

Northwestern Local Human Rights Committee

The next scheduled meeting of the Northwestern Local Human Rights Committee will be on November 13 at Northwestern Community Services Front Royal at **6:00 p.m.**

MINUTES OF THE SEPTEMBER 11, 2007 LHRC MEETING

The September 11, 2007 meeting of the Northwestern Local Human Rights Committee was held at Winchester Medical Center in Winchester, VA.

Members Present: Ms. Gretta Doering, Chair, 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); Cathy Wolfe-Heberle (Blue Ridge Opportunities); Cassie Phipps, Elizabeth Rust, Lynn Kauffman (Family Preservation Services); Lana Hurt (Wall Residences); Kristian, Curt Sawyer, Connie Kinsley (A Place To Call Home); Denise Wiitala (Bridging the Gaps); Theresa Bistel (DePaul Family Services); Brian Kesner (Community Alternatives VA); Eddie Cassidy (Lord Fairfax House); Glenda Anderson, Vera Pistel (NW Works); Kevin Young (Winchester Medical Center); James Bowman (Children's Services/Crossroads Counseling); Clif MacDonald (Good Life Corp); Caroline Sodea, Paulette Garland, Gar Greer (Heart Havens, Inc.); Christian Rousseau (Intensive Supervision); Brooke Rodgers (Lutheran Family Services); Mary Langfitt Touehy (Shenandoah Valley Behavioral Health); and Gail Partlowe (NWCS).

Call To Order: Ms. Doering, LHRC Chair, called the meeting to order at 6:05 p.m, and welcomed all in attendance. Everyone thanked Mr. Young for providing dinner and hosting the meeting.

Meeting Minutes: Ms. Doering made one correction to the July 17th minutes, at Grafton the fence was not viewed as it had not been constructed yet. After that amendment, Ms. Snider made a motion to accept the minutes and Ms. Cartier 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 stated to the group that there will be an LHRC Seminar in Richmond Thursday and Friday. Mrs. Doering and Ms. Snider are attending.

The new regulations have finally been signed and will go into effect September 19, 2007. Ms. Walsh has put together a dvd that will be mailed to all licensed providers in the

commonwealth. The new regulations are basically the same, but more organized and clearer. They want to emphasize on “self-determination, empowerment, and recovery”.

There will be a training at Western State Hospital on October 11 for providers, that will be the closest one in this region. This is a free training and lunch will be provided, more information to follow regarding this. The new regulations can be downloaded from the web site www.dmhmrzas.virginia.gov. Providers will have until January 1, 2008 to update their policies and procedures and come into compliance. After that date, the LHRC will ask providers to present the changes in their annual report. Kevin Young was recognized as a member of the commission appointed to look at changes/modifications regarding the mental health statutes. This group will meet in late November. Mr. Collins feels there will be changes in the statutes since the VA Tech tragedy.

Mr. Seymour reported there will be a training in children services September 16 – 18, Christian Rousseau will be attending and will report back to the committee.

Review of Programs:

Wall Residences: The LHRC has granted Wall Residence a temporary three month affiliation for a program Ms. Hurt is starting in Fauquier County beginning October 1 at the last meeting. She provided information from the state in form of a memo from 2003. It was felt that the program would be more efficient if it were associated with a LHRC who was already familiar with the agency. Ms. Mattingly made a motion to grant affiliation for one year and then revisit the situation at that time, Ms. Snider seconded and the motion passed.

Grafton: Mr. Hoefle, new director for the Berryville campus introduced himself to the committee. Ms. Smith requested approval to use another video/audio camera on another client. It came as a request from the parents of the child. Mr. Sabia made a motion to approve the use of the camera and Ms. Cartier seconded, the motion carried.

Rose Memorial: There was no one present from Rose Memorial to report on the restrictive clothing issue. A letter will be sent to them requesting their presence at the next meeting to report on this issue.

Community Alternatives Virginia: The tracking device is working well, the client has no issues related to wearing the device, and two bases have been purchased.

The issue regarding the two individuals previously discussed will be meeting next week to discuss “relationships” as they are on/off on a regular basis. The issue of competency has been resolved, both individuals are able to make their own choices.

Children Services of VA: Mr. Bowman reported that they had opened a new program in Culpeper. Ms. Mattingly made a motion for temporary affiliation for the new program until the November 13th meeting, Ms. Cartier seconded, the motion carried. Mr. Bowman will report back to the committee at the November meeting to see if he has affiliated with the LHRC in the Culpeper area.

Old Business: None

New Business: None

Close of Meeting/Scheduling of Next Meeting: The next LHRC next two meetings are scheduled for November 13 at Northwestern Community Services and January 8, 2008 at Winchester Medical Center.

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 7:40 p.m.

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

Jean Snider, Vice Chair

Mark Gleason, LHRC Liaison