

**APPROVED**

LOCAL HUMAN RIGHTS COMMITTEE MINUTES  
EASTERN STATE HOSPITAL  
4601 Ironbound Road  
Williamsburg, VA 23187-8791

**July 16, 2009**

- MEMBERS PRESENT: Steven Bennett, Chair; Jajala Schweiger, Co-Chair; John McMahon; Joyce Smith; Jason Intel; Ti'juana Gholson and Charles Loundermon
- MEMBERS ABSENT: Emma Rhyne
- STAFF PRESENT: Dick Roberts, Resident Relations Liaison//Resident Safety Officer, for John Favret, Hospital Director; Willie, Barnes, Human Rights Advocate; Lisa Webster, LHRC Liaison-Support and Mark Stevens, VOPA Representative.

**1. Call to Order**

The Local Human Rights Committee meeting was called to order at 10:30 a.m. with Steven Bennett, Chair presiding, for the purpose of hearing business as presented on the agenda and such other transactions or matters that may be presented to the Committee.

**2. Agenda**

The July 16, 2009 agenda was reviewed.

Action: Motion was made by Mr. Loundermon and properly seconded by Mr. McMahon that the LHRC approve the July 16, 2009 Agenda as written. The motion passed unanimously.

**3. Minutes**

Minutes of June 18, 2009 LHRC meeting were reviewed.

Action: Motion was made by Ms. Schweiger and properly seconded by Mr. McMahon that the LHRC approve the June 18, 2009 minutes with noted changes. The motion passed unanimously.

**4. Hospital Directors' Reports**

Mr. Roberts presented the June 2009 Disposition of the Abuse/Neglect Investigations Report, the Osawatomie Hospital Study, the Facility Monthly Report, and the Formal and Informal Complaints Report for June 2009. (See the July 16, 2009, LHRC packet).

The committee members present accepted the Hospital Directors' Report for June 2009.

### ***Follow-up-***

#### **Seclusion/Restraint Report**

Mr. Roberts reported to the committee that a meeting will be held on July 17, 2009 to finalize the monitoring mechanism for the month of July. An update of the safety restraint will be presented each month once all of the kinks are worked out. **Open**

#### **Comparison of the Osawatomie Hospital Study (OHS) and ESH**

The committee recommended that the OHS be presented on a monthly basis. **Closed**

#### **Discharge Ready List**

Mr. Roberts reported to the committee that the resident that came before the committee for a hearing in February was discharged July 1, 2009. **Closed**

#### **Resident Complaint Liaison/Patient Safety Officer - Name Change**

Mr. Roberts announced that his title has been changed to Resident Relations Liaison/ Resident Safety Coordinator to reflect a more positive direction. **Closed**

#### **Incident Reporting**

There was a concern about the number of falls. Mr. Roberts explained that the hospital's Falls Committee is reviewing each fall. Mr. Roberts also referred the committee to a website "Nursing Home Comparisons" that compares ESH with other nursing homes and provided them with a copy of the Hancock Geriatric Treatment Center CMS Plan of Correction. **Closed**

#### **Tour**

Mr. Roberts offered to take committee members on a tour of the HGTC so they can see the overall environment. **Closed**

#### **5. Visitation of Residents' Rooms**

There was a lengthy discussion about visitation of residents' rooms.

Action: A motion was made by Ms. Smith and properly seconded by Mr. Mintel to table discussion until the September 17, 2009 meeting. All were in favor. **Open**

#### **6. Research Projects –**

*Update on Previously Approved Research Project - Evaluation of the Effects of Meta-Cognitive Skills Training Groups for Schizophrenic Patients.* It was hypothesized that patients will improve their performance on measures of social behaviors, social awareness, theory of mind functions, social skills and humor as a result of this study. The study is now in data analysis.

*New Research Project - Factors Affecting Distress in the Severely Mentally Ill Population.* This study will investigate how hope, coping and spirituality were associated with symptom presentation and distress among the severely mentally ill population. It is hypothesized that expressions of religious faith should not be dismissed as a symptom of psychopathology, but as a predictor of effort toward

the work of recovery. This research project is being done in the PSR Program, Buildings 24 and 26.

The committee accepted the update and the new project presented by Dr. Colaizzi.

**7. GPS Monitoring System - Discussion**

Ms. Barnes, HRA was seeking clarification on several issues regarding the GPS system i.e., whether the committee requested a report or a follow-up in terms of the progress of the system; if residents using the system came before the LHRC prior using the system and a requested to review the consent form.

Action: Mr. Roberts reported that currently, two of the four residents approved for the GPS Monitoring System are using the system and two of the residents voluntarily removed it. An update of residents who are using the GPS System will be reported at the September 17, 2009 meeting.

A motion was made by Mr. Bennett and properly seconded by Ms. Smith that the committee review the revised consent form and that it be clarified that the LHRC reviewed all residents using the GPS. All were in favor.

**8. Open Forum**

**9. Announcement(s):**

New Members

Mr. Bennett welcomed the two new committee members to the committee, Ms. Gholson and Mr. Loundemon.

August Meeting

A motion was made by Mr. Bennett and properly seconded by Mr. McMahon that the ESH LHRC would not meet for the month of August. All were in favor. The vote was unanimous.

**11. Adjournment-**

Having no further business, a motion was made by Mr. Bennett and properly seconded by Ms. Schweiger that the meeting be adjourned. The motion passed unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 12:41 p.m. **The next scheduled meeting will be held Thursday, September 17, 2009 in Building #1- Room 102 at 10:30 a.m.**

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Steven Bennett, Chair

08/07/009

/LW

cc: LHRC Members  
Hospital Director  
Human Rights Advocate  
Resident Relations Liaison/Resident Safety Coordinator  
Region V – HR Regional Director