

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

**Central State Hospital  
26317 W. Washington Street  
Building 113, Main Conference Room  
Petersburg, Virginia 23803  
September 7, 2007  
8:30 am Regular Meeting**

**Attendance:**

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

**Guests:**

Jennifer Barker, CSH Director of Patient Relations; Michael Curseen, Human Rights Advocate/Office of Human Rights; Carrie Flowers, Human Rights Advocate/Office of Human Rights; Ronald Forbes, M.D., CSH Medical Director; Jim Bell, CSH Forensic Director; William Vinson, CSH Assistant Director of Nursing; Dickie Morris, SVTC, Director of Housekeeping Services; and Rose Mitchell, Executive Secretary/Office of Human Rights.

**Absent:** Charles Davis, M.D., CSH Facility Director

**I. Call to Order: 8:35 am**

**II. Minutes of August 3, 2007 Meeting**

The minutes were approved with modifications to page 4, paragraph 4. The LHRC moved to include their collective disagreement with the opinion of the State Human Rights Director referenced in the August 3, 2007 LHRC Minutes that, “. . . *failure to report an allegation of abuse is a violation of the regulations but is not necessarily neglect. However, it might be considered neglect if the patient did not receive treatment in a timely fashion.*” The revision to the minutes of August 3, 2007 include the LHRC’s opinion that failure to report a known allegation of abuse is neglect, regardless of whether or not treatment was received in a timely fashion, due to the potential threat of additional harm posed to all patients who may be exposed to additional abuse due to the hospital’s failure to identify and investigate the allegation of abuse and the alleged abuser. Additionally, a typographical error in the first sentence of paragraph 4 has been corrected to read, “. . . *the problems identified were not determined to be staff neglect. . .*”

### **III. Public Comment: None**

### **IV. New Business**

#### **A. Monthly Variance Report for August 2007 – Presented by James Bell, Forensic Unit Director**

Mr. Bell reported that there were no reportable incidents involving the four approved forensic variances during the month of August 2007.

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

#### **(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 - July 2007**

#### **Formal Human Rights Complaints – August 2007**

#### **Spit Guard Usage – August 2007**

#### **(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: July 2007 – Presented by Jennifer Barker**

**Action:** The LHRC approved a motion to accept Mrs. Barker's report and requested to be provided additional information concerning cases # 0074 and # 0022. The Committee requested to review case # **0074** at the October 5, 2007 LHRC meeting and requested to know whether the individual received a reprimand or other disciplinary action as well as additional training. The Committee also requested to review and receive an explanation concerning the hospital's policy addressing 1:1 patient supervision. Concerning case # 0022, the LHRC requested information concerning follow-up action taken (e.g. termination, mitigation, training) and requested to know whether the individual continues to work at CSH.

#### **C. Formal Human Rights Complaints – July 2007 – Presented by Jennifer Barker**

**Action:** The Committee approved a motion to accept Mrs. Barker's report.

**D. Spit Mask Usage – July 2007 – Presented by Michael Curseen**

Mr. Curseen reported that all spit masks for the month of July 2007 appeared to be used appropriately.

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

**V. Follow-up Business**

1. LHRC Follow-up: Comparison of HDMC Data for Dental Extractions and Dental Restorations for CSH Patients Covering Previous 12 Months – Jennifer Barker, Patient Rights Coordinator

**Action:** Mr. Curseen explained to Committee members that the dentist previously assigned to treat CSH patients, Dr. Smith, had abruptly resigned and that his replacement, Dr. Stevens, requested to be provided a copy of the data summary of dental treatment and procedures provided to the Committee by Mrs. Barker prior to addressing the LHRC. The Committee requested that the data summary of dental treatment and procedures is forwarded to Dr. Stevens along with the Committee's initial request. The Committee also approved a motion to receive regular follow-ups of dental procedures performed on CSH patients at HWDMC twice each year beginning March 2008 and again in September 2008.

2. LHRC Follow-up Review of Abuse Case File # 703-2007-0038

Mr. Curseen advised the Committee that the client had an Aggression Management Plan in place and shared that he identified discrepancies and submitted his concerns to Denise Dunn, Investigations Manager and Dr. Davis. Mr. Curseen will report back to the Committee upon receipt of Ms. Dunn's response to his comments.

**Action:** The Committee accepted Mr. Curseen's report and will receive additional information on this case when the information is available.

