

**TIDEWATER REGIONAL  
LOCAL HUMAN RIGHTS COMMITTEE**

**January 23, 2007**

**MINUTES**

PRESENT

Marge House, LHRC Member

Renee Edwards, LHRC Member

James Overton, LHRC Member

Debra Goldstein, Senior Vice Presidents ABS LINCS Virginia

Fran Neaves, ABS LINCS Risk Manager

Rhonda Burrell, Human Rights Advocate for The Pines

Reginald T. Daye, Regional Advocate, DMHMRSAS

Henry Hopkins, Supervisor, Home Based Supervisor, First Home Care

Ruth Mawyer, Director of Nursing, Virginia Beach Psychiatric Center

Beverly Supler, Clinical Coordinator, Alternative Behavioral Services

Tina Parcell, ABS LINCS of VA Director of In Home

Amanda Steeves, LHRC Recording Secretary

ABSENT

Christopher Boyd, LHRC Member

Mary Butler, LHRC Member

I. CALL TO ORDER

The Local Human Rights Committee meeting was called to order at 8:45 a.m. by Renee Edwards.

II. REVIEW OF MINUTES

The minutes for the meeting of October 17, 2006 and November 16, 2006 were deferred until a quorum had arrived. Once a quorum arrived at 9:25 a.m., Mr. Overton made a motion to approve the October minutes as written. Ms House seconded the motion and all members present voted to accept. Mr. Overton moved to accept the November minutes as written, Ms. House seconded, and all members voted to approve.

III. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

The annual Local and State Human Rights conference will be held on September 7, 2007 in either Richmond or Charlottesville. The local hearing in October had three in attendance, and two people speak about the proposed changes.

There are new emergency regulations for 5 programs in the state regarding Brain injury program. These were effective December 28<sup>th</sup> from the governor.

- A. Bathroom doors at Virginia Beach Psychiatric Center  
Curtains were not adequate to provide privacy per the state human rights committee. Accordion doors are being proposed as the alternative replacement. The original doors were removed because of suicide risk.

IV. NEW BUSINESS

- A. Topic: Variance of SLP at Virginia Beach Psychiatric Center

Discussion: Ms. Mawyer asked the committee to approve the continued use of SLP. The variance has been in effect since 1995 and it provides an alternative to seclusion and restraint. There has been a dramatic decrease in the use of SLP since 2001, and while it is not used frequently on the adult unit, more staff education has lead to increased use. The policy was read for the benefit of the new committee members. Mr. Daye explained that the policy differs from the Pines policy because VBPC is an acute care facility.

- B. Recommendation: It was recommended by Mr. Daye that the committee support approval of the variance to the time out policy so the VBPC is able to continue use of SLP.

Action: Ms. Renee Edwards made a motion to recommend the state committee accept the variance to the time out provision regulations policy at Virginia Beach Psychiatric Center to continue using SLP. The motion was seconded by Mr. James Overton, and all members present voted to accept.

Mr. Daye will be faxed a letter, signed by Ms. Renee Edwards, stating the committee's recommendation for approval to the state.

## V. STANDING REPORTS

### A. General Information

The Pines: Ms. Goldstein reported that the Pines is using a more risk oriented approach when considering applications from referral sources. They are using more interviews and admitting less aggressive kids. The Crawford Girls programs are implementing violence reduction groups as the boys programs have already implemented. A resident council has been established to get the residents more involved with what goes on at the Pines. There is a new incentive program in place that provides opportunities for co-ed programs for residents who are not involved in aggressive incidents. Ms. Goldstein also reported that the Pines has hired, in addition to the consulting team, an on-site neuropsychologist who is working with the Compass program to use biofeedback as a teaching tool to get the residents to slow down their thinking processes. Dr. Gelpi and Dr. Vincent's recent retirements have resulted in Dr. Lexier taking a more direct patient treatment role at the Pines. Furthermore, in continuing to reduce the incidents of aggression, the Pines has implemented training in proactive supervision. This will teach staff to be very vigilant and intercede before things become physical. They will be able to interrupt cycles of predictive violence and pay attention to triggers so they can diffuse situations from the start. In a review of incidence of aggression, it was noticed that the girls units tend to have the most problems during the evening shift, while the boys had more issues during the evening shift on weekends. It was reported that the Pines has had an increase in SLP. Mr. Daye inquired as to why Pines' residents are sent to VBPC where they end up in 48 hour SLP rather than utilize SLP at the Pines where it can be implemented for 5 days. It was discussed that VBPC has the ability to use injectable medications, as well as a co-ed population that residents seem to respond better to. Ms. Goldstein pointed out that the Pines has an issue with enforcing compliance of SLP. Ms. Goldstein and Dr. Lexier will be meeting with the judges, and have met with the Commonwealth attorney to address issues arising from residents who are assaultive towards staff.

