

DRAFT MINUTES SWVMHI LOCAL HUMAN RIGHTS COMMITTEE MEETING



Thursday, February 7, 2008
SWVMHI Henderson Building Conference Room
12:00 Noon

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Deidra Mathena, Chair
Benjamin Plummer
Claudia Duffy
Peggie Roland
Phillip Moser

OTHERS PRESENT:

Cynthia McClaskey, Ph.D., Facility Director, SWVMHI
Anthony Gage, L.C.S.W., Community Services Director, SWVMHI
Colin Barron, Ph.D., Psychology Director, SWVMHI
Andra Savage, Director of Psychiatric Services, Ridgeview Pavilion
Gary Burns, Administrator, Keystone Youth of Marion
Nick Brown, Risk Manager, Keystone Youth of Marion
Janice Collins, Resident Advocate, Keystone Youth of Marion
Kaatri Anderson, L.C.S.W., A.C.S.W., Senior Life Solutions of JMH
Deborah Jones, L.C.S.W., Human Rights Advocate

CALL TO ORDER

The Local Human Rights Committee (L.H.R.C) was called to order by Deidra Mathena at 12:00 Noon on Thursday, February 7, 2008, in the Henderson Building, Conference Room 106 of Southwestern Virginia Mental Health Institute. The Committee welcomed Willie McFarlane to the meeting. Ms. McFarlane is a prospective member.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion was made and unanimously approved to accept the minutes of the November 8, 2007, meeting.

SWVMHI

The 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 review medical records, namely to conduct a review pursuant to the regulations.

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 following reports, including client-identifying information, were heard and actions taken:

BARRIERS TO DISCHARGE REPORT (Closed Session)

Anthony Gage, L.C.S.W., reviewed with the Committee the current Barriers to Discharge Report for patients within SWVMHI. Anthony noted that the lack of guardianship services in the region continues to be a big issue, as well as community infrastructure.

REVIEW OF BEHAVIORAL TREATMENT PLANS (Closed Session)

Colin Barrom, Ph.D., updated the Committee on the Behavioral Treatment Plan for Case #1, Ward J. Dr. Barrom presented a chart regarding the point system in place for the patient for the period of January 2004 – January 2008. The plan will need to be reviewed again in three months.

Colin Barrom, Ph.D., updated the Committee on the Behavioral Treatment Plan for Case #2, Ward J, which has been in place since July 2007. A chart was distributed to members regarding the patient's progress. The plan remains in place and will be reviewed by the L.H.R.C. in three months.

SECLUSION/RESTRAINT REVIEW OF Y-T-D DATA (Closed Session)

Cynthia McClaskey, Ph.D., presented a review of the seclusion/restraint data for the period of November – December 2007. Dr. McClaskey noted that the acuity rate has been high, and the multitude of medical, psychiatric, and behavioral problems that patients are showing have been a challenge. The facility continues to discuss, at a senior level management, each occurrence of restraint in our morning staff meetings three times a week. We have also started distributing the data to each unit by treatment team so that staff are aware. The Nursing Department has some specific goals for improving processes involved with seclusion and restraint. The Nursing Department is planning staff education about de-escalation techniques, early recognition of escalating behavior, trauma-informed care, emphasis on following the contingency plan, and debriefing. The Adolescent Unit has worked very hard to reduce seclusion/restraint. The Psychology Department is offering training to the nursing staff on basic behavioral techniques and helping them to recognize the meanings of certain behaviors and how best to respond. Psychologists will also be developing a comfort room, as well as developing self-soothing plans and alternatives to acting out. The Geriatric Unit did not utilize restraints in 2007, and their seclusion hours decreased. Discussion is ongoing about redesigning their seclusion room into an attractive comfort room. The facility also has safety workgroups, from which a number of subcommittees are working on enhancement of the debriefing process. Other subcommittees formed include a staff processing subcommittee and a training subcommittee.

ABUSE/NEGLECT REPORT (Closed Session)

Cynthia McClaskey, Ph.D., provided the L.H.R.C. with a report of abuse and neglect cases for the period of November 8, 2007, to January 10, 2008.

