

SOUTH SUBURBAN REGION MEETING MINUTES

Wednesday, December 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 Carol Genutis, the Vice Chairperson at 10:12 a.m.

PHYSICALLY PRESENT: Carol Genutis, Jennifer Hodges, Allison Boyle, Lisa Bellamy, Elizabeth Campbell, and Abdurrahman Assaf.

ATTENDED VIRTUALLY: Amy Upson

MEMBERS ABSENT: None

STAFF: Geraldine Boatman, HRA Regional Disability Rights Manager

GUESTS: None

I. CALL TO ORDER

The HRA Regional Vice Chairperson read the confidentiality statement. It was determined that a quorum was present, and all business could be discussed. Amy Upson had to leave the meeting early because of a problem with the virtual connection.

II. COMMUNICATION

It was approved by Lisa Bellamy to accept 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, October 9th, 2024 meeting minutes. The motion was seconded by Jennifer Hodges and carried.

III. NEW COMPLAINTS

24-040-9007 (Developmental Disability Facility) The complaint stated that residents are not allowed access to telephones. Elizabeth Campbell motioned to not accept the complaint for investigation because additional information is needed such as the name of a specific resident and time-frame incident. The motion was seconded by Allison Boyle and carried.

24-040-9012 (Residential Treatment Center) The complaint stated that recipients were not allowed to call the Illinois Guardianship and Advocacy Commission concerning a search on the unit because the staff unplugged the telephones. Lisa Bellamy motioned to accept the complaint for investigation. The motion was seconded by Abdurrahman Assaf and carried.

24-040-9013 (Nursing Home) The complaint stated as follows: 1) the resident is not properly supervised during medication administration because her guardian found medication in her clothing and bedroom, 2) Invega medication was not administered in a timely manner, 3) and medication for seizures is not administered as prescribed by her physician Jennifer Hodges motioned to accept the complaint for investigation. The motion was seconded by Lisa Bellamy and carried.

24-040-9014 (Psychiatric Hospital) The complaint stated that the resident was informed that she was going to be discharged from the hospital's unit and became upset because she was not released, and emergency medication was administered on that same day. Allison Boyle motioned to not accept the complaint because the complaint would be difficult to investigate as stated. The motion was seconded by Elizabeth Campbell and carried.

24-040-9015 (Psychiatric Hospital) The complaint stated as follows: 1) the recipient was not seen by a psychiatrist in a timely manner, 2) a copy of the petition was not provided in a timely manner, 3) the recipient became angry and emergency medication was administered, and, 4) a nurse told the recipient that she would be held on the unit for four days because intramuscular medication was administered. Lisa Bellamy motioned to accept the complaint for investigation. The motion was seconded by Elizabeth Campbell and carried.

24-040-9016 (Nursing Home) The complaint stated that a social worker had applied to become guardian of a resident and that the staff person is the guardian of several other residents at the nursing facility. The regional Disability Rights Manager reported that follow-up information revealed that the social worker had petitioned for a guardian and this agency was assigned as the resident's guardian named in the complaint. Lisa Bellamy motioned to not accept the complaint for investigation. The motion was seconded by Abdurrahman Assaf and carried.

25-040-9001- (Psychiatric Hospital) The complaint stated as follows: 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 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 (for example- search puzzles and crayons were on the tables). Lisa Bellamy motioned to accept the complaint for investigation. The motion was seconded by Abdurrahman Assaf and carried.

25-040-9002 (Nursing Home) The complaint stated that a resident is not allowed communication with persons of choice because her Power of Attorney for Health Agent prohibits this. Lisa Bellamy motioned to postpone accepting the complaint for investigation because additional information is needed. The regional Disability Rights Manager will contact the nursing facility for a copy of the Illinois Department of Public Health investigation report. The motion was seconded by Abdurrahman Assaf and carried.

25-040-9003 (Nursing Home) The complaint stated that the nursing facility would not accept the recipient for rehabilitation services because of statements that her guardian sister had made about the facility several years ago. The members believe that the complaint cannot be thoroughly

investigated. Lisa Bellamy motioned to accept the complaint for investigation. The motion was seconded by Jennifer Hodges. Abdurrahman Assaf voted to accept the complaint, but the motion did not carry. Elizabeth Campbell, Allison Boyle and Carol Genuis voted to not accept the complaint because the members believe that the complaint cannot be thoroughly investigated.

IV. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

The Vice Chairperson motioned to move the meeting into closed session at 11:22 a.m. pursuant to Section 21 of the Guardianship and Advocacy Act (20 ILCS 3955/21) and Section 120/2 (c) (4) of the Open Meeting Act (5 ILCS 120/2) to discuss case assignments, progress reports, reports of findings, responses, and case closures. Allison Boyle moved the motion. Abdurrahman Assaf seconded and carried.

There were four new case assignments.

Progress Reports

24-040-9002 (Countryside Nursing and Rehabilitation Center) The case will be considered for closure because a properly signed release was not received. The complainant does not have the same phone number and has not responded to the HRA's letters.

