

## Northwestern Local Human Rights Committee

**The next scheduled meeting of the Northwestern Local Human Rights Committee will be on May 12, 2009 at Winchester Medical Center at 6:00 p.m.**

### **MINUTES OF THE March 10, 2009 LHRC MEETING**

The March 10, 2009 meeting of the Northwestern Local Human Rights Committee was held at NW Works in Winchester.

**Members Present:** Ms. Gretta Doering, Ms. Jean Snider, Ms. Jeanne Decker, Mr. Fred Sabia and Ms. Nancy Cartier.

**Others Present:** Chuck Collins (Advocate); Mark Seymour (Advocate); Mark Gleason (Liaison/NWCS); Curt and Kristian Sawyer (A Place To Call Home); Cathy Wolfe-Heberle (Blue Ridge Opportunities); Richard Gilman and Julie McKenzie (Blue Ridge Residential Services); Denise Wiitala (Bridging the Gaps); Rick Provenzano (Children's Services of VA); Brian Kesner and Dawn VanMetre (Community Alternatives of VA); Heidi Fields and Denise Britt (Family Preservation Services); Clif MacDonald (Good Life Corporation); Kim Sanders (Grafton); Chris Rousseau (Intensive Supervision); Eddie Cassidy (Lord Fairfax House); Cassie Phipps and April Strowbridge (Lutheran Family Services); Paul Scardino (National Counseling Group, Inc.); J. Williams (NOVA Family Services); Glenda Anderson and John Brauer (NW Works); Greg Strosnider (Rose Memorial); Ralph Combs (SVCR); Karen Tompkins and John Lamanna (Timber Ridge); Lana Hurt (Wall Residences); Mandy Caracofe and Rhonda Leith (Where The Heart Is); and Gayle Shanholtz and Kevin Young (WMC). Ms. Beth Speidel, committee applicant was also in attendance.

**Call To Order:** Ms. Doering called the meeting to order at 6:03 P.M.

**Meeting Minutes:** Ms. Decker made a motion to accept the minutes of January 13, 2009 and Ms. Cartier seconded, the motion carried.

**Public comments:** None

**Comments by LHRC Affiliates or Members:** None

**Advocate Update:** Mr. Collins reported that he visited the following programs earlier in the day: Good Life Day Activity Center, Sunshine House (NWCS), Shen-Paco, Where the Heart Is, Winchester Medical Center, and NW Works. He was warmly received at each location, and had no concerns regarding human rights. Affiliated Programs are reminded to have human rights posters clearly posted.

Mr. Collins will be providing a Regional Human Rights Training for affiliated providers. This will be held at NW Works on March 25<sup>th</sup>, from 1-3:00 PM. He recommends that all affiliates send at least one representative. Please contact Carol Cave at NW Works for attendance confirmation.

Mr. Seymour reported on the status of the Commonwealth Center for Children. This state child/adolescent psychiatric inpatient hospital had been targeted for closure in the Governor's budget reduction plan. Currently, however, the status of the closure remains unclear. There is some indication that it may remain open in some fashion. More information may be available by the next LHRC meeting.

**Program Reports:**

**Children's Services of Virginia: Rescheduled for May 12, 2009**

**Community Alternatives of Virginia**

**Family Preservation**

**Good Life Corporation**

**Blue Ridge Residential Services**

Mr. Collins clarified that medication errors are considered "neglect" under the human rights regulations and, as such, are reportable. The provider must notify the human rights advocate even in situations where no harm occurred. Mr. Collins feels that medication errors are grossly under-reported as a class. The NW LHRC affiliates do, however, a fairly good job of making said reports.

Mrs. Doering stated thanked the presenters for their brief reports, and no further action was required.

**Program Updates:**

**National Counseling Group:** Has opened a second office in Front Royal Virginia. The address and contact information will be forwarded to the LHRC.

**Lutheran Family Services:** Is now offering Therapeutic Day Treatment Services in Daniel Morgan Middle School and the Douglas Community Learning Center, both located in Winchester, Virginia. The LHRC also approved an affiliation of Lutheran Family Services Harrisonburg Office until such a time that it is serving consumers (Cartier/Sabia). When the office begins serving consumers in that region, Lutheran Family Services will begin attending LHRC meetings within that region.

**Timber Ridge Schools:** Has filed a licensing application to begin providing Supported In Home Service, status pending.

**Bridging the Gaps:** Will be affiliating with a Wellness Program located in Fairfax County. The LHRC asked that the organization affiliate with the Fairfax area LHRC for program oversight of this affiliation arrangement.

**Intensive Supervision and Counseling Services:** Has filed a licensing application to begin providing outpatient therapy services, status pending. They have received licensure approval to offer Mental Health Support Services. The LHRC approved an "out of catchment" affiliation arrangement in order that ISCS may serve an individual in the Rappahannock-Rapidan area (Sabia/Cartier)

**Northwestern Community Services:** Has centralized children's services into its Warren County location, and adult services within its Winchester Area and Shenandoah County Locations. Operations in Page County have been scaled back.

**Old Business:** Thanks to all organizations who have completed their affiliation agreements, and paid their affiliation fee.

**New Business:** None

**Adjournment:** The meeting was adjourned at 7:15 to convene into Executive Session

**Executive Session:** Ms. Snider 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). Mr. Sabia seconded and the motion was approved.

Executive Session was adjourned at 9:00 PM

**Return to Public Session:**

The LHRC returned to Public Session at 9:00 PM. upon a motion from Ms. Snider. The motion was approved by the LHRC. It was certified that only confidential client matters pursuant to the protection of privacy exemption as noted in Virginia Code Section 2.2-3711(A)(4) were discussed.

Mr. Gleason reported that the following action items were taken within Executive Session:

1. Rose Memorial Foundation: The organization will meet all terms as established by LHRC, and will remain on probationary status until such a time as those terms are met.
2. Wall Residence: Approval of the use of a protective device and medical restraint for client P.M. for a period of one year
3. Grafton School: Will report back to the LHRC at the next regularly scheduled meeting regarding an investigation.
4. Timber Ridge Schools: Will report back to the LHRC regarding monthly until the next regularly scheduled meeting regarding an investigation.
5. Community Alternatives of Virginia: Has appeared before the LHRC in fulfillment of the correction plan with the DMHMRSAS Office of Licensing

**Close of Meeting/Scheduling of Next Meeting:** 2009's meetings are as follows: May 12, 2009 at Winchester Medical Center; July 14, 2009 at Timber Ridge School; September 8, 2009 at Northwestern Community Services; and November 10, 2009 at Grafton.

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

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Gretta Doering, Chair

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Mark Gleason, LHRC Liaison

