

LOCAL HUMAN RIGHTS COMMITTEE
Southside Regional Local Human Rights Committee
Meeting of October 31, 2008

*****FINAL*****

PRESENT

Viola Vaughan-Eden, PhD. LHRC Chair
Kathleen Dring, Psy.D., LHRC Vice Chair
Mary Ann Jackson, LHRC Secretary
Stewart Prost, Human Rights Advocate DMHMRSAS
Susan Wilson, Pendleton Child Services Center
Jeffrey Burns, Tidewater Psychotherapy Services
Jim Dekker, Finney Psychotherapy Associates
Steven Waranch, Atlantic Psychiatric Services
Damon Sutton, Paramount Youth Services
Nina Joyner, New Life Programs and Family Systems II
James Lassiter, Family Net
Monica Manley, The Barry Robinson Center

ABSENT

Tracy Ferguson, LHRC
Angelo Morlino, Vito, Inc.

Chairperson Viola Vaughn-Eden called the meeting to order at 9:03 a.m. Mr. Prost announced that Tracy Ferguson had called yesterday stating that she would be unable to attend today's meeting.

2009 Meeting Dates

The 2009 Meeting Dates are January 23, April 24, July 24 and October 23.

Minutes

The minutes of the July 25, 2008 meeting were reviewed and approved.

Advocate's Report

Stewart Prost reported that the state has been experiencing budget cuts. His region will not be hiring any new advocates and will lose two people by the end of the year.

Mr. Prost informed the Committee that recent training for LHRC members was successful and that committee member Tracy Ferguson attended. He strongly encouraged the remaining committee members to attend training and offered to provide training to the members following scheduled meetings.

Mr. Prost reported that the committee currently includes four members and there is a vacancy for a consumer. He requested that providers send him potential applicants for the position. In addition, Mr. Prost reported Mary Ann Jackson will complete her second term on the committee in June 2009 and cannot serve on the committee for one year. However, she may serve on another committee if she desires.

Mr. Prost reminded providers that whenever a site or service is added to an existing program's current license, the provider must notify (in writing) the Office of Human Rights (Mr. Reginald Daye) and seek temporary affiliation with the LHRC. If the Office of Human Rights is not notified, licensing will be informed that the site or service is out of compliance, which may result in a citation from licensing.

Program Reports

1. Pendleton Child Services Center – Susan Wilson reported they are currently serving 16 residents in the residential program and 3 students 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 62 clients in 8 intensive outpatient and substance abuse groups. There were no restraints, complaints, or other human rights issues.
3. Finney Psychiatric Associates – Jim Dekker reported they are currently serving 11 adult clients in their intensive outpatient chemical dependency program. There were no restraints, complaints, or other human rights issues.
4. Atlantic Psychiatric Services – Steven Waranch reported they are currently serving 12 patients in their two intensive outpatient chemical dependency groups. There were no restraints, complaints, or other human rights issues.
5. Paramount Youth Services – Damon Sutton reported they are currently serving 18 clients in 4 group homes. There were no restraints, complaints, or other human rights issues.
6. New Life – Nina Joyner reported they are currently serving 139 intensive in-home clients within New Life. Mary's House has 3 residents. William Stallings Project has 0 residents. There were no restraints, complaints or other human rights issues.
7. Family Systems II – Nina Joyner reported there are 92 clients receiving intensive in-home services. There are 13 clients in the mental health support program. There were no restraints, complaints or other human rights issues.

Ms. Joyner requested temporary affiliation for four sites (John F. Kennedy Middle School, Mack Benn, Jr. Elementary School, Mount Zion Elementary School and Turlington Woods Elementary School) where their therapeutic day treatment program will provide services in Suffolk, VA. Mr. Prost stated that the Office of Human Rights had not received notification of the four sites. Mr. Prost reported that during the previous LHRC meeting, he was under the impression that the affiliation was for one site. Ms. Joyner reported Mr. Gonzales with Licensing visited and approved all four sites. Mr. Prost stated even though Licensing has approved the sites, the Office of Human Rights has not received written notification of the multiple sites and therefore they are out of compliance. Ms. Joyner reported services are scheduled to start next week and she was unaware that her organization had not followed all guidelines to provide the services. She stated the SHRC had reviewed and approved the Human Rights policies, the LHRC had given the therapeutic day program temporary affiliation during the last meeting and she believed the final step was for licensing to visit the sites. Mr. Prost agreed that although her organization did not intentionally mislead the Office of Human Rights, it was not clear to him or the Office of Human Rights that the service would be provided at multiple sites. Thus, he requested that Ms. Joyner notify Mr. Daye (in writing) of the multiple sites to remain in compliance before providing any services in Suffolk, VA. Dr. Vaughan-Eden voiced the motion to give temporary affiliation to the day treatment program in the aforementioned four sites contingent upon Mr. Daye receiving notification of the four sites in writing and acknowledging receipt of the letter. Dr. Dring moved the adoption of the motion. The motion was seconded and all committee members voted to approve the motion with the prestated contingency. Mr. Prost stated once Mr. Daye acknowledges receipt of the notification, the program is in compliance in the four stated sites in Suffolk, VA and services may be provided. In addition, the day

treatment program in the four sites will then be eligible for permanent affiliation at the January 2008 meeting.

8. Vito Inc. – No report. A motion was made, seconded and approved that Vito, Inc. be moved to temporary affiliation. Chairperson Dr. Vaughan-Eden will be sending Mr. Morlino a letter informing him of their temporary affiliation and opportunity to explain his absence at the next LHRC meeting. At that time, Vito, Inc. may be reinstated to permanent affiliation.
9. Family Net – James Lassiter reported they currently have 7 clients receiving in-home services. There were no restraints, complaints or other human rights issues.
10. The Barry Robinson Center – HomeBase Services – Monica Manley reported 85 clients are receiving in-home services. HomeBase Services also provide weekly anger management groups and a substance abuse group. There were no restraints, complaints or other human rights issues.
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.

Executive Session

A motion was made and passed that the LHRC enter into an Executive Session pursuant to Virginia Code Section 2.2-371 (A) for the purpose of reviewing The Barry Robinson Center’s occurrence 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 reconvene this session, the Executive Session, were discussed in the Executive Session.

After reconvening into public session, the Southside Regional Local Human Rights Committee indicated they made no recommendations regarding any of the occurrences at The Barry Robinson Center.

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