

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

**Central State Hospital
26317 W. Washington Street
Building 113, Main Conference Room
Petersburg, Virginia 23803
December 1, 2006
8:30 a.m.**

Attendance:

Chana Ramsey, Chair; Violet Hite, Vice- Chair; Isabel Vartanian, Member; Linda Masri, Member; Jane Clayborne, Member.

Guests:

Dr. Charles Davis, CSH Facility Director; Jennifer Barker, Patient Rights Coordinator/CSH; Michael Curseen, Human Rights Advocate/Office of Human Rights; Carrie Flowers, Human Rights Advocate/Office of Human Rights; Jim Bell, Forensic Unit Director/CSH; Dr. Ronald Forbes, CSH Medical Director; Dr. T. Sriram, Chair of CSH Research Committee; Dr. Tara Patterson, Psychiatrist/CSH and Rose Mitchell, Executive Secretary/Office of Human Rights.

Absent:

Cleveland Rodgers, Member

I. Call to Order: 8:30 am

II. Minutes of October 6, 2006, Meeting

The minutes were approved without comment

III. Public Comment

Committee members welcomed Ms. Jane Clayborne, as a newly appointed member to the CSH LHRC. The Committee also introduced and welcomed Ms. Carrie Flowers, Human Rights Advocate, Office of Human Rights who fills the position formerly held by Ms. Tonya Cunningham.

IV. New Business

A. LHRC Resignation of Betty Velez:

Mr. Curseen informed Committee members of the resignation of Ms. Betty Velez from the CSH LHRC due to medical reasons.

Action: The Committee accepted the resignation of Ms. Velez.

B. Monthly Variance Report for October and November 2006 – Presented by Jim Bell

Mr. Bell reported that there were no reportable incidents involving the four approved forensic variances during the month of October 2006.

Mr. Bell reported that there was one reportable incident involving the four approved forensic variances during the month of November, 2006. Mr. Bell stated that this incident was reported as an abuse allegation and will be presented to the Committee with the abuse cases November 2006.

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

C. Research Proposal: "An Inpatient Clinical reference Sample for the Multidimensional Anxiety Questionnaire" Presented by T. Sriram, M. D.

The purpose of the proposed research is to determine whether inpatients respond differently to the MAQ self-report questionnaire than outpatients. This research will be conducted from January 2007 through January 2008. Dr. Sriram reported that the MAQ is a good predictor of anxiety leading to suicide attempts and aggressive attacks in outpatients. Contact with inpatient research participants will be limited to a one time visit for about 20 minutes. This research involved no medication.

Action: The Committee approved a motion to accept Dr Sriram's presentation.

(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 Summary: September/October 2006
Formal Human Rights Complaints – October/November 2006
Bi-Annual Informal Human Rights Complaints – May thru Nov. 06
Spit Guard Usage – October/November 2006

(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

D. Monthly Abuse Summary: September/October 2006 – Presented by Jennifer Barker

Action: A motion was made and unanimously passed to accept Ms. Barker's report. The Committee also approved a motion to request a pat down demonstration for male and female patients. The Committee also approved a motion to re-visit and discuss abuse case 2006-0080 once the case has been closed.

E. Formal Human Rights Complaints – October/November 2006 – Presented by Jennifer Barker

Action: The Committee approved a motion to accept Ms. Barker's reports.

F. Spit Mask Usage – October/November 2006 – Presented by Michael Curseen

Mr. Curseen stated that there was only one usage of the spit mask during the period of October/November 2006 and the spit mask was used appropriately. Mr. Curseen noted that while the usage happened on 10/10/06, the form was not submitted until 10/24/06.

Action: The Committee approved a motion to accept Mr. Curseen's report and requested to be given a live demonstration in the application of the spit mask and of ambulatory restraints.

V. Follow-up Business

1. Review of Chair's Request for follow-up Concerning Letter to SHRD Requesting Attorney General's Opinion: RE: Case # 05-0107

Chana Ramsey, Chair stated that as of this date, no response has been received from the Attorney General's Office concerning the Committee's written request for information and guidance which was requested in April 2006. Following a discussion, the Committee approved a motion to submit a request for clarification and guidance to the State Human Rights Committee, with a copy to Margaret Walsh, State Human Rights Director, requesting that the issues and questions raised in the letter to the Attorney

General's Office concerning case # 05-107 be placed on an upcoming SHRC agenda for review. Mr. Curseen encouraged any available Committee members to be present during the SHRC's review of these issues.

Action: The Committee approved a motion to submit a letter to the State Human Rights Committee.

(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.

2. LHRC Request for Update RE: E.C.T. Review R.H. – Tara Patterson, M.D.

Action: The Committee accepted Dr. Patterson's report. The Chair also recommended that the E.C.T. video be made available for Ms. Clayborne and Ms. Flowers to review.

(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

3. LHRC Request for Update Concerning Satisfaction Survey – Jennifer Barker

Ms. Barker presented the LHRC with an update of results from patient feedback concerning the Satisfaction Survey using graphs to measure the percentage of patient satisfaction in various areas pertaining to support services in housekeeping received at the Central State Hospital. According to Ms. Barker, not many patients participated in the survey. Dr. Davis suggested that an incentive could be used to encourage more patients participation. Ms. Barker plans to share these survey results with SVTC and after 30 days, the Satisfaction Survey will be re-administered.

The Committee was extremely satisfied with Ms. Barker's presentation and requested another update after the report has been shared with SVTC.

Action: The Committee approved a motion to accept Ms. Barker's report and requested that a follow-up report be presented at the LHRC meeting scheduled for February 2, 2007.

VII. Director's Comments:

- 1) Dr. Davis informed the Committee that for the month of September 2006, CSH had no bed restraints. Dr. Davis stated that this is a very remarkable feat which he hopes that CSH will repeat again.

Dr. Davis commented on the department's initiative for "Recovery and Empowerment" which will be spearheaded at CSH by Dr. Ronald Forbes, Medical Director. Dr. Davis stated recovery and empowerment is a major issue across the country and will present challenges for implementation in the Forensic population. Dr. Davis alluded to potential power struggles between staff and patients and shared that hospital staff will need to carefully consider feedback from all patients's and not dismiss a patient's suggestion as lacking credibility, validity or worth.

VIII. Adjournment: 11:37 am

Next Meeting Dates: January 5, 2007