

Northwestern Local Human Rights Committee

The next scheduled meeting of the Northwestern Local Human Rights Committee will be on January 8, 2008 at Winchester Medical Center at 6:00 p.m.

MINUTES OF THE NOVEMBER 13, 2007 LHRC MEETING

The November 13, 2007 meeting of the Northwestern Local Human Rights Committee was held at Northwestern Community Services in Front Royal, VA.

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

Others Present: Chuck Collins and Mark Seymour (Advocates); Ralph Combs (SVCR); Amy Smith, Kim Sanders, Ed Hoefle (Grafton); Karen Tompkins (Timber Ridge); Elizabeth Rust, Heidi Fields (Family Preservation Services); Lana Hurt (Wall Residences); Kristian, Curt Sawyer (A Place To Call Home); Denise Wiitala (Bridging the Gaps); Theresa Bistel (DePaul Family Services); Brian Kesner (Community Alternatives VA); John Brauer, L. Murray, R. Bono (NW Works); Cheryl Beaudoin (Children's Services/Crossroads Counseling); Clif MacDonald (Good Life Corp); Caroline Sodeu, Gar Greer (Heart Havens, Inc.); Cassie Phipps (Lutheran Family Services); Kelly Murphy (Blue Ridge Residential Services); D. Mason (Rose Memorial); George Young and Paul G. (National Counseling Group, Inc.); Mark Gleason (NWCS); and Gail Partlowe (NWCS).

Call To Order: Ms. Snider called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m, and welcomed all in attendance. Ms. Snider reported on the conference she and Ms. Doering had attended in Richmond.

Meeting Minutes: Mr. Sabia made a motion to accept the minutes of September 11, 2007 and Ms. Mattingly seconded, the motion carried.

Public comments: None

Comments by Affiliates: Mr. Collins had someone from each of the groups in attendance speak about their programs and anything new and exciting happening in them.

Advocate Update: Mr. Collins reported that between now and March 1, 2008, affiliates will review their policies and procedures and bring them up to compliance with the new regulations. The new regulations were mostly the same except they focus more on recovery, empowerment, and self determination. The vague parts have been cleared up and they are better organized.

The LHRC seminar at Western State had about 300 people in attendance. It was a great opportunity to network. This LHRC has 100% buy in by providers and there is active participation. Margaret Walsh put an overview CD together on the new regulations.

Many affiliates, including NW, did not receive this CD. A count was taken and Mr. Collins will get those missing CDs out.

The final meeting on the MH Statute Reform Commission will be on November 29 & 30. This meeting will be held at the DoubleTree in Charlottesville. Mr. Collins is of the opinion that changes in making it easier to have someone committed and the time frames associated with ECOs and TDOs will be expanded to give more time for assessments. An upgrade in qualifications for people involved in the hearings as well is expected.

Mr. Seymour reported that the new regulations provide for the best interest of the children and a team will be put together consisting of parents/guardians, providers, etc. to ensure this happens.

Review of Programs:

Rose Memorial: Ms. Mason reported that the client is out of restrictive clothing, into regular pants, but still having issues with shirts. They are still working with that issue and will report to the committee on the progress.

Wall Residences: Ms. Hurt and her AR will meet in Executive Session.

Children's Services/Cross Roads Counseling: Ms. Beaudoin was present to request affiliation for their program in the Harrisonburg area. There was much discussion among the members and it was decided that their program in Harrisonburg would have temporary affiliation with this LHRC until they could affiliate with the LHRC in Harrisonburg. Ms. Mattingly made the motion and Ms. Cartier seconded, CRC will report back to the committee at the March 11, 2008 meeting.

National Counseling Group, Inc.: Mr. Seymour introduced Mr. George Young. Mr. Young explained to the committee what services the NCG provided. He is requesting affiliation with this LHRC as his office will be in Winchester. Mr. Gleason stated that this office just received his information today and was unaware if the committee members had received anything. There was also an agreement that was required to be submitted and Mr. Young had not been given this. Ms. Mattingly made a motion to grant temporary affiliation to National Counseling Group and they are to have the agreement and report to the committee prior to the January meeting.

Old Business: Ms. Hurt would like for the July 17th minutes to reflect that the committee did approve for a client, JW of Wall Residences' to wear a helmet to protect him from injury. The client does not resist wearing the helmet and the doctor supports this along with the authorized representative.

New Business: Mr. Gleason discussed the issue of confidentiality in regards to MRSA and other very contagious diseases. Mr. Collins reported that it should always be safety over confidentiality.

Mr. Gleason reviewed the years' attendance record and stated that a few of the affiliates were not abiding by the agreement. It is required that all affiliates attend at least 3

meetings per year. It was decided that a letter would be sent to these affiliates mandating their presence at the January meeting.

New agreements will be going out by the first of the year. There was discussion of what the \$50.00 fee was used for. A report will be updated and send out to the affiliates. Mr. Collins stated that the \$50.00 was a bargain as some of the other LHRCs charge as much as \$450.00.

Close of Meeting/Scheduling of Next Meetings: The LHRC meetings for 2008 are scheduled as follows: January 8 at Winchester Medical Center; March 11 at Lutheran Family Services; May 13 at NW Works; July 8 at Timber Ridge; September 9 at Good Life Corporation; and November 4 at Grafton at the Ruth Birch Center. Directions will be provided prior to the meetings.

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 7:27 p.m.

Executive Session: Ms. Cartier 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) (1). This was seconded by Ms. Mattingly and the Executive Session was adjourned at 7:55 p.m.

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

Jean Snider, Vice Chair

Mark Gleason, LHRC Liaison