

Southwest Regional Human Rights Committee
Minutes
October 15, 2008
Oxbow Center, St Paul, VA
2:00-4:30 p.m.

The Southwest Regional Human Rights Committee met on Wednesday, October 15, 2008 at 2:00 p.m. at the Oxbow Center, St. Paul Virginia.

Committee Members Present: Elvera McLees,
Margaret Schenck
Tracy Mullins

Committee Members Absent: Charles Stapleton

Others Present: Randy Johnsey, State Human Rights Committee Member
Dianne Wilson, Holston Home
Franklin Horton, Cumberland Mountain CSB
Lorie Horton, Highlands Community Services
Carol Lett, Highlands Community Services
Sterlyn Lineberry, Clinch Valley Treatment Center
Rob Edwards, Clinch Valley Treatment Center
Kristel Headley, Mountain States Health Alliance
Mark Mullins, Mountain States Health Alliance
Sandra O'Keefe-Hicks, Creative Family Solutions
Sherry Dye, DePaul Family Services
Glenda Pollard, HopeTree Family Services
Kim Smith, Rachel's Haven
Carols Wade, R&S Helping Hands
Courtney Fridley, DePaul Family Services
Kim Ramey, Family Preservation Services
Sharon Taylor, Frontier Health
Teresa Hanover, Cross Roads Point
Jewel Haynes, Cross Roads Point
Mike Bush, Cumberland Mountain Community Services
Jody Shipley, Mountain States Health Alliance
Stephanie Poe, Mountain State Health Alliance, Clearview
Quentin Reed, Pressley Ridge

I. Welcome and Introductions

Dr. McLees introduced new committee member Margaret Schenck. The Affiliates introduced themselves. Former Committee member, Randy Johnsey now with the State Human Rights Committee, provided a brief overview of the State Human Rights Committee's recent meetings.

II. **Call to Order**

The Chair, Dr. McLees called the meeting to order, and opened the floor for comments and questions. Dr. McLees noted there had been few comments or questions in the previous meetings. She provided a suggestion box and instructed the Affiliates that anyone with a question or comment that they would prefer to not to ask in the general meeting could be written on a card and placed in the box. Any question or comment completed would then be addressed at the following meeting.

III. **Approval of the Minutes**

The minutes of June 25, 2008 were approved as presented.

IV. **Advocate's Report:**

Ms. Neese provided the Committee with the following updates:

- **Committee Membership-** There is currently three vacancies on the Committee. Affiliates are responsible for recruitment of potential Committee members. Consumer representation is needed on the Committee. If any Affiliate knows of a potential candidate, they can provide the individual's name and address to Ms. Neese and she will send the packet to the potential candidate or she will send the packet to the Affiliate to forward.
- **State Budget Cuts-** To decrease the possible negative impact on consumer services, The Department of Mental Health, Mental Retardation and Substance Abuse (DMHMRSAS) will potentially cut 32 positions. Ms. Neese will send out a notice about any changes these cuts have on the Office of Human Rights in coverage, reporting etc...
- **Automated Reporting System-** The system has been placed on hold. Ms. Neese requested suggestions of how to decrease the amount of paper that is currently being sent to her office to meet the reporting standards.

V. **Receipt of Notice of New Locations or Services**

- Mike Bush requested the Committee's approval to extend Cumberland Mountain Community Services' affiliation to include providing Therapeutic Day Treatment at Graham Middle School, Bluefield, VA. Motion was made by Ms. Mullins and second by Ms. Schenck to extend the affiliation to include the above location. Motion carried.
- Kim Ramey, requested the Committee's approval to extend Family Preservation's affiliation to include providing Therapeutic Day Treatment at the following schools: J.M. Blevins Elementary, Hilton Elementary, Dugannon Intermediate, St. Charles Elementary, Elk Knob Elementary, Rose Hill Elementary, Gate City Middle, Coeburn Middle, Powell Valley Middle, L F Addington Middle, Copper Creek Elementary. Motion was made by Ms. Mullins and second by Ms. Schenck to extend the affiliation to include the above locations. Motion carried.

VI. **Annual Human Rights Report**

The following Affiliates submitted their annual reports for calendar year 2007:

- **DDM HomeTree Family Services** – Glenda Pollard reviewed the report with the Committee. Motion was made by Ms. Mullins and second by Ms. Schenck to accept the report as submitted. Motion carried.
- **Rachel’s Haven-** Kim Smith reviewed the report with the Committee. Motion was made by Ms. Mullins and second by Ms. Schenck to accept the report as submitted. Motion carried.
- **Clinch Valley Treatment Center** – Sterlyn Lineberry reviewed the report with the Committee. Motion was made by Ms. Mullins and second by Ms. Schenck to accept the report as submitted. Motion carried.
- **DePaul Family Services** – Sherry Dye reviewed the report with the Committee. Motion was made by Ms. Mullins and second by Ms. Schenck to accept the report as submitted. Motion carried.

VII. **Policy and Procedure Review**

The following policy and procedures were submitted for Committee review and comment:

- **Highlands Community Services Sponsored Home Behavior Management-** Lorie. Horton presented the policy and responded to the Committee’s questions. She reminded the Committee that the policy was in follow-up to Highlands’ new Sponsored Home service which was presented to the Committee for extended affiliation in May. Motion was made by Ms. Schenck and seconded by Ms. Mullins to accept the policy as compliant with the Human Rights Regulations.
- **Mountain State Health Alliance, Clearview-**Stephanie Poe presented the policy and responded to the Committee’s questions. She stated the update to the procedures had been made to reflect Clearview’s change to the H.E.L.P. system of behavior management. Motion was made by Ms. Schenck and seconded by Ms. Mullins to accept the policy as compliant with the Human Rights Regulations.

VIII. **Pressley Ridge, In-Home Services-Update-** Quentin Reed reported that the second review by DMHMRSAS Licensure had occurred and Pressley Ridge had not been granted a license. Mr. Reed requested that Pressley Ridge’s affiliation be continued, as it makes the corrections to meet licensure requirements. Specifically, Pressley Ridge is having difficulty in hiring a licensed provider. Motion was made by Ms. Schenck and seconded by Ms. Mullins to extend affiliation with the stipulation that Pressley Ridge make progress reports at each meeting. Motion carried

IX. **Other Business**

The Committee requested an updated list of Affiliates, listing their locations and the licensed services they provide. Ms. Neese will send out a checklist and Affiliation Agreement, for the Affiliates to document this information.

Dr. McLees noted that the next meeting is scheduled for December 17, 2008, which is close to the holiday season. It was agreed to meet a week early. The next meeting will

be December 10, 2008 at Highlands Community Services new facility, located on Campus Drive, Abingdon VA.

X. **Adjournment**

There being no further business, Dr. McLees adjourned the meeting at 3:50 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted:

Lorie Horton,
Staff Liaison

Dr. Elvera McLees
Committee Chairperson