

**CATAWBA HOSPITAL
CATAWBA, VIRGINIA**

MINUTES

COMMITTEE NAME: Local Human Rights Committee

MEETING DATE: February 27, 2013 **MEETING TIME:** 3:00 PM

PLACE: Building 24 - Lobby

MEMBERS PRESENT: Dianna Parrish, Chairperson; David Lofgren; Bo Miller; JoAnn Patterson; Millie Rhodes

MEMBERS ABSENT: Cynthia Hall (excused); Will Childers (excused); Valarie Robinson (excused)

OHR STAFF PRESENT: Dwayne Lynch, Human Rights Advocate

CH STAFF PRESENT: Walton Mitchell, III, Facility Director

LGH STAFF PRESENT: Leigh Frazier, Lewis Gale Center for Behavioral Health - Salem
LGH STAFF ABSENT: Director, Lewis Gale Center for Behavioral Health - Alleghany

CHS STAFF PRESENT: Mala Thomas, Director of Behavioral Health

GUESTS: None

MEETING AGENDA – MAIN POINTS DISCUSSED:

1. **Welcome and Introductions** - The meeting was called to order.
2. **Review of Minutes:** The minutes of the October 17, 2012 meeting were approved as presented.

3. **Advocate’s Report (Dwayne Lynch)**

Dwayne Lynch provided the following report to the Committee:

- a. Mr. Lynch announced that he and his wife are the proud parents of a baby girl. She arrived earlier than expected, but mother and daughter are doing well. Many thanks to the Committee members for their support and patience during the recent months.
- b. In order to make the meetings more meaningful for the members, the following new procedures will be used going forward:
 - Committee members will receive the agenda, minutes and Provider reports on complaints and abuse/neglect allegations prior to the meeting date to allow them an opportunity for

review. The Committee members will then be able to comment on the items in the reports that they feel are important and need more review and/or clarification.

- Providers will present their reports on admissions/discharges and restraints. They will then summarize their complaint and abuse/neglect information, and ask the members if they have any questions or concerns regarding the reports they received.

Committee members were reminded to maintain confidentiality while they have the information, and were asked to bring the reports with them so they can be shredded at the end of the meeting.

- c. Thanks to all of the Committee Members who were able to attend the training in December; a special thanks to Catawba Hospital for hosting the training and providing boxed lunches. Mr. Lynch hopes to offer two (2) trainings in 2013.
- d. The Office of Human Rights is going to a computerized reporting system. Providers are being notified and the new system is being rolled out in phases. Phase One is scheduled for the end of March; everyone should be “live” on the new system by July 2013.
- e. Although Cynthia Hall was unable to attend the meeting today, the State Human Rights Committee has appointed her to the Catawba Local Human Rights Committee. Also, April will be the last meeting for Will Childers and Bo Miller as their terms are expiring in June. .

Review Date: No Further Review

4. Catawba Hospital Reports (Walton Mitchell, III):

- a. Admissions and Discharges: There was a slight decline in adult and geriatric admissions and discharges in the quarter; this is not unusual for this time of the year. Median length of stay was consistent with previous quarters on the adult units; geriatrics was higher due to the low number of discharges during the quarter. There were a total of three (3) readmissions within 30 days for the quarter – one (1) on the geriatric units and two (2) on the adult units.
- b. Restraint Usage: Behavioral restraints usage was slight lower than the previous quarter. Protective restraints usage (excluding enclosure beds) remained consistent with previous quarters; enclosure bed usage continues to remain low with only 1-2 patients utilizing these for the quarter. Least restrictive measures are pursued prior to using the enclosure beds and the level of treatment is reviewed weekly by physical therapy and the physician to see if the patient’s falls risk has decreased. Patients utilizing enclosure beds have continuous supportive observation.
- c. Complaints: There were a total of fourteen (14) complaints handled through the informal process during the quarter and none (0) through the formal process. All complaints have been resolved in a manner acceptable to the individuals involved.
- d. Other Business: One (1) investigation was concluded as unsubstantiated for neglect or abuse.

Following discussion, the Committee accepted the report as presented.

Review Date: No Further Review

5. **Allegheny Regional Geriatric Behavioral Health (Leigh Frazier):** Ms. Frazier announced that Allegheny Regional Geriatric Behavioral Health (Senior Transitions) has a new director, Mark Lancet. Mr. Lancet will attend future Local Human Rights Committee meetings.
- c) **Admissions and Discharges:** Admissions and discharges averaged 29 and 31 respectively for the quarter; this is consistent with the previous quarter's averages.
 - d) **Restraint Usage:** No seclusions/restraints were reported for the quarter.
 - e) **Complaints:** There was one (1) complaint received during the quarter which was handled through the informal process with no violation found.
 - f) **Other Business:** None.

Following discussion, the Committee accepted the report as presented.

Review Date: No Further Review

6. **Lewis-Gale Center for Behavioral Health Reports (Leigh Frazier):**

- a. **Admission & Discharges:** Monthly admissions and discharges averaged 152 and 167 respectively for the quarter; this is a decrease from the previous quarter. There was one (1) adolescent/child readmission in the quarter; adult readmissions averaged five (5) per month. Ongoing efforts to decrease readmissions continue, with no trends or patterns identified.
- b. **Restraint Usage:** The number of restraint episodes increased compared to the previous quarter; however, most of the episodes were attributed to many of the same patients each month.
- c. **Complaints:** There were 15 complaints during the quarter; all were handled through the informal process with no violations found.
- d. **Other Business:** Peer-to-peer altercations were reviewed. There was no evidence of neglect by the facility in any of these instances.

Following discussion, the Committee accepted the report as presented.

Review Date: No Further Review

7. **Carilion Behavioral Health (Mala Thomas):**

- a) **Admission & Discharges:** Admissions and discharges on the child/adolescent and adult units were lower than normal in November; October and December numbers were more in line with the previous quarters. Readmissions within 15 & 30 days remained within the normal range for the quarter.
- b) **Restraint Usage:** The number of restraint episodes on the child/adolescent and adult units in October and November was consistent with previous quarters. In December, however, there was an increase in the number of episodes on the child/adolescent unit and no (0) episodes on

the adult unit. The average number of minutes per episode increased for the child/adolescent patients and decreased for the adult patients.

- c) Complaints: There were five (5) complaints addressed through the informal process during the quarter. All were resolved and no violations found.
- d) Other Business: Staffing was found to be appropriate during the four (4) peer-to-peer altercations reviewed. One (1) investigation was concluded as unsubstantiated for neglect or abuse.

Following discussion, the Committee accepted the report as presented.

Review Date: No Further Review

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 4:15 p.m.

Next Meeting: April 17, 2013

Dianna Parrish, Chairperson

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