STATE HUMAN RIGHTS COMMITTEE

John Shepherd, Chairperson
Charlottesville
Renee F. Valdez, Vice-Chairperson
Alexandria
Kimberly Hunt, Secretary
Roanoke
Betty Crance
Fincastle
Chirstopher Olivo
Yorktown
D Bruce Ellsworth
Crozet
Betsy Lang
Hampton
Valjean "Dick" Roberts
Smithfield

Taneika Goldman
State Human Rights Director
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COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA

Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services
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Richmond, Virginia 23218-1797

DARYL WASHINGTON, LCSW, COMMISSIONER

State Human Rights Committee Meeting

Minutes

Thursday, September 24, 2026

8:45AM

Rappahannock Area Community Service Board (RACSB)
Region 1
600 Jackson St.
Fredericksburg, VA 22401
https://teams.microsoft.com/meet/278374437939791?p=Xhi8WYsOp5QRY5vrxe
Meeting ID: 278 374 437 939 791
Passcode: 73BT7Zi6

Convene
8:45 a.m.

SHRC Members Present Physically	John Shepherd, **Chair**, Renee Valdez, **Vice Chair**, Christopher Olivo, Kimberly Hunt, Bruce Ellsworth
SHRC Members Attending Virtually	Dick Roberts, Betty Crance
SHRC Members Absent	Betsy Lang
Staff Present Physically	Taneika Goldman, State Human Rights Director (SHRD) Delisa Turner, Executive Administrative Assistant, Office of Human Rights (OHR) Rachel Saunders, Human Rights Advocate, Region 2
Staff Attending Virtually	Brandon Charles, Sr. Human Rights Manager, Facility Ops Shatayah Antwi, Human Rights Advocate, Facility Ops Bridgette Bland, Human Rights Advocate, Region 4 Andrea Milhouse, Regional Human Rights Manager, Region 4 Cassie Purtlebaugh, Regional Human Rights Manager, Region 1 Jennifer Kovack, Assoc Director for Community Ops, OHR Lequetta Hayes, Human Rights Advocate, Region 1 Artea Ambrose, Human Rights Advocate, Region 1 Heather Hilleary, Human Rights Advocate, Region 1

	Diana Atcha, Regional Human Rights Manger, Region 2 Alonzo Riggins, Training & Development Coord, OHR Mykala Sauls, Human Rights Advocate, Facility Ops
Others Attending in Person	Karen Taylor, Sr. Assistant Attorney General, Counsel for the SHRC Stephanie Terrell, Director of Compliance, Rappahannock Area Community Service Board (RACSB)
Others Attending Virtually	Teresa Smith, Healthcare Compliance Unit Manager, OSIG Douglas Cofield, Richmond Market Behavioral Health Director, Bon Secours St. Mary's Hospital, Inc Karen Harris, Sr. Risk Manager, Bon Secours St. Mary's Hospital, Inc AS, Individual Brandon Cassady, Chairperson, Northern VA Hospitals LHRC
Administrative Session	At 8:48, Taneika Goldman conducted a brief Administrative Session in terms of the upcoming Final Determination.
Call to Order	At 9:01, John Shepherd, SHRC Chair, called the September 24, 2026, SHRC meeting to order and welcomed all to the meeting. A call for introductions was made.
Review of Draft Minutes	At 9:05, the committee considered the draft minutes from the August 13, 2026, meeting. Christopher Olivo motioned for approval. Renee Valdez 2nd. The draft minutes were approved as final, unanimously.
Approval of Agenda	At 9:06, the committee considered the agenda. Christopher Olivo motioned for approval. Kimberly Hunt 2nd. The agenda was approved as final, unanimously.
Welcome and Overview:	At 9:08, Stephanie Terrell welcomed the committee to Rappahannock Area Community Service Board (RACSB). RACSB is dedicated to education, recovery, treatment and wellness of Planning District 16 residents in the city of Fredericksburg and surrounding counties of Caroline, King George, Spotsylvania or Stafford. RACSB offers outpatient, emergency, telepath pediatric, and other preventative and supportive services to individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities and substance use disorders.
Tour Debrief:	At 9:15, the committee discussed the tour of RACSB psychosocial rehabilitation club house held on September 23, 2026. The committee enjoyed the facility; it focused on individuals' strength and knowledge for returning to work. The club house model is based on membership where the

staff is trained to provide clinical, psychiatric supportive services. The committee showed great admiration for the artwork that was done with members.

