

SOUTH SUBURBAN REGION MEETING MINUTES

Wednesday, September 11th, 2024

Sertoma Star Services

(Conference Room)

4331 Lincoln Highway

Matteson, Illinois 60443

The regular scheduled meeting of the Human Rights Authority, South Suburban Region was called to order by Lisa Bellamy, the Acting Chairperson at 10:04 a.m.

PHYSICALLY PRESENT: Lisa Bellamy, Allison Boyle, and Pamela Cabrera

ATTENDED VIRTUALLY: Amy Upson

MEMBERS ABSENT: Kevin Gawthorp and Carol Genutis

STAFF: Geraldine Boatman, HRA Regional Disability Rights Manager

GUESTS: Elizabeth Campbell, Proposed HRA Member
Jennifer Hodges, Proposed HRA Member
Abdurrahman Assaf, Proposed HRA Member

I. CALL TO ORDER

The HRA Regional Acting Chairperson read the confidentiality statement. It was determined that a quorum was not present, but all business could be discussed.

II. COMMUNICATION

The June 14th, August 9th, September 13th, October 11th, December 13th, 2023, and February 14th, April 19th, June 12th, and August 14th, 2024 meeting minutes could not be approved because a quorum of members was not physically present at the meeting.

III. NEW COMPLAINTS

24-040-9005 (Special Educational Program) The complaint was postponed for acceptance because additional information was requested at regional public meeting in October. The Disability Rights Manager had previously reported that the student's behavioral problem was resolved, per the HRA Special Education Rights Manager. However, the HRA members had requested clarification about how the behavioral problem is related to the transportation issue and if the parent was allowed to review a recording of the student that is a part of student's educational record. The HRA Special Education Rights Manager further reported that the student is being safely transported to and from school with supervision and that the school district has offered compensatory for time missed. A letter was sent to the parent/guardian for clarification about whether the parent was allowed to review a recording of the student that is

part of his record. However, a response to the HRA's letter was not received. The complaint will be reviewed at the next meeting.

24-040-9007 (Developmental Disability Facility) The complaint was initiated by the HRA and was discussed at the public meeting on today. The HRA would be looking at policies and procedures and interviewing staff but not any specific resident if this complain is accepted for investigation.

24-040-9008 (Cila) This complaint involves a parental guardian and a CILA. The guardian said her son was sent to his day program right after being sent home from the emergency department for shoulder pain. She thinks that he should have been allowed to stay home. She went to the day program and found her son sleeping in his wheelchair. She said that he did not want to go to the day program, although staff said that he did want to go but did not want to tell his parental guardian this. She said that she tried to talk to the house manager at the day program and the house manager was very rude to her. A signed release was received. The HRA members suggested that the guardian may want to file a formal complaint with the provider.

24-040-9009 (Correctional Center) The complaint stated that the inmate was physically abuse by correctional officers and other inmates. This complaint has been referred to the Illinois Department of Corrections as well as the John Howard Association for possible investigation. This complaint will not be accepted for investigation pending a quorum at the next scheduled meeting.

24-040-9010 (Correctional Center) The complaint stated that the inmate was not provided with needed devices (vibrating watch and headphones) for his hearing disability. This complaint was referred to the Illinois Department of Corrections Manager for possible investigation and the Disability Rights Manager was informed that the inmate has received his needed devices for his disability. This complaint will not be accepted for investigation pending a quorum at the next scheduled meeting.

24-040-9011 (Nursing Home) The complaint stated that the nursing facility would not accept the recipient for rehabilitation because of statement that her sister had made about the facility several years ago. The complainant was informed to report the complaint to the Illinois Department of Public Health because the licensing agency would be more appropriate for possible follow up. This complaint will not be accepted for investigation pending a quorum at the next scheduled meeting.

24-040-9012 (Residential Treatment Center) The complaint stated that residents were not allowed to call the Illinois Guardianship and Advocacy Commission because the staff unplugged the phones when a search was conducted on the lodge. This complaint will be reviewed for possible follow up pending a quorum at the next scheduled meeting.

24-040-9013 (Nursing Facility) The complaint stated that a resident is not properly supervised during medication administration because her guardian found medication in the resident's clothing and bedroom. The complaint stated that Invega and medication for seizures were not

administered in a timely manner. This complaint will be reviewed for possible follow up pending a quorum at the next scheduled meeting.

24-040-9014 (Psychiatric Hospital) The complaint stated that medication was administered because the recipient became angry because she was not discharged from the hospital as informed by the staff on the incident day. This complaint will be reviewed for possible follow up pending a quorum at the next scheduled meeting.

24-040-9015 (Psychiatric Hospital) The complaint stated that the recipient was not seen timely by a psychiatrist. The complaint stated that a copy of the petition was not provided. The complaint stated that the recipient became angry, and medication was administered. This complaint will be reviewed for possible follow up pending a quorum at the next scheduled meeting.

24-040-9016 (Nursing Facility) The complaint stated that the nursing facility's social worker has applied for guardianship of a resident who lives at the facility and that the staff person serves as the guardian of other residents at the facility. This complaint will be reviewed pending a quorum at the next scheduled meeting.

24-040-9017 (Forensic Unit) The complaint stated a recipient on a forensic unit needs legal assistance. The recipient was provided with information about free legal help from a community entity. This complaint is not appropriate for the HRA and will not be accepted for investigation pending a quorum at the next scheduled meeting.