24-040-9003 (Silver Oaks Behavioral Hospital) A report will be reviewed at the next meeting.

24-040-9004 (South Holland Manor) This case needs a report.

24-040-9006 (Ludeman Developmental Center) This case needs a report.

Reports\Responses

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

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

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

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

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

23-040-9009 (Trinity Services) A report was reviewed. Jennifer Hodges left the meeting room during the discussion of the report.

23-040-9010 (Lydia Healthcare) A report was reviewed.

24-040-9001 (Midway Neurological Rehabilitation Center) A report was reviewed.

Open session reconvened at 11:47 a.m. having taken no action in closed session. A summary of closed session included four new case assignments, four progress reports, six report of findings, two provider's responses, and two cases for possible closure. Lisa Bellamy motioned, and Abdurrahman Assaf seconded and carried.

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

22-040-9009 (Amita Health St. Joe Medical Center) It was moved by Lisa Bellamy to accept the response, to close the case, and to make the report a part of the public record. The provider requested that its response should be part of the public record. The motion was seconded by Abdurrahman Assaf and carried.

22-040-9015 (Burbank Rehabilitation Center) It was moved by Elizabeth Campbell to accept the report that was approved by the Program Director. The motion was seconded by Abdurrahman Assaf and carried.

23-040-9002 (Silver Oaks Behavioral Hospital) It was moved by Lisa Bellamy to accept the response, to close the case, and to make the report a part of the public record. The provider did request that its response should not be part of the public record. The motion was seconded by Abdurrahman Assaf and carried.

23-040-9006 (Lydia Healthcare) It was moved by Elizabeth Campbell to accept the report that was approved by the Program Director. The motion was seconded by Jennifer Hodges and carried.

23-040-9007 (UChicago Hospital of Ingalls) It was moved by Lisa Bellamy to accept the report that was approved by the Program Director. The motion was seconded by Elizabeth Campbell and carried.

23-040-9009 (Trinity Services) It was moved by Elizabeth Campbell to accept the report that was approved by the Program Director. The motion was seconded by Lisa Bellamy and carried. Jennifer Hodges abstained from the vote.

23-040-9010 (Lydia Healthcare) It was moved by Lisa Bellamy to accept the report that was approved by the Program Director. The motion was seconded by Abdurrahman Assaf and carried.

24-040-9002 (Countryside Nursing and Rehabilitation Center) It was moved by Lisa Bellamy to close the case without further investigation because a signed release was not received. The motion was seconded by Elizabeth Campbell and carried.

OTHER UNFINISHED BUSINESS

The HRA welcomes Elizabeth Campbell, the Vocational Rehabilitation Provider Member to the regional board.

It was moved by Lisa Bellamy to keep the Executive Meeting Minutes for June 14th, 2023 closed. The motion was seconded by Abdurrahman Assaf and carried. There were no Executive Closed Minutes for July of 2023 thru June 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.

It was moved by Elizabeth Campbell to ratify new complaints case #24-040-9001, 24-040-9002, 24-040-9003, 24-040-9004, and 24-040-9006 that were accepted for investigation at a previous meeting. The motion was seconded by Abdurrahman Assaf and carried.

It was moved by Lisa Bellamy to ratify new complaints case #23-040-9008, 24-040-9005, 24-040-9008, 24-040-9009, 24-040-9010, 24-040-9011, 24-040-9017, and 24-040-9018 that were not accepted for investigation at a previous meeting. The motion was seconded by Abdurrahman Assaf and carried.

It was moved by Elizabeth Campbell to ratify new complaints case #24-040-9007, 24-040-9012, 24-040-9013, 24-040-9014, 24-040-9015, 24-040-9016, 25-040-9001, and 25-040-9002 that were postponed for acceptance at a previous meeting. The motion was seconded by Abdurrahman Assaf and carried.

It was moved by Elizabeth Campbell to ratify reports (case #22-040-9009 and 23-040-9002) approved at a previous meeting. The motion was seconded by Abdurrahman Assaf and carried.

It was moved by Lisa Bellamy to ratify case #23-040-9001 that was closed at a previous meeting. The motion was seconded by Abdurrahman Assaf and carried.

It was moved by Lisa Bellamy to accept Hendiz Flynn, Kevin Gawthorp, and Pamela Cabrera's resignation from the regional HRA board.

Mandatory trainings for members were discussed.

Open Meeting Act/requirements for remote attendance was discussed.

The need for HRA volunteer members was discussed.

The meeting packets were discussed.

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

The HRA regional meeting calendar for the year of 2025 will be completed soon. 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 on February 12th, 2025 and the meeting located will be announced soon.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None

ADJOURMENT

It was moved by Elizabeth Campbell to adjourn the meeting at 12:08 p.m. The motion was seconded by Lisa Bellamy and carried.

Respectfully Submitted,

Allison Boyle, Acting Secretary
Human Rights Authority
South Suburban Region