

SOUTH SUBURBAN REGION MEETING MINUTES

Wednesday, October 9th, 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 Jennifer Hodges, the Acting Chairperson at 10:13 a.m.

PHYSICALLY PRESENT: Jennifer Hodges, Allison Boyle, and Abdurrahman Assaf

ATTENDED VIRTUALLY: Amy Upson

MEMBERS ABSENT: Lisa Bellamy, Kevin Gawthorp and Carol Genutis

STAFF: Geraldine Boatman, HRA Regional Disability Rights Manager

GUESTS: None

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, and September 11th, 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 Disability Rights Manager had previously reported that the student's behavioral problem was resolved, per the HRA Special Education Rights Manager. Also, 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 parent for additional information about her request to review a recording of the student. However, a response to the HRA's letter was not received. The consensus of the members present was not to accept the complaint for investigation and motion carried with follow votes.

24-040-9007 (Developmental Disability Facility) The consensus of the members present was to postpone accepting the complaint for investigation because additional information is needed. The HRA would be looking at policies and procedures and interviewing the staff and not any

specific resident if this complaint is accepted for investigation. The motion carried with follow votes.

24-040-9008 (Cila) The consensus of the members present was not to accept the complaint for investigation. The complainant will be advised to address the complaint through the provider's grievance process and to refer the complaint back to the HRA if she is not satisfied with the outcome. The motion carried with follow votes.

24-040-9009 (Correctional Center) The consensus of the members present was not to accept the complaint for investigation. This complaint was referred to the Illinois Department of Corrections as well as the John Howard Association for investigation. The motion carried with follow votes.

24-040-9010 (Correctional Center) The consensus of the members present was not to accept the complaint for investigation. This complaint was referred to the Illinois Department of Corrections for investigation. The motion carried with follow votes.

24-040-9011 (Nursing Home) The consensus of the members present was not to accept the complaint for investigation because the complaint issue will be too difficult to investigate without any witnesses. The motion carried with follow votes.

24-040-9012 (Residential Treatment Center) The consensus of the members present was to postpone accepting the complaint for investigation. The complaint stated that residents were not allowed to call the GAC because the facility's staff unplugged the phones during a search on the unit. The motion carried with follow votes.

24-040-9013 (Nursing Home) The consensus of the members present was to postpone accepting the complaint for investigation because a signed release was not received. 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. The motion carried with follow votes.

24-040-9014 (Psychiatric Hospital) The consensus of the members present was to postpone accepting the complaint for investigation. 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. Per the complainant, the complaint was reported to Adult Protection Services (APS) in the Will County area. The Regional Disability Rights Manager will follow up again with the APS to ensure that the complaint issue was reported to the agency. The motion carried with follow votes.

24-040-9015 (Psychiatric Hospital) The consensus of the members present was to postpone accepting the complaint for investigation because a signed release was not received. 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. Additionally, the complaint stated that the recipient became angry, and medication was administered. The motion carried with follow votes.

24-040-9016 (Nursing Home) The consensus of the members present was to postpone accepting the complaint for investigation because additional information is needed. The complaint stated that nursing facility's social worker applied to become the guardian of a named resident and serves as the guardian of several other residents at the facility, but he does not know their names. The complainant said that a staff member gave him documents pertaining to the resident named in the complaint with case manager signature on them. The complainant said that he will ask the staff person if he can disclose his name to the HRA for additional information about the complaint. The motion carried with follow votes.

24-040-9017 (Hospital Forensic Unit) The consensus of the members present was not to accept the complaint for investigation. This complainant was provided with information concerning free legal services. The motion carried with follow votes.

24-040-9018 (Day Care Center) The consensus of the members present was not to accept the complaint for investigation. 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. The regional Disability Rights Manager also reported the incident to the IDCFS. A letter to the HRA from the IDCFS stated the complaint was not substantiated. The motion carried with follow votes.

25-040-9001- (Psychiatric Hospital) The consensus of the members present was to postpone accepting the complaint for investigation because a signed release is needed. 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). The motion carried with follow votes.

25-040-9002 (Nursing Home) The consensus of the members present was to postpone accepting the complaint for investigation because a signed release is needed. The complainant requested that the HRA should not contact the POA for fear of retaliation. The regional Disability Rights Manager will follow with the resident concerning the release. The motion carried with follow votes.

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 was held with the provider. This case needs a report.

24-040-9002 (Countryside Nursing and Rehabilitation Center) The case will be considered for closure because a properly signed release was not received.

24-040-9003 (Silver Oaks Behavioral Hospital) A meeting was held with the provider. This case needs a report.

24-040-9004 (South Holland Manor) A meeting was held with the provider. This case needs a report.

24-040-9006 (Ludeman Developmental Center) A meeting was held with the provider. This case needs a report.

Reports\Responses

22-040-9009 (Amita Health St. Joe Medical Center) A response to the report will be reviewed at the next scheduled meeting.

22-040-9015 (Burbank Rehabilitation Center) A report will be reviewed at the next scheduled meeting.

23-040-9002 (Silver Oaks Behavioral Hospital) A response to the report will be reviewed at the next scheduled meeting.

23-040-9006 (Lydia Healthcare) A report will be reviewed at the next scheduled meeting.

23-040-9007 (UChicago Hospital of Ingalls) A report will be reviewed at the next scheduled meeting.

23-040-9009 (Trinity Services) A report will be reviewed at the next scheduled meeting.

23-040-9010 (Lydia Healthcare) A report will be reviewed at the next scheduled meeting.

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

The HRA welcomes Jennifer Hodges, the Developmental Disability Provider Member to the regional board.

The HRA welcomes Abdurrahman Assaf who will serve as a Community Member to the regional board.

Kevin Gawthorp, the Chairperson has submitted his resignation from the regional board.

Elizabeth Campbell's application will be submitted for approval for the regional board Vocational Rehabilitation Provider Member.

Complaints accepted (cases #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 were not physically present at the meeting. The newly accepted cases will be ratified pending a quorum of members physically present at the next scheduled meeting.

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

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

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

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

Pamela Cabrera has submitted her resignation from the regional board effective September 11th, 2024. The members will vote on accepting Ms. Cabrera's resignation pending a quorum of members physically present at the next scheduled 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 HRA regional meeting calendar for the year of 2025 will be developed soon and the need for meeting space 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 December 11th, 2024.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None

ADJOURMENT

The regional HRA consented to adjourn the meeting at 11:37 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Allison Boyle, Acting Secretary
Human Rights Authority
South Suburban Region

