

LOCAL HUMAN RIGHTS COMMITTEE
Southside Regional Local Human Rights Committee
Meeting of October 28, 2005

PRESENT

George Boothby, LHRC
Bobby Howlett, Jr., LHRC
Lynette Jennings, LHRC
Jeffrey Burns, Tidewater Psychotherapy Services
Jim Dekker, Finney Psychotherapy Associates
Steve Waranch, Atlantic Psychiatric Services
Stephen Griffith, Family Net
Susan Wilson, Pendleton Child Services Center
Douglas Ray, Franklin House
Bernard Sutton, Paramount Youth Services
Patrick Bateman, The Barry Robinson Center
Felix Johnson, The Barry Robinson Center
Stewart Prost, State Human Rights Advocate
Collette Ashiru, Office of Human Rights

ABSENT

Mary Ann Jackson, LHRC
Barbara Parker, LHRC
Rick Jackson, DePaul Behavioral Medical Center
Angelo Morlino, Vito, Inc.

George Boothby called the meeting to order at 9:05 a.m. Patrick J. Bateman reported that LHRC members Mary Ann Jackson and Barbara Parker had both called before the meeting to say that they would be unable to attend. Mr. Jackson from DePaul Behavioral Medical Center had called to say that he was stuck in traffic on the Peninsula.

2005 Meeting Dates

The 2006 LHRC meeting dates are scheduled for January 27, April 28, July 28, and October 27.

Minutes

The minutes were reviewed and approved as presented.

Introductions

LHRC members Bobby Howlett, Jr. and Lynette Jennings were introduced to the Committee.

Advocates' Report

Collette Ashiru reported that she has been conducting visits to intensive in-home programs. She emphasized that it is important for these programs to have competency-based human rights training for staff members. It is also important that these programs have posted the Rules of Conduct, Bill of Rights, and notification regarding the Virginia Office of Protection and Advocacy.

Stewart Prost reported that State law requires that regulations be reviewed every three years. He noted that the revised Human Rights Regulations are now available at the DMHMRSAS website. The regulations are awaiting the governor's approval, and they will then be available for public comment. Mr. Prost noted further that the Office of Human Rights has recently determined that under the Freedom of Information Act, public notice of LHRC meetings should be posted and the minutes should be made available. This requirement will not go into effect until 2006. He will discuss it in greater detail at the January meeting. He suggested that public notices and minutes can be posted on a provider program's website or perhaps on the DMHMRSAS website. The rules will apparently require that a draft of minutes be posted within ten working days after the meeting. After final approval of the minutes, the final copy must be posted within three days of the approval.

Mr. Prost reported that there had been a recent training at the Southeastern Training Center. A major statewide training is tentatively being planned for May 2006. He will provide further information as it becomes available.

Program Reports

1. Pendleton Child Services Center – Sue Wilson reported that they are currently serving 17 clients in their residential program and 4 clients in their day program. There were no restraints, complaints, or other human rights issues.
2. Tidewater Psychotherapy – Jeff Burns reported that they are currently serving 18 clients in their intensive outpatient substance groups and 52 clients in their regular groups. There were no restraints, complaints, or other human rights issues. Mr. Burns reported that they had recently experienced a review by their licensing representative, and no problems were identified during that licensing visit.
3. Finney Psychiatric Associates – Jim Dekker reported they are currently serving 9 adult clients in their intensive outpatient chemical dependency program. There were no restraints, complaints, or other human rights issues.
4. Atlantic Psychiatric Services – Steve Waranch reported that they are serving 25 clients in intensive outpatient programs for substance abuse. There are two adult groups and one adolescent group. There have been no restraints, complaints, or human rights issues.

DePaul Behavioral Medical Center – As noted previously, Rick Jackson had called just before the meeting to say that he was unable to attend the meeting. He did leave a voicemail for Dr. Bateman indicating that there had been no restraints, complaints or other human rights issues.

5. Paramount Youth Services – Bernard Sutton reported they are currently serving 26 adolescents in four group homes. They opened the fourth group home since the last LHRC meeting. There were no restraints, complaints or other human rights issues.
6. New Life – Nina Joyner reminded everyone that Family Systems has also become affiliated with this Committee. She noted that Family Systems provides an array of

community-based services. She reported that they are currently serving 73 clients within Family Systems and 59 clients within New Life. There are two group homes operating within New Life. Mary's House serves females ages 12 to 17 and currently has 6 clients. Sister's House serves clients ages 16 to 21 and currently has two clients.

Prior to the LHRC meeting, New Life had provided Committee members with the rules of conduct for Sister's House, which is a 3-bed group home facility. The Committee moved, seconded, and voted to approve the Sister's House Rules of Conduct.

Ms. Joyner provided the Committee members with a letter from Regional Advocate Reginald Daye, indicating that the human rights policies and procedures for Sister's House were found to be complete and in compliance with the Human Rights rules and regulations. The LHRC reviewed Sister's House human rights policies and procedures and did not make any recommendations for changes.

The LHRC moved, seconded, and voted to approve that Sister's House move from temporary affiliation status to permanent affiliation status with this LHRC.

Ms. Joyner requested a temporary affiliation for a proposed 9-bed independent living program on 31st Street in Norfolk, Virginia. This independent living program will be named the William Starling Project. It will serve adolescent males ages 16 to 21. The LHRC moved, seconded, and voted to approve temporary affiliation of the William Starling Project with this LHRC.

8. Vito Inc. – No representative present. No one called to report reason for non-attendance.
9. Family Net – Steve Griffith reported that they are currently serving 13 clients in their intensive in-home program and 45 clients in their outpatient and substance abuse program. There were no restraints, complaints, or other human rights issues.

Mr. Griffith presented the Committee members with a letter from Mr. Daye indicating that he had reviewed Family Net's policies and procedures and had found them to be complete and in compliance with the Human Rights Rules and Regulations. Prior to the LHRC meeting Mr. Griffith had provided Committee members with copies of the Family Net Human Rights Policies and Procedures. The Committee reviewed Family Net's Human Rights Policies and Procedures during this meeting and did not have any suggestions for changes. The LHRC motioned, seconded, and voted approval of Family Net's restraint policy and procedure.

10. Franklin House - Douglas Ray reported that they are currently operating with a conditional license. They do not have any residents in their service for MR male adults ages 18 to 65.
11. 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.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:30 a.m.