

**HUMAN RIGHTS AUTHORITY
NORTHWEST REGION MEETING MINUTES
Tuesday, April 30, 2024
Illinois Guardianship and Advocacy Commission
4302 N. Main St., Conference Room
Rockford, IL 61103**

PRESENT: Sang Capone, Christine Dungey, Colleen Magee (**Co-Chair**), and Dr. Erin Wade
ABSENT: Kacie Jensen (**Chair**) and Colleen Parks
STAFF: Nicole S. Weathersby, DRM
GUESTS: N/A

The regularly scheduled meeting of the Human Rights Authority, Northwest Region was called to order at 4:08 pm by the Co-Chair – Colleen Magee. Introductions and greetings were completed. It was determined that a quorum was not present, but appropriate business could be conducted. Nicole S. Weathersby, the NW Disability Rights Manager, read the confidentiality statement. It was discussed and all parties were reminded that the proceedings are confidential. All motions were carried out by proxy vote via follow-up telephone calls to absent members (Kacie J and Colleen P.) who provided the necessary numbers to suffice a majority of HRA members in agreement for the motions presented.

Minutes

Executive and regular meeting minutes from March 5, 2024, were tabled due to not having a quorum. **The motion was entered by Sang C., and seconded by Colleen M., to be tabled and approved at the next meeting with a quorum.**

NEW BUSINESS

Ratifications

#24-080-9019 –Accepted and opened complaint, after receiving signed consent.
#24-080-9020 –Accepted and opened complaint, after receiving signed consent.
#24-080-9021–Accepted and opened complaint, after receiving signed consent .

All complaints will be ratified at the next HRA meeting with a quorum.

Agenda Updates/Changes:

There were updates and changes for the agenda (outstanding case ratifications that needed addressing)

New Complaint:

#24-080-9022 – Per the complainant, a hospitalization occurred in April 2023, in which their medical file/record was filled with inaccurate information and there was a threat of force to be complaint by the police. **Potential Rights Violations:** *Right to an adequate and humane, least restrictive environment pursuant to individual plan was ignored and the involuntary admit was not based on consent and/or capacity, but threat.* Sang moved to table the complaint and gather more detailed information from the complainant. Dr. Wade seconded the motion and motion carried via telephone proxy vote of excused members. The complaint will be ratified at the next HRA meeting.

#24-080-9023 – According to the complainant, arrived at the hospital ED with their child for unspecified service in August 2022 and stated being treated inappropriately, medical records were altered, sexually harassed by a staff member and witnessed another staff member watching porn. **Potential Rights Violations:** *Right to an adequate and humane, least restrictive environment pursuant to individual plan was ignored and was not free from abuse or neglect.* Sang moved to table the complaint and gather more detailed information from the complainant. Dr. Wade seconded the motion and motion carried via telephone proxy vote of excused members. The complaint will be ratified at the next HRA meeting.

#24-080-9024 – According to the complainant , the facility has released their medical records and violated their HIPPA rights by releasing information to other facilities and entities from August 2023 through December 2023, even after they have opted out. The complainant did not provide any evidence at this time of any violation to the HRA. **Potential Rights Violations:** *A right to have confidentiality of records disregarded and a right to permission of consent disregarded.* Dr. Wade moved to not accept complaint, due to not having enough evidence or information at this time from the complainant. Sang seconded the motion and motion carried via telephone proxy vote of excused members. The complaint will be ratified at the next HRA meeting.

#24-080-9025 – According to the complainant , the patient was steered by hospital staff into a “voluntary” admission as an alternative to avoiding a potentially scary involuntary admission (which already occurred). Also, the complainant felt that a voluntary admission was the only choice available and was not advise of the voluntary process by a qualified examiner . **Potential Rights Violations:** *A right to a voluntary admission was not appropriately completed, the right to advisement by a qualified examiner did not occur, an inappropriate involuntary admission completed and the right to a psychiatric examination did not occur within the required 24 hours.* Sang moved to not accept complaint, due to not having enough evidence or information at this time from the complainant. Dr. Wade seconded the motion and motion carried via telephone

proxy vote of excused members. The complaint will be ratified at the next HRA meeting.

Comments from the Public:

Not applicable, there were no guest present.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Closed Session

No quorum was present to enter closed session pursuant to Section 120/2(a) of the Open Meetings Act (5 ILCS 120/2). The meeting continued in open session, discussing draft reports, case progress, case closures and other matters while maintaining and protecting the confidentiality of recipients and complainants.

Case Progress

#23-080-9019 – Closed the complaint, due to never receiving the appropriately signed consent.

#24-080-9010 – Closed the complaint, due to never received signed facility consent.

#24-080-9015 - Closed the complaint, due to never received sign consent.

#24-080-9004 – HRA Member who attended site visit from April 11, 2024, shared their insight.

#24-080-9008– HRA Member who attended site visits on March 28, 2024, and April 4, 2024, shared their insight.

#24-080-9013- HRA Member who attended site visit from April 11, 2024, shared their insight.

Draft Reports for Acceptance:

#24-080-9003- HRA Committee voted to accept the draft report and send to the facility for a response within 30 days of draft report receipt, moved by Dr. Wade, seconded by Colleen M., and motion carried via telephone proxy vote of excused members. The draft report will be ratified at the next HRA meeting with a quorum.

#24-080-9009- HRA Committee voted to accept the draft report and send to the facility for a response within 30 days of draft report receipt, moved by Dr. Wade, seconded by Colleen M., and motion carried via telephone proxy vote of excused members. The draft report will be ratified at the next HRA meeting with a quorum.

Accept Responses, Close and Publish Report:

#24-080-9011 –The HRA Committee voted to accept non- response (unsubstantiated report), close and publish report, moved by Christine D., and seconded by Dr. Wade Sang C., and motion carried via telephone proxy vote of excused members. The acceptance of the non-response, closing and publishing the report will be ratified at the next HRA meeting with a quorum.

Other Unfinished Business, Announcements and Comments

Discussed need to recruit members for the committee to ensure that the committee has a quorum and the eligibility of possible new members.

DRM discussed there is a new system in place for trainings, all required training needs to be completed before October 31, 2024, and will follow-up to ensure all HRA members log-in credentials are reset.

Colleen M. mentioned having a vacation in June.

Sang mentioned a vacation in late June – July.

Provided a copy of KODO Guide to utilize as a reference for psychiatric medications.

HRA Committee agreed to cancel August meeting and rescheduled to September 10th, 2024, due to DRM's pending medical appointment.

Adjournment

Sang moved to adjourn the meeting at 5:45pm, seconded by Dr. Wade and motion carried via unanimous roll call of “ayes” by committee members present in the room, meeting adjourned.

The next meeting will be held on Tuesday, June 4, 2024, at the Office of the Illinois Guardianship and Advocacy Commission, 4302 N. Main St., Conference Room - Rockford, IL at 4:00pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Nicole S. Weathersby

Nicole S. Weathersby
Disability Rights Manager