

**CATAWBA HOSPITAL
CATAWBA, VIRGINIA**

MINUTES

COMMITTEE NAME: Catawba Local Human Rights Committee

MEETING DATE: April 29, 2015 **TIME:** 3:00 pm **PLACE:** Building 24 Lobby

MEMBERS PRESENT: Dianna Parrish, Chairperson; David Lofgren; Shannon Patsel; JoAnn Patterson; Kaisha Williams

MEMBERS ABSENT: Kathron Richards; Valarie Robinson;

OHR STAFF PRESENT: Dwayne Lynch, Human Rights Advocate

PROVIDERS PRESENT: Lori East, RN, Lewis Gale Behavioral Health – Salem
Paula Mitchell, Lewis Gale Alleghany Senior Transitions
Walton Mitchell, Facility Director, Catawba Hospital
Mala Thomas, Director of Behavioral Health, Carilion Clinic

GUESTS: None

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 December 10, 2014 meeting as presented. The motion passed unanimously.

3. **Advocate's Report**
Dwayne Lynch reported on the following:
 - a. CHRIS has updated some of their reports to allow for printing without patient names. Also, some of the reports might change based on feedback from several Local Human Rights Committees.
 - b. Apologies to the Committee members for not being able to reschedule the January meeting due to weather-related issues. Mr. Lynch also thanked the members for their understanding and noted that, because the providers will be presenting data for the 4th quarter of 2014 and the 1st quarter of 2015, today's meeting could last longer than normal.
 - c. Mr. Lynch provided training to staff at LewisGale Alleghany.

Review Date: No Further Review

4. Carilion Behavioral Health (Mala Thomas)

- a. Admission & Discharges: Admissions and volume on all three units increased significantly in October, decreased in December and January, and then increased in February and March; average length of stay is consistent with previous quarters. The percentage of readmissions within 15 days was consistent with previous quarters; there was an increase in the readmissions within 30 days in the 1st quarter of 2015 compared to the previous quarters. No trends or patterns were identified.
- b. Restraint Usage: The number of restraint episodes and the average number of minutes per episode on the child/adolescent units increase in the 4th quarter of 2014 and then decreased in the 1st quarter of 2015. The adult units were consistent in the 4th quarter of 2014 and saw a significant increase in February and March, primarily driven by two (2) patients who were psychotic from using synthetic marijuana. Ms. Thomas provided a handout to the Committee members with information she has provided to her staff on the drug.
- c. Complaints/Allegations:
There were two (2) informal complaints during the 4th Quarter of 2014. There were nine (9) informal complaints during the 1st Quarter of 2015. All were resolved and no violations found.
- d. Other Business: None.

Following discussion, the Committee accepted the report as presented pending a correction to the 1st Quarter 2015 Overview of Complaints report.

Review Date: No Further Review

5. Catawba Hospital Reports (Walton Mitchell)

- a. Admissions and Discharges: Admissions continue to reflect an increase in the number of individuals sent to Catawba under Emergency Custody Orders - a result of changes in commitment laws effective July 1st. The hospital continues to work hard to maintain patient flow. Median length of stay was consistent on the adult units and increased in February on the geriatric units. This number is based on patients who were discharged and had been at Catawba for a longer period of time. Readmissions on the adult and geriatric units continue to be low and are tracked in the hospital's Utilization Review Committee.
- b. Restraint Usage: Behavioral restraint hours and incidents increased in January and February, and was driven by one patient who is severely autistic and developmentally disabled. His guardian initially limited treatment; however, the patient was stabilized and has been discharged. With the exception of November, enclosure bed usage remains consistent compared to previous quarters.
- c. Complaints / Allegations:
 - There were four (4) informal complaints during the 4th Quarter of 2014. For the 1st Quarter of 2015, there were three (3) informal complaints and three (3) formal

complaints. All of the complaints were resolved in a manner acceptable to the individuals involved.

- There were no (0) allegations of abuse/neglect during either quarter.
- d. Other Business: The Centers for Medicaid/Medicare Services (CMS) has asked Catawba Hospital and Piedmont Geriatric Hospital to re-certify their geriatric beds under Intermediate Care Facilities / Nursing Facility standards.

Following discussion, the Committee accepted the report as presented.

Review Date: No Further Review

6. LewisGale Behavioral Health Reports (Lori East)

- a. Admission & Discharges: There was a significant increase in adult admissions/discharges in the 1st quarter of 2015 compared to the 4th quarter of 2014 (604 vs. 511); adolescent admissions/discharges also had a slight increase during that time.
- b. Readmissions: Overall adult and adolescent readmissions after 15 days were consistent with previous quarters. Ongoing efforts to decrease readmissions continue, with no trends or patterns identified.
- b. Restraint Usage: Following review of the information provided, the Committee requested that a re-cap of the mechanical restraints used on 11/29/14 (445 minutes) and 12/20/14 (482 minutes) be included in the packet provided to them for the next meeting.
- e. Complaints/Allegations:
- There were two (2) informal complaints during the 4th Quarter of 2014. There were seven (7) informal complaints during the 1st Quarter of 2015. All were resolved and no violations found.
 - There was one (1) allegation of neglect during the 4th Quarter of 2014 and one (1) allegation of abuse during the 1st Quarter of 2015. There was no indication of abuse/neglect on the part of the staff in either case.
- d. Other Business: None.

Following discussion, the Committee accepted the report as presented pending further explanation regarding the two (2) incidents of restraint usage above.

Review Date: No Further Review

7. LewisGale Alleghany Senior Transitions (Paula Mitchell)

- a. Admissions and Discharges: The facility had a significant increase in admissions at the end of the 4th Quarter 2014 that continued into the 1st Quarter of 2015. Readmissions were consistent with previous quarters.

- b. Restraint Usage: There were no (0) physical holds or seclusions reported for the 4th Quarter of 2014; there were four (4) physical holds during the 1st Quarter of 2015.
- c. Complaints/Allegations:
- There was one (1) formal complaint during the 4th Quarter of 2014 that was resolved - no violation was found. There were two (2) formal complaints during the 1st Quarter of 2015 from the same individual. Both were resolved.
 - There was one (1) allegation of neglect during the 4th Quarter of 2014; there was no credible evidence to substantiate the allegation.
- d. Other Business: None.

Following discussion, the Committee accepted the report as presented.

Review Date: No Further Review

8. New Business
None

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 4:40 p.m.

Next Meeting: July 29, 2015

Dianna Parrish, Chairperson

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