

LOCAL HUMAN RIGHTS COMMITTEE
Southside Regional Local Human Rights Committee
Meeting of July 28, 2006

*****FINAL*****

PRESENT

George Boothby, LHRC Chair
Barbara Parker, LHRC
Mary Ann Jackson, LHRC
Stewart Prost, Human Rights Advocate
DMHMRSAS
Reginald Daye, Regional Advocate
DMHMRSAS
Jeffrey Burns, Tidewater Psychotherapy Services
Jim Dekker, Finney Psychotherapy Associates
Henry Lee, Pendleton Child Services Center
Shawn Ware—Avant, Paramount Youth Services
Walter Howell, Family Systems II and New Life Programs
Mimi Sedjat, Vito, Inc.
Douglas Ray, Franklin House
Monica Manley, The Barry Robinson Center
Felix Johnson, The Barry Robinson Center

ABSENT

Bobby Howlett, Jr. LHRC
Lynette Jennings, LHRC
Steven Waranch, Atlantic
Psychiatric Services
Stephen Griffith, Family Net (Deceased)
Rick Jackson, DePaul Behavioral
Medical Center

Chairperson George Boothby called the meeting to order at 9:03 a.m. He reported that LHRC member Bobby Howlett, Jr. had had called before the meeting to say that he would be unable to attend. Lynette Jennings, LHRC member was not present and had not called prior to the meeting to report reason for non-attendance.

Announcements

Chairperson George Boothby announced that DePaul Behavioral Medical Center was closing its behavioral health care program effective August 4, 2006. He also reported the LHRC/SHRC training scheduled for September 7th and 8th, 2006 will be rescheduled once the regulations have been accepted. He informed everyone that Stephen Griffith, a representative for Family Net, died recently. He then passed around the obituary for anyone to read.

Chairperson George Boothby indicated he will be relocating at the end of the next school year and will probably resign from the LHRC Committee in the spring. Mr. Stewart Prost encouraged the committee and provider participants to locate someone who is a healthcare provider/administrator/direct healthcare provider to replace Dr. Boothby. Jeffrey Burns asked if the person could be recently retired. Mr. Daye and Mr. Prost stated that would be fine.

2006 Meeting Dates

The final 2006 LHRC meeting is scheduled for October 27, 2006.

Minutes

The minutes of the April 28, 2006 meeting were reviewed and approved with revisions identified by Mr. Reginald Daye, Regional Advocate.

Advocate's Report

Reginald Daye provided everyone with the state newsletter entitled "Human Writes". He reported the state newsletter had been worked on for several years and has now come to fruition. The newsletter is also on the state website. In brief, Mr. Daye indicated the purpose of the newsletter is keep everyone abreast on any activities of the Office of Human Rights, as well as to receive input from committees across the state.

Mr. Daye reported that during the quarterly advocate's meeting in Staunton this August, there would be much discussion about a new date for the training conference. There is hope that the conference will be rescheduled for the spring of 2007.

The proposed changes in the human rights regulations are in the governor's office for review. Once authorization is received by the governor's office, public hearings will be scheduled on the proposed changes.

Mr. Daye reported there is one advocacy vacancy in this region, which will be filled on August 10. Ms. Gianna Mitchell will take Virginia Goodell's place. In addition, Mr. Daye reported that Andrea Coleman is a contract staff member working 25-hours per week to assist with monitoring programs.

Program Reports

1. Pendleton Child Services Center – Henry Lee reported they are currently serving 19 residents in their residential program and 2 clients in their day treatment program. There were no restraints, complaints, or other Human Rights issues.
2. Tidewater Psychotherapy – Jeff Burns reported they are currently serving 66 clients in 7 substance abuse and regular groups. There were no restraints, complaints, or other human rights issues.
3. Finney Psychiatric Associates – Jim Dekker reported they are currently serving 14 adult clients in their intensive outpatient chemical dependency program. There were no restraints, complaints, or other human rights issues.
4. Atlantic Psychiatric Services – No representative was present. Received letter on 08/01/06 dated 07/28/06 from Steven Waranch stating he regretted his non-attendance secondary to traffic. The letter reported they are currently serving 15 adults and residents in their Chemical Dependency Outpatient Program. There were no restraints, complaints, or other human rights issues.
5. DePaul Behavioral Medical Center – No representative was present. However, chairperson George Boothby had previously announced that the DePaul Behavioral Healthcare Program is closing effective August 4, 2006.
6. Paramount Youth Services – Shawn Ware-Avant reported they are currently serving 32 adolescents in four group homes. She indicated there have been a few AWOLs and all of the residents returned within a short period of time and no one remained away for longer than 24 hours. She reported there were two peer-to-peer incidents with no injuries. These incidents were discussed during closed session.
7. New Life – Walter Howell reported they are currently serving 42 home-based clients within

New Life. Mary's House has 3 clients. Sister's House has 1 client. They anticipate one admission to each program soon. There were no restraints, complaints or other human rights issues.

