

Northwestern Local Human Right Committee

The next scheduled meeting of the Northwestern Local Human Right Committee will be on September 14, 2010 at Good Life Corporation in New Market, VA.

MINUTES OF THE JULY 13, 2010 LHRC MEETING

The July 13, 2010 meeting of the Northwestern Local Human Rights Committee was held at NW Works in Winchester, VA.

Members Present: Mr. Fred Sabia, Chair; Ms. Jeannie Decker, Ms. Eileen Manuel, and Ms. Nancy Cartier.

Members Absent: Mr. Gleason announced that Ms. Darlene Gotterup has resigned from the Committee.

Affiliates Present: Chuck Collins and Mark Seymour (Advocates); Kristian Sawyer & Angel Brown (A Place To Call Home); Cathy Wolfe-Heberle (Blue Ridge Opportunities); Maureen Cholewka (Blue Ridge Residential Services); Eileen Martelli (Crossroads/Children's Services of VA); Brian Kesner (Community Alternatives of VA); Heidi Fields & Karol Derflinger (Family Preservation, Inc.); Clif MacDonald (Good Life Corporation); Kim Sanders, Amy Smith (Grafton); Lanette Wood & Heather W. (Heart Havens); Chris Rousseau (Intensive Supervision); Eddie Cassidy (Lord Fairfax House); Cassie Phipps (Lutheran Family Services); Jessica Cramer & Carol Lucking (National Counseling Group); Mark Gleason (NWCSB); David Yeater & Emily Johnson (NOVA Family Services); Glenda Anderson, Betsey Anderson, & John Brauer (NW Works); Tammie Wittman (Rose Memorial); Mickie Duncan & Sheila Hice (Shen-Paco); Ralph Combs (SVCR); Vic Williams & Jeff Phillips (Timber Ridge); Lana Hurt (Wall Residences); Gayle Shanholtz (Winchester Medical Center); Mary Zirkle (WINC Community MH Center).

Affiliates Absent: Where the Heart Is.

Others Present: Katie Bundrick & Gail Partlowe

Call To Order: Mr. Sabia called the meeting to order at 6:02 p.m. and welcomed everyone. He thanked NW Works for hosting and asked everyone to introduce themselves.

Ms. Partlowe introduced Ms. Katie Bundrick who will soon be assuming duties for the LHRC committee.

Meeting Minutes: Ms. Cartier made a motion to accept the May 11, 2010 minutes, Ms. Decker seconded and the motion carried.

Public Comments: None

Comments by LHRC Affiliates or Members:

- Ms. Zirkle from WINC Community Mental Health Center that as of tomorrow, July 14th, she will officially be licensed and will begin to accept clients.
- Mr. Combs from SVCR announced they will be selling the home on Ridge Road and moving into a new home that will allow housing for 2 additional clients.
- Ms. Phipps from Lutheran Family Services announced that they have one adoption worker who has found permanent homes for 17 special needs children.
- Mr. David Yeater was announced as being a new Program Director for NOVA Family Services.
- Ms. Duncan of Shen-Paco announced that new clients will be moving into the group home in Luray the 2nd week of August.
- Mr. Brauer of NW Works announced that renovation is taking place on the new facility and should be moving in by the middle of November.
- Ms. Cartier announced she will be going to Oregon in August or September to visit her sister.
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Advocate Update:

Mr. Seymour announced that some of the children's programs in the area are "closing up shop". The reason being facilities are not staying full. The Commonwealth Center is back up and operational, which usually houses 4 units, but they are only currently using 3 units due to low level of admissions. Timber Ridge and Grafton are both doing well.

Mr. Collins again thanked Mr. Brauer for hosting the meeting and thanked everyone for attending on the evening of the All-Star Game.

He stated he had made his "Route 11" visits today. He visited Sunshine House. He also visited briefly with Winchester Medical Center. He was given the full tour by Denise Wiitila McFall at Bridging the Gaps, he was very impressed with this program.

On June 23rd, he was asked by Ms. March DeHaven of "Our Family" to do a presentation on the 7 Principles of Self Advocacy. He explained that "Our Family" is a peer-to-peer run facility that was started after the closing of Community House. One week later, he came to NW Works and made the same presentation. Clients can now practically do the presentation with him.

Mr. Collins referred to a memo from the office of the State Human Rights Committee. He stated there are 78 LHRC's across Virginia. There are 40 CSB's. This Committee is very large and years ago it was decided that they would meet every other month. According to the memo, there will be NO new committees added.

The number of providers statewide has increased dramatically. In May 2010 there were 651 licensed providers providing 1621 services at over 4500 locations and there were 391 applications for new licenses. By comparison in 2005, there were 448 providers, 1133 services and 2850 locations.

Due to the continuing state budget crisis, the Office of Human Rights lost 5.5 positions over the past 18 months.

Program Reports:

- Lutheran Family Services
- National Counseling Group
- NOVA Family Services
- Northwestern Community Services

Program Update:

WINC Community Mental Health Center was granted temporary affiliation at the last meeting. They would now like the request permanent affiliation as their license has been approved. Ms. Decker made this motion and Ms. Manual 2nd, motion carried.

Old Business: None

New Business:

Grafton requested approval for a video camera already approved by the LHRC for two clients with significant medical concerns. The request is made to give them more privacy at night while they sleep without having the staff member come into the room and disturb them. The legal guardian is supporting this camera usage. Ms. Decker made a motion to approve the use of the camera for a one year period and then report back to the committee. Ms. Cartier 2nd and the motion carried. Ms. Smith provided a form for the committee chair to sign to place in the client's file.

Timber Ridge has received a conditional license to provide In-Home Skills for students in the program. Mr. Phillips provided a handout to the committee detailing this program. Ms. Cartier made a motion to approve the additional service and Ms. Manual 2nd, motion carried.

Mr. Mark Gleason announced that the LHRC needed committee members. It is currently down to 4 active members. Two of the members will rotate off next June. All the affiliates were asked to talk with persons who they felt would be interested in serving on this committee. Name and phone numbers can be given to him and he will take it from there. Consumers and health care providers are needed.

Mr. Combs requested approval for the group home he was moving from Ridge Road to Wickham Terrace. It will have 2 additional clients, as it is bigger than the Ridge Road facility. Ms. Decker made the motion to approve this new home and Ms. Cartier 2nd, motion carried.

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 7:17. There will be a 10 minute break before re-convening into Executive Session. The next meeting of the LHRC will be at Good Life Corporation in New Market.

Executive Session: Ms. Decker motioned that the LHRC convene into closed session to discuss confidential client matters pursuant to the protection of privacy exemption as noted in Virginia Code Section 2.2-3711(A)(4). Ms. Cartier seconded and the motion was approved.

Executive Session was adjourned at 8:00 where it is certified that only confidential client matters were discussed.

During the Executive Session, Good Life Corporation was given approval to provide a safety restraining device for one client and a broad restrictive treatment plan for another client.

Respectfully Submitted by: _____
Gail R. Partlowe, NWCS Administrative Assistant

Fred Sabia, Chair

Mark Gleason, LHRC Liaison