

CHICAGO REGIONAL MEETING MINUTES

Tuesday, July 7, 2009
Madden Mental Health Center
1200 S. 1st Ave., Hines, Illinois

In the absence of the Chairperson, Vice-Chair, and Secretary, Pat Betzen opened the meeting of the Chicago Regional Human Rights Authority (HRA) at 5:10 p.m. The meeting was held at Madden Mental Health Center, Hines, IL.

Members Present: Jill Quinto, Deanne Medina, Edith Buckwa, Danielle Garland, and Lana Peck.

Members Absent: Katherine Dunford, Pat Mencinkas, Raymond Hemphill, and Elizabeth Vitell.

Staff Present: Pat Betzen

Guests: None

Staff Pat Betzen noted that a quorum was present. Pat read the confidentiality statement.

Approval of May 26, 2009 Minutes: Jill Quinto made a motion to approve the May 26th, 2009 minutes; the motion was properly seconded and carried.

NEW BUSINESS

New Complaints:

09-030-9021 A complaint was filed by a recipient who alleged that the facility where she was a resident re-admitted her after she had been released by a judge. The HRA Coordinator interviewed two LAS attorneys who represented the recipient and the case was handled informally. Deanne made a motion to not accept the case for investigation and it was properly seconded and carried.

09-030-9022 A complaint was filed by an elderly mother of a recipient alleging that the facility where her daughter resides told her that her daughter, who has been a resident of the facility for 20 years, would be put out on the streets if the facility did not receive mental health funding from the state of Illinois. The HRA notes that several advocacy agencies have filed suit against the state for this and similar actions that may result from state budget deficits. The HRA is willing to investigate this complaint if the daughter is discharged without referral. Jill made a motion to not accept the case for investigation at this time and it was properly seconded and carried.

Pat Betzen made a motion to go into closed session at 5:25 p.m. pursuant to Section 3955/21 of the Guardianship and Advocacy Act to discuss reports and case closures and other matters which could not be discussed without revealing confidential information. The motion was seconded and carried.

The HRA returned to open session at 5:50 p.m. having taken no action in closed session. A summary of the closed session included progress reports on all open cases, discussion of the reports for cases #09-030-9012 Swedish Covenant Hospital, and #09-030-9013 Pioneer Center, responses and case closure for #09-030-9010 UIC Hospital and #09-030-9011 St. Bernard's Hospital.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Ratifications: None

Report of Findings:

09-030-9012 Swedish Covenant Hospital. The HRA reviewed the report and a motion was made to issue the report without revisions or additions. The motion was properly seconded and carried.

Case Closures:

09-030-9010 UIC Hospital. The facility has not submitted their response. Correspondence will be forwarded to the hospital requesting their corrective plan. The case closure is postponed until the next meeting.

09-030-9011 St. Bernard Hospital. Deanne made a motion to close the case and make the findings part of the public record. The motion was properly seconded and carried.

Case Status Reports:

09-030-9013 Pioneer Center. Site visit was held and the report is forthcoming after a review by the LAS attorney.

09-030-9014 Cermak Health Services. The site visit is complete and the report is forthcoming.

Elections None

Announcements and Comments: The next meeting of the Chicago Regional Human Rights Authority is tentatively scheduled for Tuesday, August 18, 2009 at the Madden Mental Health Center, Hines, IL.

Adjournment: The HRA agreed to adjourn at 5:55 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Elizabeth Vitell, Secretary