

**Southwest Regional Human Rights Committee  
Minutes  
April 21, 2010  
Oxbow Center, St. Paul, VA  
2:00-4:00 p.m.**

The Southwest Regional Human Rights Committee met on Wednesday, April 21, 2010 at 2:00 p.m. at the Oxbow Center, St. Paul VA.

**Committee Members Present:** Elvera McLees,  
Margaret Schenck  
Tracy Mullins

**Committee Members Absent:** Charles Stapleton

**Others Present:** Lorie Horton, Highlands Community Services  
Sharon Taylor, Frontier Health-PD1  
Alfred Eichler, New Beginnings  
Carlos Wade, R&S Helping Hands  
Kim Smith, Rachel's Haven  
Sid Rhoton, Mountain Connections  
Rick Mitchell, Family Preservation  
Heather Lynch, Family Preservation  
Sherry Dye, DePaul Community Resources  
Teresa Vanover, Cross Roads Point  
Rob Edwards, Clinch Valley Treatment Center  
Diana Wilson, Holston Family Services  
Sharon O'Keefe-Hicks, Creative Family Solutions  
Jewelee Haynes, Cross Roads Point  
Glenda Pollard, VA Baptist Children's Home

**I. Welcome and Introductions**

The Chair, 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**

The March 17, 2010 minutes were drafted by Nan Neese Regional Human Rights Advocate, but are currently unavailable for dissemination, due to a technical problem within the DBHDS computer system. The item was tabled until the next meeting.

**IV. Advocate's Report**

Deb Jones, Human Rights Advocate reported on the IT issues referenced in the above item.

V. **Revision to Highlands Community Services Outpatient Program Rules**  
Lorie Horton, Highlands Community Services presented the revised rules to the Committee. A general discussion occurred. It was determined that terms such as “post-induction,” while technical, are commonly used and understood by individuals seeking medication assisted treatment for substance abuse. A motion was made by Tracy Mullins and seconded by Ms. Margaret Schenck to approve the rules as revised. Motion carried.

VI. **Open Discussion Item – Verbal Abuse**  
Dr. McLees opened the floor for a general discussion on how Affiliates respond to allegations/incidents of verbal abuse. The increasing expectation for community based services to serve individuals with more challenging behaviors, the importance of staff training, matching the consumer with the right worker, empowering staff to know their own limits, and staff debriefing when incidents occur were discussed.

VII. **Annual Program Reports for 2009**

Cross Roads Point

Jewelee Haynes submitted the additional restraint data the Committee requested at the October meeting. The Committee reviewed the information. No motion was deemed necessary.

Creative Family Solutions

Sharon O’Keefe-Hicks 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.

Clinch Valley Treatment Center

Rob Edwards 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.

R&S Helping Hands

Carlos Wade 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.

Mountain Connections

Sid Rhoton 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.

Highlands Community Services

Lorie Horton submitted the report to the Committee for review. Motion was made by Ms. Mullins and seconded by Ms. Schenck as submitted. Motion carried.

The Committee discussed their expectations in reviewing Annual Reports. It was agreed additional information may be required to complete their review. A motion was made

by Ms. Schenck and seconded by Ms. Mullins that Affiliates bring incident logs/documentation with them to reference, when presenting their Annual Reports, should additional information be needed. Motion carried.

**VIII. Notice to Committee-DePaul Community Resources**

Motion was made by Ms. Mullins and seconded by Ms. Schenck that the Southwest Regional Human Right Committee go into closed session pursuant to VA Code §2.2-3711.A.(4) and (15) for the purpose of protecting the privacy of individuals in personal matters not related to public business and the discussion of medical and mental records, namely to discuss the notice letter sent by DePaul Community Resources. Motion carried.

Following the discussion, motion was made by Ms. Mullins and seconded by Ms. Schenck that the Southwest Virginia Regional Human Rights Committee reconvenes into public session. Motion carried.

Each member then certify that to the best of their knowledge, only matters lawfully exempted from open meeting requirements were heard, discussed, or considered. No further action was deemed necessary

**IX. Other Business**

Ms. Jones gave a presentation on the Freedom on Information Act as it relates to Human Rights Committees.

The next meeting is scheduled for June 16, 2010 the location to be announced.

**X. Adjournment**

There being no further business, Dr. McLees adjourned the meeting at 4:03 pm.

Respectfully Submitted:

Lorie Horton  
Staff Liaison

Dr. Elvera McLees  
Committee Chairperson