

Northwestern Local Human Rights Committee

The next scheduled meeting of the Northwestern Local Human Rights Committee will be on May 8, 2007 at Timber Ridge School in Winchester at 6:00 p.m. Directions are attached.

MINUTES OF THE MARCH 13, 2007 LHRC MEETING

The March 13, 2007 meeting of the Northwestern Local Human Rights Committee was held at N W Works, located in Winchester, Virginia.

Members Present: Ms. Gretta Doering, Chair, Ms. Mary Louise Mattingly, Ms. Jean Snider, Mr. Fred Sabia, and Ms. Nancy Cartier.

Others Present: Chuck Collins and Mark Seymour (Advocates); Ralph Combs (SVCR); David Alley, Kelly C. (Grafton); Ms. Rogers, Justine Waits (Lutheran Family Services); John Brauer, Carol Cave (NW Works); Karen Tompkins (Timber Ridge); Cathy Wolfe-Heberle (WC Workshop); Cassie Phipps and Elizabeth Rust (Family Preservation Services); Kevin Young (Winchester Medical Center); Lana Hurt (Wall Residences); Mickie Duncan (Shen-Paco Industries); Kristian, Curt Sawyer, Connie K. (A Place To Call Home); Denise Wiitala (Bridging the Gaps); Clif MacDonald (Good Life Corporation); Holly Stiles (Rose Memorial); Theresa Bistel (DePaul Family Services); Charles Boyd (Heart Havens); and Gail Partlowe (NWCS).

Call To Order: Ms. Doering, LHRC Chair, called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m., welcomed all in attendance and also John and Carol of NW Works for hosting the meeting. Those in attendance introduced themselves and where they were from.

Meeting Minutes: Ms. Snyder made a motion to accept the minutes of the January 9, 2007 meeting and Mrs. Mattingly seconded, the motion carried.

Public comments: Mr. Collins felt this was the time for the affiliates to let the committee know of things happening with them. Mr. Young reported that Cammy Riggleman would be the new director over Behavioral Health Services and the neuro unit at Winchester Medical Center. Ms. Tompkins reported that it was announced Mr. Lamana would be taking the director's position at Timber Ridge. Ms. Hurt reported that the Wall Residences network was growing. Mr. Collins stated that when there were significant changes in services made, expansion of programs, moving, etc, these need to be submitted in writing to the committee. Ms. Stiles of Rose Memorial reported that the expansion of their program should be completed in two weeks. Ms. Sawyer reported that A Place To Call Home client's were establishing contact with a local church in hopes of getting a next-friend contact. Ms. Duncan reported that Shen-Paco's construction of a larger cafeteria and day room was almost completed. Ms. Snider introduced Mr. Boyd of Heart Havens. They have had many administrative changes.

Comments by Affiliates: None

Advocate Update: Mr. Collins thanked Mr. Brauer and Ms. Cave for their hospitality for allowing him to have the Human Rights training at NW Works and also for those who attended. Ms. Snider and Mr. Sabia were both in attendance. These trainings were a great opportunity to share ideas and answer any questions. He reminded the providers that they were the ones who resolved the problems. The advocates will assist and get involved but it is the providers who must address the issues. He stated that he was available to discuss and consult with them regarding any problem they may have. He also felt that the Workshop was the hub of the Winchester area.

He reported that he still didn't know the exact status of the new regulations. Until the new regulations were released, they would still carry on with the current ones. When they new ones were finally released, there would be a state-wide training.

Mr. Collins reported that Mr. Young is actually part of the commission regarding mental health issues such as ECOs, TDOs, and involuntary commitments. This commission will be meeting in Charlottesville on Thursday and Friday. Mr. Collins is also participating on the task force which is ultimately focused on the empowerment of the consumer who may be subject to such proceedings. All persons who are involved with this process need to be trained with individuals who may encounter the legal system yet have committed no crime. He will keep this committee posted on the outcome and invited anyone with suggestions, concerns, etc, to contact him.

Mr. Seymour stated that he has just encountered parents of an adult son who had things go wrong with a TDO. This issue has needed to be dealt with for some time. He also reported that a committee is being formed "Youth Violence Committee" for residential treatment providers of youth. At their next meeting, they will focus on the qualifications needed for direct care staff for these providers. He brought up an issue that has not come before the committee yet, but making them aware it would probably be an issue. The mother of a child at Grafton has requested a camera be placed in her son's room because he falls out of bed and has injured himself. This will definitely be a privacy issue topic. Mr. Seymour also was very complementary of a casemanager at Northwestern who handled a client crossing different agencies. This casemanager could have taken the "not my problem" route, but she had the client's best interest foremost in her mind.

Review of Programs:

At this time, Ms. Bistel of DePaul Family Services in Mr. Hall's absence, requested affiliation with the LHRC. Their program is originally from south of our area but they have a client who is moving to this area with family and DePaul has chosen to travel with the client to provide services. Therefore, they are requesting affiliation even though they are affiliated with other Human Rights Committees in the state. Mr. Collins said he knew the provider well and thought it was commendable of them to travel with this 1 client. At this time, according to Ms. Bistel, there were no plans of having other clients. Ms. Cartier made a motion to allow DePaul Family Services to affiliate with our LHRC, Mr. Sabia seconded, and the motion carried. Mr. Hall has requested a check for the fee and will be forwarded when it is received.

Ms. Denise Wiitala of Bridging the Gaps reported to the committee that their program is applying for an outpatient license to treat adults in more of an educational program.

There will be groups as well as individual sessions for clients and family once a week. This program does not accept insurance and is private pay only. Patients who they can not accept are referred to the CSB and they are aware of the waiting lists.

Old Business: None

New Business: None

Close of Meeting/Scheduling of Next Meeting: The next LHRC meeting is scheduled for May 8, 2007 meeting will be held at Timber Ridge. While the calendars were open, the remainder of the meetings were scheduled. July 17th at Warren County Workshop; September 11th at Winchester Medical Center; and November 13th at Northwestern CSB. These meetings will begin at 6:00 p.m.

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 6:55 p.m.

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

Gretta Doering, Chair

Mark Gleason, LHRC Liaison