24-040-9018 (Day Care Center) The complaint stated that a minor recipient was able to gain access to a container of antifreeze, while she was being transported on her school bus, and gave the antifreeze to another child who drank the antifreeze. The child reportedly was taken to the hospital and the Illinois Department of Children and Family Services (IDCFS) and the police were notified. This Disability Rights Manager also reported the incident to the IDCFS. This complaint will not be accepted for investigation pending a quorum at the next scheduled meeting.

25-040-9001 (Hospital) The complaint stated that: 1) the hospital did not explain the admission papers and rights information, 2) a clinician told the recipient that she had tried to harm self about 35 years ago and other patients were present in the day room; 3) the recipient was told that she would be discharged sooner from the hospital if she did not sign a 5-day request for discharge, and, 4) there was no active therapy on the unit on most days (the tables had search puzzles and crayons).

25-040-9002 (Nursing Home) The complaint stated that a resident is not allowed communication with persons of choice.

IV. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

A closed session was not convened due to the lack of a quorum of members physically present at the meeting.

There were no new case assignments.

Progress Reports

23-040-9010 (Lydia Healthcare) A report was not reviewed as planned at the meeting on today.

24-040-9001 (Midway Neurological Rehabilitation Center) A meeting has been held with the provider.

24-040-9002 (Countryside Nursing and Rehabilitation Center) A meeting has not been held with the provider. The case will be considered for closure because a properly signed release was not received.

24-040-9003 (Silver Oaks Behavioral Hospital) A meeting has been held with the provider.

24-040-9004 (South Holland Manor) A meeting has been held with the provider.

24-040-9006 (Ludeman Developmental Center) A meeting is scheduled with the provider for September 12th, 2024.

Reports\Responses

22-040-9009 (Amita Health St. Joe Medical Center) A response to the report has been reviewed.

22-040-9015 (Burbank Rehabilitation Center) A report has been reviewed.

23-040-9002 (Silver Oaks Behavioral Hospital) A response to the report has been reviewed.

23-040-9006 (Lydia Healthcare) A report was reviewed.

23-040-9007 (UChicago Hospital of Ingalls) A report has been reviewed.

23-040-9009 (Trinity Services) A report has been reviewed.

Reports\Cases Closures\Accept Responses\Make Available to the Public

22-040-9009 (Amita Health St. Joe Medical Center) The case will be considered for closure pending a quorum of members present at the next scheduled meeting.

22-040-9015 (Burbank Rehabilitation Center) The report will be voted on pending a quorum of members present at the next scheduled meeting.

23-040-9002 (Silver Oaks Behavioral Hospital) The case will be considered for closure pending a quorum of members present at the next scheduled meeting.

23-040-9006 (Lydia Healthcare) The report will be voted on pending a quorum of members present at the next scheduled meeting.

23-040-9007 (UChicago Hospital of Ingalls) The report will be voted on pending a quorum of members present at the next scheduled meeting.

23-040-9009 (Trinity Services) The report will be voted on pending a quorum of members present at the next scheduled meeting.

OTHER UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Jennifer Hodges, the proposed HRA Member has completed an application to volunteer with the regional board. Ms. Hodges introduced herself to the board members and the members also share information about their background and experience with the HRA.

Abdurrahman Assaf, the proposed HRA Member has completed an application to volunteer with the regional board. Mr. Assaf introduced himself to the board members and the members also share information about their background and experience with the HRA.

Elizabeth Campbell, the proposed HRA Member introduced herself to the board members and the members also share information about their background and experience with the HRA. Ms. Campbell will complete an application to volunteer with the regional board.

Pamela Cabrera has submitted her resignation from the regional board effective September 11th, 2024.

Complaints accepted (case # 24-040-9001; 24-040-9002; 24-040-9003; 24-040-9004; 24-040-9006) for investigation could not be ratified because a quorum of members physically present at the next meeting. The newly accepted cases will be ratified pending a quorum of members physically present at the next meeting.

Complaint not accepted (case # 23-040-9008) for investigation could not be ratified because a quorum of members physically present at the next meeting. The case will be ratified pending a quorum of members physically present at the next meeting.

Complaint postponed for acceptance (case # 24-040-9005) could not be ratified because a quorum of members physically present at the next meeting. The case will be ratified pending a quorum of members physically present at the next meeting.

Reports approved (case # 22-040-9009 and 23-040-9002) could not be ratified because a quorum of members physically present at the next meeting. The case will be ratified pending a quorum of members physically present at the next meeting.

Closure for (case # 23-040-9001) could not be ratified because a quorum of members physically present at the next meeting. The case will be ratified pending a quorum of members physically present at the next meeting.

Hendiz Flynn has submitted his resignation on the regional board. The members will vote on accepting Mr. Flynn's resignation pending a quorum of members physically present at the next meeting.

Mandatory trainings for members were discussed.

Open Meeting Act/requirements for remote attendance

No Executive Closed Minutes for June of 2023 thru May of 2024 for review. The regional authority did not convene a closed session for August, September, October, and December of 2023 and, February and April of 2024 because a quorum of members was not physically present at the meetings. The regional authority did not meet in July and November of 2023 and January, March, and May of 2024.

The need for HRA volunteer members was discussed.

The meeting packets were discussed.

The need to schedule site visits/virtual meetings was discussed.

The regional HRA public meetings will be held in person on the second Wednesday of the scheduled month at 10:00 a.m.

The HRA regional next scheduled public meeting will be held at the Sertoma Star Services (Conference Room), 4331 Lincoln Highway, Matteson, Illinois 60443 on October 9th, 2024.

PUBLIC COMMENT

ADJOURMENT

The regional HRA consented to adjourn the meeting at 11:22 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Pamela Cabrera, Secretary
Human Rights Authority
South Suburban Region

