

SOUTHEAST ALLIANCE

LOCAL HUMAN RIGHTS COMMITTEE MEETING

5:30 p.m., Tuesday, December 11, 2007

Rm. 1357 Staff Development & Training Room, CSB Bldg. 300

Members Present: Nathaniel Parker
Richard Flournoy
Timothy Dorsey
Shirley Atkins
Lisa Hillman

Members Absent: Joshua Cartwright
Gail Russell

Affiliates Present: Linda Major
Fred Mitchell
Willie Barnes – Advocate
Eloise Epps-Foster
Julie Palmer
Linda Kerns

CALL TO ORDER Nathaniel Parker called the meeting to order at 5:49 p.m.

INTRODUCTIONS Brief introductions were made. Nathaniel Parker called for new LHRC Committee Member Lisa Hillman to introduce herself.

ACTION: A motion was made as follows: “Motion to approve the minutes of the meeting on September 11, 2007.” Discussion consisted of the need to amend the circulated minutes to reflect that Linda Kerns from the ARC was present at the meeting. The motion was seconded and unanimously approved as amended without further discussion.

Mr. Parker thanked all present for another successful year and for their continued service to the community.

AGENCY REPORTS: Mr. Parker asked for agency reports.

H-NNCSB- Linda stated that we have had six consumer deaths this quarter; two right of dignity, one was access to services that was a formal complaint/ unfounded but services are provided based on needs and one was an exploitation formal complaint that was founded, employee resigned; one formal complaint of physical abuse, employee no longer assigned to work together; one formal complaint of right to services/ discharge planning unfounded; one formal complaint of neglect was unfounded but there will be program changes regarding staffing patterns and consumer supervision; and four informal complaints that were all resolved.

Colonial CSB- Fred Mitchell stated that there were two deaths with causes unknown; there was one anonymous complaint of discrimination which was unfounded, one complaint for failure to provide lease restricted services for an inpatient which was founded, and one complaint of treatment with dignity that was founded (employee was disciplined).

Lutheran Family Services - Eloise Epps Foster states that there is nothing significant to report.

ARC – Julie Palmer stated that there were seven medication errors, five staff found neglectful, one unable to determine what happened to the medication, one employee was disciplined; three allegations of restraints used for safety/protection; four significant medical incident; two allegations of neglect, both founded; and one allegation of verbal abuse founded, employee terminated.

ADVOCATE REPORT: Willie Barnes states that the advocate informed via H-NNCSB that Serenity House clients were asked to pick up their records which prompted LHR to contact them as well as licensing to determine what was going on with the services. Willie states that she made several calls, emails to the agency, Mr. Jacobs who reported to the committee at the last meeting, and phone calls were not returned. Ms. Mitchell advised the agency that she saw a client but that individual could not provide her with any information. LHR checked with licensing and heard a rumor that DLC had visited the agency and Serenity House is no longer functioning but LHR have heard nothing from the agency itself. Since Serenity House is no longer operational, Willie states that Mr. Daye would like the committee to open up or consider other affiliates to come aboard. She states the Southeastern LHRC is really growing in this region with three new LHRC in Hampton, Colonial, and Norfolk HRC. Linda states that at the next term we report how many programs we have that are licensed and whether we have any immediate plans to add additional programs.

NEW BUSINESS:

The Committee discussed the fact that Serenity House has closed its doors. Accordingly, the LHRC would entertain requests by other providers for affiliation with the LHRC. Fred Mitchell cautioned the Committee to carefully consider the number of programs/licenses of any potential affiliates. He reminded the Committee that it already had two CSBs affiliated with the LHRC (with multiple programs/licenses). Serenity House did not compare. The Committee duly noted Mr. Mitchell's comments and advised it would consider the number or programs/licenses from any potential affiliate(s).

The Committee asked that all affiliates be prepared at the next regularly scheduled meeting to discuss generally each of the programs/licenses it currently has and any anticipated changes thereto. Such information would be helpful in assessing the LHRC's bandwidth to accept one or more additional affiliates.

CLOSED SESSION:

A motion was duly made and seconded at 6:37 p.m. to enter into Closed Session pursuant to Va. Code § 2.2-3711(A), for discussion or consideration of information excluded from the Freedom of Information Act, namely to receive medical and/or mental records on clients of the Arc of the Virginia Peninsula.

RECONVENED IN OPEN SESSION: Upon reconvening in open session at 7:25 p.m., members of the LHRC unanimously and individually certified that to the best of each member's knowledge, only public business matters lawfully exempt from statutory open meeting requirements, and only public business matters identified in the motion to convene the Closed Session had been discussed in the Closed Session in accordance with Va. Code § 2.2-3711(A).

ACTION: A motion was made as follows: "Motion to approve the medication plan and the revised Behavioral Support Plan for ARC of the Virginia Peninsula, Hilton House ICF/MR client number 18." The motion was seconded and approved unanimously without further discussion.

ACTION: A motion was made as follows: "Motion to approve the medication plan and the Behavioral Support Plan for ARC of the Virginia Peninsula, Hilton House ICF/MR client number 16; such medications not to be used for behavioral purposes" The motion was seconded and approved unanimously without further discussion.

ACTION: A motion was made as follows: “Motion to approve the medication plan for ARC of the Virginia Peninsula, Fairmont House ICF/MR client number 9.” The motion was seconded and approved unanimously without further discussion.

ACTION: A motion was made as follows: “Motion to approve the medication plan for ARC of the Virginia Peninsula, Fairmont House ICF/MR client number 12.” The motion was seconded and approved unanimously without further discussion.

The next meeting is scheduled for **March 11, 2008** at H-NNCSB, Bldg. 300.

ADJOURNMENT There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:30p.m.