

**Southwest Regional Human Rights Committee
Minutes
October 21, 2009
Rachel's Haven, Pound, VA
2:00-4:30 p.m.**

The Southwest Regional Human Rights Committee met on Wednesday, October 21, 2009 at 2:00 p.m. at Rachel's Haven in Pound, Virginia.

Committee Members Present: Elvera McLees,
Margaret Schenck
Tracy Mullins
Charles Stapleton

Committee Members Absent: None

Others Present: Lorie Horton, Highlands Community Services
Sharon Taylor, Frontier Health-PD1
Alfred Eichler, New Beginnings
Heather Murphy, Infinite Potential
Thelma Bond R&S Helping Hands
Carlos Wade, R&S Helping Hands
Kim Smith, Rachel's Haven
Charlie Murphy, Infinite Potential
Sid Rhoton, Mountain Connections
Janice Payne, Rachel's Haven
Ida Mullins, Family Preservation
Whitney Brunette, Presley Ridge
Vivian Hall, Family Preservation
Sharon O'Keefe-Hicks, Creative Family Solutions
Amber Hall, Creative Family Solutions
Glenda Pollard, VA Baptist Children's Home

I. Welcome and Introductions

Dr. McLees welcomed the Committee and Affiliates. Introductions were made.

II. Call to Order

The Chair, Dr. McLees, called the meeting to order.

III. Approval of the Minutes

Motion was made by Margaret Schenck and seconded by Charles Stapleton to approve the minutes of August 19, 2009 as presented. Motion carried.

IV. Advocate's Report

Nan Neese, Regional Human Rights Advocate, announced that Deborah Jones will be serving the primary Advocate for the services area associated with the Regional

Committee. As a product of the budget reductions the Office of Human Rights may continue to make changes in regional assignments.

V. **Request for Affiliation**

Heather Murphy submitted a request for the affiliation of Infinite Potential, LLC Group Home to the Committee. Infinite Potential will provide residential services to three adults with Intellectual Disabilities and have available a fourth bed for respite services. The home is located in East Stone Gap. They are currently in the application process for a license and the physical location has been inspected by Steve Patrick, Senior Licensing Specialist. Ms. Neese verified that their Human Rights Policies have been submitted and with a few minor changes will meet expected standards. Based on the above, Ms. Neese recommended affiliation to the Committee. A motion was made by Ms. Schenck and seconded by Ms. Mullins to grant affiliation to Infinite Potential, LLC pending completion of licensing by the Office of Licensure. Motion carried.

VI. **Notice of New Locations – Family Preservation Services**

Vivian Hall requested the Committee's approval to extend Family Preservation Services, Inc's affiliation to include locations at: J.I. Burton High School, City of Norton; Appalachia High School, Wise County; Weber City Elementary, Scott County; Rye Cove High School, Scott County; Belfast Elementary, Russell County; Elk Garden Elementary, Russell County; and Raven Elementary, Tazewell County. Motion was made by Mr. Stapleton and second by Ms. Mullins to extend the affiliation to include the above locations. Motion carried.

VII. **Annual Program Reports for 2008**

Creative Family Solutions

Sharon O'Keefe-Hicks submitted the report to the Committee for review. Motion was made by Ms. Mullins and seconded by Ms. Schenck to accept the report as submitted. Motion carried.

Frontier Health/PD1

Sharon Taylor submitted the report to the Committee for review. Motion was made by Ms. Mullins and seconded by Mr. Stapleton to accept the report as submitted. Motion carried.

Mountain Connections

Sid Rhoton submitted the report to the Committee for review. Motion was made by Ms. Schenck and seconded by Mr. Stapleton to accept the report as submitted. Motion carried.

Highlands Community Services

Lorie Horton submitted the report to the Committee for review. The Committee requested additional details on the utilization of restraint. Motion was made by Ms. Schenck and seconded by Ms. Mullins to accept the report, with the caveat that the additional information be provided at the next meeting. Motion carried.

Rachel's Haven

Kim Smith and Janice Payne submitted the report to the Committee for review. Motion was made by Ms. Schenck and seconded by Ms. Mullins to accept the report as submitted. Motion carried.

VIII. Other Business

Ms. Neese recommended to the Committee that the Affiliates' Agreement be revised to clarify that any licensing citation, which is also violation of Human Rights Regulations, must be reported to the Committee, by the Affiliate, at the next Human Rights meeting following the citation. The Committee indicated their support of the revision.

In reviewing the Affiliates Annual Reports, the Committee requested that all Annual Reports be submitted to the Committee during the first three meetings for the following year (February, April, June).

As a general topic of discussion, it was noted that the Committee supports those measures that help prevent individuals with disabilities from being overprescribed medications with addictive potential (e.g. prescription monitoring programs).

The next meeting is scheduled for December 16, 2009 at the Oxbow Center, St. Paul, VA.

IX. Adjournment

There being no further business, Dr. McLees adjourned the meeting.

Respectfully Submitted:

Lorie Horton
Staff Liaison

Dr. Elvera McLees
Committee Chairperson