

## LOCAL HUMAN RIGHTS COMMITTEE

07/15/08

Present: Macy Fox, Acting Chair  
Jim Strock, Member  
Joe Tuell, CCCA Fac. Dir.  
Mark Seymour, DMHMRSAS/Advocate  
Kathryn Dickerson, *Affiliate: Liberty Point*  
Justine Waits, *Affiliate-Lutheran Family Svcs.*  
Paul Krikau, Member  
Don Roe, Ph.D., CCCA Assist. Dir.  
Pam White, CCCA LHRC Liaison  
Trey Lawhorne, *Affiliate: Shen. House/Intercept*  
Guests: Mark Stevens, VOPA  
Greg Czyszczon, Prospective Member  
Jerry Thomas, DMHMRSAS/Advocate(WSH)  
Absent: Wendy Young, Vice Chair

Minutes Prepared by: Pamela White, CCCA Liaison

Approved by:

  
Jim Strock, 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. <b>The next regular CCCA LHRC meeting has been scheduled for 09/16/08 @ 6:00pm.</b>

- Macy Fox-Acting Chair called the meeting to order with a review of the CCCA LHRC minutes of 05/20/08.  
Action: The CCCA LHRC minutes of 05/20/08 were approved as presented.
- Don Roe, Ph.D.-Assist. Dir. presented Center Instruction 1131 "Human Rights Complaint Resolution" for review. He commented that this policy incorporated language from the revised *DMHMRSAS Rules & Regulations to Assure the Rights of Individuals Receiving Services from Providers*, noting that the distinction of "informal/formal complaints" had been changed to simply "complaints." Mark Seymour-DMHMRSAS/Advocate also reviewed the policy and was in support of the current language changes.  
Action: The CCCA LHRC approved *Center Instruction 1131 "Human Rights Complaint Resolution"* as presented.  
Dr. Roe provided an update on the Center's initiative to reduce the usage of seclusion and restraint. He related general information regarding the VA Department of Mental Health, Mental Retardation & Substance Abuse Services (DMHMRSAS) grant application process which had been successful, with resources to be used by DMHMRSAS, CCCA, and Central State Hospital. He commented that the current movement was grounded in the recovery model and trauma-informed care. Dr. Roe stated that among the planned projects were training events and environmental improvements such as "comfort rooms." Exterior fencing to enhance the current patient access to the outdoors is also being explored but may be cost prohibitive.
- General discussion** items from the affiliated programs that were represented include:
  - Trey Lawhorne-Affiliate: *Shenandoah House/Intercept* commented that a mentorship program was being developed and that the house interior had been upgraded with the help of a professional decorator.
  - Justine Waits-Affiliate: *Lutheran Family Svcs.* reported that her program was currently serving one client in Augusta County, with the norm being 1-3 clients over a one-year period.
  - Kathryn Dickerson-Affiliate: *Liberty Point* provided an update stating that there were 29 youths receiving services in residential and 3 were in Liberty Point's Group Home which was a step-down program. She added that the security cameras were in place but not currently working in the gym.

Action: The CCCA LHRC thanked the affiliates for their informal updates regarding their programs.

4. Mark Stevens-Virginia Office for Protection and Advocacy (VOPA) shared information regarding community based services for children and adolescents with serious emotional disturbances entitled the "Children's Mental Health Program Fact Sheet" which is through the VA Department of Medical Assistance Services (DMAS).
5. Mark Seymour-DMHIMRSAS/Advocate introduced new DMHIMRSAS Advocate Jerry Thomas who is working at Western State Hospital (WSH) and will provide coverage as needed for Mr. Scymour. Mr. Seymour began his Advocate's Report by acknowledging the July 1<sup>st</sup> change in legislation regarding Temporary Detaining Orders (TDOs) which now has language of *likely to do harm to self or others*. This could result in an increase in TDOs at a time when psychiatric beds are being reduced. Mr. Seymour also commented generally on a recent WSH patient case heard by the State Human Rights Committee (SHRC) that has been reported in various news media, stating that primary to the case was the usage of seclusion and that recommendations would be forthcoming. In closing, Mr. Scymour advised that given the number of new LHRC members, he would be offering LHRC training at a time amenable to the membership within the coming months.

Action: The CCCA LHRC will share calendar dates to coordinate a training session as soon as possible.

6. Joe Tuell-Facility Director presented CCCA's Annual Report, highlighting human rights issues including staff training, complaint resolution, staff qualifications, and establishing a culture of human rights at the Center.

Action: The CCCA LHRC accepted the report and thanked Mr. Tuell.

7. Ms. Fox introduced prospective member Greg Czyszczonek, commending his prior CCCA LHRC service as both a member and an officer. The CCCA LHRC reviewed Mr. Czyszczonek's applicant questionnaire.

Action: The membership voted to recommend Mr. Czyszczonek to the SHRC for appointment to the CCCA LHRC.

8. The CCCA LHRC proposed, discussed, and approved a new slate of officers:

Chair: Wendy Young  
Vice Chair: Macy Fox  
Secretary: Jim Strock