

LOCAL HUMAN RIGHTS COMMITTEE

09/18/07

Present: Deborah Atno-Shelton, Chair
Macy Fox, Member
Paul Krikau, Member
Joe Tuell, CCCA Fac. Dir.
Chris Ruble, *Affiliate: Liberty Point*
Jaime Marion, *Affiliate: ALT (Waynesboro)*
Brooke Rodgers, *Affiliate-Lutheran Family Svcs.*

Jim Hall, Secretary
Wendy Young, Member
Mark Seymour, DMHMRSAS/Advocate
Pam White, CCCA LHRC Liaison
Kathryn Dickerson, *Affiliate: Liberty Point*
Trey Lawhorne, *Affiliate: Shenandoah House/Intercept*

Guests: Mark Stevens, VOPA

Minutes Prepared by: Pamela White

Approved by: 

Jim Hall, Secretary

CURRENT AGENDA	FUTURE AGENDA
1. Call to Order; Review of Minutes	1. Call to Order; Review of Minutes
2. General: Affiliated Programs	2. General: Affiliated Programs
3. Advocate's Report	3. Advocate's Report
4. CCCA Facility Director's Report	4. CCCA Facility Director's Report
5. Adjourn	5. The next regular CCCA LHRC meeting has been scheduled for 11/13/07 @ 6:00pm.

1. Deborah Atno-Shelton-Chair called the meeting to order, welcoming all present with roundtable introductions and a review of the CCCA LHRC minutes of 07/17/07 and 08/02/07.

Action: The CCCA LHRC minutes of 07/17/07 and 08/02/07 were approved as presented.

2. General discussion items from the affiliated programs that were represented include:
 - a. Jaime Marion-*Affiliate: Augusta League of Therapists (Waynesboro)* presented the 2007 Annual Report for his program. He reported that human rights training had been completed by staff and that patient rights elements had been reviewed by both staff and patients. Mr. Marion also noted that there had been no patient complaints received and added that the culture of human rights was being incorporated into the corporate mission statement. He closed by commenting that staff who were not currently licensed were actively working towards that goal.
 - b. Chris Ruble-*Affiliate: Liberty Point* announced that his program had 7 discharges to less structured levels of care in August. He deferred discussion about a young adolescent male in his program until the end of the regular meeting.

Action: The CCCA LHRC thanked the affiliate representatives for their comments and updates.

3. Mark Seymour-DMHMRSAS Advocate presented the Advocate's Report, announcing that the VA DMHMRSAS *Rules & Regulations to Assure the Rights of Individuals Receiving Services from Providers of Mental Health, Mental Retardation, and Substance Abuse Services* will be finalized 09/18/07. He commented that the new *Regulations* should be more user-friendly and highlighted relevant changes, which are to be reflected in practice by November 1st and documented in program policies by January 1st. He announced that all programs would be receiving the DMHMRSAS-Human Rights DVD to help with the transition. Mr. Seymour added that the DMHMRSAS-Office of Human Rights LHRC Seminar offered on 09/14/07 was well-attended.
4. Mark Stevens-VOPA commented that the Fiscal Year for his office ends 09/30/07 and that the office was in the process of closing out the year. He stated that two VOPA representatives attended the Human Rights Conference.
5. Joe Tuell-CCCA Facility Director presented the Facility Director's Report, commenting that although census remained low during the summer, the flow of admissions/discharges remained constant. He stated that there has been an increase in the number of younger children being admitted and he referenced the April 2007 Virginia Tech shootings having an impact on community therapists. Mr. Tuell reported that the Center had had 3 allegations regarding staff implementation of seclusion/restraint, all of which were staff reported and in keeping with the culture of care.

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6. Ms. Atno-Shelton opened discussion for filling the current CCCA LHRC vacancy of Vice Chair. The nomination of Wendy Young-Member as Vice Chair was accepted.

Action: The CCCA LHRC voted Ms. Young in as the CCCA LHRC Vice Chair.

7. Regarding the earlier request of Mr. Ruble- *Affiliate: Liberty Point*, the motion was made and seconded to go into a closed session pursuant to VA Code §2.2-3700, for the purpose of discussing matters excluded from the Freedom of Information Act and protecting patient confidentiality. Upon reconvening in open session, the CCCA LHRC certified that to the best of each member 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 were discussed in the closed session.

Action: The CCCA LHRC thanked Mr. Ruble for providing patient-specific information regarding current challenges his program is facing.