

CENTRAL STATE HOSPITAL
LOCAL HUMAN RIGHTS COMMITTEE MEETING

MINUTES

Central State Hospital
26317 W. Washington Street
Petersburg, Virginia 23803
Building 113 –Main Conference Room
April 12, 2013
8:30am Regular Meeting

Attendance: Hannibal Tuck, Chair Blondena Mallory; Isabel Vartanian, Member; Liesl Lipford, Member; William Lightfoot Vice-Chair

Guests: Vicki Montgomery, CEO/Director Central State Hospital; Jennifer Barker, Director of Patient Relations and Staff Development; Carey Flowers, Human Rights Advocate; Teresa Langster, Patient Relations; Juliann Wareham, Patient Relations and Staff Development; Jim Bell, Director of Forensics.

Absent: Barbara Davis, Member

Call to Order – Introductions

I. Minutes of March 2013 Meeting

Action: The Committee approved the draft minutes for March 2013.

II. Public Comment:

III. New Business

A. Monthly Variance Report for March 2013– Presented by James Bell, Director, Forensic Services.

Action: The Committee approved a motion to accept the monthly variance reported by Mr. Bell for March 2013 concerning the four forensic variances.

(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 business.

The following subject matters were discussed in Executive Session:

Monthly Abuse Summaries – February 2013

Formal Human Rights Complaints – March 2013

Spit Guard Usage – March 2013

(Return to Open Session)

Upon reconvening into 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: February 2013 – Presented by Jennifer Barker, Director of Patient Relations and Staff Development

Action: The Committee approved the abuse data report presented by Ms. Barker for February 2013.

- C.** Formal Human Rights Complaints –March 2013 – Presented by Jennifer Barker, Director of Patient Relations and Staff Development

Action: The Committee approved the report presented by Ms. Barker for March 2013

- D.** Building 39/96 Ward Rules ~ Presented by Jennifer Barker, Director of Patient Relations and Staff Development.

Ms. Barker went over the changes to the revised ward rules for 39/96.

Action: The Committee approved the report presented by Ms. Barker

- E.** Seclusion and Restraint Data Summary; Comparisons of S/R Incidents and Totals for April 2013 vs. April 2012 ~ Presented by Vicki Montgomery, Director Central State Hospital

Action: The Committee accepted the Seclusion and Restraint data report presented by Ms. Montgomery for April 2013.

- F.** Spit Guard Usage for March 2013– Presented by Walter Small, Human Rights Advocate.

There was no reported use of Spit Guard for the month of March 2013.

Action: The Committee accepted the Spit Guard report presented by Mr. Walter Small for March 2013.

IV. Old Business:

V. LHRC Follow up: None

VI. Director's Comments: Ms. Montgomery explained that forensic patients use a special type of pen to write with due to the fact that other writing utensils may be used as a weapon against another or as an implement of self-harm. This special writing instrument (called a pen insert) is controlled on the ward and patients are *not* able to freely maintain one in their possession. Ms. Montgomery also informed the group that patients have been able to use crayons and markers to write with as well. Ms. Montgomery showed an example of hollowed out marker, which was used by a patient recently to house a cigarette which is a rule breach, a strike plate and matches which are considered weapons. This is a danger to everyone, patients and staff alike. Forensic buildings are extremely hard to evacuate should a fire occur. It is important for everyone to understand that we are now evaluating the markers for safety concerns. Ms Montgomery explained that markers are an item that patients have received from family members and that the metal detectors we have at Central State would not pick up on the contraband that is inside the markers. The Hospital is investigating how these items made it inside the patient building.

VII. Adjournment

Next Meeting: June 7, 2013 –Building 113 – Main Conference Room.