

**TIDEWATER REGIONAL
LOCAL HUMAN RIGHTS COMMITTEE
JULY 11, 2006
MINUTES**

PRESENT

Renee Edwards, LHRC Member
Mary Butler, LHRC Member
James Overton, LHRC Member
Christopher Boyd, LHRC Member
Debra Goldstein, Senior Vice Presidents ABS LINCS Virginia
Fran Neaves, ABS LINCS Risk Manager
Reginald T. Daye, Regional Advocate, DMHMRSAS
Andrea Coleman, Human Rights Advocate
Henry Hopkins, Supervisor, Home Based Supervisor, First Home Care
Sara Smith, Clinical Director, Group Homes, First Home Care
Chris Hummel, PhD, Clinical Director, The Pines
Ruth Mawyer, Director of Nursing, Virginia Beach Psychiatric Center
Taffy Young, Director of Risk Management and P.I., Virginia Beach Psychiatric Center
Phil Alexander, Director, Oyster Point Academy
Beverly Supler, Clinical Coordinator, Alternative Behavioral Services
Kyle German, Education Coordinator, Alternative Behavioral Services
Amanda Steeves, LHRC Recording Secretary

ABSENT

Marge House, LHRC Member

I. CALL TO ORDER

The Local Human Rights Committee meeting was called to order at 8:40 a.m. by Renee Edwards.

II. REVIEW OF MINUTES

The minutes for the meeting of April 25, 2006 were reviewed. Ms. Butler made a motion to approve the minutes as written. Mr. Boyd seconded the motion. All members present voted to accept the minutes.

III. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

A. Topic: Report on the Treatment Success and Coping Plan

Discussion: Dr. Hummel updated the committee on the Treatment Success and Coping Plan. It was found that the amount of staff education needed was more than expected and that is causing some delay in the plan's implementation.

B. Topic: Code of Conduct and Time Out Policy- Oyster Point Academy

Discussion: Mr. German, Ms. Supler, and Ms. Alexander reviewed the Oyster Point Academy Handbook, Time Out Policy, and the Step System as part of the Rules of Conduct. Mr. Daye recommended that his name and contact information be added to the Bill of Rights so that residents will know how to contact his office if needed. It was also recommended that it be stated that pat down searches will be done by a member of the same sex as the resident. Mr. Daye also recommended that the Chillin' Chair Policy renamed to Chill Time, the word chair should be removed from the policy because it implies a restrictive setting, and the time limit should be increased to 30 minutes instead of 5.

Action: A motion was made by Ms. Edwards and seconded by Mr. Boyd to accept the Chill Time policy pending the recommended changes. All members present voted approval.

Ms. Edwards made a motion to approve the Step System as part of the Rules of Conduct. Ms. Butler seconded the motion, and all members present voted approval.

A motion was made by Ms. Edwards to approve the Rules of Conduct with the addition of Mr. Daye's name, address, and phone number. Mr. Overton seconded the motion and all members present voted approval.

Ms. Edwards made a motion to approve the addition in the policies that a pat down search will be done by a member of the same sex. Mr. Overton seconded the motion, and all members present approved.

C. Topic: Crawford Day School Policies and Code of Conduct

Discussion: Mr. German reviewed the Crawford Day School Code of Conduct. The recommendation was made that if the content was the same as the Oyster Point Academy then the committee could accept as written. Ms. Supler pointed out that the changes recommended in the April meeting were addressed in the school guidelines. Mr. Daye made the recommendation that a realistic time limit regarding hands on be placed in the policy. The same contact information for Mr. Daye should also be placed in the Crawford Day School Bill of Rights. The Phase System was not explained well enough to be recommended for approval by Mr. Daye and the committee. Instead of adopting Oyster Point's Step System, Mr. German requested a special subcommittee meeting in August to discuss the Phase System in more detail and gain the committee's approval. The Physical Restraint Policy will reflect the change in time per Mr. Daye's suggestion. It was also suggested there be a removal of the phrase "locked room" and changed wording to seclusion. A qualifier should be added to ABS LINCS director so it is clear as to what person is being referenced, and there should be an addition to the section stating which person violations are reported to.

