

Egyptian Regional Human Rights Authority  
Meeting Minutes  
June 02, 2009

Call to Order:

The regular monthly meeting of the Egyptian Regional Human Rights Authority was called to order at 5:45 PM by the Chairperson, Mary McMahan. The meeting was held at Triple E Meeting Room, 15 West Frankfort Place in West Frankfort.

Roll Call:

Members Present: Mary McMahan, Sue Barfield, Sharon Mumford, Kathy Rambeau, Brad Friend, Al Farmer, Karen Choate, Pam O'Connor

Members Absent: Phyllis Brown

Staff Present: Judy Atherton

Guests: None

Determination of a Quorum: It was determined that a quorum was present.

Introductions: None

Review and approval of the Minutes: Mumford moved to accept the minutes as written. The motion was properly seconded (Barfield) and carried.

Confidentiality Statement: The Confidentiality Statement was waived due to no members of the public being present.

Communications: The members reviewed an application from an individual to be considered for a community position on the HRA board.

New Business:

New Complaints:

09-110-9051...1) Community mental health staff members have not implemented measures to ensure that a client has community housing. 2) Facility staff members have not made certain that the client receives food stamps. O'Connor moved to table the new complaint for investigation. The motion was properly seconded (Choate) and carried.

09-110-9052...1) A recipient at a state-operated mental health facility has been forced to take medication over his objection. 2) The recipient has been placed in restraints without a valid reason for their use. 3) The recipient has been inappropriately placed in seclusion. Barfield moved to accept the new complaint for investigation. The motion was properly seconded (Rambeau) and carried.

09-110-9053...A recipient at a state-operated mental health facility is not receiving services in the least restrictive environment. The recipient is presently on the yellow level, the mid level of the facility's level system. Choate moved to not accept the new complaint for investigation. The motion was properly seconded (Rambeau) and carried.

09-110-9054...A recipient at a state-operated mental health facility is not receiving adequate care and treatment. He has extreme involuntary movements that need treatment with medication. He also needs dentures and glasses. Barfield moved to accept the new complaint for investigation. The motion was properly seconded (O'Connor) and carried.

09-110-9055...A recipient at a state-operated mental health facility is not receiving services in the least restrictive environment. He has been on green level, the highest level of the facility's level system, for more than three months. He has been restraint free for a considerable amount of time, has addressed treatment goals, and attended all scheduled activities. Choate moved to accept the new complaint for investigation. The motion was properly seconded (Mumford) and carried.

09-110-9056...Staff at a state-operated mental health facility have 1) confiscated a recipient's Bible and 2) not allowed him to use a facility approved pencil....All others on his unit are not allowed to use the pencils. Farmer moved to accept the new complaint for investigation. The motion was properly seconded (Barfield) and carried.

09-110-9057...A recipient at a state-operated mental health facility is not receiving services in the least restrictive environment. The recipient has not been in restraints or seclusion, has attended scheduled activities and been compliant in all areas.. Barfield moved to accept the new complaint for investigation. The motion was properly seconded (Rambeau) and carried.

09-110-9058...A recipient is being transferred from a very restrictive state-operated mental health center to a less restrictive setting without the guardian's authorization. Barfield moved to not accept the complaint for investigation. The motion was properly seconded (Mumford) and carried.

09-110-9059...1) A private guardian is emotionally abusing a ward. 2) The guardian is also financially exploiting the ward. O'Connor moved to not accept the new case for investigation and to refer the complaint to legal authorities (Illinois State Police or Attorney General). The motion was properly seconded (Rambeau) and carried. The issue was referred to the Illinois Department of Human Services, Office of Inspector General (OIG) prior to the HRA meeting.

09-110-9060...A staff member at a ICF/DD 16 bed facility posted pictures of the residents at the facility on her personal My Space page without the appropriate consent. Prior to the HRA meeting, the complainant informed the Authority that the problem had been resolved. O'Connor moved to not accept the complaint for investigation. The motion was properly seconded (Rambeau) and carried.

09-110-9061...1) A recipient at a state-operated mental health facility has not been recommended for transfer to a less restrictive facility because he is receiving court-ordered medications. 2) He has been reduced from green level; the highest level in the facility's level system, to the yellow level, the mid-level of the system, because he refused to go to the dentist. Friend moved to accept the case for investigation. The motion was properly seconded (Barfield) and carried.

