

# **DRAFT**

## **CENTRAL STATE HOSPITAL LOCAL HUMAN RIGHTS COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES**

**Central State Hospital  
26317 W. Washington Street  
Building 113, Main Conference Room  
Petersburg, Virginia 23803  
April 3, 2009  
8:30 am Regular Meeting**

### **Attendance:**

Jane Clayborne, Chair; Violet Hite, Vice-Chair; Isabel Vartanian, Member; William Lightfoot, Member; and Hannibal Tuck, Member

### **Guests:**

Dr. Charles Davis, CSH Facility Director; Jennifer Barker, CSH Director of Patient Relations; Jim Bell, CSH Forensic Director; Michael Curseen, Human Rights Advocate/OHR; Ansley Perkins, Human Rights Advocate/OHR; Reta Martin CSH Social Worker; and Rose Mitchell, Executive Secretary/OHR.

### **Absent:**

Randi Key, Member; Linda Masri, Member; and Jillian McNeil, Member

#### **I. Call to Order: 8:30 am**

#### **II. Introduction of New LHRC Member: Mr. Hannibal Tuck**

The Chair welcome Mr. Tuck, our newest member to the LHRC

#### **III. Minutes of March 6, 2009, Meeting**

**Action:** The minutes of the March 6, 2009, meeting were approved.

#### **IV. Public Comment:**

Mr. Curseen reported on the following:

- A. Mr. James Bowser, Regional Advocate, retired on March 1, 2009;
- B. Carrie Flowers has been reassigned new duties and will be attending the LHRC meetings for Southside Virginia Training Center (SVTC);

- C. A new name for our Department has been approved, “Department of Behavioral Health & Developmental Services”, effective July 1, 2009;
- D. A new Code of Ethics for the DMHMRSAS in which the agency and all staff adhere to the highest ideals governing its role as an agency of the Commonwealth of Virginia.

#### **IV. New Business**

- A. Monthly Variance Report for March 2009 – Presented by Jim Bell, Forensic Director

Mr. Bell reported that there were no reportable incidents involving the four approved forensic variances during the month of March 2009.

**Action:** The Committee approved a motion to accept Mr. Bell’s reports.

#### **(Executive Session)**

The committee approved a Motion to move into Executive session pursuant to VA Code 2.2-3711 (A), Paragraph 15, for the protection of the privacy of individuals and their records in personal matters not related to public business.

#### **The following subject matters were discussed in Executive Session:**

- Monthly Abuse Summaries – February 2008**
- Formal Human Rights Complaints – March 2009**
- Spit Guard Usage – March 2009**

#### **(Return to Open Session)**

Upon reconvening in open session, the Central State Hospital Local Human Rights Committee certified that to the best of each member’s knowledge, 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 closed session

- B. Monthly Abuse Summary: February 2009 – Presented by Jennifer Barker

**Action:** The Committee approved a motion to accept Mrs. Barker’s report, but requested follow-up information to address why a February abuse case hasn’t been investigated.

- C. Formal Human Rights Complaints – March 2009 – Presented by Jennifer Barker

**Action:** The LHRC approved a motion to accept Mrs. Barker’s report, but wants a follow-up next month on a nursing protocol for turning off patients’ telephones.

D. Review of Research Proposal: Differences By Disciplinary Affiliation in Recommendations for Hospitalization Versus Conditional Release for Insanity Acquittees: – Presented by T. Sriram, M.D.

Dr. Sriram reported that this research would not include interactions with patients. The study will examine the differences between psychiatrists and psychologists conducting evaluations of competence to stand trial in terms of the frequency defendants are opined to be incompetent and whether individual evaluators exhibit personal trends towards one opinion over the other.

**Action:** The Committee accepted Dr. Sriram's report.

E. Review of Research Proposal: A Systemic Approach to Competency Restoration: - Presented by T. Sriram, M.D.

Dr. Sriram reported that this research would not involve any patients, but would use archival data that has already been collected. This research is intended to develop new knowledge and increase understanding of mental disabilities and the factors that bring the patients back to the hospital.

**Action:** The Committee accepted Dr. Sriram's report.

F. Seclusion and Restraint Data Summary: Comparison of S/R Incidents and Totals for March 2009 and March 2008 – Presented by Charles Davis, M.D.

Dr. Davis stated that there has been a big improvement over last month's report. A forensic patient that has frequently been secluded and restrained has shown improvement and actually earned the privilege of going to the canteen for the first time.

Dr. Davis informed the Committee that CSH recently utilized bed restraints for a patient who is a head banger. This is a 53 years old patient who had injured his head because of head banging and had received 4 sutures. Dr Davis explained that patients over the age of 50 are at an increased risk for serious head injury from a head trauma and because of this, bed restraints were chosen over the restraint chair or ambulatory restraints. The patient was in bed restraints for less than 2 hours. Bed restraints have not been used at CSH for many months.

**Action:** The Committee approved a motion to accept Dr. Davis' report.

G. Spit Mask Usage – March 2009: Reported by Mr. Curseen

Mr. Curseen reported that there was no reported usage of the spit mask during the month of March 2009.

**Action:** The Committee approved a motion to accept Mr. Curseen's report.

**H. Reappointment of LHRC Committee Member: Jane Clayborne**

**Action:** The Committee Members unanimously approved Ms. Clayborne to be reappointed to the Committee.

**V. Follow-up Business:**

None

**VI. Director's Comments:**

None

**Adjournment: 9:25 A.M.**

**Next Meeting Date: May 1, 2009**