

**HUMAN RIGHTS AUTHORITY
NORTHWEST REGION MEETING MINUTES
Tuesday, October 8, 2024
Illinois Guardianship and Advocacy Commission
4302 N. Main St., Conference Room
Rockford, IL 61103**

PRESENT: Collen Parks, Dr. Erin Wade and Zoe Wedel

ABSENT: Christine Dungey, Kacie Jensen (**Chair**) and Colleen Magee (**Co-Chair**)

STAFF: Nicole S. Weathersby (DRM) and Jon Burnet (North Regions Managing Director)

GUESTS: N/A

The regularly scheduled meeting of the Human Rights Authority, Northwest Region was called to order at 4:02 pm by Nicole S. Weathersby, the NW Disability Rights Manager, due to the absence of the Chair and Co-Chair. Introductions and greetings were completed by members and staff. 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 (Christine D. , Kacie J, and Collen M.) who will provide the necessary numbers to suffice a majority of HRA members in agreement for the motions presented. DRM was able to complete follow-up calls with two of the absent members, which sufficed meeting the voting majority.

Minutes

Executive and regular meeting minutes from March 5, 2024, April 30, 2024, June 6, 2024, and September 10, 2024, were tabled. **The presented motion to table the above-mentioned minutes and approve at the next meeting with a quorum present was entered by Dr. Wade and seconded by Colleen P. The motion was carried via a telephone proxy vote of excused members. The minutes will be ratified at the next HRA meeting.**

NEW BUSINESS

Ratifications

Complaint Closure

#23-080-9010
#24-080-9010
#24-080-9015
#24-080-9025
#24-080-9026

Complaint Acceptance/Denial

#23-080-9019
#24-080-9020
#24-080-9021
#24-080-9022
#24-080-9023
#24-080-9027
#24-080-9028
#24-080-9029
#24-080-9030
#25-080-9001
#25-080-9002
#25-080-9003

Draft Report Acceptance

#24-080-9002
#24-080-9003
#24-080-9006
#24-080-9007
#24-080-9008
#24-080-9009

Report Response Acceptance

#23-080-9011
#24-080-9002
24-080-9003
#24-080-9009

The motion was entered by Colleen P. and seconded by Dr. Wade to table all ratifications until the next meeting in the presence of a quorum, motion carried via telephone proxy vote of excused members.

Agenda Updates/Changes:

There were no updates or changes for the agenda (outstanding case ratifications that need addressing).

New Complaint:

#24-080-9027 - According to the complainant, while on the behavioral health unit, received inadequate care ((not getting meds for 2 days and the unit having only 1 group in 3 days), and felt pressured by hospital staff into signing a voluntary after her initial court date. **Potential Rights Violations:** *Right to an appropriate voluntary admission was not completed nor offered. Right to an adequate and humane care in the least restrictive environment, pursuant to an individual plan was denied.* **Colleen P. moved to not accept, due to not having a signed consent, seconded by Dr. Wade, which was carried via telephone proxy vote of excused members. The complaint will be ratified at the next HRA meeting.**

#24-080-9028 – According to the complainant, while on the behavioral health unit, “emergency restraints was used and was given shots of medication for no reason and was additionally put in a wheelchair and taken from his room for this purpose of receiving this dosage in the middle of the night. He said he was told he was “not in reality.” He did not know the medication he was administered but brought up to me that he is allergic to Haldol. **Potential Rights Violations:** *Right to refuse medication was ignored and right not to be subjected to restraints was ignored.* **Colleen P., moved to accept, open complaint & pursue complaint, seconded by Zoe W., which was carried via telephone proxy vote of excused members. The complaint will be ratified at the next HRA meeting.**

#25-080-9004 – According to the complainant, the patient was hospitalized and unable to leave, due to a misunderstanding of words. DRM was unable to get a hold of complainant via various phone calls and leaving messages. **Colleen P. moved to not accept, due to not having enough information to pursue, seconded by Zoe W., which was carried via telephone proxy vote of excused members. The complaint will be ratified at the next HRA meeting.**

#25-080-9005 – According to the complainant, after being released from a different facility and transferred to this center (facility stated services and treatment was not needed). Also, experienced an unplanned discharge in which no medication was prescribed. Services offered at the center was provided via telehealth the provider had no prior knowledge of patient/consumer and got the medication wrong. Also stated upon admission, that nurse refused to count medication and that medication was dispensed by a kindergarten teacher (who was part-time staff). Unsanitary food practices, server touched door handles and served food with same gloves on. Finally personal items were not sealed or locked while on the unit. **Potential Rights Violations:** *Right to adequate and humane care and services in the least restrictive environment, pursuant to an individual services plan. Right to refuse treatment and services ignored.* **Dr. Wade moved to not accept, due to issues not being germane or frivolous to the HRA, seconded by Colleen P., which was carried via telephone proxy vote of excused members. The complaint will be ratified at the next HRA meeting.**

#25-080-9006- According to the complainant, once arrived at the ED , the patient was stripped of their clothes, stated wasn't given any force medication but also didn't sign any documents and was given a shot in his "penis", while in the ED or on the unit. **Potential Rights Violations:** *Right to adequate and humane care and services in the least restrictive environment, pursuant to an individual services plan. Right to refuse treatment and services ignored.* **Colleen P. moved to accept pending receipt of consent, seconded by Dr. Wade, which was carried via telephone proxy vote of excused members. The complaint will be ratified at the next HRA meeting.**

