

**Southwest Regional Human Rights Committee
Minutes
May 20, 2009
St Paul, VA Oxbow Center
2:00-4:30 p.m.**

The Southwest Regional Human Rights Committee met on Wednesday, May 20, 2009 at 2:03 p.m. at the Oxbow Center, St. Paul Virginia.

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

Committee Members Absent: None

Others Present: Glenda Pollard, VA Baptist Children's Home
Pamela Wade, R&S Helping Hands
Carlos Wade, R&S Helping Hands
Thelma Bond, R&S Helping Hands
Jewel Haynes, Cross Roads Point
Teresa Vanover, Cross Roads Point
Rod McMurray, Family Preservation
Nan Neese, DMHMRSAS Regional Advocate
Mike Bush, Cumberland Mt. CSB
Alfred Eichler, New Beginnings
Sid Rhoton, Mountain Connections Inc.
Lorie Horton, Highlands Community Services
Sharon Taylor, Frontier Health-PD1
Rebecca Scott, Dickenson County Behavioral Health
Sharon O'Keefe-Hicks, Creative Family Solutions
Kim Smith, Rachel's Haven
Teenia Burke, Rachel's Haven
Quentin Reed, Pressley Ridge Intensive In 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

The minutes of February 18, 2009 were approved as presented.

IV. Advocate's Report:

Ms. Neese provided the Committee with the following updates:

- **Human Rights Reporting Form** – Ms. Neese distributed a memo clarifying the affiliate’s reporting responsibilities and timelines. She stated that the proposed form, distributed at the December meeting was intended for use by SwRHR Committee affiliates only. It is not a state-wide required form. She will e-mail the memo to all affiliates. Affiliates are to provide Ms. Neese with any feedback on the reporting proposed form by the next meeting. Use of the new form is scheduled to begin January 2010.
- **Affiliate Agreement** - Ms. Neese recommended to the committee that the two documents the Affiliate Agreement and the Affiliate Procedures be combined into one document. In doing so the language that allowed the Committee to limit the number of affiliates to 25 would be removed, however the Committee would still have the authority to deny any petitioner affiliation. The petitioner would then have the right to appeal to the decision State Human Rights Committee or compose their own Human Rights Committee. The Committee was agreeable to Ms. Neese making the proposed change. She will provide the Committee with a draft document once the changes are made.
- **Change to Advocate Responsibilities** - Ms. Neese reported with the decrease in staff in the Department of Human Rights the Piedmont area has been added to her jurisdiction.
- **Membership** - Ms. Neese reported that the Committee has three vacancies. The Committee needs consumer representation. Affiliates were reminded of their responsibility to maintain Committee membership. Ms. Neese may be contacted for application forms.
- **Name Change for the Department of Mental Health, Mental Retardation, and Substance Abuse** - Ms. Neese announced effective July 1 2009 the DMHMHSAS name will be changed to the Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services (DBHDS).

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

- Rod McMurray requested the Committee’s approval to extend Family Preservation’s affiliation to include providing an administrative office location which will hold clinical records for Mental Health Supports and Intensive In-Home services in Wise County. Motion was made by Ms. Mullins and second by Ms. Schenck to extend the affiliation to include the above location. Motion carried.
- Mike Bush requested the Committee’s approval to extend Cumberland Mountain CSB’s affiliation to include providing Therapeutic Day Treatment at Honaker Elementary. Motion was made by Ms. Mullins and second by Mr. Stapleton to extend the affiliation to include the above location. Motion carried.

VI. **Annual Human Rights Report**

The following Affiliates submitted their annual reports for calendar year 2008:

- **Virginia Baptist Children’s Home and Family Services/DBA Hope Tree Service** – Glenda Pollard reviewed the report with the Committee. Motion was made by Ms. Mullins and seconded by Ms. Schenck to accept the report as submitted. Motion carried.

VII. **Pressley Ridge, In-Home Services-Update-** Quentin Reed reported that as of April 2009 Pressley Ridge had received it's licensed by the VA Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services to provide Intensive In Home Services. Motion was made by Mr. Stapleton and seconded by Ms. Schenck to accept notice of receipt of license and grant affiliation to Pressley Ridge. Motion carried.

VIII. **Committee Membership**

Motion was made by Mr. Stapleton and seconded by Ms. Mullins 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 committee membership. Motion carried.

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

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

Other Business

The next meeting is scheduled for June 17, 2009 at Oxbow Center in St. Paul, VA.

IX. **Adjournment**

There being no further business, Dr. McLees adjourned the meeting at 3:12 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted:

Lorie Horton,
Staff Liaison

Dr. Elvera McLees
Committee Chairperson