out rule. The program is called Treatment Refocus. Dr. Binger requested to see the actual program and policy and requested that all such requests be presented in writing two weeks prior to the meeting during which the variance request is presented to the committee. Poplar Springs may schedule a call meeting to revisit this issue before the variance expires.
- b) Specialized Youth Services of Va., Inc. (SYS) also made request for renewal of their variance to the Time Out regulation, Therapeutic Separation. Ms. Isabel Vartanian motioned for approval of the variance; Mr. Nichols seconded the motion and the request was approved. This variance will be presented to the State Human Rights Committee in December of 2008. SYS also requested approval for revisions to the AWOL policy/procedure. Mr. Michael Nichols motioned for approval of the changes; Ms. Isabel Vartanian seconded the motion and the request was approved. SYS also requested approval for a change to the search/pat down policy/procedure. Ms. Isabel Vartanian motioned for approval of the change; Mr. Steve Watkins seconded the motion and the request was approved.
- c) Dr. Binger advised all affiliates that, due to the small nature of the size of the meeting room, that affiliates should send only one representative to each meeting.
- d) Dr. Binger described the duties of the chair and requested that a “vote” take place to replace her as chair of the committee. Mr. Michael Nichols volunteered to be the new Chair of the committee; all members approved the change. Mr. Steven Watkins will serve as Vice Chair of the committee; all members approved the change. Mr. Michael Nichols will begin chairing the committee at the next meeting in February of 2009.
- e) Ms. Vartanian reported to the committee that her brother, Mr. John Vartanian, will no longer be able to serve on the committee effective immediately, as his

attendance at the meetings conflicts with his participation in another program. Mr. Vartanian's participation will be missed. Dr. Binger requested that Mr. Vartanian (or Ms. Vartanian on his behalf) submit his resignation in writing to the committee, so that it can on record with the Office of Human Rights.

V. Old Business

- a) There was no old business.

VI. Advocate Report

- a) Ms. Carrie Flowers, Regional Advocate, reiterated the dates and times of the upcoming Member conference, providing flyers with the information as needed to the committee members.

VII. Affiliate Reports

- Savannah's House
- Triumph Residential
- River City Residences
- Jireh House
- Empowerment Clinical and Consulting Services
- FamMat Services, LLC
- Gateway Homes
- Specialized Youth Services of Va., Inc. (SYS)
- Poplar Springs Hospital (PSH)
- Amazings Grace (no report submitted as they were not in attendance)

VIII. Closed Session

- a) A motion was made that the LHRC go into Executive Session pursuant to Virginia Code Section 2.2-3711 for the purpose of reviewing the details of the Provider Reports. Dr. LeAnn Binger motioned to go into Closed Session; Mr. Steven Watkins seconded the motion.
- b) Upon reconvening into open session, the Local Human Rights Committee certified that only business matters lawfully exempted from statutory open meeting requirements and only public business matters identified in the motion to convene the closed session were discussed in closed session.
- c) Roll Call: Isabel Vartanian, so certified; Dr. LeAnn Binger, so certified; Mike Nichols, so certified; Steven Watkins, so certified.

IX. Other Business

- a) Poplar Springs and River City Residences will need a joint call meeting to address the variance request (PSH) and the need for an authorized representative for a client (River City Residences). Ms. Kim Lindblad, Liason to the Committee, will remain in contact with the two affiliates to coordinate the meeting as necessary/appropriate.

X. Adjournment

- a) The LHRC meeting was adjourned at 8:07pm. The next regularly scheduled LHRC meeting will be held on February 11, 2009 at 6:00pm in the Poplar Springs Hospital private dining room. Dinner will be served at 5:30pm. Other meetings scheduled for the coming year are as follows: May 13, 2009, August 12, 2009, and October 14, 2008.