8. Family Systems II – Walter Howell reported there are 142 clients receiving intensive in-home services. There were no restraints, complaints or other human rights issues. Mr. Howell provided the committee with an update on the William Stallings project, stating that the home was currently being renovated and is located on 27th Street in Norfolk, Virginia. He indicated the program is for adolescent males. Mr. Daye reported that before asking for affiliation with the LHRC, they should have received approval on their human rights policies and procedures from the Office of Human Rights. Mr. Daye requested that they send a letter describing the program. The Office of Human Rights will determine if the program can function under the policies for the current program or require revision. Specifically, he stated that, because existing programs are for females and the new program is for adolescent males, revisions would be necessary. Mr. Daye reminded everyone that any program must be in compliance with the Office of Human Rights (have approved P&Ps and a LHRC affiliation for the additional program) before licensure will approve it. Therefore, the Williams Stallings project has temporary affiliation contingent upon sending a letter and getting approval from the Office of Human Rights.
9. Vito Inc. – Momi Sedjat reported they are currently serving 58 families. Twenty-nine families are receiving in-home services, 17 clients are in day support, and 12 clients are receiving family care giving training. There were no restraints, complaints or other human rights issues.
10. Family Net – No representative was present. No one called to report reason for non-attendance. Chairperson George Boothby had previously announced that Stephen Griffith, who had been in regular attendance, is recently deceased.
11. Franklin House - Douglas Ray reported they are currently serving two residents with the capacity of four. There have been no restraints, complaints or other human rights issues.
12. The Barry Robinson Center – The LHRC reviewed The Barry Robinson Center's statistical reports regarding structured living, reports to licensing/Human Rights, and special treatment procedure utilization during closed session.

Executive Session

A motion was made and passed that the LHRC enter into an Executive Session pursuant to Virginia Code Section 2.2-3711 (A) for the purpose of discussing two peer-to-peer incidents that occurred within the Paramount Youth Services.

Exit Executive Session

Upon reconvening into public session, the LHRC unanimously certified to the best of each member's knowledge, only public matters, lawfully exempt from statutory open meeting requirements, and only public business matters identified to the motion to convene this session, the Executive Session, were discussed in the Executive Session.

After reconvening into public session, the Southside Local Human Rights Committee indicated they made no recommendations regarding the incidents to Paramount Youth Services.

Executive Session

A motion was made and passed that the LHRC inter into an Executive Session pursuant

to Virginia Code Section 2.2-371 (A) for the purpose of reviewing The Barry Robinson Center's Structured Living (SL) Report.

Exit Executive Session

Upon reconvening into public session, the LHRC unanimously certified to the best of each member's knowledge, only public matters, lawfully exempt from statutory open meeting requirements, and only public business matters identified to the motion to convene this session, the Executive Session, were discussed in the Executive Session.

After reconvening into public session, the Southside Regional Local Human Rights Committee requested that The Barry Robinson Center (BRC) provide them with a status report at the next meeting on the one structured living incident that went over the allowed number of times. It will be identified as Case #1-July 2006.

Mr. Daye informed the BRC that during the next variance renewal request to the State Human Rights Committee, in July 2007, they must include as part of the documentation the following: General data on the use of structured living as well as detail information on any cases that go over the allowed number of time.

There were no additional recommendations regarding this particular case.

Mr. Daye asked the committee what they do to enforce the bylaws if a representative does not attend a meeting. Specifically, he stated that if a program representative misses a meeting and the absence is unexcused, that program can be dropped to a temporary affiliation for 90-days, or until the next meeting date. It requires that the committee vote to take this action. The LHRC should also send the representative a letter informing them they must attend the next meeting or their temporary affiliation will expire. Once they are present and provide the committee with an explanation of their failure to comply with the affiliation agreement, then the LHRC can vote to reinstate them to a full affiliation status or continue the temporary status. As for new programs, if no representative attends, then their 90-day temporary affiliation will automatically expires. The program must then attend the next meeting and request to be affiliated with the LHRC, once again.

Dr. Boothby, entertained a motion to add the procedure noted by Mr. Daye, and to notify providers who have unexcused absences that effective the third quarter meeting, they would begin to receive letters indicating a change to a 90-day temporary affiliation pending an explanation for the absence. The committee seconded and approved the motion.

Dr. Boothby indicated that the representative from Depaul Medical Center was not present secondary to the program planning to close. He also noted that no one from Family Net was present due to the death of the representative who usually attends the meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:50 a.m.