09-110-9062...A recipient was inappropriately placed in restraints and required to remain in the restraints for a considerable amount of time. Choate moved to accept the new complaint for investigation. The motion was properly seconded (Barfield) and carried.

Other New Business:

Farmer nominated the following officers for 2009-2010 year:

Sue Barfield....Chairperson

Kathy Rambeau...Vice-Chairperson

Phyllis Brown...Secretary

The motion was properly seconded (O'Connor) and carried.

Members O'Connor and McMahan, who have completed their terms on the Authority board, were presented with gifts of appreciation for their service in protecting the rights of individuals with disabilities.

Barfield moved to enter closed session to review case findings and to discuss confidential information. The motion was properly seconded (O'Connor) and carried. Closed session began at 7 PM. Coordinator Atherton summarized the closed session. Case status updates were given for twelve cases. Two draft Reports of Findings were approved as written and one was approved with revisions. One Report of Findings was tabled for approval. One case was closed with members voting to make the findings a part of the public record. Two cases were tabled for closure until a provider's response is received. Two cases were closed without issuing Reports of Findings.

Case Status Updates:

09-110-9015...Washington County Vocational Workshop....Coordinator Atherton provided a case status update.

09-110-9017...Chester Mental Health Center....Coordinator Atherton provided a case status update.

09-110-9024...Chamness Care CILA...Coordinator Atherton provided a case status update.

09-110-9025...Metropolis Nursing and Rehabilitation Center...Coordinator Atherton provided a case status update.

09-110-9027....Chester Mental Health Center...Coordinator Atherton provided a case status update.

09-110-9032...Hidden Valley Shelter Care...Coordinator Atherton and Chairperson McMahan provided a case status update.

09-110-9034...Choate Mental Health Center...Coordinator Atherton provided a case status update.

09-110-9036...Jefferson County Comprehensive Services....Coordinator Atherton provided a case status update.

09-110-9037...East Richland Community Elementary....Coordinator Atherton and Member Barfield provided a case status update.

09-110-9045...Chester Mental Health Center....Coordinator Atherton provided a case status update.

09-110-9046...Chester Mental Health Center....Coordinator Atherton and Members (Rambeau, Farmer) provided a case status update.

09-110-9047...Jefferson County Comprehensive Services...Coordinator Atherton and Chairperson McMahan provided a case status update.

#### Reports of Findings:

09-110-9002...Choate Mental Health Center (MI Division)...O'Connor moved to approve the draft reported as written and to send it to the provider. The motion was properly seconded (Choate) and carried.

09-110-9006...Chester Mental Health Center...Rambeau moved to approve the draft report as written and to send it to the provider. The motion was properly seconded (Barfield) and carried.

09-110-9007...Chester Mental Health Center...O'Connor moved to approve the draft report with revisions and to send it to the provider. The motion was properly seconded (Rambeau) and carried.

09-110-9009...Chester Mental Health Center....Barfield moved to table acceptance of the report until additional information is incorporated in the report. The motion was properly seconded (Rambeau) and carried.

#### Closure:

07-110-9017...Chester Mental Health Center...Barfield moved to table closing the case since a response has not been received from the provider. The motion was properly seconded (O'Connor) and carried.

09-110-9004....Chester Mental Health Center...O'Connor moved to close the case and make the findings a part of the public record. The motion was properly seconded (Choate) and carried.

09-110-9014...Chester Mental Health Center....O'Connor moved to table closing the case until a response is received from the Illinois Department of Human Services. The motion was properly seconded (Rambeau) and carried.

09-110-9043...Chester Mental Health Center...Barfield moved to close the case without issuing a Report of Findings due to the recipient's refusal to provide written authorization for the investigation. The motion was appropriately seconded (Rambeau) and carried.

09-110-9049...Chester Mental Health Center...O'Connor moved to close the case without issuing a report due to the informal resolution of the problem. The motion was properly seconded (Rambeau) and carried.

Announcements by the Chairperson:

The members agreed to have the next HRA meeting at 5 PM on August 25<sup>th</sup> at Tony's Family Restaurant Meeting Room, 18009 St. Hwy #37 in Karnak.

Adjournment:

O'Connor moved to adjourn the meeting. The motion was properly seconded (Rambeau) and carried. The Chairperson adjourned the meeting at 8 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Pam O'Connor, Recording Secretary  
Egyptian Regional Human Rights Authority