Action: Ms. Edwards made a motion for the approval of the Crawford Day School Policies and Code of Conduct with the suggested changes. Mr. Boyd seconded the motion and all committee members present approved. A subcommittee meeting has been scheduled for August 16, 2006 at 8:30 am to review the Phase System.

IV. NEW BUSINESS

A. Topic: Annual Status Report on Structure Living Protocol

Discussion: The Pines gave an annual update that will be submitted directly to the state. Ms. Goldstein stated that the Structured Living Protocol has not been used since 2005 but they would like to keep it as a therapeutic intervention option.

Action: The update was reviewed by all members present and accepted for submission to the state.

B. Topic: Policies and Procedures -- Unit Restrictions, Telephone Privileges, and Psychiatric Emergency Intramuscular Medication

Discussion: These policies were not discussed and will be brought before the committee at the next regular quarterly meeting.

V. STANDING REPORTS

A. General Information

The Pines: Ms. Goldstein introduced Ms. Ruth Mawyer, the new Director of Nursing at the Virginia Beach Psychiatric Center, to the committee. There was also some discussion about the Psychiatric Solutions, Inc. buyout of ABS, and that idea that the administrators and directors will remain in their current positions. The holding company name will change but ABS Pines, Virginia Beach Psychiatric Center, and First Home Care will conduct business as usual. PSI will provide more benchmarking opportunities as they will be adding 57 facilities to the 9 currently owned by ABS.

B. Seclusion and Restraint Reports

VBPC: Ms. Mawyer presented the Seclusion and Restraint Report for VBPC. In April the total number of events was 33; in May there were 31; and the data for June will be included in the next quarter statistics due to Ms. Mawyer recently taking over the position. There was one chemical restraint in May. The percentage of total events to total patient days in April was 1.38%, in May was 1.34%, and again June percentages will be included in the next quarter.

The Pines: Ms. Goldstein presented the Seclusion and Restraint Report for The Pines. For all three campuses during the reporting period of April, May and June 2006, there was a total of 409 physical holds with a percentage to total patient days of 1.45%. In the same reporting period there were 187 mechanical restraints with a percentage to total patient days of .55%. There were a total of 55 seclusions with a percentage to total patient days of .17%. The total number of events for the reporting period was 643. The percentage to total patient days was 2.15%.

B. Reports on Structured Living Protocol

VBPC: Ms. Fisher reported one episode of SLP during the reporting period of April, May, and June 2006.

The Pines: Ms. Goldstein stated there were no episodes of Structured Living during this reporting period.

C. Overview of Allegation Reports

First Home Care: Ms. Smith stated there were two allegations to report from First Home Care.

VBPC: Ms. Mawyer reported a total of 11 complaints during this reporting period.

The Pines: Ms. Neaves stated there were a total of 113 allegations reported to the Office of Human Rights during this reporting period.

D. CLOSED SESSION

Motion: Mr. Boyd 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 Mr. Overton. 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).

Action: A admission note with policy explaining discharge procedures was presented by Ms. Mawyer. This document was recommended for acceptance by Mr. Daye as an education addition to the HR policy. Mr. Boyd moved to accept the document as written, Mr. Overton seconded the motion, and all members present agreed.

Motion: Mr. Overton 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 The Pines, pursuant to the regulations.

Action: Ms. Butler seconded the motion and all members present agreed.

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, October 17, 2006 at 8:30 a.m.

The subcommittee meeting for the Crawford Day School Phase Policy is scheduled for Wednesday, August 16, 2006 at 8:30 a.m.

VI. ADJOURNMENT

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

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED:

Amanda Steeves
Recording Secretary

Renee Edwards
LHRC Member