

**Danville-Pittsylvania County Regional  
Local Human Rights Committee**

February 16, 2012

Betty Whitehead Conference Room – Danville/Pittsylvania Community Services Board

*NOTE: These minutes are subject to approval by the LHRC at its next meeting. Should revisions be made, they will be included as an item in the minutes of that meeting.*

**LHRC Members in Attendance:** Jeff Rodden; Esther Goins; Kelly Matthews

**LHRC Members Not in Attendance:** Greg Casker; Lesa Shelton; Jeanne White; Beverly Scruggs

**Other Representatives in Attendance:** Kevin Paluszak, Regional VI Advocate

**SVMHI patient Advocate Senior:** Jennifer Kovack

**Affiliates Not In Attendance:** Alliant; Children and Family Community Dev.; Diverse Family Services; The Fletcher Center; Life Support Services; Negril; Stanfield Group Home; Therapeutic Interventions, Inc.; Virginia Health Partners

**Minutes Recorder:** Jerri Phillips, SVMHI

**Regional LHRC Minutes and Meeting Schedule:** The Regional Local Human Rights Committee (LHRC) minutes and meeting schedule can be located on the Southern Virginia Mental Health Institute's Web Page @ [www.svmhi.dbhds.virginia.gov](http://www.svmhi.dbhds.virginia.gov) under the heading of Client Advocacy.

**Welcome/Call to Order:** In the absence of Chairman Greg Casker, the Danville-Pittsylvania County Regional Local Human Rights Committee meeting was called to order at 5:35 PM by Kelly Matthews.

**Approval of Minutes:** There were not enough committee members in attendance for a quorum; therefore, the October 20, 2011 minutes, the December 1, 2011 minutes and the December 19, 2011 minutes were not approved.

**Affiliation Request:** Joshua House Family Services requested to add a group home on North Union Street for mental health support services. They will serve individuals 18 years of age and older. Currently they have 2 clients and 2 staff. K. Paluszak stated that the LHRC processed the information for affiliation but approval was not necessary.

**Advocate's Report:**

Because the committee did not reach a quorum, business was heard but no votes were taken. Mr. Paluszak announced that a special meeting will be convened to review applications for new board members.

Mr. Paluszak proceeded to give background information to the committee and affiliates for a better understanding of the relationships between the different committees:

- State Human Resource Committee currently has 2 positions open. The Committee meets every 6 weeks across the State and provides support and guidance to the Local Human Rights Committee.
- LHRC – volunteer membership; 1/3 needs to be consumers (individual has received services within 5 years); 1 health care professional; and 1 family member. The LHRC is here to advise and support services to this community.
- Affiliate reports. Please submit copies to Board Members (and secretary) at each meeting (10 copies).
  - Jan – March due 4/5
  - April – June due 7/5
  - July – Sept due 10/5

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- Oct – Dec due 1/5.
  - Verbal reports to the committee will be different (more up-to-date) than those submitted.
  - Reports should include
    - Allegations/Complaints
    - Networking
    - Collaborative information that would be helpful to other affiliates
    - Serious incidents – injury; death; elopement
    - Visits from licensing
- Affiliates need to be networking – not competing*
- The LHRC supports the providers who support the consumer.
  - The new Advocate, Jennifer Kovack, was introduced. Her office will be located SVMHI. There are currently 3 advocates in this area and that will stay the same.
  - Settlement between DOJ and State of Virginia
    - Reducing/eliminating State facilities for the intellectually disabled by 2020 (all but one will be closed – Chesapeake will have 75 beds)
    - 4200+ ID waivers to support individuals in the community. More licensing specialists will be hired along with Human Rights advocates and community integration specialists.
    - Affiliates will need more preparation – licensing will be more strict and there will be higher expectations
    - Training will be offered, i.e. audit training for providers; licensing requirements; investigation training.
  - Hughes Center will be hosting a training for monthly reporting in March

A reminder was made to complete quarterly and annual reports – both due January 5, 2012.

**Affiliate Reports:**

- **All Care** – Currently service 32 clients with 17 employees; No abuse/neglect reported; had an unannounced survey and currently making corrections. They would like to expand to South Boston.
- **Danville/Pittsylvania CSB:**
  - **Mental Health** – No abuse/neglect. Services are provided for all ages.
  - **Intellectual Disability** – No complaints/no abuse. There was 1 report of neglect. The staff member did not report the incident and did not follow-up with the individual. Neglect founded and disciplined. Kevin – *It is imperative to get staff to report incidents.*
  - **Crisis Stabilization** – No report.
- **Danville Regional Medical Center** – Currently has 5 patients. No abuse, no allegations. There were 65 minutes of seclusion in December. The licensing representative visited – minor corrections are being made (i.e., employee files in 1 place; nursing documentation at discharge reviewed; patient and family need to be included in care plan and documented).
- **Doss** – 7 individuals are being serviced. There are 3 homes with 20 employees. No allegations of abuse/neglect. Several falls were experienced by one individual who had a medical problem. No peer to peer but one case of romance which took education/supervision. Currently there are 4 vacancies.
- **Family Preservation Services** – The office is now only located in Danville. There are 20 + clients with 10 employees. No allegations. No more Day Treatment in Halifax County.
- **Hughes** – 56 beds; ages 13-22. There are 40 residents now and 60 Day School. There were 45 peer to peer incidents with 3 abuse allegations. Two were substantiated- 1 was not. There are 118 employees. Recently had 2 licensing variances – one individual from Georgia and one from Nebraska. Families are required to come and visit/ stay is time limited.
- **Interventions of Virginia** – Waiting to hear from licensing.

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- **The Joshua Home** – Two individuals are being served on Randolph Street; one wishes to be with his family/difficult to make understand why he is residing there. The North Union Street home is requesting services.
- **Kingdom Dominion** – No complaints for the Newton Street home. The group home on Broad Street had 1 aggressive person and was moved. They are now waiting for one new client.
- **MT Sorrell Home** – No complaints to report. Indoor cameras have been removed in the residences. They recently received a new resident (age 17 ½) who is being transitioned to less restrictive living.
- **New Hope** – No allegations. They are looking to expand to the Lynchburg area to provide mental health support services.
- **SVMHI** - The Joint Commission will be coming in March/April. There is a work program for the NGRI clients which is funded through the vending machine profit. In Nov and Dec there were 11 seclusion incidents and 13 emergency mechanical restraint incidents.
- **Support Services of Virginia** – Currently serving 28 clients. Employees number 65. No abuse/complaints. Currently updating medical training/recertified 25 employees. Recently 2 incidents of choking – one needing the Heimlich.

**Other Business:** Training is being provided by the SLHR. Hughes Home has volunteered to host the first training – Suicide Prevention on March 23 from 9 – 12 noon.

**Adjournment:** The meeting was adjourned at 6:55 PM.