3. LHRC Follow-up: Update Regarding the Implementation of the Hospital's Satisfaction Survey RE: Inadequate Housekeeping Services Provided in the Forensic Unit – Building 39 – Jennifer Barker, Patient Rights Coordinator

In response to the LHRC's letter of concern addressed to John Holland, M. D., Facility Director, SVTC regarding the apparent decline in patient satisfaction with housekeeping services provided in building 39, Mr. Dickie Morris, Director of Housekeeping Services addressed the Committee and produced documentation indicating that nursing staff in the forensic unit routinely limit the number of days and hours housekeepers are permitted to clean the wards. According to Mr. Morris, housekeepers assigned to building 39 are unable to access the wards on Monday, Tuesday, Thursday or Friday. Housekeeping staff are permitted to access the wards on Wednesday but are limited to 45 min. to 1 hour. Mr. Morris shared that his staff require 2.5 to 3.0 hours to provide adequate housekeeping services for the wards in building 39 and indicated that it would take 1.5 to 2.0 hours each day to satisfactorily clean ward 39-8. In addition to this problem, Mr. Morris shared that articles of patient's clothing are often left in the floor which forces his staff to clean around the clothing, since housekeeping personnel are not permitted to touch or move clothing items. Mr. Bill Vinson, Assistant Director of Nursing for the Forensic Unit appeared to address the allegations raised by Mr. Morris and stated that he was unaware that his staff were routinely denying ward access to housekeeping staff. Mr. Morris provided Mr. Vinson with copies of documentation signed by nursing staff verifying that access had been denied consistently on numerous occasions over a period of several months.

**Action:** The Committee approved a motion to address a letter to Charles Davis, M. D., Hospital Director, expressing its concern regarding the decline in consumer satisfaction with housekeeping services offered in building 39 and the denial to housekeeping staff of adequate access to wards by forensic nursing staff.

4. LHRC Review: Forensic S.T.E.P. Revision – Bldg. 39-8 – Jennifer Barker, Patient Rights Coordinator

**Action:** This item of business was deferred to the October 5, 2007 LHRC meeting.

5. Forensic Reorganization and Request for Building 39 Ward Rules to Become Effective in Building 96 – Ronald Forbes, M. D., Medical Director

Dr. Forbes provided a written summary of the proposed changes in the organizational structure of the forensic units in building 39 and 96. According to Dr. Forbes, all female forensic patients and beds will be moved to building 96 due to current difficulties experienced in managing male and female admissions and conflicts resulting between these two gender groups. Dr. Forbes stated that building

96 will receive direct admissions from the jails as well as the Community and explained that the acuity of patients anticipated to be housed in building 96 will require certain restrictions to be imposed that were not necessary prior to this change.

According to Dr. Forbes, there have been no patient complaints voiced resulting from a loss of privileges regarding these administrative changes and stated that all patients had been briefed in advance of the move and that the entire transfer of patients went smoothly. Mr. Curseen inquired about the male patients who were transferred to building 39 resulting in a lost unescorted courtyard privileges. According to Mr. James Bell, Forensic Unit Director, unescorted courtyard privileges have been eliminated and replaced with supervised courtyard privileges for all patients. Additionally, patients in building 96 will no longer be able to receive incoming phone calls, which is consistent with the security practices currently in effect in building 39.

**Action:** The Committee accepted Dr. Forbes' report and requested to receive a follow-up report on how the patients are adjusting to the move.

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

Ms. Jennifer Barker provided comments on behalf of the Hospital Director and expressed dissatisfaction about the housekeeping report presented to the Committee this morning by Mr. Morris. Ms. Barker stated that she had talked to patients during this survey and had no idea that housekeeping staff were consistently being denied access to ward 8.

Ms. Barker shared that building 96 will become an environment based training area where new employees will be provided training on the proper implementation of policies and procedures and must demonstrate competence in specific areas of training before being assigned to other buildings.

Dr. Forbes reported that on October 10, 2007, CSH, HDMC, SVTC and VCBR will become a smoke free campus. Dr. Forbes stated that nicotine therapy will be offered to staff and patients.

Mr. Curseen commented that Ms. Barker has been named Director of Patient Relations but will also continue to function as Patient Rights Coordinator.

## **VII. Adjournment: 11:37 A.M.**

**Next Meeting Date: October 5, 2007**