

**CENTRAL STATE HOSPITAL  
LOCAL HUMAN RIGHTS COMMITTEE MEETING  
MINUTES**

**Central State Hospital  
26317 W. Washington Street  
Building 39, Visitation Room  
Petersburg, Virginia 23803  
June 4, 2010  
8:30 am Regular Meeting**

**Attendance:**

Jane Clayborne, Chair; Violet Hite, Vice-Chair;; Hannibal Tuck, Member; Jillian Taylor, Member; Linda Masri, Member.

**Guests:**

Vicki Montgomery, Acting Director, Jennifer Barker, Director of Patient Relations & Training; James Bell, Forensic Director; Michael Curseen, Region IV Human Rights Manager/ OHR; J. B., Patient T. M., Patient

**Absent:**

William Lightfoot, Member

**I. Call to Order: 8:47 am**

**II. Minutes of May 7, 2010 Meeting**

**Action:** The draft minutes for the May 7, 2010 meeting were approved.

**III. Public Comment:**

T. M. commented concerning his restriction of freedom to attend the library due to his 1:1 status and shared that he was never informed of the criteria for getting the 1:1 status discontinued or why he was ever placed on 1:1 status. T. M. also shared that he has not eaten or drank anything from 5/18/10 to the present date. T. M. shared that he was placed in seclusion several times for speaking his mind and stated that while in seclusion, the doctor does not come to conduct a face to face evaluation within the required timeframe. T. M. also stated that time out has been used in excess of 30 minutes. T. M. shared that when he was restricted to the ward, he was given a bag lunch instead of a regular tray for the purpose of intentionally irritating him. T. M. alleged that he has witnessed verbal and physical abuse against patients by staff and stated that there is no ongoing active treatment for patients on his living area except for a few groups conducted by nursing staff.

J. B. raised the following concerns:

- The fire alarm going off at all hours of the night when there is no fire drill and how it disturbs the patient's rest.
- Posted ward rules are overturned by staff in violation of the rules. For example, the doctor writes an order allowing a patient to have his eyeglasses in the bedroom but security staff won't permit it.
- J. B. claimed that his doctor told him he does not have a right to access information in his patient record.
- Staff fails to redirect patients when they are making racial comments towards each other.
- Staff talks loudly during bedtime hours (louder than the television) which disturbs patient's sleep.
- The milk on meal trays is continuously spoiled and the bread and jelly often have mold on them.
- Believes that doctors and staff abuse their authority by writing lies in the patient's charts.
- Denied the right to file criminal charges after being assaulted by another patient.
- Discouraged by staff from protecting self when physically attacked by a peer by telling him that his stay would be extended if he retaliates.
- Inadequate treatment activities. Staff refuses to provide him individual therapy. Available activities include Donkey Kong; movies, and gym M – F.
- Staff not treating patients with respect and dignity and talk down to patients. If a patient verbally responds, lies are written in the chart. Witnesses verbal abuse daily, especially among ID patients.
- Believes there should be a mattress or chair in the seclusion room. Patients are required to either stand up or lie down on the cold concrete floor.
- Not permitted access to razor for shaving.

#### **IV. New Business**

A. Monthly Variance Report for May 2010 – Presented by Jim Bell, Forensic Director

Mr. Bell reported that there were no reportable incidents involving the four approved forensic variances during the month of May 2010.

**Action:** The Committee approved a motion to accept Mr. Bell's reports.

#### **(Executive Session)**

The committee approved a Motion to move into Executive session pursuant to VA Code 2.2-3711 (A), Paragraph 15, for the protection of the privacy of individuals and their records in personal matters not related to public business.

**The following subject matters were discussed in Executive Session:**

**Monthly Abuse Summaries – April 2010**

**Formal Human Rights Complaints – May 2010**

**Spit Guard Usage – May 2010**

**LHRC Follow-up RE: Hospital's Response to Public Comments from R. M.; A. C. and J. S.**

**(Return to Open Session)**

Upon reconvening in open session, the Central State Hospital Local Human Rights Committee certified that to the best of each member's 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 closed session

- B. Monthly Abuse Summary: March 2010** – Presented by Jennifer Barker, Director of Patient Relations

The Acting director provided an update on abuse case # 0034 and addressed questions regarding case # 0017.

**Action:** The Committee requested to review case # 0034 and the Hospital's corrective action plan at the next LHRC meeting. The Committee also requested to review case # 0017 at the next LHRC meeting. The Committee approved a motion to accept Mrs. Barker's reports.

- C. Formal Human Rights Complaints – May 2010** – Presented by Jennifer Barker, Director of Patient Relations and Staff Development

**Action:** The committee approved a motion to accept Mrs. Barker's reports. Mrs. Barker will follow up with complaints and comments discussed during the public comment session. Complaints for these individual to will be included as part of the formal human rights complaints presented at the August 6, 2010 LHRC meeting.

- D. Seclusions & Restraint Data Summary; Comparisons of S/R Incidents and Totals for April 2010 & April 2009-**  
Presented by Vicki Montgomery, Acting Director

**Action:** The Committee approved a motion to accept Ms. Montgomery's report.

- E. Spit Guard Usage**- Presented by Michael Curseen, Human Rights Advocate/ OHR

Mr. Curseen shared that there were two reported uses of the spit mask for May 2010.

**Action:** The Committee requested follow-up concerning the time discrepancy noted between the AOD report and the spit mask report form for R. D. The Committee also requested to review the Spit mask Report form for M. H. The Committee approved a motion to accept Mr. Curseen's report.

**F. Election of Officers – Chair, Vice-Chair, Secretary**

**Action Taken:** The Committee approved motions to reelect Jane Clayborne – Chair; Violet Hite, Vice-Chair and Jillian Taylor – Secretary.

**V. Follow-up Business:**

**1. LHRC Follow-up RE: Hospital's Response to Public Comments from R. M. and A. C.**

A. C. Complaint – Staff are too loud and they discuss their personal business on the ward.

Per Ms. Barker, the issue was addressed by Reta Martin, C.S.W. with the treatment team. Noise level during evening and night is being monitored by G. Morman, R. N.

R. M. Complaint – Points and Levels System in bldg. 96 is unfair. Per Ms. Barker, changes are being made in the level system.

**Action:** The Committee accepted ms. Barker's follow-up report.

**2. LHRC Follow-up RE: CSH Implementation of Physical Restraint Policy**

**Action:** Review of this agenda item is deferred to the next LHRC meeting

**VI. Acting Director's Comments:**

Ms. Montgomery shared that she considers herself an advocate for the rights of patients and is looking forward to working with the CSH LHRC. Ms. Montgomery described her communication style as open and straight-forward and has requested that the advocate communicate any human rights issues to her.

**VIII. Adjournment: 11:40 A.M.**

Next Meeting Date: August 6, 2010. The meeting will be held in the Main Conference Room in of Building 113 at 8:30 A.M.