#25-080-9007 - According to the complainant, stated while on the unit, not allowed to shave, ignored patient's dietician restrictions. Not allowed fresh air, not allowed exercise. Complainant stated the doctor pressured into taking a long-acting injection of Invega, told if did not take medication, would petition court for a 90-day commitment Complainant had been consenting to and taking oral medication and continued to be willing to take medication orally, and did not want a long-acting injection. Complainant felt worn down and was worried about the threat of being committed. **Potential Rights Violations:** *Right to adequate and humane care and services in the least restrictive environment, pursuant to an individual services plan. Right to refuse treatment and services ignored.* **Zoe W., moved to table complaint for additional information from the complainant, seconded by Dr. Wade, which was carried via telephone proxy vote of excused members. The complaint will be ratified at the next HRA meeting.**

#25-080-9008 - According to the complainant, was hospitalized in the ICU for a suicide attempt on March 7, 2024- March 8, 2024. Was restrained by security and nurse. Stated medical records were falsified, contacted hospital to rectify and her request was denied. Was told by security, that complainant was threatening staff and then started recording and was told that it was against the law to record and asked to delete the video and hand over to the security officer. Complainant refused and sat on the phone which was recording audio and stated the security stated they would get the phone one way or another. Security (men) went underneath the complainant and took the phone and restrained for 3 hours, stated as noncooperative, told that complainant bit the officer and charges were pressed. **Potential Rights Violations:** *Right to adequate and humane care and services in the least restrictive environment, pursuant to an individual services plan. Right to refuse treatment and services ignored. Failure to give notice , when rights of recipient was restrained/restricted and the reasoning.* **Colleen P., moved to accept, open complaint & pursue complaint, seconded by Zoe W., which was carried via telephone proxy vote of excused members. The complaint will be ratified at the next HRA meeting.**

#25-080-9009 - According to the complainant, law enforcement entered home over objections, without permission and without an order for detention or evaluation and transported to hospital. **Potential Rights Violations:** *Right to adequate and humane care and services in the least restrictive environment, pursuant to an individual services plan. Right to refuse treatment and services ignored. Right to admit on an inpatient basis by court order was ignored.* **Colleen P. moved to accept pending receipt of consent, seconded by Dr. Wade, which was carried via telephone proxy vote of excused members. The complaint will be ratified at the next HRA meeting.**

#25-080-9010 - According to the complainant, was forced to take psychotropic medication (threaten that medication would be given intramuscularly if didn't take), misdiagnosis w/ bipolar diagnosis. Requested a new provider while on the unit & request was denied. **Potential Rights Violations:** *Right to adequate and humane care and services in the least restrictive environment, pursuant to an individual services plan. Right to refuse treatment and services ignored. ****(focus on forced medication & denied provider request)*****. **Zoe W., moved to accept, open complaint & pursue complaint, seconded by Colleen P., which was carried via telephone proxy vote of excused members. The complaint will be ratified at the next HRA meeting.**

Comments from the Public:

There were no visitors present at this meeting.

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 stayed 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

#24-080-9020- DRM working with the provider to schedule a virtual site visit (due to the distance of the facility), awaiting confirmation of date.

#24-080-9021- DRM provided update of site visit from September 25, 2024, in which the Administrator stated following up with some additional questions that were discussed at the visit. DRM will follow-up this week if nothing is received.

Draft Reports for Acceptance:

No draft reports presented.

Closure/Accept Response/Make Available to the Public

#24-080-9007 –The HRA Committee voted to accept the facility public response for an unsubstantiated report, to close and publish report, moved by Zoe W., and seconded by Dr. Wade and motion carried via telephone proxy vote of excused members. The acceptance of the public response, publishing and posting the report and closing the case/complaint will be ratified at the next HRA meeting with a quorum.

#24-080-9008 –The HRA Committee voted to accept the facility public response for an unsubstantiated report, to close and publish report, moved by Zoe W., and seconded by Dr. Wade and motion carried via telephone proxy vote of excused members. The acceptance of the public response, publishing and posting the report and closing the case/complaint will be ratified at the next HRA meeting with a quorum.

#24-080-9009- The HRA Committee voted to accept the revision of the report (date was transposed) reissue the report and repost the report, moved by Dr.

Wade and seconded by Zoe and motion carried via telephone proxy vote of excused members. The acceptance of the revision of the report, the reissuing of the report and reposting of the report will be ratified at the next HRA meeting with a quorum.

24-080-9012 –The HRA Committee voted to accept the facility public response for an unsubstantiated report, to close and publish report, moved by Zoe W., and seconded by Colleen P., and motion carried via telephone proxy vote of excused members. The acceptance of the public response, publishing and posting the report and closing the case/complaint will be ratified at the next HRA meeting with a quorum.

Other Unfinished Business, Announcements and Comments

The HRA Committee voted to table the acceptance of the confidentiality vote of previous sessions minutes (August 22nd & March 5th), moved by Dr. Wade and seconded by Zoe W. and motion carried via telephone proxy vote of excused members. The acceptance of tabling the confidentiality vote of previous session minutes (August 22nd & March 5th) and will be ratified at the next HRA meeting with a quorum.

Welcomed new NW HRA Member Zoe W.

Discussed recruitment efforts and the need to engage and seek new members, so that a quorum will be present.

Discussed the need to complete and vote on HRA Committee positions.

DRM stated the training requirement expectation (logging into the One Net system) will be discussed and solutions provided at the State-Wide HRA meeting in November and will be reported out at the November 19th meeting.

Discussed the 2025 HRA calendar, to review and confirm for the next HRA meeting in November.

Adjournment

Zoe W. moved to adjourn the meeting at 5:30pm, seconded by Colleen P., 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, November 19, 2024, at the Office of the Illinois Guardianship and Advocacy Commission, 4302 N. Main Street., Conference Room - Rockford, IL at 4:00pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Nicole S. Weathersby

Nicole S. Weathersby
Disability Rights Manager