

**CATAWBA HOSPITAL
CATAWBA, VIRGINIA**

MINUTES

COMMITTEE NAME: Local Human Rights Committee

MEETING DATE: February 20, 2008

MEETING TIME: 3:00 PM

PLACE: Building 24 Lobby

MEMBERS PRESENT: Reba Keen, Chairperson; Rena Ferguson; Will Childers; Courtney Hewitt; Bo Miller; Millie Rhodes; Carolyn Heldreth; Valarie Robinson

MEMBERS ABSENT: Ken Rush

STAFF PRESENT: Walton Mitchell, Vice President of Patient Care Services; Vicky Fisher, Chief Nurse Executive; Don Obenshain, Corporate Compliance Officer; Valerie Epperley, Executive Secretary (Administrative Support)

GUESTS: Michael R. Gray, Staff Attorney VOPA; Deborah Jones, Human Rights Advocate Sr.

MEETING AGENDA – MAIN POINTS DISCUSSED:

1. **Review of Minutes:** The minutes from the meeting of December 19, 2007 were accepted as previously distributed.

Review Date: No further review

2. **Restraint and Protective Restraint:** The summary of last year's data indicates a peak in May, with 20 incidents resulting in 77.10 behavioral restraint hours. For protective restraints (enclosure bed only), the number of incidents remain low and well below the hours for 2006. This also holds true for protective restraints (excluding enclosure bed), down considerably from 2006. Again, this is attributed in part to the medical staff having sufficient attending coverage and working closely with the treatment teams to ensure minimal use of protective restraints.

Review Date: No further review

3. **Complaints Managed in the Informal Process:** For December and January, there were a total of five (5) informal complaints---three from the adult male population and two from the adult female population. There were three (3) complaints categorized as 'miscellaneous': two (2) were for treatment with dignity and one (1) for patient treatment and decision making. All were resolved within the five-day period.

Review Date: No further review

4. **Director's Liaison Report:** There were 25 admissions in the adult sector, with temporary detention orders (TDOs) accounting for the increase. There were three (3) readmissions in December and four (4) in January. Out of the seven readmissions, two clients accounted for five. Discharges for October and November are a little higher than normal.

Review Date: No further review

5. **Director's Report:** Mr. Mitchell gave the report in Mr. Wood's absence. Given the recent budget cuts, this is a time of concern for the DMHMRSAS as we are unsure what's coming. There were a couple of articles in the Roanoke paper about Delegate Morgan Griffith's requested budget amendment for 20 new beds at Catawba Hospital.

Review Date: No further review

6. **Advocate's Report:** Ms. Jones gave the report in absence of a Patient Advocate at Catawba. She also reported that interviews have been held, and they are awaiting final approval. She also extended Ms. Neese's appreciation for Mr. Obenshain's efforts in handling informal complaints.

Review Date: No further review

7. **Membership Report:** The committee is at full membership.

Review Date: No further review

There being no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 4:20 PM. The next meeting is scheduled for April 16, 2008, at 3:00 PM, in the Lobby of Building 24, Catawba Hospital.

Reba Keene, Chairperson

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