

LOCAL HUMAN RIGHTS COMMITTEE
Southside Regional Local Human Rights Committee
Meeting of January 23, 2009

*****FINAL*****

PRESENT

Kathleen Dring, Psy.D., LHRC Vice Chair
Mary Ann Jackson, LHRC Secretary
Tracy Ferguson, LHRC
Stewart Prost, Human Rights Advocate DMHMRSAS
Susan Wilson, Pendleton Child Services Center
Jeffrey Burns, Tidewater Psychotherapy Services
Roseann Smith, Finney Psychotherapy Associates
Steven Waranch, Atlantic Psychiatric Services
Nina Joyner, New Life Programs and Family Systems II
Angelo Morlino, Vito, Inc.
Monica Manley, The Barry Robinson Center

ABSENT

Viola Vaughan-Eden, PhD. LHRC Chair
Damon Sutton, Paramount Youth Services
James Lassiter, Family Net

Vice Chairperson Kathleen Dring called the meeting to order at 9:02 a.m. Dr. Dring announced that Viola Vaughan-Eden had called last week stating that she would be unable to attend today's meeting.

2009 Meeting Dates

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

Minutes

The minutes of the October 31, 2008 meeting were reviewed and approved.

Advocate's Report

Stewart Prost reviewed the process for providers to add new services (sites and/or programs), which requires a licensing modification. First, the provider must write a letter to Mr. Reginald Daye at the State Human Rights Office indicating what the service is, where it will be located and who should be contacted regarding the service. The provider must state if the new service falls under existing policies and procedures. If the new service does not fall under existing policies and procedures, revised policies and procedures must also be submitted to Mr. Daye. Mr. Daye will review the information and if everything is accepted as submitted, he will send the provider a letter stating everything is in compliance. Once the provider receives that letter, the provider may request temporary affiliation from the LHRC, which will last for 90 days. The letter from Mr. Daye allows the provider to present to licensing that State Human Rights agree that the policies and procedures are in compliance. Once the provider receives the license, the license must be presented to the LHRC with a request for permanent affiliation. Mr. Prost suggested to the committee that the aforementioned procedure be adopted and used this day forward. The committee made a motion, seconded and approved that a notice must be given to the State Human Rights Office, Human Rights must approve the service and then a provider may request temporary affiliation from the LHRC. Once the license is received, the provider will present the license and request permanent affiliation from the LHRC.

Mr. Prost reported that the state has been experiencing budget cuts. Two people are taking early retirement. Gianna Mitchell has resigned her full time position and they will be able to fill

that position. Currently, Willie Barnes, Reginald Daye and Stewart Prost are covering the sites.

Mr. Prost discussed the planned closing of Southeastern Training Center. He stated as the human rights advocate his role is to ensure that the 165 residents at the Center have an appropriate discharge. If the Center closes, Mr. Prost reported his office will be relocated somewhere on the Southside.

Mr. Prost informed the Committee that after the next meeting he would provide training by reviewing the Freedom of Information Act with them.

Mr. Prost reminded everyone that the committee currently includes four members and there is an immediate 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. In brief, the committee will need two consumers who must be interviewed during the April 24, 2009 meeting. If the providers are not successful in sending Mr. Prost potential applicants, the providers will have to share the cost of advertising in the local newspaper, which could cost approximately \$500.00 each provider.

Program Reports

1. Pendleton Child Services Center – Susan Wilson reported they are currently serving 16 residents in the residential program and 6 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 83 clients in 9 intensive outpatient and substance abuse groups. There were no restraints, complaints, or other human rights issues.
3. Finney Psychiatric Associates – Roseann Smith reported she will be taking over the substance abuse programs for Finney Psychiatric Associates because Jim Dekker is leaving the organization on January 30, 2009. She reported they are currently serving 4 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 9 patients in their two intensive outpatient chemical dependency groups. There were no restraints, complaints, or other human rights issues.
5. Paramount Youth Services – No report. A motion was made, seconded and approved that Paramount Youth Services be moved to temporary affiliation. Vice Chairperson Dr. Dring will be sending Mr. Sutton a letter informing him of their temporary affiliation and opportunity to explain his absence at the next LHRC meeting. At that time, Paramount Youth Services may be reinstated to permanent affiliation.
6. New Life – Nina Joyner reported they are currently serving 94 intensive in-home clients within New Life. Mary's House has 3 residents. They have received a variance for a resident who turned 18 years old to remain in the program until the end of the school year (June 30, 2009). William Stallings Project has 1 resident. There were no restraints, complaints or other human rights issues.
7. Family Systems II – Nina Joyner reported there are 102 clients receiving intensive in-home services. There are 40 clients in the therapeutic day treatment program. There were no restraints, complaints or other human rights issues.

Ms. Joyner requested permanent 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 is providing services in Suffolk, VA. A motion was made, seconded and approved that the four schools be moved to permanent affiliation. Ms. Joyner requested temporary affiliation for five sites (Southwestern Elementary School, John Yeates Middle School, Forest Glen Middle School, Lakeland High School and Churchland Academy). Churchland Academy is the only site in Portsmouth, VA. She shared the letter she has mailed to the State Office of Human Rights. A motion was made, seconded and approved that the five schools be moved to temporary affiliation.

8. Vito Inc. – Angelo Morlino apologized to the committee and reported he missed the last scheduled meeting secondary to a family emergency. He requested that Vito, Inc. be reinstated to permanent affiliation. A motion was made, seconded and approved that Vito, Inc. be moved to permanent affiliation. He reported they are currently serving 48 in-home clients and 37-day support clients. There were no restraints, complaints or other human rights issues. During the next meeting, he will request temporary affiliation for a Day Support Program. He stated the existing policies and procedures would cover the new program.
9. Family Net – No report. A motion was made, seconded and approved that Family Net be moved to temporary affiliation. Vice Chairperson Dr. Dring will be sending Mr. Lassiter a letter informing him of their temporary affiliation and opportunity to explain his absence at the next LHRC meeting. At that time, Family Net may be reinstated to permanent affiliation.
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 9:50 a.m.