LHRC Liaison Reporting: At 9:23, the SHRC considered LHRC liaison reporting.
Bruce submitted a written report of his previous attendance at an LHRC in Region 1.

LHRC Business: Taneika Goldman presented the Northwestern Area and Central Region LHRC reappointment and appointment recommendations.
Bruce Ellsworth called for a motion to approve the reappointment and appointments of Northwestern Area and Central Region LHRC. Kimberly Hunt 2nd. Motion passed.

Region 1
Northwestern Area LHRC
Katie Anderson – Reappt

Region 4
Central Region LHRC
Stephanie Williams – Appt
Kenya Muhammad – Appt
Chanda Giles – Appt

Public Comment: At 9:30, John Shepherd announced the public comment period. There was no public comment.

Subcommittees: At 9:31, the SHRC considered reports from the subcommittees.

Max Appeal Subcommittee: The committee acknowledged one appeal received and reviewed since the last full committee's meeting. The subcommittee agreed with the Director's decision that no violation occurred.

Officer Nominating Subcommittee: The Officer Nominating Subcommittee had nothing to report.

Extension Request Subcommittee: The committee acknowledged and accepted three-extension request reviewed: YT v ESH– Request to extend time frame for LHRC Review Denied. LAA v ESH – Request to extend time frame for LHRC Review Approved. SC vs Connections HealthVA, LLC– Request to extend time frame for LHRC Review Approved.

Membership Subcommittee: The Membership Subcommittee had nothing to report.

Community of Practice Re: HRR for Children & Youth Subcommittee	The committee recently had a meeting but still in the organizing phase. Progress is being made to establish a Charter that will define things like the scope of work and membership.
BREAK:	At 9:42, John Shepherd called for a brief break.
Final Determination:	At 10:02, the SHRC facilitated the appeal of the Fact-Finding and Recommendations from Central Region LHRC Findings in the Matter of AS v. Bon Secours St. Mary's Hospital, Inc. John Shepherd also informed the parties that they would receive the findings of the SHRC in writing within 20 working days. The Individual presented virtually. Douglas Cofield, Richmond Market Behavioral Health Director, Bon Secours St. Mary's Hospital, Inc. presented virtually on behalf of the provider. The committee decided to review the appeal in close session. At 10:06, upon a motion by Christopher Olivo, and Bruce Ellsworth 2nd, the committee and parties to the appeal convened in closed session pursuant to VA CODE § 2.2-3711 (A) (4), (8) and (16), for the protection of the privacy of individuals in personal matters not related to public business, and discussion of their medical and mental health records and for consultation with legal counsel regarding specific legal matters requiring the provision of legal advice by such counsel. At 11:31, upon a motion by Bruce Ellsworth, and Kimberly Hunt 2nd, the SHRC returned to open session. Upon reconvening in open session each member certified that, to the best of their knowledge, only matters lawfully exempted from open meeting requirements and only such matters related to the stated reason for going into closed session were heard, discussed, or considered. Christopher Olivo motioned the following regarding the matter of AS v. Bon Secours St. Mary's Hospital, Inc.: to uphold Findings #2-12. Renee Valdez 2nd. A roll-call vote was taken and the motion passed, 7:0, unanimously.
BREAK	At 11:35, John Shepherd called for a brief break.
Presentation:	At 11:47, Taneika Goldman presented the 2025 Annual Report on Activities of the SHRC and OHR. The report was provided to the DBHDS State Board at the regular business meeting on Wednesday September 23, 2026, and will be published on the Office of Human Rights webpage.
Presentation:	At 12:16, Karen Taylor provided an overview of the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) process, specifically to public meetings and records.

Other:	At 1:13, Taneika Goldman acknowledged that the next SHRC meeting will be held in Region 3; arranging a tour at one of the private residential treatment facilities and looking to hold the meeting at a DBHDS-operated facility.
Adjournment	At 1:15, the September 24, 2026, SHRC Meeting was adjourned.

Next Meeting
October 22, 2026
Region 3 (SVMHI – Tentative)