

**CATAWBA HOSPITAL
CATAWBA, VIRGINIA**

MINUTES

COMMITTEE NAME: Catawba Local Human Rights Committee

MEETING DATE: April 23, 2014 **TIME:** 3:00 pm **PLACE:** Building 24 Lobby

MEMBERS PRESENT: Dianna Parrish, Chairperson; David Lofgren; Valarie Robinson; Millie Rhodes, Kaisha Williams

MEMBERS ABSENT: Shannon Patsel; JoAnn Patterson

OHR STAFF PRESENT: Dwayne Lynch, Human Rights Advocate

PROVIDERS PRESENT: Leigh Frazier, Lewis Gale Center for Behavioral Health – Salem
Yad Jabbarpour, MD, Chief of Staff – Catawba Hospital
Mark Lancet, Director, Lewis Gale Senior Transitions – Alleghany
Mala Thomas, Director of Behavioral Health, Carilion Clinic

PROVIDERS ABSENT: Walton Mitchell, III, Facility Director – Catawba Hospital

GUESTS: Katherine Richards

MEETING AGENDA – MAIN POINTS DISCUSSED:

1. **Welcome and Introductions** - The meeting was called to order.

2. **Review of Minutes:** A motion was made and seconded to accept the minutes of the February 26, 2014 meeting as presented. The motion passed unanimously.

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

Dwayne Lynch reported on the following:
 - a. Two (2) committee member applicants are scheduled to be in attendance at today’s meeting. The Committee will go into closed session to interview these applicants at the end of the meeting.

- b. Cynthia Hall has resigned from the Catawba Local Human Rights Committee, effective April 2, 2014.

Also, today's meeting is the last one for Committee Member Millie Rhodes; Ms. Rhodes has served on the LHRC for six years. Mr. Lynch thanked Ms. Rhodes for her service and dedication to the Catawba Local Human Rights Committee and presented her with a plaque of appreciation.

As a result, at the end of today's meeting there will be three (3) member vacancies.

- c. This is the first meeting with new CHRIS reports that provide summaries of complaints and abuse/neglect allegations for the quarter. Copies of details reports of any cases that were founded for human rights violation or substantiated for abuse/neglect are also included with the summaries.

Review Date: No Further Review

4. Carilion Behavioral Health (Mala Thomas):

- a. Admission & Discharges: Admissions and volume on the adolescent and adult units have remained high; average length of stay is consistent with previous quarters. The percentage of readmissions within 15 and 30 days were consistent with previous quarters. Ongoing efforts to decrease readmissions continue including making phone calls following discharge around medication adherence and follow-up appointments; no trends or patterns were identified.
- b. Restraint Usage: The number of restraint episodes on the child/adolescent unit increased in March (11 incidents involving 6 patients); however, the average number of minutes per episode was consistent with previous quarters. Adult restraint episodes also increased in March; the average number of minutes per episode also increased in February and March attributed primarily to a patient with self-injurious behavior.
- c. Complaints/Allegations: There were seven (7) complaints during the quarter. All were resolved and no violations found.
- d. Other Business: None.

Following discussion, the Committee accepted the report as presented.

5. Catawba Hospital Reports (Yad Jabbarpour):

- a. Admissions and Discharges: Admissions and discharges this quarter increased slightly compared to previous quarter. Catawba is functionally running full and works hard to maintain patient flow. Median length of stay was in the normal range for the adult units; a few long-stay geriatric patients were discharged during the quarter, which accounted for the higher number in January. There were a total of five (5) readmissions within 30 days for the quarter on the adult units and none (0) on the geriatric units. Readmissions continue to be tracked in the hospital's Utilization Review Committee.

- b. Restraint Usage: Behavioral restraint hours and incidents decreased significantly during the quarter. This is likely a reflection of treatment provide to 1-3 patients who were initially very acute and then improved causing the number of incidents and hours to go down. Protective restraints hours (excluding enclosure beds) have decreased compared to previous quarters; enclosure bed usage decreased to zero (0) for February and March.
- c. Complaints / Allegations: There were a total of ten (10) complaints handled through the informal process and two (2) complaints handled through the formal process during the quarter. All complaints were resolved in a manner acceptable to the individuals involved. There were three (3) investigations of allegations of abuse/neglect during the quarter; two (2) of the allegations were found to be substantiated. Staff involved are no longer employed at Catawba Hospital.
- d. 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 adult admissions decreased in February and then increased in March; adolescent admissions increased throughout the quarter.
- b. Readmissions: Adult readmissions after 15 days decrease in February and remained low in March; adolescent readmissions after 15 days increased throughout the quarter. Ongoing efforts to decrease readmissions continue, with no trends or patterns identified.
- b. Restraint Usage: There were eight (8) incidents in January, none (0) in February and none (0) in March.
- c. Complaints / Allegations: There were four (4) complaints addressed through the informal process during the quarter. All were resolved and no violations were found. Four (4) allegations were investigated. Three (3) of the allegations were unsubstantiated for neglect or abuse and the fourth occurred at another facility; the facility director was notified of the allegation.
- d. Other Business: None.

Following discussion, the Committee accepted the report as presented.

Review Date: No Further Review

7. Alleghany Regional Geriatric Behavioral Health (Mark Lancet):

- a. Admissions and Discharges: The facility had two consecutive months of its highest average daily census in February and March. There were five (5) readmissions, which is close to the quarterly average.
- b. Restraint Usage: There were four (4) episodes of restraint involving four (4) separate patients during the quarter for a total of nine (9) minutes. Staff utilized de-escalation techniques and therapeutic interventions prior to the use of restraints.
- c. Complaints/Allegations: There were no (0) complaints or allegations during the quarter.
- d. Other Business: None.

Following discussion, the Committee accepted the report as presented.

Review Date: No Further Review

8. New Business

Two (2) applications were received for membership consideration; however, only one (1) applicant was present at the meeting. The Committee went into closed session to interview this applicant.

A motion was made and passed to go into Closed Session pursuant to Virginia Code §2.2-3711.A. (4) and (15), for the protection of privacy of individuals in personal matters not related to public business and to conduct an interview with one (1) applicant for Local Human Rights Committee Membership.

Upon reconvening in public session, the Local Human Rights Committee unanimously certified that 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 the Closed session.

The LHRC endorsed the candidate, Katherine Richards, for membership and directed Dwayne Lynch to forward the application to the State Committee for its consideration for immediate appointment.

Review Date: No Further Review

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 4:50 p.m.

Next Meeting: July 23, 2014

Dianna Parrish, Chairperson