

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

**Central State Hospital
26317 W. Washington Street
Building 113, Main Conference Room
Petersburg, Virginia 23803
October 5, 2007
8:30 am Regular Meeting**

Attendance:

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

Guests:

Charles Davis, M.D., CSH Facility Director; 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; James Bell, CSH Forensic Director; William Vinson, CSH Assistant Director of Nursing; Debbie Abernathy, R.N., CSH Behavioral Specialist; Vanessa Weaver, CSH Behavioral Specialist; James O. Bowser, Jr., Regional Advocate/Office of Human Rights; and Rose Mitchell, Executive Secretary/Office of Human Rights.

Absent: Linda Masri, LHRC Member

I. Call to Order: 8:33 am

II. Minutes of September 7, 2007 Meeting

The minutes were approved as presented.

III. Minutes of August 3, 2007 Meeting

The minutes were approved with the specified changes.

IV. Public Comment:

Chana Ramsey expressed her disagreement with the opinion of the State Human Rights Director and stated that it is 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.

IV. New Business

A. Monthly Variance Report for September 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 September 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 - August 2007

Formal Human Rights Complaints – September 2007

Spit Guard Usage – September 2007

LHRC Follow-up of Case No. 703-2007-0074

LHRC Follow-up of Case No. 703-2007-0022

LHRC Follow-up of Case No. 703-2007-0038

(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: August 2007 – Presented by Jennifer Barker

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

C. Formal Human Rights Complaints – September 2007 – Presented by Jennifer Barker

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

D. Spit Mask Usage – September 2007 – Presented by Michael Curseen

Mr. Curseen reported that all spit masks for the month of September 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: Request to Review Case # 703-2007-0074; Request to Review CSH Policy # CP-39d – Special Precautions/Special Observations

The Committee reviewed this case and CSH Policy on Special Precautions. Mr. Curseen shared that based on the circumstances presented in this case, there does not appear to be any violation of the patient's rights.

Action: The Committee approved a motion to accept this report.

2. LHRC Follow-up Request Concerning Case # 703-2007-0022 RE: Hospital's Follow-up Actions Taken and Current Employment Status of Involved Staff

In response to a previous question raised by the Committee, it was reported that the employee received a Group III Written Notice along with additional training.

Action: The committee approved a motion to accept this report.

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, Director of Patient Relations

Mr. William Vinson, Assistant Director of Nursing /Forensic Unit reported that the issue regarding housekeeping staff's access to the forensic living areas have been resolved.

Action: The LHRC requested an update concerning housekeeping staff's access to forensic living areas in 60 days at the December 7, 2007 LHRC meeting.

4. LHRC Review: Forensic S.T.E.P. Revisions – Bldg. 39-8 – Presented by Ms. Barker and Ms. Abernathy

Ms. Abernathy reported to the Committee that the point system is based on patient's hygiene and taking their medications. She further stated that patients can now have a place on their wall to hang pictures if the wall hanging meets the safety requirements for size. Ms. Abernathy also reported that patients on 39-8 attend treatment mall activities on the living area. Ms. Abernathy provided the LHRC with a revised Step Monthly Profile that contains modified criteria especially designed for the patients on 39-8 who present the most challenging behaviors and who consistently demonstrate low achievement in meeting the standard criteria contained in more structured point sheets. Ms. Abernathy indicated that patients on ward 39-8 appear to prefer the modified point sheet and increased

compliance appears to have significantly contributed to the reduction of the numbers of seclusion and restraint episodes.

Action: The Committee approved a motion to accept Ms. Abernathy and Mrs. Barker's report.

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

Dr. Forbes told the Committee that now that the reorganization has been completed, ward 39-4 is now a long term ward for males and ward 96-1 has become a long term ward for males with health restrictions. Wards 96-3 and 96-4 are used for female patients exclusively. Dr. Forbes stated that the female patients on 96-4 enjoy doing their own laundry. Ms. Barker also stated that the patients enjoy having access to the privilege Room and that there have very few complaints about the reorganization.

At the August 1, 2007 LHRC meeting, Dr. Forbes told the Committee that the change in ward rules meant that no incoming phone calls could be receive on the female wards. However, CSH will ensure that phone cards are available to patients. In addition, un-escorted courtyard privileges have been replaced with supervised courtyard privileges for fresh air breaks for all patients. Dr. Forbes also reported that ward 96-3 has established its own identity as the ward which receives and treats acute admissions and shared that having an identity has enabled staff to focus better on the expectations of their assignment.

Action: The Committee approved a motion to accept Dr. Forbes' report.

6. LHRC Follow-up Review of Human Rights Advocate's Comments Concerning Abuse Case File # 703-2007-0038 – Presented by Michael Curseen

Mr. Curseen shared the comments received from Ms. Denise Dunn, Investigations Manager for DMHMRSAS in response to his written comments submitted following a second review of abuse case file # 703-2007-0038 concerning a patient who died during a restraint episode.

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

7. 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

This item has been deferred to the March 2008 LHRC Meeting.

VI. Director's Comments:

Dr. Davis reported that on October 10, 2007, CSH, HDMC, SVTC and VCBR will become a smoke free campus. Dr. Forbes stated that nicotine patches will be available for patients and literature is available for employees.

NOTE: Mr. Curseen told the Committee that the revised Rules and Regulations have been approved and that training will be available on the revisions to the Rules and Regulations. Mr. Curseen gave all members a registration form with the available dates for this training.

VII. Adjournment: 11:55 A.M.

Next Meeting Date: November 2, 2007