Crawford Day School and Oyster Pointe Academy: Ms. Supler reported that there are 24 kids in attendance at Oyster Pointe Academy and 17 in attendance at Crawford Day School.

First Home Care: Ms. Parcell reported that there are currently 8 residents in the group home. She was also pleased to report that they just received a grant from the Safe and Stable Families Program to work with the City of Norfolk.

VBPC: Ms. Mawyer reported that VBPC has a high census and was in the process of learning the more detail oriented PSI way of doing things. This includes more risk management reporting and documentation. Ms. Mawyer also

reported that they are in the process of implementing “boundary training” in all orientation classes.

B. Seclusion and Restraint Reports

VBPC: Ms. Mawyer presented the Seclusion and Restraint Report for VBPC. In October the total number of events was 15; in November there were 9; in December there were 39 events. There were two chemical restraints in December, both on the Rapid Stabilization Unit. The percentage of total events to total patient days in October was 0.63%, in November was 0.46%, and December 1.87%.

The Pines: Ms. Goldstein presented the Seclusion and Restraint Report for The Pines. For all three campuses during the reporting period of October, November and December 2006, there was a total of 262 physical holds with a percentage to total patient days of 1.09%. In the same reporting period there were 107 mechanical restraints with a percentage to total patient days of 0.44%. There were a total of 32 seclusions with a percentage to total patient days of 0.13%. The total number of events for the reporting period was 402. The percentage to total patient days was 1.67%.

Crawford Day School: Ms. Supler reported that Crawford Day school had 2 physical holds with a 0.72% in October. In November, there were 5 physical holds with a 1.74% to total days. December had 2 holds with a 0.90% total days.

Oyster Point Academy: Ms. Supler reported that there were 19 holds in October, 24 holds in November, and 32 in December with 5.35%, 8.51% and 11.94% total patient days respectively.

C. Reports on Structured Living Protocol

VBPC: Ms. Mawyer reported 7 episodes of SLP during the reporting period of October, November, and December 2006.

The Pines: Ms. Goldstein stated there were 3 residents placed on Structured Living during this reporting period for a total of 18 days. Two of these episodes occurred in November, with one episode at the end of December.

D. Overview of Allegation Reports

First Home Care: Ms. Parcell stated there were no allegations to report from First Home Care.

VBPC: Ms. Mawyer reported a total of 13 complaints during this reporting period: 7 in October that were not reported at the last meeting; 6 in November. December’s allegations will be reported at the next meeting.

The Pines: Ms. Neaves and Ms. Burrell stated there were a total of 161 allegations reported to the Office of Human Rights during this reporting period.

VI. CLOSED SESSION

Motion: Ms. Renee Edwards made a motion that the committee go into Executive Session, pursuant to Virginia Code 2-2-3711A(4) for the protection of the privacy of individuals in personal matters not related to public business, namely to review patient information from First Home Care and Virginia Beach Psychiatric Center, pursuant to the regulations.

Action: Second was made by Ms. House. All members present voted in favor of the motion.

Reconvened in Open Session: Upon reconvening in Open Session, members of the Tidewater Regional LHRC unanimously certified to the best of their knowledge that only public business matters exempt from statutory open meeting requirements and only public business matters identified in the motion to convene the Executive Session were discussed in accordance to Virginia Code 2-2-3711A(4).

V. NEXT SCHEDULED MEETING

The next regular LHRC meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, April 17, 2007 at 8:30 a.m.

VI. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to discuss, Mr. Overton made the motion to adjourn. Ms. House seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned at 12:00 p.m.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED:

Amanda Steeves  
Recording Secretary

Renee Edwards  
LHRC Member