

LOCAL HUMAN RIGHTS COMMITTEE
Southside Regional Local Human Rights Committee
Meeting of October 30, 2009

*****FINAL*****

PRESENT

Kathleen Dring, Psy.D., LHRC Acting Chair
Tracy Ferguson, LHRC
Elaine Martin, LHRC
Sharon Liddle, LHRC
Jean Bohnhoff, LHRC
Stewart Prost, Human Rights Advocate DMHMRSAS
Sue Wilson, Pendleton Child Services Center
Jeffrey Burns, Tidewater Psychotherapy Services
Allison Zoll, Atlantic Psychiatric Services
Damon Sutton, Paramount Youth Services
Nina Joyner, New Life Programs and Family Systems II
Terry Stratton, Vito, Inc.
James Lassiter, Family Net
Monica C. Manley, The Barry Robinson Center
Shawnta Wright, Sarah's Place-Requesting Affiliation
Peggy Ludstrum, Dominion Psychiatric-Requesting Affiliation

ABSENT

Roseann Smith, Finney Psychotherapy Associates

Acting Chairperson Kathleen Dring called the meeting to order at 9:03 a.m.

2010 Meeting Dates

Dr. Dring reviewed the 2010 meeting dates: January 22, 2010, April 23, 2010, July 23, 2010, and October 22, 2010.

Minutes

The minutes of the July 24, 2009 meeting were reviewed and approved.

Advocate's Report

Stewart Prost reported Brian Whitley, the newest member of the Office of Human Rights resigned. Mr. Prost stated he is not sure if his position will be filled because of statewide budget cuts.

Mr. Prost informed the committee that new providers would be added to our LHRC.

Mr. Prost reported that the process for adding new programs has changed effective July 1, 2009. When a provider is establishing a new program that is not covered by current human rights policies and procedures, the provider must complete a "Human Rights Compliance Verification" form (which was distributed during the meeting) and send it to Margaret Walsh, State Human Rights Director. This verification form lists what policies and procedures you must have and your signature verifies that you are in compliance. Once the verification form is received, a site visit will be conducted within 180 days, which will include a review of policies and procedures, records and interviews with employees to ensure that practices are in compliance. Finally, Mr. Prost reminded providers that they must inform the Office of Human Rights when they receive the new license and when the first client is admitted.

Mr. Prost briefly reviewed the unchanged process of adding programs and locations under

existing policies and procedures. If adding a program or new location, the provider sends a letter of intent with a contact name listed.

Both processes require that the provider request temporary affiliation with the LHRC. After a license is received and presented to the committee, the provider may request permanent affiliation.

Mr. Prost reported one committee member attended training on September 23, 2009 at Eastern State Hospital in Williamsburg, VA. He indicated other committee members must attend future training.

Mr. Prost informed the Committee that at the end of the meeting, he would provide training on the Freedom of Information Act.

Program Reports

1. Pendleton Child Services Center – Sue Wilson reported they are currently serving 18 residents in the residential program and 5 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 76 clients in 9 intensive outpatient and substance abuse groups. There were no restraints, complaints, or other human rights issues.
3. Finney Psychiatric Associates – No report. A motion was made, seconded and approved that Finney Psychiatric Associates be moved to temporary affiliation. Acting Chairperson Kathleen Dring will be sending Roseann Smith a letter informing her of their temporary affiliation and opportunity to explain her absence at the next LHRC meeting. At that time, Finney Psychiatric Associates may be reinstated to permanent affiliation.
4. Atlantic Psychiatric Services – Allison Zoll reported their intensive outpatient program is currently under reconstruction and will soon be locating to a new building. Mr. Prost informed her that she must inform the Office of Human Rights and Licensing of the new location.
5. Paramount Youth Services – Damon Sutton reported they are currently serving 19 clients in 4 group homes. There were no restraints, complaints, or other human rights issues.
6. New Life –Mary’s House has 2 residents. There were no restraints, complaints or other human rights issues.
7. Family Systems II – Nina Joyner reported there are 176 clients receiving intensive in-home services. There are 26 clients receiving mental health support and 40 clients in the therapeutic day treatment program. There were no restraints, complaints or other human rights issues.

Ms. Joyner requested to continue the temporary affiliation for one Day Treatment site (Westhaven Elementary School in Portsmouth, VA). She indicated they would let the temporary affiliation for the Day Treatment site at Holland Elementary School in VA Beach, VA) lapse as they are no longer pursuing that site for the 2009-2010 school year. A motion was made, seconded and approved to continue the temporary affiliation for Westhaven Elementary School.

Ms. Joyner requested temporary affiliation to provide Day Treatment services for the evening program at Kings Fork Middle School in Suffolk, VA. She and Mr. prost reported

the verification form had been submitted. A motion was made, seconded and approved that the new site be moved to temporary affiliation.

8. Vito Inc. – Terry Stratton reported they are currently serving 47 in-home clients and 41-day support clients. There were no restraints, complaints or other human rights issues. Since they have not yet received a license, he requested to continue temporary affiliation for a Day Support Program in VA Beach, VA. A motion was made, seconded and approved that the Day Treatment program continues its temporary 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 90 clients are receiving in-home services. HomeBase Services also provides additional group services of anger management, art therapy and substance abuse. 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. The LHRC was informed that on October 5, 2009, the Center began using Handle With Care Behavior Management for physical interventions with extremely unsafe and out of control residents. Mr. Prost requested that a brief overview be provided to the LHRC during the January 22, 2010 meeting.

Programs Requesting Affiliation

1. Sarah’s Place- Shawnta Wright requested temporary affiliation for a group home named Sarah’s Place. The group home will serve residents 18 and older who are intellectually disabled. They will be using CPI. The address is 305 Sandpiper Drive Portsmouth, VA. A motion was made, seconded and approved that the group home be moved to temporary affiliation and approved the behavioral management policies and program rules.
2. Dominion Psychiatric-Peggy Ludstrum requested to transfer her permanent affiliation from the Colonial Regional LHRC to the Southside Regional LHRC. She reported Dominion Psychiatric has an Intensive Outpatient Chemical Dependency Program and is currently serving 6 adults. A motion was made, seconded and approved that Dominion Psychiatric be permanently affiliated. Another motion was made, seconded and approved the behavioral management policies and program rules.

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 the occurrences at The Barry Robinson Center.

Mr. Prost distributed a handout and provided the committee members training on the Freedom of Information Act.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:27 a.m.