FORMAL COMPLAINTS (Closed Session)

Cynthia McClaskey, Ph.D., provided the L.H.R.C. with a report of the number of formal complaints received at SWVMHI for the period of November 8, 2007, to January 10, 2008.

DIRECTOR'S ISSUES (Open Session)

Dr. Cynthia McClaskey updated the Committee on the current budget crisis in Virginia. Budget cuts will impact the following areas: travel and training, hiring of employees (requires approval of the Secretary of Health and Human Services), and procurement of equipment, furniture, software, etc.

RIDGEVIEW PAVILION

The 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 review medical records, namely to conduct a review pursuant to the regulations.

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.

FORMAL COMPLAINTS (Closed Session)

Andra Savage, provided the Committee with a report of a formal complaint received in October 2007.

ABUSE/NEGLECT REPORT (Closed Session)

There were no reports of abuse/neglect.

SECLUSION/RESTRAINT REVIEW OF Y-T-D DATA (Closed Session)

There were no incidents of seclusion/restraint.

SENIOR LIFE SOLUTIONS OF J.M.H.

The 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 review medical records, namely to conduct a review pursuant to the regulations.

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.

REVIEW OF REPORTS (Closed Session)

Kaatri Anderson, L.C.S.W., A.C.S.W., reported there were no incidents of seclusion/restraint, no reports of abuse/neglect, and no informal/formal complaints received for the period of November 2007 through January 2008.

REVIEW OF POLICIES AND PROCEDURES (Open Session)

The following new policies were presented to the L.H.R.C. for review by Kaatri Anderson:

Policy #08-01-04, Client Services

Policy #08-01-05, Patient Involvement in Decisions

The L.H.R.C. accepted the above-noted policies as presented.

ADMINISTRATOR'S ISSUES

Kaatri Anderson updated the Committee on the current census at Senior Life Solutions. She noted that the current census is 14, however, several discharges are being planned. She indicated that if the program consistently remains at this number, there will be a need for additional staff. However, she said their goal was to grow at a slow pace.

KEYSTONE YOUTH OF MARION

The 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 review medical records, namely to conduct a review pursuant to the regulations.

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 following reports, including client-identifying information, were heard:

ABUSE/NEGLECT REPORTS (Closed Session)

Nick Brown provided the L.H.R.C. with a report of abuse and neglect cases for the months of November and December 2007.

SECLUSION/RESTRAINT REVIEW OF Y-T-D DATA (Closed Session)

Nick Brown presented a review of the seclusion/restraint data for the period of November and December 2007.

INFORMAL/FORMAL COMPLAINTS (Closed Session)

Janice Collins presented the L.H.R.C. with the formal and informal complaints received at Keystone during the months of November and December 2007.

ADMINISTRATOR'S ISSUES (Open Session)

Gary Burns, Administrator, updated the Committee on the following matters:

- A Christmas card contest was held with all the residents, and staff chose the four best cards. The cards were made into boxed sets and sold.
- Self-contained classrooms were added this school year.
- A lull in census has been experienced at the facility recently.

ADVOCATE/COMMITTEE ISSUES

Deborah Jones will be scheduling FOIA training and training on the changes to the revised Rules and Regulations with the L.H.R.C. members in the next few months.

The Advocate at Catawba resigned her position. Until an Advocate is hired, Nan Neese will be providing coverage for the Roanoke Valley area, Deborah will be helping with coverage in the community, and B.J. McKnight will be providing coverage for the Mt. Rogers area.

Deborah Jones discussed Willie McFarlane's interest in becoming a member of the SWVMHI L.H.R.C. The Committee stated they would each contact Ms. McFarlane in the near future by phone to complete the interview process. Deborah Jones will provide the interview format to the Committee members.

NEXT MEETING DATE

The next L.H.R.C. meeting is scheduled for **Thursday, March 13, 2008**, at 12 Noon in Room 106 of the Henderson Building on the grounds of SWVMHI.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 3:35 P.M.

Chair

/llb